

# SAM Board of Directors Meeting

Friday, January 12, 2018

10:00am – 3:00pm, SAM Office in Helena or [Uberconference](#)

## MINUTES

SAM Office attendees: Rick Duncan, Paul Furthmyre, Peter Hamilton, Dan Kimzey, Craig Crawford, Jon Konen, Rick Chrisman, Linda Marsh, Pat Audet, Kim Scofield, Kirk Miller

UberConference attendees: Tobin Novasio, Laurie Barron, Karen Underwood, Pam Meier, Dale Olinger, Cal Ketchum, Paul Culbertson, Rich Lawrence

Absent: Joel Graves, Lance Boyd

### 1. Introductions

Jon calls the meeting to order at 10:05am and called for introductions.

### 2. Deletions/Additions to Agenda

Kirk described the change on the agenda of a business partner request, Matific, as a late addition.

### 3. Approval of Minutes

1. [SAM Board Meeting DRAFT Minutes 10-19-17](#)

Rick Duncan moved to approve the minutes from the 10-19-17 meeting; Paul Furthmyre seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

### Mega Issue Discussions

[SAM Advocacy – 2017 Special Session, Federal Issues, Delegate Assembly 2018](#)

Kirk discussed Delegate Assembly 2018, referencing the documents on the SAM website ([Notice to Presidents for Selecting Delegate 1-12-18](#) and [SAM Call for Delegate Assembly Positions and Resolutions 2018](#)). He also pointed out that changes in delegates cannot be made within one week of Delegate Assembly. Rick Duncan asked that members complete research and include an estimated fiscal note when bringing a resolution to the Delegate Assembly. He also stated that schools working with MTSBA Delegate Assembly is different than SAM's process. Lastly, he asked that members follow the format in place when presenting a resolution to Delegate Assembly. He reminded the Board that the present sitting affiliate Presidents are those are responsible for recruiting delegates. Tobin asked if there was a way to adjust the bylaws to give alternates the ability to step in if they attend the Caucus discussion the day before. Kirk confirmed that a listed alternate can vote during DA if they attended the discussion the day before only if they were substituted in one week before Delegate Assembly as written in Article VI (2) of the SAM Bylaws. Only listed Delegate Assembly members will have the ability to vote. Tobin asked about recommending a change to the bylaws. Kirk stated that the Board could look at a recommendation in April, the SAM membership could vote on a revision in October and a change could take effect in June 2019.

Kirk referenced [Federal Issues](#) on the SAM website, pointing out that the website is updated often. He also referenced the [SAM Statements of Support for Federal Issues](#). Kirk also referenced [ESSA Implementation](#) and [Contemporary Federal Issues](#) taken by SAM on the SAM website. The SAM Federal Advocacy Team has focused on these contemporary issues and discussed them through a Community Forum. Kirk asked if the Board felt the current process of the SAM Federal Advocacy Team is appropriate. Jon praised the team for creating the SAM Statements of Support for Federal Issues document as it was powerful to him when talking to Montana's

congressional delegation in DC. Kirk referenced [Federal Budget FY 18](#). He also mentioned that he will be updating the Broadband Issue on the SAM website. Rick reminded the Board that the net neutrality issue was brought to SAM by META. Tobin stated that he appreciates the work that has gone into working on Federal Issues.

Kirk referenced the SAM website for what transpired in the [2017 Special Session](#), stating that Legislative action cut block grants in half but gave local districts the ability to transfer from other funds to cover their block grants. Increasing GTB was also written into law, which would recover the block grant reductions. Each district is affected in a different way. The Special Session eliminated the rest of the block grants. Kirk also mentioned the possibility of another special session in June. Rick stated that it is imperative that SAM continue to be in at the table with MT-PEC. He also stated that the state revenue projections change regularly. He appreciates the work of Kirk and MT-PEC. Kirk mentioned that he and Pat work as a team on advocacy issues and during legislative sessions. Laurie asked if revenue cuts could go into effect during this fiscal year. Kirk responded that changes would go into effect during the FY 18-19. Kirk stated that he plans to work with MT-PEC to determine the best action to take if a June special session were to take place and how to prepare for the 2019 Legislative Session.

SAM Envisioned Future Thoughts and Dialogue - [Reading](#) and [SAM Potential Speaker List](#)

Jon asked for comment on the document that was brought about because the SAM Strategic Plan will be expiring this year. Kirk suggested scheduling time to look at the SAM Strategic Plan (Envisioned Future and Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT), and review setting goals) during the April Board Meeting to begin the updating of the Strategic Plan. Jon mentioned that author Weston Kieschnick will be speaking in Great Falls in June. Jon would like to create a Community for a book study to discuss Kieschnick's book, *Bold Schools*. Paul mentioned also using #samedchat as a platform for a book discussion. Kirk commented that Personalized Learning and Social-Emotional Learning are topics that SAM supports through LPLP CLNs and SAM AI 2018 will be focused on these topics.

Paul thanked the SAM office for creating a speaker list. Kirk stated that this list will continue to be developed. Jon requested the possibility of a rating system for each speaker on the list. Rick stated that this list will be helpful to incoming affiliate presidents.

#### **4. Old Business**

##### **1. Using SAM [E-Lists](#), Committees and [Community Communication Tools](#)**

Kirk set up the history and described the processes that have been used by SAM for communication purposes finally arriving at the use of Elists and Community forums that are more efficient and useful. He described the pilot that was initially set up with the Federal Relations community. Kim described the community forum and use of these forums. She created a community forum just for the SAM Board for demonstration. She described the steps of using this as Kirk showed the steps on the projected screen. Kim also described the other community forums that Kirk is a part of. Rick asked about putting something in bold - puts it in brackets instead of bolding; however, the posted message will show it as bold. This is something that has a high probability of being improved by MemberClicks service. Dan asked about the fee for MemberClicks - it is paid annually and discounted. Kim reminded everyone that you must subscribe to each topic to receive email notifications. Jon asked about attaching documents - yes, you can add documents to the forum. Kirk demonstrated how to attach a document.

##### **2. SAM LPLP 2017-18 Update – [Mid Year Executive Summary](#) – Financial Report**

Kirk referenced the SAM LPLP Mid Year Executive Summary. Rick asked if the current State Superintendent has asked for the data collected. Kirk stated that she is aware of the data and has requested a meeting later this month. CLN members are also slated to present their work at upcoming events. Rick believes the data is there to justify that

the LPLP has reduced the number of administrator job openings in Montana. Kirk mentioned the MUS Title II Grant funding for SAM LPLP and the assistance of the MSU HELPS lab to survey LPLP members. Rick also stated that he believes that administrators are staying in Montana because of the SAM LPLP. Jon mentioned that the SAM Board needs to encourage experienced administrators to participate in SAM LPLP and to promote the connections that take place through the CLNs. Jon mentioned that creating video testimonials from LPLP participants might be beneficial. Kirk stated that EPAS, TLE, PL and SEL CLNs will be involved in the MASS and METAtchED Spring Conferences, and also in the SAM Administrators Institute 2018.

### 3. Review of [2017-18 Montana District/School Leadership Staffing Report](#)

Jon stated that he sees this document being beneficial when talking to our legislators. Rick mentioned that this data is useful from the advocacy standpoint. Paul stated that this document provide the necessary numbers legislators ask for. Pat referenced the section of the number of staff members per administrator compared to other Montana industries. The board would like to continue gathering this data annually. Paul asked if this data is available in a spreadsheet to have the ability to see longevity. Pat confirmed that the SAM office does have this data in spreadsheet form. Paul asked if we know the number of shortages of SLPs in the state. Kirk stated that the MCASE Recruitment and Retention Project has this data. Karen stated that OPI probably has the most accurate data for shortage areas.

## 5. New Business

### 1. Consideration of [SAM Needs Assessment Survey Executive Summary 2017](#)

Pat referenced the SAM Needs Assessment Survey Executive Summary 2017 and stated that return rate increased by 5% this year from last year. Rick wondered if responses from different affiliate members to the survey were similar since approximately 60% of respondents being from MASS and MAEMSP. Jon pointed out that respondents stated the need for more Principal offerings at MCEL. Pat noted that several respondents did not realize the services offered through SAM, the time of year was the primary reason for members not attending SAM AI, and also lack of time was the primary reason for not participating in SAM LPLP. Rick wondered if data could be disaggregated by affiliate type as this information may be beneficial for planning for affiliate conferences. Pat confirmed that this can be done.

Rick Duncan moved to accept the recommendations put forward through the SAM Needs Assessment Survey 2017; Craig Crawford seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

### 2. Consideration of [Revisions](#) to [SAM Business Partnerships](#) and [Conference Sponsorships](#)

Kirk referenced the changes to the Business Partners page of the SAM website, the new SAM Business Partners benefits for 2018-19, the current business partners, and the conference sponsorship documents. Rick asked how the number of business partners has changed over the last 5 years. Kirk stated that SAM has almost doubled the business partner revenue over the last 5 years.

Peter Hamilton moved to accept the revisions to SAM Business Partnership and Conference Sponsorship; Dan Kimzey seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

### 3. Consideration of [World Education Forum \(WEF\) - Montana Participation](#)

Kirk stated that this group is established by a group of past presidents of NAESP wanting to have an ambassador represent each state. MAEMSP has already agreed to participate in the WEF.

Tobin Novasio moved that SAM endorse WEF and find an ambassador from Montana; Laurie Barron seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Discussion: Jon asked if anyone on the SAM Board wanted to commit to being the ambassador from Montana. Laurie asked if travel would be involved. Kirk stated that he thinks travel will be coordinated

through WEF and that most conferencing would be done digitally. The SAM Office will create an advertisement to the membership to find an ambassador. Rick suggested the SAM Executive Board choose the ambassador if more than one member is interested in the position.

#### 4. Consideration of Matific as a Business Partner

Laurie stated that she has been inundated with emails from Matific in the past few weeks. Linda said that she has also. Kirk stated that Montana is a current target state for Matific and many Montana districts have registered for a game that Matific is currently offering. Kirk stated that Matific wants to build a relationship with administrators and to build math knowledge of elementary math teachers.

Rick Duncan moved that SAM endorse Matific as a business partner; Rick Chrisman seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

## Reports

### 6. President's Report – *Jon Konen*

Jon praised the financial growth of SAM. He stated that all members need to continue to advocate for our own schools but also advocate for the organization. He encouraged members, new and experienced, to be part of SAM LPLP.

### 7. Executive Director's Report – *Kirk Miller*

#### 1. [Executive Director Update 1-12-17](#)

Kirk referenced the report. He stated his appreciation of the SAM Board and their dedication to the SAM organization. Rick stated the value he finds with Kirk tying his quarterly report to the strategic plan.

### 8. SAM Financial Report - *SAM Investment/Finance Committee*

#### 1. [SAM Financial Report FY 16-17 and FY 17-18 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter](#)

Kirk referenced the report and the affiliate breakdown of investments.

#### 2. Update on Andersen ZurMuehlen SAM Financial Review 2016-17

Kirk stated that SAM is in the third year of an approved financial review. AZ will begin the review this month. Once complete, Kirk would like the accountants to begin filing the 2017 990 Taxes for MASS and SAM. This report will be available at the April Board meeting.

### 9. [Membership Report](#) – *Pat Audet*

Pat stated that the SAM Membership is at an all-time high of 1039, 19 more than last year and 52 more than 2015-16. Rick asked about the discrepancy between the number of superintendent positions in the state and the number of MASS members. This discrepancy is due to retired members. Kirk thanked the regional directors that work to get members renewed. Pat asked the SAM board members and regional directors to remind retirees that they can receive benefits through SAM membership. Kirk stated that LPLP Providers must also be SAM members.

### 10. Affiliate Reports – *Affiliate Presidents*

**MASSP** - Peter thanked Pam for spearheading the joint MAEMSP/MASSP conference.

**MAEMSP** - Craig reported that he would like to see next year's conference focus on mental health of students and staff.

**MACSS** - Linda reported that the MACSS Spring Conference will be in Whitefish.

**MASS** - Tobin reported that he is working with META to coordinate the first day of the spring conference. He mentioned that the timing of the MAEMSP/MASSP conference, one week after the OPI Title I conference makes the timing difficult.

**MCASE** - Karen reported that the CEC conference is Feb. 28 - March 3. MCASE has been looking at membership fees based on CASE and CEC membership fees. She reminded administrators to take advantage of the MCASE recruitment project. Legislative issues are on the forefront of MCASE topics of discussion.

**META** - No report

**11. [SAM Advocacy Report](#) – Rick Duncan (DA Steering Committee Chair)**

1. [2017 Special Session](#)
2. [Federal Tax Reform](#)
3. [Federal Relations Report](#) – *Affiliate Federal Relations Coordinators*

Rick commented that 39 positions and 44 resolutions were adopted at the last Delegate Assembly and that need for mental health support in our schools is a statewide and nationwide discussion. He stated that once positions are approved in October, we will be ready for the 2019 legislative session. Jon asked about mental health funding for schools. Rick said this funding is up in the air and that the budget cuts of DPHHS will affect our schools and the impact of the federal tax reform on schools is currently unknown. Rick believes a greater burden will be put on the local taxpayers to support public schools. Paul stated that advocacy teams from MASSP and MAEMSP will be in DC at advocacy conferences and to visit with the Montana Congressional Delegation this spring. Rick stated that he has noticed a difference in Senator Daines office reaching out to administrators, which has not happened in the past.

**12. Future Meeting Dates**

[2017-18 SAM Conference - Meeting Schedule](#)

[2017-18 SAM and Affiliate Board Meeting Schedule](#)

**13. Adjournment**

Jon Konen adjourned the meeting at 2:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Kimberly Scofield*

SAM Communications Specialist