


Fwd: SAM Bulletin - January 2021

1 message

Kirk Miller <kirkmiller7@gmail.com>
To: Kirk Miller <samkm@sammt.org>

Mon, Jan 4, 2021 at 3:06 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **School Administrators of Montana** <saom@memberclicks-mail.net>
Date: Mon, Jan 4, 2021 at 2:15 PM
Subject: SAM Bulletin - January 2021
To: <kirkmiller7@gmail.com>


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Upcoming Conferences, Meetings, & Events

January 24-26, 2021:
Montana Principals Conference - REGISTER HERE!

Save the Date: March 22-23, 2021: METAtchED

Save the Date: March 22-23, 2021: MASS Spring Conference

**** View the full SAM Calendar****

Thank you for being *the One*

by Shelley Andres, MAEMSP President

Greetings and Happy 2021 Fellow SAM Members,

With perfect 2020 vision in my rearview mirror, I can honestly say I am humbled at how Montana Public Schools navigated their way through the Covid-19 pandemic. As I reflect back on the 2020 Montana Principal Conference, *It Only Takes One!*, and its focus that each of us can be *the one* to make a difference, I was struck by how those ideas became sharply focused for Montana Schools on March 13, 2020. The Covid-19 Pandemic created challenges for schools, and communities around the world. Montana school leaders met those challenges head on by continuing to make a difference in the lives of students, families and staff across Big Sky Country. School leaders knew it was vital to keep students, families and staff connected.

All our lives drastically changed but one thing stayed the same. Montana Schools continued to educate, feed, clothe, worry about, listen to, communicate with and care about all of OUR students. The delivery of education evolved (sometimes daily and often hourly) but Montana Educators still delivered quality instruction to students throughout the state. We may have been waving from a bus like a crazy person when dropping off food for our students. We may have led meetings from our kitchen table with our kids screaming in the background. We may even have worked from home while sick with Covid. It did not matter. What mattered is that we cared and showed we cared. Montana Educators continued to form positive life changing relationships with students and families. How these relationships are being built and nurtured are new and different but the importance of these relationships stay the same. These strong positive relationships are the foundation of what we do.

Building strong positive relationships might look different due to the Pandemic but connecting, collaborating, communicating and supporting each other, our students, staff and community is more important than ever. So, reach out via phone, Zoom, Meets, FaceTime, text or any other method but do it today and be the conversation that someone might desperately need. Now, after 9 months (and counting) of the Covid-19 Pandemic, I cannot think of anything more important than building strong positive relationships with each other. It only takes a few minutes to make a life-changing call. One important fact I have learned during this pandemic is that we do not have to be face-to-face to form important relationships. We only need to have the desire to make a difference.

Thank you for being *the One*. I am excited to see what new challenges we embrace in 2021. Continue to build those relationships and tell OUR School's story to our communities, state and the world.

I am honored to be your colleague and your MAEMSP President. I hope when you feel alone you know you can reach out to someOne on our amazing SAM team, any MAEMSP member or me, please know that I am here for you.

Here to make a difference,

Shelley Andres
MAEMSP President

SAM - Optimistic for 2021!

by Kirk Miller, SAM Executive Director

Information for the 2021 Legislative Session

Thank you to this month's featured Business Partners!



SAM Leadership

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MCASE



Happy New Year! 2021 promises to be a fine year for SAM and our members as we work together to make a positive difference in the education of our students! The optimism of a vaccine bringing the Coronavirus under control, allows our forward thoughts to focus on a chance to recalibrate, to engage in some fearless inquiry and clarify a more relevant, more effective path forward for the education of our children (these thoughts from futurist Will Richardson). The promise on the horizon anticipates excellent professional learning opportunities for our SAM members, a deep dive into advocacy with our SAM advocacy priorities for the 2021 Legislative session at the forefront, and continued effort of our administrators all across the state to participate fully in the work that impacts the education of our children and provides for the academic and emotional health and safety of your education team and community. The three goals of the SAM Strategic Plan provide focus for this important work...

Leadership Involved in Decisions that Impact Education:

SAM affiliate members modeling and promoting the highest levels of professionalism, integrity and leadership actively engage in impactful discussions on education.

Advocacy: SAM members will be equipped with accurate information and prepared to use it to advocate for public education.

Professional Learning and Services: SAM will extend and expand the professional learning delivery system using the expertise of the SAM affiliates, as well as other service providers through professional development, mentorship, and other member services.

Thank you SAM members for your participation and contributions to your professional association, SAM. This Bulletin references the upcoming and ongoing efforts in each of our goal areas. Our collective effort around the strategic plan goals will lead us to the promise of an outstanding 2021!

Happy New Year 2021 to you from your team at SAM!

Kirk D. Miller



SAM Needs Assessment Survey

We want to learn more about our members' needs for Services, Professional Learning, and Advocacy (Goals of the SAM Strategic Plan) by completing the SAM Needs Assessment Survey 2021. Information obtained will be used to develop enhanced benefits to serve Montana's education leaders and adjust the SAM strategic plan to meet your professional learning and advocacy needs.

Please complete the following survey by **January 8, 2021**. The survey has been substantially shortened over the past few years so the time required for completion is 10-15 minutes. Because the survey results are anonymous, logging in to your SAM profile is not required. Please do not close out of the survey until it is complete; you will not have the ability to save your progress and return to finish it at a different time. Follow the link to access the survey:

SAM Needs Assessment Survey 2021.

Thank you for your input by participating in this survey so we can improve our ability to serve you as a member of SAM!

Montana Virtual Principals Conference 2021

Giving Grace, Practicing Flexibility, and Building Resiliency During a Pandemic

Click here to REGISTER!

January 25th and 26th

As we approach the 67th Legislative Session beginning on January 4, 2021, SAM is creating tools for effective communication to be used by our members during the legislative session.

The SAM website serves as a great place to follow important happenings during the session. Visit the [SAM website](#), click on the menu items associated with the "2021 Legislative Session" tab under "Advocacy" (or the [Legislative Session Quick Link](#) on the right side of almost every page on the SAM website) to review the resources that will be updated continuously throughout the session. Please note that login is required as only SAM members have access to the legislative tools. Please call the SAM office if you have difficulties logging in.

It is not too late to assist SAM in advocacy during the session by joining the SAM Legislative Network 2021 (SAMLN21). Click [HERE](#) to see the description and responsibilities of the SAMLN21 and click [HERE](#) to register. A training webinar was held

Please consider joining the nearly 80 SAM members and sign up so we can ensure that educators' voices are heard clearly in the 2021 Legislative session. We know that our strength in advocacy for the education of Montana's children comes from our member's effort during the session to help our legislators understand and balance the needs for providing an outstanding system of public schools to meet the full educational potential of each child!

MAEMSP & MASSP Award Nomination Deadline Extended

Please take time to nominate a principal, aspiring principal, or community member who deserves to be recognized for the great contribution they are making to Montana public schools. These deserving candidates are in every school and district across the state. Nominations for the following MAEMSP and MASSP must be submitted by **January 8, 2021**. Find out more about each award and nominate/apply by clicking [Current Award Opportunities](#) or on the links below.

MAEMSP Awards

- [MAEMSP/NAESP National Distinguished Principal](#)
- [Adrian Langstaff Award](#)
- [NAESP Conference Incentive Award](#)
- [MAEMSP Aspiring Principal Scholarship Award](#)
- [MAEMSP Friends of Education Award](#)
- [MAEMSP Appreciation Award](#)

MASSP Awards

- [MASSP National Principal of the Year](#)
- [MASSP Conference Incentive Award](#)
- [MASSP Community Partner in Education](#)
- [MASSP Future Administrator Scholarship](#)



Data Privacy

The Consortium for School Networking (CoSN) in partnership with School Administrators of Montana and CoSN's Montana state affiliate chapter, Montana Educational Technologists Association (META) are pleased to continue to support the work of current and aspiring superintendents and district leadership teams in leading all aspects of digital learning transformations.

EmpowerED Superintendent Monthly Webinar:

Michelle Halberg
President

MACSS
Cathy Maloney
President

META
Everett Holm
President

SAM Office
Kirk Miller
Executive Director

Gary Wagner
Director of Operations,
Membership & Finances

Kim Scofield
Director of Member Services &
Professional Learning

2021 Montana Virtual Principals Conference Registration is Open!

**You Matter: Giving Grace, Practicing
Flexibility and
Building Resiliency during a Pandemic**

Monday, January 25

- **Ricky Ramirez** - Reach Them Before You Teach Them
- **Dr. Gerry Nolan** - You Are The Light of Your Community: Employing Self-Care to Keep Your Light Shining Bright
- **Tim Kanold** - Heart

Tuesday, January 26

- **Dr. Adolf Brown** - Teaching and Learning Excellence
- **Beth Houf** - From Surviving to Thriving



**Click HERE for more
information and to
REGISTER!**

SAM Youth Endowment Open for Nominations

Nominations are open until March 2nd for the 2020-21 SAM Youth Endowment. The purpose of the School Administrators of Montana Youth Endowment is to make a positive impact on the youth of Montana by providing financial assistance to benefit children's health, welfare, and/or education.

Awards to nominated recipients are given in April of each year and announced in the May SAM Bulletin. Emergency requests will be accepted and presented to the board on an as-requested basis made throughout the year.

Additional information, nomination guidelines, and access to the 2020-21 SAM Youth Endowment Nomination Form can be found [HERE](#). Please note that only SAM members can make the actual nomination.

"Data Privacy in Our Connected Learning World: Earning the Trusted Learning Environment Seal"

The upcoming episode of the monthly EmpowerED Superintendent Webinar series, co-hosted by CoSN, AASA and edWeb.net, and sponsored by ClassLink, airs on Monday, January 11, 2021. The title and focus of the January webinar, broadcast live at 3:00 pm MT, is *Data Privacy in Our Connected Learning World: Earning the Trusted Learning Environment Seal*. In this edWebinar Dr. Bruce Gearing, Superintendent, Leander Independent School District, TX, and Dr. Allan Markley, Superintendent, Raytown Quality Schools, MO, are joined by Linnette Attai, Project Director for CoSN's Privacy Initiative. Five critical guidelines for ensuring data privacy in any school system's use of technology will be reviewed. The featured panelists also share how leadership teams can succeed in making data privacy a priority across entire school systems. Effective strategies for communicating a school district's commitment to assuring student data privacy through the Trusted Learning Environment privacy framework will be presented.

Free registration for the January 11, 2021 webinar is now available [HERE](#).

Webinars in this series are also freely available as recordings at <https://home.edweb.net/supers/> and via podcast at <https://home.edweb.net/podcasts/> a day or two after the initial live broadcast.

Data Privacy Resources for School Leaders

As school leaders continue to grow in their knowledge and expertise in using data to drive instruction and other multiple facets of school operations, the issue of leading and managing student data privacy can sometimes seem confusing and even overwhelming. CoSN is pleased to share [this one-page critical issues document](#) that describes five key guidelines for protecting student data privacy.

To assist school leaders in building a robust student data privacy program and creating a system and culture of trust and transparency with their community around student data protections, CoSN developed a comprehensive privacy framework for school districts to earn the [Trusted Learning Environment \(TLE\) Seal](#). In today's COVID-19 world, it is more essential than ever that school leaders build a trusted learning environment together with their students' parents. Guidance on how best to build that trust is available [HERE](#).

Learn more about the role of leadership in building a student data privacy program and measuring your efforts against the Trusted Learning Environment privacy framework with CoSN's guide to *"Building a Trusted Learning Environment: Understanding the Leadership Practice,"* available [HERE](#).

If your school or district would like more information about joining CoSN or getting more involved with CoSN, please contact Brian Calvary, CAE, CoSN Director of Membership and Chapters, at bcalvary@cosn.org.



Thank you to SAM's Business Partners!

Please take time to visit their websites.

Montana Big Sky Sponsors



Health Insurance
 P O Box 4579 - Helena, MT 59601
aholmlund@ms-sf.org
 406-457-4401



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bruce.wallace@vision.net
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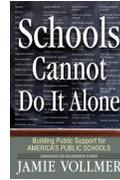
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