

**SAM Bulletin October 2019**

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*School Administrators of Montana*

# BULLETIN

*'Visionary leaders united in providing, advocating, and creating education excellence for Montana students!'*

**Volume XLII**

**October 2019**

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**Upcoming Conferences, Meetings, & Events**

**October 16-18: MCEL - Billings**

**January 26-28: Montana Principals Conference - Fairmont**

**March 23-24: MASS/METatechEd Conference - Helena**

**June 11-12: SAM Board Meeting and Delegate Assembly (Note date change) - Helena**

**July 27-29, 2020: SAM Administrators Institute 2020 - Helena**

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

## Teamwork Works!

*by Brian Norwood, META President*

After reading Peter Hamilton's September Bulletin article, I did some self-reflection and found that as an individual I have the power to change my immediate environment to be a better person, employee or supervisor. I can change the way I approach an issue, project, or staff member and be a more positive and upbeat role model. I could even start eating better, exercise and lose some weight, but where is the fun in that? The fact is without teamwork we are limited to what we can accomplish for the overall big picture. This is what brings me to this month's message.

We have come a long way with our SAM Affiliates and we should be proud of our accomplishments working together as a team. I have only been a part of this community for six years but I can tell you it is something special. I have worked in other states where there isn't much support and you basically have to figure things out on your own. Having this community of dedicated educators, technologists, board and community members to bounce questions off or get recommendations is priceless. We don't have to reinvent the wheel every time we need to do something. The time savings alone is worth its weight in gold.

A prime example of this great teamwork was this past year's Delegate Assembly work. As a result of our collective presence at the state level, we influenced new legislation and helped to shape the education of all students in Montana. This is a huge success for all of our organizations who worked together with the leadership in the SAM office to do great work. Thank you all!

This year will be no exception. We have some large items on our plate that we will need to address and I am confident with this team, we will succeed. HB 745 is first up on META's agenda to get our state's Terms of Service standard in place. We have partnered with the Office of Public Instruction to create a user friendly process to protect all our districts from data mining and breaches. We will be releasing more information in the coming weeks as the details are worked out.

So to tag onto Peter's message, reflect upon how you can improve as an individual but also know your strength as part of the team. Don't be afraid to ask a question. Chances are someone has already encountered the issue and can save you a lot of time by pointing you in the right direction. Individually we are good but as a team we are great!

Keep up the great work and have an awesome year!

*Brian Norwood  
 META President*

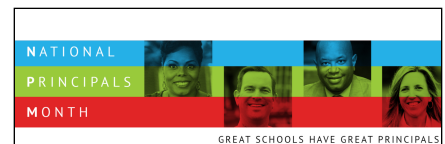
## Opportunities for Advocacy and Professional Learning...

*by Kirk Miller, SAM Executive Director*



The importance of advocacy and professional learning are at a premium as we begin the second month of this school year. I hope you will engage in the following opportunities to insure your success for the students you serve in your school.

## October is National Principals Month!



National Principals Month is a month-long event that occurs each October, where school leaders

Thank you to this month's featured Business Partners!



### SAM Leadership

#### SAM

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**Michelle Halberg**

### Advocacy

The results of the great work of 45 delegates, assembled for SAM Delegate Assembly 2019 (SAM DA 19) on June 13-14, are compiled, organized and prepared for review of the SAM membership. First, I want to thank the Delegates who participated in the very engaging and important discussions that happened at SAM DA 19. Your work in advocacy is so important to help create priorities for the 2021 legislative session and federal issues. Complete information about the SAM DA 19 can be found on the [SAM Delegate Assembly](#) webpage. [SAM DA 2019 Business Meeting Recommendations 10-18-19](#) is the document outlining SAM Advocacy Priorities by Action Designation, Summary of SAM DA Actions, DRAFT DA Minutes, Positions, and Resolutions adopted by the SAM DA 19. The recommendations created will be considered by the entire SAM membership at the annual SAM Business Meeting on October 18 at MCEL in Billings at the Northern Hotel, Ballroom North from 8:30 to 10:30 AM. We hope you will attend this meeting and take action on SAM's advocacy priorities, positions and resolutions!

Also, at [MCEL 2019](#) (October 16-18) in Billings, you can expect to receive the release of GREAT VII 2019 (The Great Work of Montana's Public Schools, Volume VII, 2019)! The partners of MT-PEC (Montana Public Education Center) administer the annual opinion poll of Montana voter's perspectives on K-12 education issues, leading to a refocused strategic plan of the K-12 Vision Group describing the significant progress made as a result of our collective efforts to meet the Constitutional guarantee to develop the full education potential of each person. GREAT VII will be a very important resource for you and your community when considering the support for the education of the kids in your community.

### Professional Learning and Services

The partners of MT-PEC (Montana Public Education Center) have recently collaborated in developing a unified plan for the professional development of our members on key topics related to funding, flexibility, efficiency, safety and security, community ownership and local control. Our goal is to ensure a broad and common understanding of the full extent of the obligations and authority granted to Montana's public schools in these areas, and to contribute to a body of knowledge that we believe will enhance our members' abilities to develop the full potential of each child in every public school in Montana. We have developed a [FRAMEWORK](#) for this year long professional development series that will be launched at [MCEL 2019](#) with live streamed sessions on Wednesday afternoon, October 16 and all day, following the opening keynote, on Thursday, October 17.

By the way, the keynote presentation on Thursday morning will provide you with great ideas for engaging your community in support of your schools. Jamie Vollmer, author of the "The Great Conversation" and "Schools Cannot Do It Alone", is coming to Montana to share these ideas with us at [MCEL 2019](#).

Opportunities in Advocacy and Professional Learning will surely sharpen your saw and engage you for success this school year. Please join in these opportunities in October.

*Rick D. Miller*



## SAM Annual Business Meeting at MCEL!

The SAM Annual Business Meeting will be held on **Friday, October 18th, 2019 from 8:30 - 10:30 AM**

are put in the spotlight for their endless commitment to the principalship.

AFSA, NAESP, and NASSP—as well as district leaders, policymakers, parents, students, teachers, and school leaders—come together to not only celebrate these heroes of education, but also recognize that they need continued support from the communities they serve.

Through nationwide advocacy at local, state, and federal levels; evidence-based research initiatives that lead to positive change in the principalship; and appreciation events of every size, National Principals Month seeks to honor our principals for their significant impact on the success and well-being of our nation's students.

And this is no small-scale occurrence: our event has made its way to the Senate and House of Representatives to officially recognize October as National Principals Month.

Click on the link to find out what's happening all month!

<https://www.principalsmonth.org/events/>

## SAM Leaders Professional Learning Program 2019-20

<p><b>SAM Leaders Professional Learning Program 2019-20</b></p> <p><b>Optional Coach/Mentor</b></p> <p>A personal learning network including the option of working one-on-one with an experienced Provider</p>	<p><b>Online Resource Center</b></p> <p>A vast collection of books, articles, videos, websites, and activities organized around the ten Professional Standards for Educational Leaders (PSEL)</p>	<p><b>SAM LPLP is...</b></p> <p>A unique approach to personalized professional learning for Montana school leaders that results in improvements in job satisfaction, administrator longevity, and ultimately to increased quality of instruction and student achievement.</p>
<p><b>Collegial Learning Networks</b></p> <p>Collegial Learning Networks (CLNs) are designed to be dynamic allowing participants to focus on specific areas of interest.</p> <p>Anticipated for 2019-20 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transformational Learning</li> <li>• Social Emotional Learning</li> <li>• Tier III Behavior Project</li> <li>• New Leaders</li> <li>• AASA/SAM Aspiring Superintendents</li> <li>• Special Education</li> <li>• Trusted Learning Environment</li> </ul>		<p><b>Click HERE to register for SAM LPLP 2019-20</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.sammt.org">www.sammt.org</a> (406)442-2510</p>

It isn't too late to join the **more than 80** new and experienced administrators who have registered for SAM LPLP 2019-20!

SAM LPLP's multi-faceted blended learning approach consists of a rich online resource center, collegial learning networks designed to be dynamic based upon topics of interest as they arise that allow participants to focus on specific areas of interest, and personal learning networks including the option of one-on-one coaching/mentoring with experienced Providers.

Tailored to meet the needs of new, experienced, and aspiring administrators, learning networks meet both virtually and face-to-face allowing participants to share challenges, successes, and thought leadership with like-minded Montana leaders experiencing similar job roles, situations, and context while bringing professional development to the administrator.

**The following Collegial Learning Networks (CLNs) are beginning to set**

President

**MCASE**  
**Cathy Maloney**  
President

**META**  
**Brian Norwood**  
President

**SAM Office**  
**Kirk Miller**  
Executive Director

**Gary Wagner**  
Director of Operations,  
Membership & Finances

**Kim Scofield**  
Director of Member Services &  
Professional Learning

at MCEL in Billings at the Northern Hotel - Ballroom North. All SAM members are encouraged to attend.

The results of the great work of the SAM Delegate Assembly 2019 are compiled in the [SAM Delegate Assembly 2019 Business Meeting Recommendations 10-18-19](#). This document outlines the SAM Advocacy Priorities by Action Designation and the Position Statements and Resolutions adopted by the SAM Delegate Assembly in June. These results will be voted on by the SAM membership during the business meeting. We hope you will attend and participate in the vote. See the link below to register for MCEL.



#### Wednesday, October 16:

- MCEL Partners Virtual Learning Track: Strategic Practices/Flexibility and Efficiency (1:00 - 3:00)

#### Thursday, October 17:

- Awards Ceremony (7:45 - 9:15)
- Keynote Presentation - Jamie Vollmer (9:15 - 10:30)
- Clinic Sessions throughout the day including SAM LPLP sessions and Flexibility & Efficiency Deep Dive Sessions

#### Friday, October 18:

- **SAM Annual Business Meeting (8:30 - 10:30 AM) ALL SAM Members are encouraged to attend!**
- Clinic Sessions throughout the day including SAM LPLP sessions



## Did You Know...

**...you can connect with other SAM members through affiliate region meetings?**

Five of the six SAM affiliates are divided into regions and many regions hold meetings throughout the year. Region President/Director contact information, meeting times, and meeting agendas can be found for each affiliate on their region web page. Click on the following links for information about your affiliate region:

- [MASS Regional Information](#)
- [MASSP Regional Information](#)
- [MAEMSP Regional Information](#)
- [META Regional Information](#)
- [MCASE Regional Information](#)

#### goals for the 2019-20 program year:

- **Social-Emotional Learning,**
- **Transformational Learning,**
- **AASA/SAM Aspiring Superintendent,**
- **Tier II/Tier III Behavior Project,**
- **New Leaders,**
- **New Superintendents,**
- **Special Education Directors,**
- **Trusted Learning Environment,**
- **ESSA Comprehensive Support**

The goal of the SAM LPLP is to provide intentional, personalized professional learning to Montana educators through research-based strategies resulting in improvements in job satisfaction, administrator longevity, and ultimately to increased student achievement and quality of instruction which will positively impact the education of students across Montana.

The members of Montana Association of School Superintendents (MASS) believe so strongly in the SAM LPLP that they have agreed to pay the registration fee for all Montana superintendents new to their position. For more information, contact the SAM office.

## Register for SAM LPLP 2019-20!



## Student Data Privacy

The [Consortium for School Networking \(CoSN\)](#) and its 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.

Last month we began the new school year by taking a look at the [CoSN Empowered Superintendent Initiative](#) and the [CoSN Driving K-12 Innovation Report](#). This month we turn our attention to the ever-critical issue of student data privacy.

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 a one-page critical issues document that covers the five critical guidelines for ensuring data privacy in your district's or school's use of technology, available at this link: [Student Data Privacy](#).

To assist school leaders in assuring all stakeholders that their district has built a system and culture of trust and transparency with regard to student data, CoSN developed a comprehensive process for school districts to earn the [Trusted Learning Environment \(TLE\) Seal](#). Montana school technology leaders have proven to be trailblazers in this work across the state through the formation of the SAM Leaders Professional Learning Program Trusted Learning Environment Collegial Learning Network (SAM LPLP TLE CLN). The TLE CLN, which is the first such cohort in the United States, allows districts to work together to update and strengthen their data privacy practices. A year ago, Bozeman Public Schools became one of 16 school districts in the country to earn the TLE



Seal. Through the work of the SAM LPLP TLE CLN, eight other Montana school districts are on the path to earning TLE Seals. Learn more about how and why the TLE Seal can support your data privacy work by clicking [HERE](#).

CoSN continues with Season 2 of the CoSN/edWeb Empowered Superintendent webinar series begins on Monday, October 14, 2019, at 5:00 pm ET. The focus for the October webinar will be on Student Data Privacy. Learn more about the series, register for upcoming webinars and access recordings of previously broadcast webinars at <https://home.edweb.net/supers/>.

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](mailto:bcalvary@cosn.org).

## Thank you to SAM's Business Partners!

Please take time to visit their websites.

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