

SAM Bulletin - July/August 2020

1 message

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School Administrators of Montana

BULLETIN

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

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Upcoming Conferences, Meetings, & Events

July 27-28, 2020: SAM Virtual Administrators Institute 2020

July 29, 2020: SAM LPLP Summit

July 29- 30, 2020: SAM Delegate Assembly - Helena

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

Thank you to this month's featured Business Partners!



Stronger and More Connected

by Casey Klasna, MASS President

Happy summer! As we move well into the summer months and schools are discussing and determining their plans for the fall with their boards and communities, I believe that districts are stronger and more connected than ever before. The community support within our districts is outstanding in my opinion. The work we have done for students and their families is as good as it gets. The positive far outweighs the negative and we have done extraordinary things. As the late NC State coach Jim Valvano said, "Every single day, in every walk of life, ordinary people do extraordinary things." Schools continue to accomplish extraordinary things.

A stronger appreciation towards schools and the work we do seems more evident. Overnight, we have changed how we do business and how we educate children, which as we all know was not an easy task. As leaders, we have a significant amount of weight riding on our shoulders and all eyes are on us to make the correct decisions for our schools. I believe there is a stronger connection now between schools and their shareholders and a deeper appreciation and understanding for what schools do.

Reflection is important and we need to reflect and feel satisfied with the great work we have accomplished and continue to do. We are faced with many challenges that have several moving parts, but we have all stepped up our game making us stronger. We all do a great job of seeing what works and what needs to be done. We have gone to the drawing board several times and have learned some valuable lessons.

Connections are important and so are the relationships we develop with the several professional organizations throughout the state. I am proud of the work that MT-PEC and others have done to help us navigate through the chaos. The leaders in those organizations have helped us out significantly and deserve recognition.

As the MASS President, it makes me proud to be a Montanan and a leader in public education. Let us continue to push forward, maintain the strong connections and to ensure we take care of ourselves. For some humor, a colleague shared with me a YouTube clip called "A Conference Call in Real Life." If you need a laugh click on the following link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DYu_bGbZiiQ. Thank you for all that you have done for your districts and for public education. Best of luck and be safe!

*Casey Klasna
MASS President*



SAM - Outstanding Progress During Changing Times!

by Kirk Miller, SAM Executive Director

2019-20 has been an outstanding year for your professional association, SAM, with great contributions from over 1080 members insuring progress on our strategic plan and excellent educational opportunities for our Montana children! The COVID pandemic and issues of



SAM Leadership

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discrimination, intolerance and equity have driven the national and state dialogue during the closing quarter of this fiscal year. Our nation and world are changing, and your SAM organization is creating an atmosphere for these changes to be implemented with the fidelity required and expected for our children. Attending hundreds of virtual meetings the past 5 months, we are listening to the needs of our members. Our story of progress is easy to share resulting from the collective energy and effort of administrators all across our state. I share with you the most recent SAM Update that encapsulates the progress of this year while also points to a very robust agenda for 2020-21, with our administrators and SAM leading the way on numerous efforts to positively impact the education of our Montana students ...

SAM was organized as an association for administrators in 1971. It represents the interests, aspirations, and professional leadership of Montana administrators. Over 1080 members network under six affiliate associations (**MASS**, **MAEMSP**, **MASSP**, **MCASE**, **MACSS**, **META**) to promote GREAT Montana Schools, supporting leader's passion for providing an outstanding education to Montana's children!

The **SAM Strategic Plan 2018-22** (adopted by the SAM Board 10/18/18) outlines the benefits being a SAM member affords each education leader through their contributions to the greater good of the education community to inspire our students...

SAM [Executive Director's Strategic Plan Report for 4th Quarter 2019-20](#)

Leadership Involved in Decisions that Impact Education

- AKA – SAM members working together to literally have a seat at the table (input) on all efforts that impact the education of Montana's children.
- [COVID-19 Information for Schools](#)
- [Recruitment and Retention of Quality Educators Update](#) [Montana Rural Schools Virtual Career Fair – March 13, 2020 – Details](#)
 - [RISE4MT Update 1-16-20](#)
 - [MT 2018 R&R Study Results, Infographic and Summary](#) implications on future recruitment & retention efforts
 - [Educator Recruitment and Retention](#) webpage
 - [HB 211](#) – loan repayment for critical educator shortages. [Resources to Implement](#)
- [Montana Rural School Virtual Career Fair - March 13, 2020 - Details](#)
- **GREAT 2019 released at MCEL 2019, Oct 16-18 in Billings for school district use**
- [School Safety](#) and [MT-PEC Project Safe Schools](#) and [Suicide Prevention](#)
- [SAM Needs Assessment 2020 Executive Summary](#) **and the SAM Needs Assessment Data Disaggregated by Affiliate 2020** provides information for our association's future professional learning, advocacy and items important to our attention toward.
- [Broadband Connectivity Progress](#), [ESH Report](#) and [Montana Progress Report, One-Pager 6/8/20](#)
- [DPHHS Rules on Healthy Learning Environments in Schools](#)
- [Student Data Privacy/Terms of Service META Project – HB 745 – Launch – MTSPA](#)
- [SAM Administrator Vacancy Report 2019-20](#)
- [2019-20 Leadership Staffing Report tells the story of efficient, effective administration](#)

Advocacy

- [SAM Delegate Assembly 2020](#) Legislative Interim Advocacy – [Committees, Upcoming](#)
 - [SAM 2019 Advocacy Priorities, Positions, Resolutions Approved 10-18-19](#)
 - [Call for Positions and Resolutions, Selecting Delegates](#)
- [Federal Advocacy](#)
- SCOTUS consideration of [Espinoza vs. MT Dept of Revenue](#) – [SCOTUS Blog](#), [MQEC Update](#), [SCOTUS Espinoza Decision 6/30/20](#)

Professional Learning and Services

- Professional learning opportunities for educational leaders aligned with best practices research and innovative strategies.
- The [SAM Leaders Professional Learning Program \(LPLP\)](#) 2019-20 is a best practices professional learning delivery system that personalizes learning for Montana administrators. Over the past 6 years, SAM LPLP has supported 420 administrators in meeting their personalized professional learning needs. In 2019-20, 90 administrators have joined the LPLP, forming ten [Collegial Learning Networks](#) with coach/mentors to personalize a professional learning plan enhancing their ability to serve their students, school and community! See the [SAM LPLP 2019-20 Mid Year Executive Summary](#). [SAM LPLP 2020-21](#) registration and planning is underway.
- [MT-PEC Collaborative Professional Development Flexibility & Efficiency - Framework](#)
- [SAM Virtual Administrators Institute 2020](#) - "Tell Your Story" - School Re-Entry & Recovery After Pandemic Event
- [MCEL 2020](#) planning underway
- SAM annually assists in the operation of 11 conferences creating learning opportunities for our members. See the 'Professional Learning' 'Conferences' tab on the website.
- [SAM Membership](#) [Join Here Benefits](#) [SAM Web Calendar](#)
- [SAM Youth Endowment](#) – help a worthy student/family through the Endowment
- [SAM and Affiliate Awards](#) – [Current Award Opportunities](#)
- SAM developed web-based communication tools for the use of our Members. Click [HERE](#) to see the instructions on how to use the E-list tool. Click [DOCUMENT](#) or [VIDEO](#) to learn how to use SAM Community Forums.
- Member benefits: Affiliate regional meetings, [SAM Bulletin](#) and weekly [SAM Update](#), colleague networks, state and federal advocacy networks, legal assistance, professional liability insurance, technology embedded solutions including website, cloud-based solutions, use of social media, E-Lists, digital [Community Forums](#) to enhance member communication, many more...

Make sure to follow SAM on Twitter [@MTEDLeadership](#) & on Facebook at [Sam Montana](#)

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Thank you SAM members for a great 2019-20. SAM is ready to continue our collective effort for the greater good of the education community to inspire our students in 2020-21!

Kirk D. Miller



The SAM Virtual Administrators Institute is sure to provide great professional learning for you and your admin/teacher teams. The conference will feature three dynamic keynote presentations by Jamie Vollmer, Hal Bowman, and Paul Andersen and breakout session zones focused on assisting you and your team in planning school re-entry and recovery in the areas of Social, Emotional, & Behavioral; Academic Programming; and Physical & Business Environment. Be sure to check out the draft [AGENDA](#) that is posted on the [SAM Virtual Administrators Institute webpage!](#) The conference is scheduled from approximately 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM on July 27th and 28th. Attendees will participate in live Keynote and Breakout Presentations AND have access to all sessions post-conference. [Click HERE for more information and to register!](#)



SAM LPLP 2020-21 Launches July 29th at the Virtual LPLP Summit

The official kick-off of the SAM Leaders Professional Learning Program 2020-21 program year is Wednesday, July 29th from 8:00- 11:00 AM during the SAM Virtual LPLP Summit .

Consisting of a combination of personalized learning networks through coaching/mentoring, rich online resources, and collaboration through collegial learning networks; the SAM Leaders Professional Learning Program is unlike any program available today. Want to know more? **Click on the video from Sue Sweeney, SAM LPLP Provider and retired principal, to hear more about SAM LPLP.** [Follow this link for more information and to register.](#)

SAM 2020-21 Membership Year Begins Today!

Following a successful 2019-20 year with an all-time high membership record of 1083 SAM members, the 2020-21 SAM membership year is off to a great start. We are looking forward to another great year!

As a SAM member, you have access to "member-only" areas of the [SAM website](#). Our hope is that the SAM website will be your go-to resource for everything happening at SAM and affecting education in Montana. Be sure to visit the website often stay up to date! You also have access to the SAM communication tools including your affiliate E-List and the SAM Member Community Forums, which provide a way for you to connect to administrators throughout the state. These tools can be found by clicking on the [Member Landing Page](#) under Quick Links. Log in to your SAM profile for access to password-protected areas of the SAM website. Please contact the SAM office if you are unable to log in or if we can be of assistance to you.

SAM and Affiliate Leadership for 2020-21

Thank you to our SAM and Affiliate Board Members for serving SAM during the 2020-21 year!

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- Rhonda Long (Fergus Co), Treasurer

Thank you to SAM's Business Partners!

Please take time to visit their websites.

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