

SAM Bulletin June 2020

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*School Administrators of Montana***BULLETIN***Visionary leaders united in providing, advocating, and creating education excellence for Montana students!***Volume XLII****June 2020****No. 297*****In This Issue...***

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**Upcoming
Conferences,
Meetings, & Events****June 11: SAM Virtual Board Meeting****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!****I Have Never Been More Proud***by Michelle Halberg, MCASE President*

I have never been more proud to call myself an educator, amazed at the creative and innovative thinking, witnessed the true meaning of "student-centered" and "strength-based" instruction, experienced the effort that collaboration takes, and the outcomes of that collaboration. During COVID-19 school closures new voices were heard and their ideas included in the generation of solutions. Vulnerability built trust and school teams were born, redefined, and strengthened.

I have never been more proud to call myself an educator and count myself in the ranks of all of you. You have been brave, showed hope in the face of uncertainty, been compassionate and resilient. I hope that you keep what you've learned during this time alive as we prepare for the Fall and beyond. I hope that you take the time to reflect and celebrate your own COVID-19 "silver-linings".

I leave you with Theodore Roosevelt's famous quote that has come to be known as, "The Man in the Arena". You have persevered in the face of adversity and come out the better for it.

*In gratitude,
Michelle Halberg*

"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows, in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat." Theodore Roosevelt April 23, 1910

**Pandemic Creates SAM Schedule Changes and Innovation***by Kirk Miller, SAM Executive Director*

The COVID-19 pandemic has certainly affected most everything in our lives and our work, requiring a great deal of energy to embrace the changes necessary to insure safety and continue the education of our children. This great effort of our schools is very evident in every community across the state. I thank you, our Montana education leaders, for making this happen in your community these past 3 months. Our thoughts are now deeply immersed in seeking solutions for the best ways to reopen



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our schools this fall and to meet the needs of our children. Thank you to the many administrators who are serving on Task Force, Work Groups, and Advisory Committees intended to prepare the best in guidance for School Re-Entry and Resources after/during Pandemic, with the goal of having the guidance prepared by the end of June.

The impact of COVID changed SAM and our efforts to serve our membership and help you with all you have had to do these past 3 months. We hope we have been there for you at this time, and that you have used the resources developed on the SAM website page [COVID-19 Information for Schools](#). Thinking to the future, there are many changes to the schedule of events for SAM and our affiliates and we appreciate your great ability to be flexible with those changes. Some changes of note ...

- MASS/METatechED Spring Conference (March 23-24) – Cancelled
- NAESP National Leaders Conference (March 23-25) – Cancelled
- NAESP Advocacy Conference (March 22-25) – Cancelled
- CoSN National Conference (April 1-4) – Postponed and done Virtually in May
- SAM Board and Affiliate Board Meetings in March, April, May and June – Held Virtually
- Da Rud Cup Golf Scramble (June 10, Rescheduled for July 26) - Cancelled until next year
- SAM Evening of Excellence (June 11) – Cancelled with plans to recognize 2020 awardees in 2021
- SAM Delegate Assembly – (June 11-12) – Postponed and will be held Virtually on July 29-30
- AASA Legislative Advocacy Conference (July 6-8) – Held Virtually
- NAESP National Principals Conference (July 7-9) – Cancelled
- NAESP Pre K-8 National Conference (July 12-14) – Cancelled
- SAM Administrators Institute 2020 (July 27-29) – Held Virtually on July 27-28 (please register)

This gets our schedule through the summer and planning for fall conferences, events and activities are being considered to be held either face-to-face or virtually. Decisions about how the events and meetings will be held will be determined by the phase of Pandemic and actions of SAM/affiliate boards to determine the conditions.

As this schedule reveals, the SAM and affiliate boards of directors have done excellent work to be flexible in working to meet our members needs for professional learning and advocacy the past 3 months and into the future. My thanks to our 85+ board members who serve your associations with outstanding commitment, energy and leadership!

Our team at the SAM office (Kirk, Kim and Gary) wish you a great June, and hope for a reasonable scope of activity for you to recharge and renew your leadership thoughts for the coming school year!

Be Safe! Be Well!

Kirk J. Miller

SAM Virtual Administrators Institute 2020
School Re-entry & Recovery After a Pandemic Event
July 27-28, 2020

Get ready for a fun, fresh and engaging NEW conference this summer! Based on action taken by the SAM Board of Directors, **SAM AI 2020: Tell Your Story...School Re-entry & Recovery After a Pandemic Event** will be held virtually on July 27-28!

The conference will mirror the previously planned in-person event, but now with no travel required! Using a dynamic virtual platform, attendees will participate in live Keynote Presentations (**featuring Hal Bowman and Jamie Vollmer**) and Breakout Presentations. Attendees will have access to ALL sessions post-conference. A virtual vendor hall will be filled with SAM Business Partners sharing the products and services they offer to SAM Members.

You will NOT want to miss this opportunity to virtually connect, engage, inspire, and collaborate with Montana Administrators.

[Click HERE for more information and to register!](#)

SAM LPLP 2020-21 Registration is Open!

It's time to plan next year's professional learning for you and your district administrators!

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SAM Leaders Professional Learning Program

Connecting new, experienced, and aspiring administrators through SAM LPLP's multi-faceted blended learning approach!

- 1 One-on-One Coach/Mentor
- 2 Online Resource Center
- 3 Collegial Learning Networks (CLNs)

SAM LPLP is a unique approach to personalized professional learning for Montana education leaders that results in improvements in job satisfactions, administrator longevity, and ultimately to increased quality of instruction and student achievement.

- 1 One-on-One Coach/Mentor - A personal learning network including the option of working with an experienced Provider
- 2 Online Resource Center - A vast collection of books, articles, videos, websites, and activities organized around the ten Professional Standards for Educational Leaders (PSEL) and a Leader's Personal Mastery Tool Kit
- 3 Collegial Learning Networks (CLNs) - Designed to be dynamic allowing participants to focus on specific areas of interest. CLNs anticipated for 2020-21 include:
 - Transformational Learning
 - Social Emotional Learning
 - Tier II/Tier III Behavior Project
 - New Leaders
 - New Superintendents
 - AASA/SAM Aspiring Superintendents
 - Special Education
 - ESSA Comprehensive Support
 - Trusted Learning Environment
 - GEAR UP

Visit www.sammmt.org for information

Click [HERE](#) to Register

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.

Are you a superintendent new to your position? MASS believes strongly in the effectiveness of SAM LPLP and wants to invest financially in your success by offering to pay the program fee for all Montana superintendents new to their positions.

Follow the link [SAM LPLP](#) for more information.

SAM LPLP 2020-21 will kick-off virtually at the SAM LPLP Summit on June 29th immediately following SAM Virtual Administrators Institute 2020!



Digital Equity Strategies for Learning Beyond the Classroom

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.

EmpowerED Superintendent edWebinar – Monday, June 8, 2020 at 3:00 pm MT
"Digital Equity Strategies for Learning Beyond the Classroom"

CoSN, AASA and edWeb join together in co-hosting the monthly EmpowerED Superintendent webinar series. The current COVID-19 health crisis has sharply exposed the critical issues around digital equity in several profound ways. Join us for the next EmpowerED Superintendent edWebinar when Dr. David Miyashiro, Superintendent, Cajon Valley School District, CA, Dr. Steven Webb, Superintendent, Vancouver Public Schools, WA and Dr. Donna Wright, Director of Schools, Wilson County Schools, TN, come together to engage in a lively, interactive, informative conversation. The three superintendents will share their strategies for bringing schools and communities together to solve the challenges of digital inequity. Their stories and expertise have great value for all school leaders at this pivotal time for K-12 education. You are invited to register for this free webinar, as well as access recordings of previously broadcast "EmpowerED Superintendent" webinars, at <https://home.edweb.net/supers/>.

COVID-19 Resources for School Leaders

CoSN continues to provide school leaders with updated information on the "[EdTech Guidance in the age of COVID-19](#)" web page. School leaders have ready access to current resources that not only help school systems adapt to remote learning during COVID-19 but also ensure positive outcomes for all stakeholders.

Digital Equity – AASA/CoSN Partner Resources Available to Download

The one-page document, [Creating Equitable Opportunities for ALL Learners](#), provides education leaders with five essential strategies for achieving digital equity. CoSN's [Digital Equity Initiative](#) web page has a number of additional resources, including access to the [Digital Equity Toolkit](#), to support the work of school leaders in building meaningful community partnerships and creating tools to help district leaders achieve digital equity for all learners.

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.

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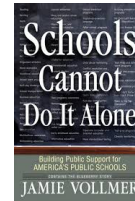


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