


**SAM February 2019 Bulletin**

1 message

School Administrators of Montana &lt;saom@memberclicks-mail.net&gt;

Fri, Feb 1, 2019 at 2:30 PM

Reply-To: samks@sammt.org

To: samks@sammt.org

## School Administrators of Montana

# BULLETIN

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

**Volume XLI**
**FEBRUARY 2019**
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### Upcoming Conferences and Meetings

**February 11: MT-PEC Public Education Day on the Hill - Register [HERE](#)**

**February 14-16: AASA National Conference on Education - Los Angeles**

**February 20-22: MCEC Conference - Helena**

**February 25-28: MACSS Mid-Winter Conference - Helena**

**March 18: MT-PEC Day of Advocacy - Helena**

**March 18-19: MASS Spring Conference - Helena**

## Being Our Best Selves and Doing Our Best Work!

*by Cal Ketchum, MASS President*

It has been a great experience being the MASS President this year. As a member of the MASS and SAM boards, I have enjoyed being a part of what, I believe, is a great leadership team. As I sit back and reflect on all of the work SAM and MASS, as well as, the other affiliates do throughout the year, it is truly inspiring to see all that has been accomplished. The students, staff, and Administrators are beneficiaries of all of the hard work put in each year to help each of us grow to our fullest potential.

As administrators, we are always busy taking care of other people's needs. Whether it is students, staff, or community we tend to put everyone ahead of ourselves. From losing loved ones, to health related issues and everything in between, West Valley has had some very tough situations to work through this year. While some of these situations were tough on staff, what I found was the kindness, caring and togetherness it takes to make even the toughest times a little less painful. We at West Valley have a very caring staff, as I am sure all of you do too. We are always better when we tackle tough situations together and that's what I see from the SAM and MASS organizations. There is a true sense of teamwork that resonates from the SAM organization which helps each of us do our jobs better and more efficiently. I know it was tough for them to lose Pat, especially right before the legislative session, but Kirk and his team put together a great plan and with the help of Rick Duncan, seemingly haven't missed a beat. Kudos to Kirk, Kim, and Gary for pulling through and working together to make this tough situation a little less difficult. A big thank you to Rick Duncan for filling in and adding another title to his ever growing resume.

Lastly, I want to remind you to take care of yourself during the school year. Often we spend so much time taking care of other's needs, we forget to take care of ourselves. Take time each day to physically, emotionally and spiritually take care of yourself. I have found and I'm sure you have too if I don't take care of myself, I'm not much good to anyone else. (at least that's what my wife tells me.) Go for a walk, visit a kindergarten classroom (if that doesn't make you feel good, nothing will), read a book, whatever it takes to keep positive outlook and have clear perspective of the great work you do every day for students, staff and your communities. Have a great second half of the school year and I hope to see you at the Spring MASS Conference in March!

All the best to each of you!

*Cal Ketchum  
MASS President*

### SAM Engagement and Professional Learning Bolster Advocacy!!

*by Kirk Miller, SAM Executive Director*

The attention of SAM is heavily weighted on advocacy at the current time because the 66<sup>th</sup> legislative session being underway. As we are engaged in this advocacy work I have been pleasantly reminded that it is the work on the goals of the strategic plan (listed below) that

### SAM Legislative Update 2-1-19 – Day 20

The Senate decided to meet on Saturday, Feb 2 creating legislative day 21 for the 66<sup>th</sup> Legislative session. At this point in the session, SAM has provided testimony in Committees 26 times on 22 SAM priority bills. Check out a new

March 18-19: METAtchED - Helena

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

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provides SAM with the ability to be deeply involved in the advocacy for each child's education. It is the work of our SAM members to be involved in decisions that impact education (having a seat at the table for all

discussions that impact our students) and the professional learning that our SAM members engage in that really set the tone for what we advocate for during this heightened time for legislative advocacy. Then it is our SAM Legislative Network that makes sure our voice is heard on the many issues of advocacy. What a great process and strategy.

#### SAM Strategic Plan Goals

**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 affiliate's, as well as other service providers through professional development, mentorship, and other member services.

As an example of what I've described as professional learning impacting advocacy, I want to point out the collective effort of the SAM Leaders Professional Learning Program (LPLP) personalized professional learning for our SAM members. The example I'm describing would be the collective effort of the SAM LPLP Transformational Learning (TL) Collegial Learning Network (CLN) over the past three years. The TL CLN is a collective group of Montana school and district leaders who are working on strategies of personalized learning/proficiency based learning in their schools and have been able to share their successes and challenges with each other in order to accelerate progress with implementation in their schools. It is this collective effort and research that has led to the development of a bill in this legislative session that would incentivize transformational learning. **HB 351** (McKamey - Encourage Transformational Learning) is the product of getting the attention of legislators interested in encouraging transformational learning in our schools and creating language in a bill that will incentivize our schools working to implement transformational learning strategies, and entice others to do so for their students. This is SAM professional learning impacting advocacy in the best interest of our students. I could share a similar example of the work of the SAM LPLP Social Emotional Learning CLN driving the dialogue for conference topics and themes as well as legislation on mental health issues and school safety.

I can also name many examples of the strategic plan goal to have SAM members participate on committees, task force, study groups, and even negotiated rule making that have led to legislation (bills) currently under consideration in the 2019 legislative session.

The message here is one of thanks to all of our SAM members who honor their profession by participating in professional learning opportunities and coming to the table as leadership in committees and task force members to study the best solutions for our student's education. It is this work, that truly

report – [2019 Legislative Session SAM Testimony Log 2-1-19](#) to see a review all of the testimony provided up to this point.

Week 4 was busy with hearings on SAM Followed Bills. Review [SAMLN19 Schedule Week 4 Jan 28-Feb 2 Revised 1-30-19](#) to see the week's activity.

#### Upcoming Week 5 (Feb 4-Feb 9)

[SAM Followed Bills 2-1-19](#) are up to 80 with 251 bill drafts being monitored. Check out a new report – [SAM Followed Bills Priority Status 2-1-19](#) describing status of bills under the SAM advocacy priorities – Support Adequate and Equitable School Funding (16 bills), Support Recruitment and Retention of Quality Educators (4 bills), Oppose Privatization with Public Funds (0 bills), Support Facility and Technology Infrastructure (3 bills), and Support School Based Mental Health Services (2 bills).

Please checkout [SAMLN19 Schedule Week 5 Feb 4-9 Revised 2-1-19](#) to see the schedule of bills and the status of the SAM's - support, opposition or monitoring - during the upcoming committee hearings.

On Monday, Feb 4 **HB 225** (revise school laws related to inflation, preschool, and special education) the Governors K-12 funding bill is scheduled for hearing in the House Education Committee. This is a key SAM priority bill for Adequate and Equitable Funding and so activities are planned to support this bill.

- Monday, February 4 at 11:30 AM – 12 PM: **Rally for Montana's Future Leaders** – Governor's Reception Room. Governor Steve Bullock, Rep. Casey Schreiner will speak on the comprehensive school funding proposal, **HB 225**, along with school leaders and parents. Kids who are able to attend are encouraged to dress as what they want to be when they grow up. **Please contact Kirk Miller – [samkm@sammt.org](mailto:samkm@sammt.org), if you are planning to attend the Rally.**
- Monday, February 4 at 3:00 PM: House Education Committee Hearing on **HB 225** in Room 137. Any and all support from school administrators, teachers, parents, etc. would be great. **Please contact Kirk Miller – [samkm@sammt.org](mailto:samkm@sammt.org), if you are planning to attend and provide testimony during the hearing.**

**HB 225** will be a Call To Action bill for the **SAMLN19** so be ready to contact the legislators on the House Education Committee.

### Upcoming Legislative Events for Education

MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CENTER  
**Public Education Day**  
ON THE HILL  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2019

Click [HERE](#) to view the Agenda

Click [HERE](#) to view Register

Montana's public school trustees and administrators will convene at the Capitol in Helena to advocate on behalf of our public schools and students. We invite you to register and bring your student trustee or student

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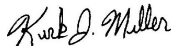
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creates a great opportunity for legislation (advocacy) that can support the education of the children we serve in our schools all across Montana!

We will continue to make sure our professional learning and engagement with the education issues make an impact on the current priority of advocacy during the 66<sup>th</sup> legislative session. I'm so thankful for our SAM members' effort and role in making huge progress for the education of our children!



## Upcoming Conferences

### 2019 MCEC Conference

Featuring:  
Kevin Honeycutt, Dr. Laurie Barron, Shawna Beiser,  
Jeff Crews & Dean Phillips, Jessica Minahan,  
Maureen Kampeff, Bea Kaleva, Megan Morris,  
Dr. Ann Garfinkle

February 20-22, 2019

**IGNITING PASSION:  
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MORE INFORMATION -  
**CLICK HERE!**

## Register HERE

February 20-22, 2019

MCEC Conference

Delta Hotels by Marriott - Helena Colonial

## MACSS 2019 Mid-Winter Conference



MACSS 2019  
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February 25-28  
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**CLICK FOR MORE INFORMATION!**

## Register HERE

February 25-28, 2019

MACSS Mid-Winter Conference

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## MASS Spring Conference



Tuesday, March 19 in Helena -  
following the Day of Advocacy!

## Register HERE

March 19, 2019

8:00 am-Noon

Best Western Premier - Great Northern, Helena

Keynote Speaker - Steve Rizzo  
Day of Advocacy Debrief  
School Size Breakout Sessions  
Awards/Retirement Celebration  
MASS Business Meeting

## METateCHED 2019

council leader. **\*Newly Scheduled**

**Programming\***We will meet with Governor Steve Bullock following a round table with current and former educators who are now legislators. Lunch will be served. Please register to attend.

MONTANA PUBLIC EDUCATION CENTER

**Day of Advocacy**

MONTANA STATE CAPITOL  
MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2019

In our joint efforts of advocacy for our public schools and students, we ask trustees and administrators to travel to Helena to speak with legislators about the issues facing Montana's public schools. We invite you to register and bring your student trustee or student council leader.

We will begin the day with a panel discussion with the leaders of MT-PEC, followed by a luncheon in the Montana State Capitol Rotunda with legislators. A reception with legislators will be held at MTSBA Headquarters to conclude this day of advocacy.

Click **HERE** to Register

## 2019 META Award Nominations Now Open

Nominations for the following Montana Educational Technologists Association (META) awards are now open! The nomination deadline is **February 22, 2019**.

- **META Technologist of the Year Award:** This award recognizes the fine achievements and successes of a Montana K-12 School Technologist (Tech Coordinator, Tech Director, Tech Specialist, etc) at the State level. Eligible candidates for this award must be 2018-19 META members. Click **HERE** to access the 2019 META Technologist of the Year Award Nomination Form.
- **META Empowered Superintendent of the Year Award** (not to be confused with the MASS/AASA Superintendent of the Year): This award recognizes a school superintendent who consistently and passionately provides educational technology leadership, support, understanding, and guidance in working with their school technologist(s) to create a successful and efficient system of technology-supported education. Click **HERE** to access the 2019 META Empowered Superintendent of the Year Award Nomination Form.

## Congratulations to the Recent MAEMSP and MASSP Award Winners!

The Montana Principals Conference was held in Helena January 27 - 29. Over 200 attendees had the opportunity to listen to national speakers, connect with colleagues from around the state, and honor several outstanding educators and friends of education. The following awards were presented on Monday, January 28th at the MAEMSP/MASSP Awards Banquet:





**March 18-19, 2019**  
**METAtechED 2019**  
 Delta Hotels Marriott - Helena Colonial, Helena

[Register HERE](#)

## Online Assessment

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 CoSN shared information on [Leading Mobile Learning](#) with SAM members. This month we focus on the topic of Online Assessment. Once thought to be primarily a platform for summative assessments, online testing today has become an integral component of personalized learning which relies heavily on data acquired through both ongoing formative assessments as well as summative assessments. CoSN is pleased to provide school leaders (and all the stakeholders they serve) with [nine key recommendations for leveraging online assessment capability and capacity](#). CoSN has partnered with edWeb to provide a monthly webinar series on topics essential for leading digital transformations. School superintendents serve as panelists on each webinar and share their stories and expertise. Every webinar is recorded for viewing by those who are not able to join the live broadcast. The title of the February 11, 2019 webinar (scheduled for 5:00 pm ET) is *"Online Assessment: An Evolving Landscape and New Opportunities"*. [Learn more and register for this free webinar 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](mailto:bcalvary@cosn.org).

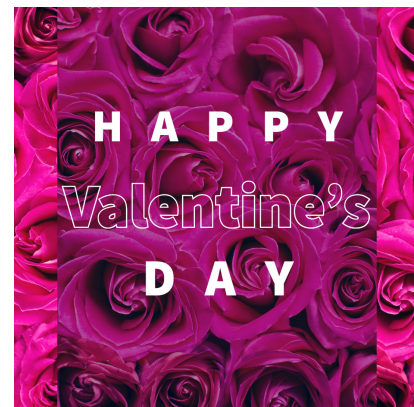
### MAEMSP:

- National Distinguished Principal - Marlin Lewis, Hamilton Middle School
- MAEMSP Retirees: Sue Sweeney - Helena Schools, Carole McKittrick - Great Falls Public Schools, Kim Beatty - Billings Schools
- MAEMSP Friends of Education Award - Brad Parsch, Gallatin Gateway
- MAEMSP Aspiring Principal Scholarship Award - Charlene Ammons, Great Falls Public Schools
- MAEMSP Appreciation Award - Frenchtown PTA
- MAEMSP Conference Incentive Scholarship Award - Megan Hopper, Target Range Schools

### MASSP:

- MASSP Principal of the Year - Joel Graves, Lincoln County High School in Eureka
- MASSP Assistant Principal of the Year - Katie Laslovich, Bozeman High School
- MASSP Retirees: Rex Ternan - Redlodge High School, Kevin Conwell - Bozeman High School
- MASSP Community Partner Award - Lynn and Holly Lapka, St. Ignatius
- MASSP Future Administrator Scholarship Award - Melissa Robbins, Whitehall Schools
- MASSP Conference Incentive Scholarship Award - Jim Browning, Columbus High School

**Congratulations to all of the award winners and honorees!**



**Thank you to SAM's Business Partners!**

**Please take time to visit their websites.**

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