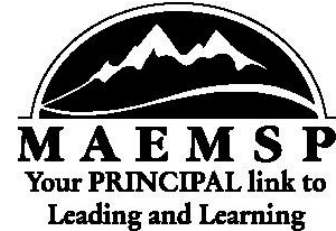


MAEMSP Board Meeting Executive Director's Report April 29, 2016



Greetings MAEMSP Board of Directors! This report will update you on the 2015-16 year and all of the great work you are accomplishing on behalf of principals and leaders in education across our state.

Review of MAEMSP Strategic Plan

- The MAEMSP Board of Directors revised the MAEMSP Strategic Plan 2015-18 at their meeting on April 28, 2015. Development of an action plan to implement the newly updated Strategic Plan will take place at this Board meeting.
- Click [HERE](#) to review the MAEMSP Strategic Plan 2015-18.

SAM Update

- Review of Strategic Plan
 - Executive Director's Strategic Plan Report for 3rd Quarter 2015-16 is on the website for reference – click [HERE](#) to review.
- Review of Financials
 - SAM Financial Statements 2015-16. Discussion of budget vs. actual and net income will take place at the Board meeting.
 - SAM Proposed Budget 2016-17. A first look at a proposed budget will be discussed at the meeting.
- SAM Accounting, Bookkeeping, Tax and Investment Information Update
 - The Financial Review process for 2014-15 is completed with Anderson ZurMuehlen (AZ). SAM Executive Director and Operations Manager met with the AZ staff (Paula Jacques) in December and established an electronic secure site to review the financials. We met again with Paula and our accountant, Marca Gibson on March 29. Final revisions to the report are available for review and were approved at the SAM Board meeting on April 8, 2016.
 - SAM's business partnership with MTASCD (Montana Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development) has us checking the filing of a 990 for 2014 with the accounting firm for the group.
 - SAM and MASS 990's for 2014 have been filed and are posted on the SAM web page under Governing Documents.
 - The SAM Investment Policy Ad Hoc Committee met on December 11, 2015 and made progress on developing Investment and Finance policies that SAM and Affiliates can consider. The first draft of the Committee recommendation was presented to the SAM Board at their meeting on April 8, 2016 and approved. Second and final reading will take place at the SAM Board meeting on June 16, 2016.
- SAM Staff Update
 - SAM hired Kimberly Scofield to serve as our part-time Communications Specialist. She started with us on January 4, 2015.
 - An induction and mentoring process is in place to support Kim's development to support her becoming a key player in our work for SAM.

- Kimberly is doing an outstanding job of coordinating efforts with the SAM team to promote the SAM Strategic Plan.

Montana Quality Education Coalition (MQEC) Update

- An update of the status of MQEC will be provided at the meeting. Click [HERE](#) to go to the MQEC website.
- MQEC has been a key organization in developing strategies for RISE4MT recruitment and retention of quality educator's movement.
- MQEC is a key organization in the protection of Montana's Constitutional intent during the implementation of SB 410 Tuition Tax Credit bill and the resulting legal that have been filed.
- The SB 410 district court ruling came down on April 1 indicating that Rule 1 as written would not be allowed and an injunction has been filed to allow the flow of public dollar tax credits to families who wish to use the scholarships at religious schools in Montana. There is also a federal case on this matter. MQEC is following this happenings closely and will move forward based on MQEC Board decisions as to how to proceed.

Montana Unified Schools Trust (MUST) Report

- SAM is represented on the MUST Board by Brad Moore (Treasurer and Superintendent at Big Sandy), Verne Beffert (Director of the Park County Special Ed Coop), and Tim Tharp (Superintendent at Sunburst).
- SAM Executive Director, Kirk Miller serves with Lance Melton (MTSBA) and Eric Feaver (MEA-MFT) on the board of the Montana School Services Foundation (MSSF), the governing board for MUST and the staff who work for the trust.
- Significant changes to data collection and prescription services are being considered by MSSF and the MUST boards. This may happen this spring in a move away from past membership in MAHCP (Montana Association of Health Care Providers) to new, bigger state of Montana services to support MUST members. More to come on this topic.
- The 3 seats on the MUST Board are to be considered for appointment by the SAM Board at the June 4th Quarter Board meeting. Brad Moore, executive board member appointee (a continuing seat representing SAM until is no longer in his job) and Tim Tharp (moving from Sunburst to Hobson for 2016-17) have indicated their wish to continue service through reappointment. Verne Beffert is retiring at the end of this school year and will complete his service on the MUST Board. The process for selecting a replacement on the MUST Board as outlined in policy will be followed in the coming months.

Professionalism, Integrity and Leadership

- Indicators of outstanding comprehensive education and high performance in Montana's schools.
- Focus attention on the value our public schools bring to each community.
- Setting a shining example of blending the SAM Strategic Plan with advocacy to cultivate a culture of collaboration, alliances and partnerships in the best interest of Montana's children!
- Active participation by SAM members in research and implementation of 2015 legislative actions and other study groups impacting education – [HB 374 Suicide Prevention Workgroup](#), Special Ed Coop Funding Task Force, Montana Arts Content Standards Committee, Montana Health Enhancement Content Standards Committee, Montana Oil and Gas Funding Study Committee, Montana Science Content Standards Committee, Montana Early Childhood Education, and others.
- Cooperating with partners in the development the Montana Educator Performance Appraisal System (EPAS), EducationSuperHighway Broadband Access Initiative, AdvancED, FCC Chairman Wheeler

visit to Montana on October 13, Montana K-12 Connectivity Workgroup, Montana Farm 2 School Task Force, Montana Afterschool Alliance, CEEDAR State Leadership Team, Montana Multi-tiered System of Supports (MTSS) Workgroup, Montana CSPD Stakeholder Group.

Advocacy

- SAM members will be equipped with accurate information and are prepared to advocate for public education.
- Collaboration between education associations (MASBO, MEA-MFT, MQEC, MREA, MTSBA, SAM) formed the Montana Public Education Center (MT-PEC) creating a positive impact in the 2015 legislative session and strong voice on education policy issues.
- [SAM Delegate Assembly](#) has developed a long range understanding of Positions and Resolutions creating an action plan for advocacy at the state and federal level (DA Steering Committee, SAM Legislative Network).
- Proactive relationships with the Governor's office, State Superintendent and OPI, Montana University System and a wide range of education stakeholders.
- Working closely with the K-12 Vision Group and MT- PEC to establish areas of focus for the 2017 legislative session and education advocacy issues.
- Focus on SAM and MT-PEC Priorities:
 - Recruitment and Retention of Quality Educators (Recruiting Incredible School Educators [Rise4Montana](#)). See the [RISE4MT Update 2-22-16](#).
 - Capital Facilities/Technology Infrastructure Needs
 - [Special Education Funding Adequacy and Equity](#) (SAM Delegate Assembly Resolutions: Mental Health, Special Education Funding, Funding for Mandated Special Education Services, Funding Special Education Cooperative Infrastructure, Special Education Funding – Closing the Gap) All of these are voted as “Action” items.
- SAM members' leadership and participation in the development of Montana's Accountability Workbook Plan for implementation of the Every Students Succeeds Act (ESSA) is a high priority. Superintendent Juneau has appointed 33 members to the [Work Plan groups](#), 19 of those appointed are SAM Members!
- SAM will work closely with partners in the education community on challenges in the implementation of the SB 410 Tuition Tax Credit bill (2015 legislative session). See the MQEC report for the latest information on the legal issues surrounding SB 410 implementation.
- [School Funding Interim Commission \(SFIC\)](#) – Communicating with Commission members offering support for the work ahead. First meeting on September 23, 2015. Adopted work plan that included the SAM and MT-PEC priorities. The meetings held on January 11-13, 2016 focused on the SAM and MT-PEC priorities with good hearing and discussion platforms (informal breakouts) held. A 3rd meeting was held April 4-5, 2016 and SAM members were present to provide support and testimony on the topics covered by the Commission. The Commission will meet on May 4 and 6, and again in June in hopes of creating recommendations for the consideration of the 2017 legislature.
- [Federal advocacy](#) for the reauthorization of ESSA, support of the BOLD flexibility in the IDEA act, leading the charge with Montana's congressional delegation and national associations to request USED address the burden created in completing the Civil Rights Data Collection (CRDC) biannual report, E-Rate and Broadband access for schools, and the REST Act rural educator recruitment legislation.

Professional Learning and Services

- Professional learning opportunities for educational leaders aligned with best practices research and innovative strategies.
- SAM 21st Century Leadership Institute and Mentor Programs are aligned to form the [SAM Leaders Professional Learning Program \(LPLP\)](#), expanding professional learning opportunities for 54 Montana administrators. Review the progress being made at [SAM LPLP 2015-16 2nd Quarter Executive Summary](#). **Request the support of the MAEMSP Board in promoting this program in their region. Video presentations describing both the Mentor Program and 21 CLI 2016-17.**
- [SAM website](#) - a one stop repository for member resources. Social media resources.
- SAM annually assists in the operation of 13 conferences creating learning opportunities for our members. See the [Conferences](#) tab on the website.
- Member benefits: Affiliate regional meetings, SAM Bulletin and weekly SAM Updates, colleague networks, state and federal advocacy networks, legal assistance, professional liability insurance, technology embedded solutions including website, cloud-based solutions, use of social media to communicate effectively, many more...
- [MCEL 2015](#) – Released [GREAT III](#) publication for all schools and communities to have common advocacy information about the great work (based on the recent Zogby poll of Montana citizens) being accomplished in our public schools. Next MCEL will be held on October 19-21, 2016.
- [SAM Administrators Institute](#) provides great learning opportunities our entire membership – theme for [SAM AI 2016](#) is “Leadership of Transformation Change for the Whole Child” scheduled for July 25-28 in Helena! **Request the support of the MAEMSP Board to promote attendance at the SAM AI 2016.**
- [SAM 2015-16 Membership Report](#) is 986 members and growing in order to benefit Montana’s education administrators. This is 8 more than the 2014-15 total membership! Great work affiliate leaders! **Request the support of the MAEMSP Board to promote membership of administrators in each affiliate for 2016-17. Talk to the supervisor about the value of investing in belonging to your professional association. Drive for 2016-17 started on April 4, 2016.**
- Executive Director and Associate Director are making presentations of contemporary issues related to SAM at regional affiliate meetings and at affiliate conferences. Click [HERE](#) to review presentations that are being made. These presentations are intended to assist SAM members in understanding the major issues impacting schools and students, and SAM’s role and contributions in working with the issues.

Thanks for your service on the MAEMSP Board of Directors! Welcome new MAEMSP Board members and thanks so much to Matt Lewis and Steve York for your outstanding work over the years for MAEMSP!

Respectfully Submitted,

