



# MASS Business Meeting

## MINUTES

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Tuesday, September 19, 2017  
8:15 – 9:00 am  
Bozeman Hilton Garden Inn

President *Tobin Novasio*, Presiding

### Agenda

1. Consideration of MASS Business Meeting DRAFT Minutes 3-14-17  
**Motion by Rick Duncan to approve minutes; seconded Annette Hart**  
**Motion passed unanimously**
2. MASS President Report - *Tobin Novasio, MASS President*
  - Tobin acknowledged the Flathead Valley Schools with thoughts and prayers for the cyber threats they are currently experiencing.
  - He stated that members need to keep up their advocacy efforts despite being a non-legislative year; get to know your legislators and talk to them. Tobin also stated that all members should stay focused on federal issues.
3. AASA National Conference on Education (NCE) and MASS Incentive Award - *Cal Ketchum, MASS President-Elect -- February 15-17, 2018 in Nashville, TN*
  - Cal was absent. Tobin re-announced the winners of Tiffani Anderson and Thom Peck.
4. AASA Governing Board/Executive Committee Report - *Ron Whitmoyer, Jule Walker, & Leland Stocker*
  - Ron discussed building relationships in DC. He mentioned the “I Love Public Education” movement describing how Jule Walker was instrumental in creating this. He also talked about the privatization movement for using public funds for private schools without any accountability.
  - Jule discussed federal accountability reporting (OCR and SRSA, describing how this has not had any significant educational impact, but requires significant work to complete the forms. She mentioned the importance of REAP funds, Carl Perkins Funds.
  - Leland talked about the Medicaid funding and the votes by your reps – Tester and Daines. He reiterated the importance of staying focused on federal issues. Tobin mentioned that Ron was elected to serve on the AASA Executive Committee. He also thanks Jule for her previous service on the AASA Executive Committee.
5. AASA Federal Relations Report - *Rick Duncan, MASS Federal Relations Coordinator & Rick Duncan, DA Steering Committee Chair & MASS Representative*
  - Rick described delegate assembly and explained the procedures in this process, defining what the positions and resolutions are about including the basis on priorities.

- Rick next discussed the Federal issues and outcomes of visits with the Montana Congressional delegation. He described Senator Tester as the consummate champion for education. He discussed the action behind getting REAP funding to the center of attention. Senator Daines was a better visit this year, but need his action on education issues that align with our advocacy. IDEA Part B is another issue that Senator Tester is drafting into a bill. He is seeking a 12.5% increase per year to reach that 40% IDEA funding. Medicaid and the probable chance that there will be a loss, or great decrease, was also a concern with the new healthcare bill work in the Senate. He stated that the Carl Perkins and REAP funding are both stable but need support.
- Rick ended by talking about how there will be a call for resolutions for next summer's Delegate Assembly – due mid-April.
- Robert DoBell asked about the process for notification of receiving REAP funds. Annette Hart mentioned that she received an email that her school received the funding. Tim Tharp mentioned that Title IV and V entitlements will be ready for distribution next week.

#### 6. SAM Update - *Kirk Miller, SAM Executive Director*

- Kirk discussed the organization of the SAM website and where information can be found. Kirk called for questions. Rick Duncan asked if the funding (1.87%) passed in the Legislature through HB 191 will still be safe and be distributed. Kirk answered that it is in law and will need to be followed – if not followed, would potentially be a legal issue. Tim Tharp stated that this is protected in law.
- Kirk added that the MASS membership is very well represented in advocacy and thanked the MASS membership for their advocacy effort.

#### 7. Other Business - For the Good of the Order

- Tobin mentioned that there are some copies of ESSA and other information from OPI on the conference registration table. Tobin then mentioned there is a break now and announced the caucus meeting sites and facilitators to start after break.

Meeting adjourned at 8:56 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Patrick Audet  
Associate Director