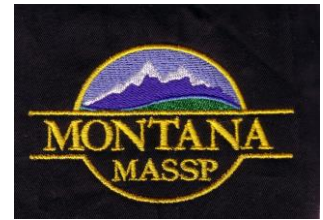


# MASSP Board

## Executive Director Update

April 6, 2015

MASSP Board Meeting



Greetings MASSP Board members! We continue to make great progress as an association serving our membership. Here is an update of big MASSP activities for your review. Please contact me if you have questions.

### **MASSP Board Consideration**

1. Review of MASSP Strategic Plan. This is a discussion item at the MASSP Board meeting on April 6, 2016. In April 2015, Executive Director Miller reported the following update which can serve as a review for progress in 2015-16...

#### **Goal#1: Professional Development – pre and post certification**

- **Strengths**
  - Spring Conference has excellent professional development offerings that are targeted to the needs expressed by our members.
  - SAM Leaders Professional Learning Program (LPLP) has strengthened opportunities for principals through cooperation with the University System Education Leadership departments and OPI and several business partners.
  - The SAM 21<sup>st</sup> Century Leadership Institute has 14 principals and 2 assistant principals participating in 2014-15.
  - The SAM Mentor Program has 12 principals and 4 assistant principals participating in 2014-15.
  - Opportunities for elected leaders to attend Regional and National Conferences.
  - The National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) continues to be a good venue for our interested members to get quality professional development.
    - All members join both MASSP and NASSP
- **Continued Attention for Growth**
  - Attendance at regional, state, and national meetings.
  - Identifying regional needs and opportunities for resources and training.
  - Enhancing SAM LPLP Program and expanding participation of principals in this innovative professional learning.

#### **Goal #2: Membership Support**

- **Strengths**
  - Communication opportunities with website, Vision Net, meeting structure becoming web based.
  - Increased professional learning opportunities for all principals though the SAM LPLP
  - Legal advice, consultation, and referral for legal assistance are regularly provided.
- **Continued Attention for Growth**
  - Working on the use of social media to enhance communications among and between members.
  - Regional Director's effort to send meeting agendas and meeting minutes for publishing on website in a consistent manner.
  - Strengthening of Regional meeting agendas.

### **Goal #3: Member Recruitment and Retention**

- **Strengths**
  - Increased ability to determine missing membership by region and working to have regional directors reach out to principals in their area. The addition of Associate Director, Pat Audet to our SAM office team will enhance this work because of his knowledge of the membership and schools in Montana.
  - Processes from SAM Office to Directors letting them know who has and hasn't renewed their memberships or made an initial enrollment.
  - Active involvement by association leaders in our annual New Leaders' and Aspiring Administrator functions.
  - SAM Mentor Program opportunity for all new leaders to have a mentor.
- **Continued Attention for Growth**
  - Improved utilization of growing SAM LPLP for early career and experienced principals.
  - Recruiting and training for Directors. Developing an orientation for new Board members.
  - Directors insuring that new members and potential members get personal invitations to Regional meetings.

### **Goal #4: Advocacy through Leadership**

- **Strengths**
  - Strong advocacy through the State Coordinator position
    - NASSP has strengthened their support for the role of State Coordinator.
  - Active involvement in the Region 7 leadership activities of NASSP.
  - Training from NASSP for state officers is valuable.
  - SAM participation through their Executive Director with the Montana Public Education Center (MT-PEC), providing all public schools with advocacy information.
  - Contributions to the publication of the "Great Works II" document to help align priorities with advocacy.
  - Research shows that more principals are active in the legislative process through the SAM Legislative Network and CALL TO ACTION during the 2015 legislative session.
  - MASSP representation on initiative work groups & task forces formed by the education community.
- **Continued Attention for Growth**
  - Additional "voices" before, during, and after the Legislative Session.
  - Directors' involvement in coordinating grassroots outreach activities in each region.

Executive Director's SAM Strategic Plan Report for 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2015-16 is on the website for reference – click [HERE](#) to review.

#### 2. Review of Financials

- MSSP Financial Statements for 2015-16 will be reviewed at the meeting.
- Proposed Budget for 2016-17 will be discussed at the meeting.

#### 3. 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 should be available for review and action 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 will be presented to the SAM Board meeting on April 8, 2016.

#### 4. 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.

#### 5. Montana Unified Schools Trust (MUST) Update

- 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

#### 6. 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.

## 7. 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.

## 8. 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. Next meeting will be held April 4-5, 2016.

- [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.

#### 9. Professional Learning and Services

- Professional learning opportunities for educational leaders aligned with best practices research and innovative strategies.
- SAM 21<sup>st</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Executive Summary](#). **Request the support of the MASSP Board in promoting this program in their district. 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 MASSP 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 MASSP 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.

#### 10. Business Partnerships Update – continued development of non-dues revenue by expanding our business sponsorships is important to the future of SAM

- Click [HERE](#) to review the current status of SAM's business partnerships.
- SAM LPLP 2015-16 continues to seek investors. NW Energy has committed more funding through their Community Relations Managers in 7 cities.

- Our office is working to retain the current business partnerships we have established and develop consistency in the agreements made with all business partners based on their level of partnership and clarity of benefits provided when the partnership with SAM is established.

Thank you MASSP Board members for your leadership of our association and the schools you serve!

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kirk J. Miller". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'K'.

SAM Executive Director