META Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, January 11, 2017
9:00am – 11:00am
Helena, MT & Remote Sites – via Uber Conference

Minutes

Present   *SAM Office:* Kirk Miller, Pat Audet
Uber Conference: **Rich Lawrence, Brian Norwood**, **Russ Hendrickson**, **Glenn Wehe**, **Mark Branger**, **Brad Somers**, **Dave Dobbins**, **Deanna Flemmer**, **Mindy Obert, Anita Freeman, Todd Lark**
Guest: Devin Holmes

Absent   *Kelly Veis, Travis Baumann, Jeredene Mayfield, John Jensen, Branson Rogers*

Call to Order   The meeting was called to order by President Rich Lawrence at 9:06 am.

Rich reviewed the 2016 META Board Retreat and Strategic Planning.

Mega Issue
Discussion   Topic: 2017 Legislature and the SAM Legislative Network
Rich opened up the dialogue with explaining the importance of this session. Kirk showed the portion of the website for the advocacy; explained the links. (Checks with Devin Holmes to continue with the agenda – ok with him - 9:18 We check out of the meeting and Uber Conference to allow more members to join the conference).

9:22 Kirk continues with website navigation for the legislative session. He also covered the 4 SAM Legislative Priorities from Delegate Assembly, explaining positions and resolutions also. Kirk also described the Gov. budget and importance Section E – Education (OPI) – big concern Local Education Activities and budget cuts. He also described the addition of inflation added to the funding formula needs to happen to meet the requirements of quality schools and law. Kirk then discussed the New Proposals with SPED Inflation, elimination of the NRD payment and increase the GTB account, eliminate the Data for Achievement Payment – 145,000 students at $20 a student is being cut, oil and gas cut, plus unanticipated student enrollment increase – from 4% or 40 students, back to 6%.

Kirk then briefly demonstrated navigating the Montana Legislature website. He used HB 12 (Gov.) for example of bill look-up and the problems with it – including the cuts described above. One component for supporting – Broadband allocation for $2 million to get 20 million – ESH (timber tech money would go away). Russ asked if this is retroactive to schools that are already involved in

increasing their broadband. If this bill passes, hopefully the use of the $20 million will be in the hands of the Broadband Committee.

Kirk showed the SAM Bill Preference page and described how it works. He showed some other pertinent bills that SAM is following. Kirk described the SAM Legislative Network and guidelines to advocating. He also showed the current SAM updates/schedule for the Legislation.

Kirk showed the SAM LN member list – encouraged the board to sign up if nobody is interested within their regions. So far, Rich and Todd are the only two signed up. He also showed how you can contact legislators to encourage them to vote yes or no and a message.

Old Business	● *Membership Update:* Pat gave a membership update to the group – 102 members this year for META
	● *Digital Literacy/Computer Science Guidelines:* Kirk described the OPI request and so if there is any input, you can provide this. These were provided to the META board back in September. He also described that the guidelines are there for your district to use.
New Business	● Big Sky Code Academy request for META Review: Guest Devin Holmes described the request by talking about the programs under Big Sky Code Academy to increase student interest for coding in MT. He talked about Code.org and training for teachers to bring this into their classrooms at no cost. Code.org pays for accommodations – Phoenix. There needs to be a commitment for the teacher to teach this course the following school year. There are 50 teacher slots for this summer for middle school and HS teachers – 50% along the I90 corridor in MT and 50% out in more rural areas. Devin would like to work with META to get this word out to their schools. Mindy asked if there is a cost for the use of the code.org curriculum – there is not a cost; it is free. The AP component has a module that has a hardware cost for participants. Next question is if there is a certification that a teacher has to have to teach it. Code.org's first regional members – MT – need of baseline confidence and capacity to teach it – there will be flexibility on certification or accreditation. The teacher would have to meet MT's certification requirements. Russ asked about availability of the program (like CodeGirls) to students that are not in a school that is part of this. After school program will fulfill this

soon in other schools (CodeKids from CodeGirls) besides just accredited schools that join with this. Would there be remote access for this after school program? CodeGirls is already being taught remotely – online. Devin stated that they are working with MDA in finding ways to get after school and school teachers involved with this in an online format.

Kirk described the process of how META can vet this. Russ suggested getting this information out to the membership before we get this vetted through the META board. Mindy brought up the idea to also mention other programs out there besides BSC (she mentioned the MT Tech program Project Lead the Way that provides credits). Russ would be on this committee – Todd, Mindy, Brad, Deanna and Rich would also be involved with this. Devin will provide this committee more info on the program.

- Consideration of adding META Delegate Assembly Steering Committee Representative to the META Board of Directors – Rich & Kirk described the process to add this position to the META board – Constitution change. This is a META president appointment to the DA and therefore an appointment to the META board. This board of director's report would be taken to the membership at the METATechEd Conference for it to be considered.

  Motion to Approve the Recommendation of New Board Position to the Membership: Russ
  Second: Brad
  Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

Presidents Report Rich reiterated the Strategic Plan review from Retreat that he described at the beginning of the meeting.

Executive
Director Report Kirk was brief in describing the META budget. His report is online.

Regional
Reports:
  Hi Line Region: No report

Northcentral Region: Dave described a meeting planned for next week in Browning. CoSN discussion and offering planned. He signed up for SAM LN.

Northwest Region: No report

Western Region: Deanna described two meetings so far – another is planned in Feb. HSH and Lightspeed presented; Strategic Plan review; CoSN membership check; ransomware discussion.

Southcentral Region: Mark discussed an Erate Tech Talk; Strategic Plan review; cohosted a meeting in Roundup with Central; next meeting in March.

4R Region: Mindy mentioned 18 members plus meetings that were held and future meetings. CISCO presenter is planned, SWMSS offerings, ransomware; G-Suite and Erate presentations. Brad added that there needs to be some more coordination with regional MASS meetings to get supts in the loop

Central Region: No report

Northeast Region: Anita had one meeting; had an Erate tech talk; another meeting will be scheduled for Feb.

Souteast Region: No report

Committee Updates

● CoSN State Chapter update – Russ Hendrickson: Had annual call with CoSN; 95% of things were already completed. Russ will be going to CoSN conference and will report when he gets back.
● General Committee & Strategic Plan update – Rich Lawrence: Professional conference; Erate module; School Security committee;
● Advocacy Committee – Todd Lark: Call for members to become a part of the SAM LN.
● Professional Learning – Brian Norwood; Sent an email before Xmas break for interest in presenting and being a part of the committee. He will also make another call out for participation. Russ added that the subcommittee is also working with this. They only had one for interest in
   ○ METAtechED Conference 2017 – March 14-15, 2017
● Organization Development – Brad Somers: Mark Branger and Brad are reviewing the Policy Manual to get it current. Looking at Meetings required in particular to get Policy Manual synced with actual practice.
● Technologist of the Year - Brian Norwood – Brian and Pat described the process for getting the tech of the year nominations and review. Pat will contact Brian when this process is ready to put out to the membership.

Open
Discussion   Items brought to the Board by Regional Directors – None.

META CALENDAR
       2016-17 SAM Conference - Meeting Schedule
       SAM and Affiliates Board Meeting Schedule 2016-17

Meeting adjourned at 11:10 am