

SAM Board Meeting Item 10-19-16



DATE: October 19, 2016

TITLE: Consideration of SAM Bylaws Revision to Article VI Delegate Assembly RE: Delegates assignment and responsibilities and Appointment of Delegate Assembly Steering Committee Members in June

CATEGORY: Old Business Item 2 - ACTION

ORIGINATED BY: MASS Board members during the session on MASS New Board Orientation, July 25, 2016. *Appointment of Delegate Assembly Steering Committee in June was originated by the Delegate Assembly Steering Committee on October 13, 2016.*

OTHERS INVOLVED: MASS Board Officers and new Board Members led to a request of the SAM Executive Director to review their concerns and suggest a solution. *Delegate Assembly Steering Committee on October 13, 2016.*

DATA EXPANSION: SAM Bylaws Article VI proposed revisions

COST/FUND SOURCE: None

IMPLEMENTATION ACTION: SAM Board ACTION

ISSUE:

1. To determine if revising the SAM Bylaws to define the duties and responsibilities of SAM Delegate Assembly Delegates will clear up concerns about consideration/voting on Positions and Resolutions during delegate assembly.
2. *To realign the SAM Board responsibility of appointment of Delegate Assembly Steering Committee members to align with legislative session years.*

FACTS:

- Delegates were assigned by Affiliate presidents on the day of Delegate Assembly 2016 to fill vacated seats for missing Delegates.
- Voting on Positions and Resolutions on a couple of items resulted in close votes that may have been different without substituting last minute Delegates.
- The SAM Bylaws in Article VI defines Delegates for the Delegate Assembly but does not address substitutions or responsibilities of Delegates while attending Delegate Assembly.
- A request was made to suggest a solution to the situation that occurred at Delegate Assembly 2016 with the substitution of Delegates. The Executive Director is to do the research.
- *Current staggered 2 year terms of the DA Steering Committee end in January of odd years when the legislative session just begins.*
- *The DA Steering Committee believes the 2-year term of a committee member should begin in June of odd number years (right after a legislative session), allowing the Steering Committee member to serve on the committee for one and a half years to gain experience before a legislative session begins.*

DISCUSSION:

- Participants that joined the Delegate Assembly 2016 process, and did not participate in the Caucus, were not able to be a part of the discussion that would either produce consensus or define to the group where a delegate was at in their belief, position or status. This caused a divide in how some Delegates were in this exact situation and how they voted. These members were filling in at the last minute for vacated spots in the delegate assembly. Should this be allowed?
- Suggested process revisions to be considered were determined to be:
 1. Delegates must attend the DA Caucus the day before Delegate Assembly in order for that delegate to be able to participate in the DA process and voting.
 2. Delegates must always be present and vote for all items until DA process is adjourned.
- These items were brought about and discussed by 6 MASS board members at an orientation meeting for new MASS board members. This meeting was held on Monday, July 25, 2016 at 4:30 pm at the time of the SAM Administrators Institute. MASS would like to see the two items considered as mandates. However, these items might be different for other affiliates.
- The Executive Director researched the duties and responsibilities of Delegates in the SAM Bylaws and found no clear definition of Delegate substitution or responsibilities of delegates during the Delegate Assembly.
- The Executive Director prepared revised language for SAM Bylaws Article VI Section 1 attempting to address the request. Revisions to the SAM Bylaws require and 3/4ths vote of the SAM Board (SAM Board Meeting being held October 19, 2016) and in turn a 3/4ths vote of the SAM membership (SAM Business Meeting being held on October 20, 2016)
- The Executive Director presented this request to the SAM Delegate Assembly Steering Committee seeking a recommendation for possible action of the SAM Board.
- The SAM Delegate Assembly Steering Committee met on Thursday, October 13, 2016 to consider this matter and make a recommendation to the SAM Board for action. They recommend that the language for duties and responsibilities of Delegates be added to Article VI of the SAM Bylaws.
- DA Steering Committee discussed the advantages and disadvantages of starting the term of a steering committee member in June and determined this would be best in odd number years right after the legislative session concludes. The Steering Committee recommends the revised language to have the SAM Board make appointments in June.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S RECOMMENDATION:

- Support the SAM Delegate Assembly Steering Committee recommendation to revise the bylaws as indicated in the data expansion of this agenda item.

OTHER ALTERNATIVES:

- Take no action on this item.

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS OF MONTANA

BYLAWS



Updated October 16, 2014

DRAFT Revision Approved by SAM Board January 15, 2016 in Blue highlighted text

DRAFT Revision Considered by the SAM Board October 19, 2016 in Yellow highlighted text

ARTICLE VI – Delegate Assembly

1. The Delegate Assembly shall consist of ~~eight (8)~~ **nine (9)** delegates from each of the five SAM geographic regions and the officers of the SAM Board of Directors. Delegates shall be appointed by their respective affiliate presidents not later than April 1. The ~~eight (8)~~ **nine (9)** delegates from each SAM region shall consist of two representatives from the Montana Association of ~~School Administrators~~ **Superintendents**, two representatives from the Montana Association of Secondary School Principals, two representatives from the Montana Association of Elementary and Middle School Principals, one representative from Montana Association of County Superintendents of Schools, one representative from the Montana Council of Administrators of Special Education, and one representative from the Montana Educational Technologists Association. Each delegate shall be a member in good standing of his/her respective affiliate. The affiliate presidents can appoint alternate delegates.
2. Delegates shall serve for a term of two years, beginning June 1, unless an affiliate has two delegates, in which case the first appointment shall be for two years and the second appointment shall be for three years. New delegates shall be required to attend the “New Delegate Orientation” held just prior to the Delegate Assembly. **One week prior to convening of Delegate Assembly, no substitutions may be made to the Delegates appointed by affiliate presidents. Appointed Delegates are responsible for attending the Delegate Assembly Caucus for deliberation of proposed actions and also to attend and vote on Positions and Resolutions proposed during the Delegate Assembly.**
3. The SAM Board of Directors shall annually select a six (6) member steering committee, including a chair, from the Delegate Assembly at the ~~January~~ **June** meeting. It shall be the responsibility of the steering committee to organize a Delegate Assembly meeting to be held no later than August 15. Other delegate meetings may be called at the discretion of the steering committee.
4. A simple majority of delegates at the Delegate Assembly present at any meeting shall constitute a quorum.
5. The Delegate Assembly shall study and formulate resolutions and position statements affecting the condition of public education in the State of Montana. Resolutions and position statements must be approved by a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote of delegates present and voting.
6. The Delegate Assembly’s recommendations shall be posted electronically on the SAM website and a reminder will be sent via the affiliate list serves in advance of the annual Montana Conference of Educational Leadership (MCEL).