

SAM Executive Board of Directors Meeting

March 13, 2016

SAM Office - Helena, Montana

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Minutes

Present: Rick Duncan, Marlene Deis, Paul Furthmyre, Randy Cline, Chris Bilant, Peter Fusaro, Russ Hendrickson, Lance Boyd (for Brenda Krueger), Kirk Miller, Pat Audet

Vision-NET Jessica McWilliams

Absent: None

Call to Order Meeting was called to order at 1:06 pm by President Rick Duncan.

Introductions Members introduced themselves.

Deletions/Additions To Agenda None

Minutes **Minutes from March 15, 2015 – approved by Unanimous Consent**
Minutes from January 15, 2016 – approved by Unanimous Consent

President's Report President Rick Duncan reported on Kirk's evaluation and gave thanks to him and the staff. Rick briefly gave an overview of the evaluation and stated that it was very positive and affirmed the great job Kirk is doing for SAM and its members. Rick asked for any questions and comments from the executive board.

Motion by Lance Boyd to reemploy Executive Director Kirk Miller and accept the Executive Director contract and compensation package as proposed; Paul Furthmyre seconded the motion.

Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

Rick briefly covered the 2016-17 Proposed SAM Budget and provided an analysis of data to the board members in making an informed decision on SAM Office contracts and compensation packages. Rick then went through a brief synopsis of the office employees' compensation packages. He then asked for discussion of the board. Russ commented on the importance of stability and how the service has been invaluable. Peter reiterated the importance of hiring Kim and the help and services that she can provide.

Motion by Randy Cline to accept the contracts, agreements, and compensation packages and reemployment of the SAM staff – Pat Audet, Gary Wagner, Kim Scofield; seconded by Marlene Deis.

Vote: Passed Unanimously

Executive Director's
Report

Kirk Miller referenced the Executive Director Report provided prior to the meeting (a copy of which is online for the meeting). Kirk then went onto discuss the review of the SAM Strategic Plan and the updates of progress made on the goals and objectives. He also mentioned that all affiliate budgets have been updated along with the SAM budget.

Kirk then went through each of the updates of the strategic plan: financial review; MTASCD; Investment and Finance policies; MUST (in depth summary, transitions and changes) - these changes are helping to move toward a possible statewide health insurance plan that may be a possible recommendation for the 2017 Legislature (SFIC).

Kirk described the current MQEC position – Senate Bill 410 lawsuits and legal questions – district and federal courts. Kirk mentioned the purpose of the MQEC in protecting the constitution and public schools. An attorney was hired by MQEC for possible involvement in this issue. MTPEC believes that being in a defendant position, is an advantage – dollars used from membership used in a defense is more viable than being a plaintiff. Chris brought up a possible key plaintiff argument that IDEA, ESEA and federal dollars do follow services of a student even to a private school – Why can't state public funds be allocated to private also. Rick also brought up the charter school discussion with a couple public school districts creating charter schools and relationship to SB 410.

Next, Kirk presented a RISE4MT update and the release of a Zogby poll next week to administrators and teachers. He mentioned UM, MSU involvement. He also reported information about the EdNW REL partnership and their help financing the research for this program. *Chris requested that the National poll information be posted on the SAM website – we will post the table from this study (Dr. Ingersoll, Professor from Pennsylvania that was presented to the SFIC).

Kirk mentioned the Call for Resolutions and the Delegate Assembly. Rick then reported on the Delegate Assembly Steering Committee and the process of preparing resolutions and the delegate assembly meeting. The due date for the call for resolutions is April 28.

Kirk then described the 3 priorities of the SAM advocacy package and relationship to MT-PEC, describing the status of the legislative SFIC – SPED, Facility Funding, Recruitment and Retention of Quality Educators. The MT-PEC has been careful as to not provide too much information (solutions) to the SFIC and protect from making changes to the 3 priorities. Ideas and programs that

may help in the SFIC solutions would be a possible look at statewide health insurance (Recruitment & Retention), K-12 Connectivity (Facility), etc.

Kirk then went over the summary and progress of the LPLP program – he stressed how much connection/contact is being made between participants and providers throughout each quarter. The projects being discussed and planned are very high quality and this is part of the successes of the program. *Rick asked if there could be some correlation in this program having impact on longevity/extensions of administration within their districts. This might be possible; we will take a look. Peter described how the 21 CLI has created a focus and the collaboration on his project and the advantage to belonging to 21 CLI. Kirk requested the endorsement of the SAM Executive Board for the LPLP. Kirk then played the short promotional video clips for the LPLP program – Mentor Program (Godfrey Saunders) and the 21 CLI (Tom Unwin). *Marlene brought a point of stressing the differences between the two programs within the LPLP and make that very distinctive of two separate, different programs when promoting and presenting these.

Russ brought up the idea of better promotional videos/ppt with testimonials being produced. Paul and Peter brought up the idea of providing an MASSP scholarship to a recipient for this program and have them report in the following year. These are great ideas to possibly look at in promoting the LPLP.

Board members think that testimonials from participants at the upcoming conferences would be very good in promoting the LPLP. We can also look at how to market this with better videos and strategies – SAM Team.

Kirk next reported on the current status of SAM Administrative Institute Conference (*Leadership of Transformational Change for the Whole Child*) preparation and described each day of the 4 days. He also described each presenter and their presentations. *A good point was brought up about the broadening of the audience and inviting teachers, etc. This plan will be implemented and will strive to get this participation.

Kirk then mentioned how SAM will ask its superintendent members to better push membership with their principals, SPED, and tech coordinators. He also described that the membership is doing well and we are up 8 more than last year – 986 vs. 978.

Rick covered the preliminary budget with the addition of compensated absences at a targeted time when needed. Rick reviewed the current budget and proposed budget with the executive board.

Motion by Chris Bilant to approve the preliminary budget; seconded by Paul Furthmyre.

Vote: Passed unanimously

Affiliate Reports

MACSS

Jessica McWilliams reported on the upcoming MACSS Conference this month in Great Falls. Hall of Fame award will be given for NREA to Claudette Morton. She also mentioned the current office work of County Superintendents – TR5 and TR6 plus transportation.

MCASE

Chris Bilant reported on the SPED Recruitment Project and Lori Ruffier's great efforts. She also reported on the MCEC Conference in Bozeman. She mentioned the distinguished service award winner Merle Farrier. The delegate assembly for MCASE is processed and ready for participation.

MASSP

Peter Fusaro reported on the information on the ESSA and work being done to assess this. He also reported on the NASSP Ignite Conference and some of the presentations. Fundamental 5 is a presentation worth looking at bringing to MASSP conference. He also mentioned the next NASSP conference will be held concurrently with NAESP in July of 2017. He also discussed the upcoming MASSP conference in April.

MASS

Randy Cline reported on the AASA National Convention in Phoenix held last February. He mentioned a few of the presenters and their impactful presentations. He also reported on the upcoming MASS conference this week and the homegrown speakers and presentations. He also mentioned that Laurie Barron will be taking over the MASS President duties after this conference.

MAEMSP

Lance Boyd (in place of Brenda Krueger) updated the board on MAEMSP conference held last January and discussed the impact of the speakers – Steven Layne. He also mentioned the preparation for next year's conference to be held in Great Falls – Transforming School Culture and dealing with students in trauma.

Chris mentioned the hybrid conference (access national speakers) aspect of the next MASS – MCASE Fall Conferences.

META

Russ Hendrickson updated the board on the broadband and the K-12 Connectivity group. He discussed the issue of the MT Telecommunications Association is projecting that broadband is okay in MT – this is not the case. He also discussed the idea of need and how much broadband is necessary for each school district. He mentioned the use of fiber, safety issues with data breach, national affiliation (CoSN), data warehouse – for any META member - will be able to use this incredible resource center. Russ then reported on the upcoming METAtchED conference coming up this week and how large it has broadened.

Other Business

1. Consideration of Executive Director Contract Terms and Conditions – previously discussed – Done earlier.
2. Review of Conflict of Interest Policies

Motion Marlene Deis to approve the policy/procedure of the executive board whose review indicates no conflicts of interest; second by Lance Boyd.

Vote: Passed Unanimously

3. Investment Policy and Finance Policy Update – Rick described a draft policy is being reviewed by the committee and will be placed in front of the SAM Board for first review at their meeting on April 8, 2016.
4. Advocacy and Delegate Assembly Update – somewhat done earlier. Rick mentioned the moving of the DA meeting to a week later in June (June 16-17). He described the resolutions that have been proposed so far – 6 of them. Deadline for submitting new resolutions is April 28. The DA steering committee will be meeting in April possibly during the MASSP conference.

Delegates for DA 2016 – Kirk reminded the Presidents need to finalize their delegates for each affiliate.

Next SAM Board Meeting: Friday, April 8, 2016 from 2:30 – 5:00 PM, Great Northern Hotel, Helena in the Iron Horse room.

The meeting adjourned at 3:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Audet
Associate Director