

School Administrators of Montana BULLETIN

VOLUME XXXIX

January 2017

NO. 259

Trauma-Informed Classrooms: The New Hidden Curriculum

by Jon Konen, MAEMSP President

“It is our demeanor, our approach, our behaviors, our volume, and our presence that affect how our young people live, breathe, and perform in the classroom.”

Kristin Souers and Pete Hall (*Fostering Resilient Learners*, pg. 41, 2016)

An audacious prediction for the future of education: a student’s ACEs score will be more important to an educator’s instructional plan than a district mandated curriculum.

If you have not been a part of ACEs training, now is the time! ACEs are Adverse Childhood Experiences. There are three types of ACEs: abuse, neglect, or household dysfunction. Examples of these traumatic events include neglect, divorce, abandonment, incarceration, death of a parent or care giver, exposure to violence, physical abuse, sexual abuse, verbal abuse or substance use. In 1989, a massive study was done in weight loss. The study identified 10 main ACEs in the collected data (**CDC-Kaiser Adverse Childhood Experiences Study**). The data brought out significant patterns that researchers have been studying since and, therefore, trying to find a solution. In our schools we are working with kids who have multiple ACEs and we need to know how we can support them better (NOTE: Each type of adverse childhood experience or trauma only counts as one, no matter how many times the adverse experience occurs).

Astoundingly, we need to understand that over 64% of adults have at least one ace and ACEs usually don’t occur alone. If you have one, you have an 87% chance that you have two or more (*Aces Too High News*), <https://acestoohigh.com/research/>. As the adverse childhood experiences increase, there are several predictors for future problems if communities (schools included) do not intervene. The data from *Aces Too High News* <https://acestoohigh.com/research/> and *Iowa Aces 360*, <http://www.iowaaces360.org/iowa-aces-research.html>, state the following shocking information for students as their ACEs increase (as compared to those students who have zero ACEs):

- **A student who scores 4 ACEs...**
 - Increases risk by 222% for obesity
 - Increases risk by 242% to smoke
 - Increases risk by 400% to have emphysema or chronic bronchitis
 - Increases risk by 443% for illicit drug use
 - Increases risk by 555% to be an alcoholic
 - Increases risk by 1200% for suicide

- **A student who scores a 6 or higher...**
 - Increases risk of being violent
 - Increases risk of more marriages
 - Increases risk of more broken bones
 - Increases risk of more prescription drugs
 - Increases risk of more autoimmune diseases

SAM

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BULLETIN

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MAEMSP President's Message Continued...

How do we create trauma-informed classrooms? The answer is complex...this is the “New Hidden Curriculum” for educators that we must make visible! New educators, as well as experienced educators, need tools, strategies, and support to understand and change the lives of these children with high ACEs. In many schools we are gathering resources that can benefit our learning community in responding to ACEs. You can read extensive research on how to change a student's path, and most of the research talks about **Building Resiliency and Coping Strategies** (Use <http://www.mindful.org/> to read about **5 Science-Backed Strategies to Build Resilience**), **making resources more readily available** (mental health services, health care, parenting classes, etc...), **building protective factors** (parental resilience, social connections, nurturing and attachment, knowledge of parenting and child development), and **building and cultivating communities that take care of each other** (Use <http://www.iowaaces360.org/> here to read about **Iowas ACEs 360**).

I am encouraging any and all SAM members to join us and sign up for the MAEMSP winter conference in Great Falls, Montana on January 26 and 27 with Pete Hall. He is the author of *Fostering Resilient Learners*; he will be working with us on how to build trauma-informed classrooms!



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The Power of Listening & Collaboration - A Key to Advocacy!

by Kirk Miller, SAM Executive Director

Happy New Year! The new year brings many thoughts of appreciation for the great commitment education administrators make in providing outstanding education opportunities to the children in their school! The work, or passion as many characterize it, is worthwhile, meaningful, and makes a difference in the world. I hope you have taken a moment over the holiday break to reflect a bit on what I just stated – “what you do makes a difference to the lives of the children who are our future”! So, I’ll begin the new year thanking each of our SAM members for what you do to make a difference and my hope for you is that 2017 will be fulfilling professionally and personally as you continue serving your community in your educational leadership position.



Preparing for the 65th Montana Legislature has provided me with an opportunity to reflect on the keys to effective advocacy for what we believe is important – the education of the children in our state, providing them with the opportunity to reach their full potential. I have learned a whole lot from SAM and how we approach developing priorities for advocacy in the broad scope of education. What I discovered is that we have developed a process where we (SAM members from all 6 affiliates) listen to each other and then find ways to collaborate. The SAM Delegate Assembly, as a process, brings the diverse views of the members of our organization together where we can talk meaningfully about the issues and, most importantly, listen to each other. In the midst of this diversity of opinion and thought rises positions and resolutions that all can agree to, and, more importantly, feel ownership of the issues. It is this ownership, understanding of the issues and diverse views, and skin in the game that leads to collaboration. Collaboration allows many oars in the water to help propel the issue to effective advocacy. Pretty simple, yet very powerful.

The SAM membership approved the SAM advocacy priorities, positions and resolutions at the SAM business meeting during MCEL on October 20. With our SAM priorities in hand, the process just described begins once again. Effective communication of what is important to our SAM members is present with the partners of the Montana Public Education Center (MT-PEC) where we have developed a process to listen to the diverse views around the issues, use the diversity of thought to establish priorities, and then agree to collaborate with the focus on the priorities. This collaboration is powerful when advocating for priorities in the legislature.

We have also communicated SAM’s priorities to the legislators who will be convening the 65th session on January 2. As any good educator knows about effective lessons -- creating a good anticipatory set for the lesson, clearly describing the goals to be accomplished, delivering concise instruction followed by guided practice, and then independent practice in real world situations will cause action (learning). The formation of the SAM Legislative Network (SAMLN17) will serve as SAM’s skilled teachers who can deliver concise instruction and guided practice as our legislators experience the independent practice of voting on the bills impacting the education of our children. Thank you to over 60 SAM members who signed up for the SAMLN17 to assist in this important learning process.

The power of listening and collaboration have helped SAM establish our priorities for the legislative session (all can be found on the SAM website www.samm.org and click on ‘2017 Legislative Session’). Collaboration has grown out of this and will lead us to effective advocacy for children as the new year begins. My thanks to our organization’s members for your wisdom, participation and noble work to advocate for the education of Montana’s children!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kirk D. Miller". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Legislative Information for the 2017 Session

by Kirk Miller, SAM Executive Director

As we approach the 65th Legislative Session beginning on January 2, 2017, SAM is creating tools for effective communication to be used by our members during the legislative session. On the SAM website (www.sammt.org), under 'Announcements' click '[2017 Legislative Session](#)' to review the resources we are putting together for the session. This site can serve as a great place to follow important happenings during the session. We are also seeking SAM members who will assist in advocacy by joining the SAM Legislative Network 2017 (SAMLN17). We know that our strength in advocacy for the education of Montana's children comes from our member's effort during the session to help our legislators understand and balance the needs for providing an outstanding system of public schools to meet the full educational potential of each child (a Constitutional guarantee)!



Calling all SAM Members to Join the SAM Legislative Network 2017 (SAMLN17)!

by Kirk Miller, SAM Executive Director

Are you interested in helping SAM promote our Advocacy Priorities in the 2017 Legislative Session? How about joining the team of SAM members who are committed to effectively communicate SAM legislative issues/bills and collecting input from your colleagues in your region to let your legislators know about appropriate stances on issues/bills during the session? On the SAM website (www.sammt.org), under 'Announcements' click '[2017 Legislative Session](#)', then '[SAM Legislative Network 2017](#)' to see the description and responsibilities of the SAMLN17 and to sign up. We need you to help with this important part of advocating for the students served in our schools!

Please join over 60 SAM members and sign up to so we can insure that educators' voices are heard clearly in the 2017 Legislative session.

Once you sign up, the SAMLN17 will be formed and we will train together to make this a pleasant experience for you using the tools SAM is creating to communicate effectively during the Legislative session.



2017 SAM Youth Endowment is Now Available for Application

by Pat Audet, SAM Associate Director

The purpose of the School Administrators of Montana Youth Endowment Fund is to make a positive impact on the youth of Montana by providing financial assistance to benefit children's health, welfare, and/or education.

The School Administrators of Montana Youth Endowment Fund has reached fruition. Awards to nominated recipients will be given in April of each year and announced in the May SAM Bulletin. Recognition of the award will also be given yearly at the SAM Administrators Institute. Nomination guidelines are listed in the brochure that can be accessed by going to the SAM website - copy and paste the following URL in your browser: <http://sammt.org/site/default.aspx?PageID=39>. You will also find the link to the 2016-17 SAM Youth Endowment online nomination application on this same web page.



The application is due by March 17, 2017. **Please take a moment to review this wonderful opportunity and nominate a deserving student if you are aware of a need. Please note that only SAM members can make a nomination.**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patric L. Audet". The signature is written in a cursive style.

A SAM "How To" Video - Providing Testimony at a Legislative Committee Hearing

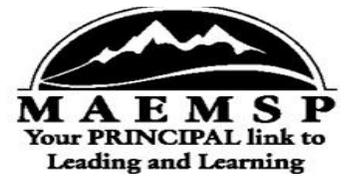
by Pat Audet, SAM Associate Director

There will soon be a presentation posted on the SAM Website that will give you the inside scoop on how to testify properly and comfortably at a Legislative Committee Hearing. Many members have inquired about the formality and procedure of providing testimony as this can be a stressful process when testifying in front of a Senate or House Committee. This is a brief "How To" video (3 minutes, 30 seconds) that will give you some helpful tips and advice on this particular task. Please watch for the LINK to the video in the next SAM Friday Update.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patric L. Audet". The signature is written in a cursive style.



Montana Association of Elementary and Middle School Principals



66th Annual Winter Conference

“Improving our Schools One Student as a Time”

Holiday Inn, Great Falls, MT

January 25, 2017 -- *Pre-Conference Workshop with Principal Kafele*



This Pre-Conference will kick off with **Principal Kafele’s** General Session Titled “*Is My School a Better School BECAUSE I Lead It?*”, Kafele will take participants on a self-reflective journey that will challenge them to view critically who they are as the leaders of their schools which will include the intentionality behind all aspects of their practice. He will challenge participants to look within themselves for deeper meaning of their own personal worth to their schools. Optional Tech Cafe on Twitter, EdCamps & Breaks with Exhibitors. We will conclude with some nice Giveaways!

January 26-27, 2017 -- *Winter Conference with Pete Hall*

Thursday - the Conference will be PACKED with some great information. Starting with **AS-CD’s Professional Learning Expert Consultant, Pete Hall’s** presentation on “*Building Teacher’s Capacity for Success; Principal Leadership*” -- He will be discussing Trauma and working with students and families that experience trauma throughout their lives. We will have the Luncheon/MEAMSP Business Meeting & Exhibitor Prize Drawings, Hospitality Hour Sponsored by Lifetouch & MAEMSP Banquet - Team Up For Success!



(Wear Your Favorite Jersey)

Friday - the final day of the conference will begin with a Hot Breakfast and Candidate speeches. **Pete Hall** will spend time with participants on working with district coaches and the roles of the administrator, coach & teacher. We will close with more Drawings.

Hotel Room *Block Expires December 28, 2016*

Hotel rooms are available at the Holiday Inn Great Falls, MT 1100 5th St. South -- (406) 727-7200. Please advise the hotel you are booking under the **MAEMSP/SAM’s room block** to receive conference rates of \$98.00 plus tax.

Additional Room Block Hotel rooms are available at the Hilton Garden Inn Great Falls, MT 2520 14th St. SW -- (406) 452-1000. Please advise the hotel you are booking under the **MAEMSP/SAM’s room block** to receive conference rates of \$98.00 plus tax. Expires 12/24/16

Additional Room Block Hotel rooms are available at the Hampton Inn Great Falls, MT 2301 14th St. SW -- (406) 453-2675. Please advise the hotel you are booking under the **MAEMSP/SAM’s room block** to receive conference rates of \$94.00 plus tax. Expires 12/27/16

Register TODAY!
Registrations received after 5:00 pm on January 8th will be assessed a \$30 late fee

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SAM Leaders Professional Learning Program 2016-17



School Administrators of Montana is proud to offer innovative professional learning opportunities to district and school leaders across Montana. A combination of the SAM Mentor Program and the SAM 21st Century Leadership Institute (21 CLI), the SAM Leaders Professional Learning Program (LPLP) is unlike any program available today. In our 4th year, the LPLP provides a unique opportunity for those who register for the program(s) to receive **one-on-one coaching/mentoring** and **innovative, student learning focused, blended professional learning opportunities** while working with experienced, highly qualified Montana administrators (mentor/coaches called Providers) in each of the 9 MASS region areas of the state.

SAM Mentor Program

Helping School leaders succeed...

The SAM Mentor Program uses trained, effective, recently retired and practicing administrators from each of the Superintendent Regions in Montana. Using a regional model allows SAM to take advantage of the knowledge and experience these leaders possess regarding the culture and values of the communities in their region. Understanding the culture and values of a community is key to the success of a school or district leader.

KEY PROGRAM COMPONENTS

- ✓ Trained mentors who are respected and successful in the field of educational leadership
- ✓ Mentors who are current and up to date on today's education issues and research
- ✓ Supported by the Montana University System, OPI and Private Business
- ✓ Online networking and webinars through the Resource Center at sammt.org
- ✓ One-on-one support
- ✓ Mentoring specific to the needs of the mentee
- ✓ On-site visits based on mutual agreement between mentor and mentee
- ✓ Confidentiality - what is discussed in mentoring stays in mentoring
- ✓ Renewal units through OPI

21st Century Leadership Institute

Montana takes the lead . . .

SAM 21 CLI is a unique approach to professional learning and school improvement, incorporating all the critical elements of what we know is exemplary practice in professional learning.

What is Profound Professional Learning?

Professional Development measured in terms of impact on STUDENT LEARNING!

- Learn by Doing - Connect your PD to your everyday work and professional goals and growth plans
- Individualize, Personalized and Differentiated - Utilize a powerful ONLINE 21st Century Professional Learning Center with teaching modules and a wealth of resources: hundreds of books, articles, videos and more
- Learning Teams - Participate in teams with opportunities for networking, collegiality
- Learning Cycles - Designed to provide a framework for continuous collegial dialog with a well-organized, user-friendly interface and methodology
- Coaching & Mentoring - A critical element of professional learning that includes guided practice with available providers that are experienced and adept in educational processes
- High Impact - Achieve measureable improvement in student learning

Learn more about the SAM Leaders Professional Learning Program by visiting 'www.sammt.org' then, under Accouncements click 'SAM Leaders Professional Learning Program 2016-17'

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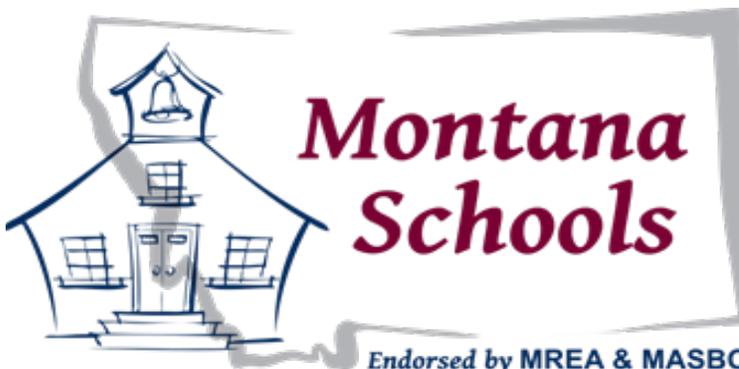
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Upcoming 2016-17 Conferences & Meetings

2017

January	25-27	MAEMSP Winter Conference	Great Falls
February	13	MT-PEC Caucus Day on the Hill	Helena
	14-16	MACSS Conference	Helena
	15	MCEC Conference	Missoula
March	13-14	Day of Advocacy/MASS Spring Conference	Helena
	14-15	METAtechED Conference	Helena
April	6-7	MASSP Spring Conference	Helena
June	14	DaRud Cup Golf Tourney	Helena
	15	SAM Evening of Excellence	Helena
	15-16	SAM Delegate Assembly	Helena
July/Aug	31-3	SAM Administrators Institute	Helena