

## SAM

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## *META Board Retreat Summary*

by Richard Lawrence, META President

The META Board met in Bozeman on September 16th and 17th at the Hilton Garden Inn. Board Members present were: Russ Hendrickson, Brian Norwood, Mark Branger, Anita Freeman, Branson Rogers, Brad Somers, Mindy Obert, Deanna Flemmer, David Dobbins, John Jenson, Todd Lark, and Glenn Wehe.

Our META Strategic plan was reviewed and updated at our September board retreat. Our goals were talked about at length, the Board has broken down the strategic objectives and actions into 3 distinct categories; Organizational Development, Advocacy and Professional Learning.

**A major goal is Organizational Development** - expanding our membership participation. Objective 1.6 (Membership Participation in Committees) includes updating our committee structure and recognizing member contributions. In addition, the implementation of our CoSN component this year will be an added benefit to our members and should prove to increase overall membership. Completion date for this objective is set for December 2016.

**A major goal is Advocacy** - continuing to pursue Objective 2.5 (Equitable Broadband and Transparency of Costs). This includes Objective 2.5.1 (Continued Partnership with Education Superhighway) and Objective 2.5.3 (E-Rate Consultation in Each Region). This objective will be pursued through our Advocacy Committee with a completion date set for November 2017.

**A major goal is Professional Learning** - Objective 3.2 (Establish a Technology Solution Sharing Mechanism). Objective 3.2.4 includes the completion of a new META website that will connect to the SAM website and centralize all working documents of META. Completion date is set for December 2016.

### **Other items discussed:**

- The Board also discussed adding a member to the Board, the title for this member will be META Advocacy Coordinator.
- The CoSN Annual Conference was discussed and who would attend and it was decided that the CoSN chair who is the past President will attend the Conference in Chicago next year.
- Action Items will be added to the first Quarter Meeting based on results of the Retreat.
- Strategic Board Agenda- Quarterly Board agendas will now incorporate Mega issues as part of the agenda.
- Talked about building a policy manual and ODR for META.

# BULLETIN

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## *META President's Message Continued...*

### **The Board discussed and decided on three mega issues to peruse:**

1. **ESH-** support in partnership; Ellen Goldrich presented to the group; slide show is available on the META Board meeting page of SAM website- Equity among schools- all Schools having high speed Internet access is the goal.
2. **CoSN Membership-** value add; regionally reach out to Tech Directors to become members.
3. **ERATE- NCCE-** make connections that help both organizations for ERATE accessibility- META partnership with NCCE, The training of some META members that will help train others to fill out ERATE requests for funding.

The META Website was discussed as well, the discussion centered on creating awareness of the Website and identifying new ways to bring members to the site, META president will work on moving this forward.

### **Upcoming meetings and Conferences:**

- |                   |   |  |
|-------------------|---|--|
| January, 11 2016  | - | META Board Meeting & CoSN Council Meeting                |
| March 13-14, 2017 | - | METATechED Conference                                    |
| March 14, 2017    | - | META Board Meeting & CoSN Council Meeting                |
| March 14, 2017    | - | META Annual Membership Meeting                           |
| May 17, 2017      | - | META Board Reorganization Meeting & CoSN Council Meeting |

All in all it was a great Retreat and meeting, our organization continues to grow and provide support to thousands of Staff and Students throughout Montana. This is a direct result of your continued hard work for and on behalf of META, thank you all for all you do.

Rich.



## *SAM Opportunities for Professional Learning and Advocacy!*

by Kirk Miller, SAM Executive Director

Professional learning opportunities are well underway for the 2016-17 school year through SAM and our affiliate associations. Advocacy preparations for the 2017 Legislative Session are underway. The strength of the SAM association certainly shines when collectively our members work together to provide quality professional learning opportunities and advocacy for the most important areas impacting student learning for the children in our state. I hope you will take advantage of these opportunities throughout the 2016-17 school year as a value add for your belonging to SAM



### Professional Learning

Already this year SAM and Affiliates have held the SAM Administrators Institute 2016 (July 25-28), the MASS/MCASE Fall Conference 2016 (September 19-20), META Board Planning Retreat 2016 (September 16-17) and MACSS Fall Conference (September 27-28). On the SAM website ([www.sammmt.org](http://www.sammmt.org)) you can go to that Affiliate tab and click on 'Conferences and Conventions' and you will find all of the conference materials and presentations for your review and use throughout the school year. You can check out the SAM website 'Calendar' tab for a review of all upcoming events and opportunities.

The Montana Conference of Education Leadership (MCEL) is the premier gathering of Montana school leaders sponsored by SAM, MTSBA, MREA and MASBO. Your participation in MCEL, October 19-21, 2016 in Billings will provide you with valuable professional learning and networking that you need to insure the success of your students in 2016-17. See the information about MCEL in this Bulletin and get registered today!

### Advocacy

The SAM Delegate Assembly, on June 16-17, 2016, took action on 39 Positions and 43 Resolutions proposed for the membership to consider at the SAM Annual Business meeting scheduled for October 20, 2016 from 4:00 to 5:00 pm in Billings at MCEL. See the article in this Bulletin on the SAM Annual Business meeting for detailed information. Following the establishment of SAM Advocacy priorities by vote of the membership at the SAM Annual Business Meeting, we will organize the SAM Legislative Network to make a difference for advocacy during the 2017 legislative session. If you have interest in this advocacy you will want to become a part of the SAM Legislative Network – organized by Affiliate regions representing all of SAM. More to come on this in the future following the November election.

Our best to you all and thanks for your commitment to SAM!

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

## *SAM Annual Business Meeting and Delegate Assembly Recommendations*

The SAM Annual Business Meeting is at MCEL on October 20, 2016 at the Billings Radisson Hotel (formerly Holiday Inn Grand Montana) Missouri Room from 4:00 to 5:00 PM. During the Business Meeting the SAM membership will consider SAM's advocacy priorities and approve recommended Positions and Resolutions for the 2017 legislative year, so your attendance and participation at the meeting are important! You can review the Delegate Assembly 2016 Recommendations to the SAM Membership to be voted on at the SAM Annual Business meeting on the SAM website, under 'About SAM', the 'Delegate Assembly' and the document title is '[SAM Business Meeting DA 2016 Recommendations 10-20-16](http://www.sammt.org/cms/lib03/MT15000278/Centricity/Domain/15/SAM%20DA%202016%20Business%20Meeting%20Recommendations%2010-20-16.pdf)' (URL that you could copy and paste into your browser: <http://www.sammt.org/cms/lib03/MT15000278/Centricity/Domain/15/SAM%20DA%202016%20Business%20Meeting%20Recommendations%2010-20-16.pdf>)

Note, if there are Positions or Resolutions or amendments that a SAM member wishes to have considered at the SAM Annual Business Meeting they must be submitted in writing to the Chair of the Delegate Assembly Steering Committee (Rick Duncan, Superintendent of Powell County HS District) and the SAM Office [samkm@sammt.org](mailto:samkm@sammt.org). Please include the language to be revised or added, rationale for submitting an amendment or new proposal, and any fiscal impact in writing **by October 10**. If received by October 10, we will be able to make copies and have it available at the SAM Business Meeting at MCEL, where you would be given 5 minutes to present the amendment or new proposal to the membership. A 3/4th vote of the members present and voting shall be required for further consideration of the resolution or position statement.

Contact me if you have any questions about this important process or the SAM Business Meeting.

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## October is National Principals Month!

All school principals are highly appreciated for the great leadership they provide in the education of all students; not only in October, but throughout each and every month, each and every year!!!

## Congratulations to the 2016 Regional Superintendent of the Year Award Recipients!

Northeast Region -- Bob Connors, Glasgow

Western Region -- Loyd Rennaker, Darby

North Central Region -- DK Brooks, Dutton/Brady

South Central Region -- Tobin Novasio, Lockwood

Central Region -- Annette Hart, Judith Gap

4 Rivers Region -- Robert DoBell, Three Forks

Northwest Region -- Cal Ketchum, West Valley

Southeast Region -- Jim Hansen, Broadus

Hi-Line Region -- Brad Moore, Big Sandy



## *Why a SAM Membership*

by Pat Audet, SAM Associate Director

October is already upon us and it is definitely not too late to join the affiliate of your choice with SAM! Membership really does have its rewards when you become a part of the SAM organization. It all rolls into what defines SAM and its members – the 4 SAM Core Values:



- **Leadership:** We believe that instructional leadership provided by school administrators is essential for empowering, inspiring, engaging, and helping students to grow, succeed, and lead.
- **Integrity & Professionalism:** We promote and demonstrate the highest level of integrity and professionalism, both organizationally and individually. We believe it is these traits that create the foundation vital for success.
- **Advocacy:** We serve as a united, proactive organization preparing educational leaders to advocate for State and National legislation to ensure Montana students will receive a quality education supported by adequate and sustainable funding. We strive to assure that all students have equal access, are safe and healthy, and will be successful.
- **Professional Learning & Services:** We believe that high quality professional development, mentorship, and supportive member services are critical to individual member and Montana student success.

When you become a SAM member, you BELONG! You have the complete support of the SAM office team and the unity of the affiliate membership to which you belong. Your membership and what you represent as a school leader is what drives all 4 of those core values.

There are a multitude of benefits that come with belonging to SAM. Please check out these benefits by visiting the [sammt.org](http://sammt.org) website. If you are not a member yet or you have not renewed, you can also visit the SAM website and gain access to a membership form. You can also contact me and I would be happy to send an invoice to you or your district clerk.

Currently for 2016-17, SAM has 956 members at the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of FY17. For 1<sup>st</sup> quarter FY16, we had 889 members; 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter FY15, 856 members! As SAM gets stronger, the goal is 1000 members! We hope to reach that goal this year! As many times said before, an organization is only as strong as its members. The SAM office appreciates each and every one of you! Montana School Leaders are simply the BEST!



## [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. Entering 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](http://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

### **21<sup>st</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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](http://www.sammt.org)' then, under Accouncements click 'SAM Leaders Professional Learning Program 2016-17'**

*Rigorous Learning For  
All Students*



## International Center for Leadership in Education

RIGOROUS LEARNING FOR ALL STUDENTS



*Health Insurance*

*Professional Learning*



*Technology Innovation*



# MCEL

Montana Conference of Education Leadership

## Collaboration is the Glue that holds G.R.E.A.T. together

- G**overned by Elected Trustees
- R**esponsive to the needs of each Community
- E**xcellent, Efficient, Equitable, and Empowered
- A**dapting and Innovating to Advance Student Achievement for all
- T**rusted through Transparency and Openness

### October 19-21 2016 -Billings, Montana

**Association Board of Director Meeting – Wednesday, October 19:**

- 8:00 am – 10:00 am MTSUIP Board Meeting w/Breakfast
- 8:00 am – 10:00 am WCRRP Board Meeting w/Breakfast
- 10:00 am – 12:30 pm SAM Board Meeting w/Lunch
- 10:00 am – 12:30 pm MASBO Board Meeting w/Lunch
- 10:15 am – 12:30 pm MTSBA Board Meeting w/Lunch
- 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm IISM Board Meeting w/Lunch

Visit [www.mcel.org](http://www.mcel.org) for more information

Visit <http://www.mcel.org/registration> to Register as an Attendee

Visit <http://www.mcel.org/exhibitors> to Register as an Exhibitor

Visit <http://www.mcel.org/callforclinics> to Submit a possible Presentation

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2016**

- 9:00 am – 5:00 pm Registration – Radisson
- 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm School Law Pre-Conference Session
- 2:55 pm – 3:10 pm Break
- 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm MQEC Meeting

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2016**

- 7:30 am – 5:00 pm Registration – Radisson
- 7:30 am – 8:00 am Continental Breakfast, Montana Convention Center
- 8:00 am – 9:00 am Presentation of Flag & Awards Ceremony



9:00 am – 9:15 am	Break
9:15 am – 10:30 am	Opening General Session, Montana Convention Center
10:40 am – 11:30 am	Clinic Sessions I
11:45 am – 1:00 pm	Strolling Lunch, Montana Convention Center OR Lunch on your own
1:10 pm – 2:00 pm	Clinic Sessions II
2:10 pm – 3:00 pm	Clinic Sessions III
3:10 pm – 4:00 pm	Break - with exhibitors, Montana Convention Center ** 3:30 pm Exhibitor Drawings
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm	MTSBA Regional Director Meetings SAM Business Meeting MASBO Membership Meeting
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Indian School Board Caucus Board Meeting
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm	University Alumni Receptions (MSU & UM)
7:00 pm – 9:30 pm	MREA & MCS Reception – Everyone Welcome - Radisson Lobby

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2016

7:30 am – 11:00 am	Registration – Radisson
7:30 am – 8:30 am	MTSUIP/WCRRP Membership Meeting and Breakfast
8:30 am – 10:30 am	MTSBA Annual Business Meeting - Trustees
8:40 am – 9:30 am	Clinic Sessions III
9:40 am – 10:30 am	Clinic Sessions IV
10:40 am – 12:00 pm	Closing General Session, Montana Convention Center
12:10 pm – 1:00 pm	MTSBA Board Meeting

**\*\*Schedule subject to change\*\***

**Information on how to Register for MCEL 2016 -- <http://www.mcel.org/home>**

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Four levels of sponsorship are available to our business partners:

*Montana Big Sky  
Montana Glacier  
Montana Mountain  
Montana Meadow*

If you'd like to learn more about the benefits of partnering with SAM, contact Operations Manager Gary Wagner at [samgw@sammt.org](mailto:samgw@sammt.org) or 406-442-2510.

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Phone: 406-235-7020



*School property & liability insurance*  
1200 North Montana Ave. Helena. MT 59601  
Email: dpillatzke@paynewest.com  
Phone: 406-457-4531

### Upcoming 2016-17 Meetings Dates

#### 2016

October 19-21 MCEL 2016 Billings

#### 2017

January 25-27 MAEMSP Winter Conference Great Falls

February 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