

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 of educational leaders that 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.

SAM was organized as an association of administrators in 1978. It represents the interests, aspirations, and professional leadership of Montana administrators. Over 1000 members network under six affiliate associations to promote GREAT Montana Schools, supporting leaders passion for providing an outstanding education to Montana's children!

SAM Strategic Plan Goals 2014-2018

- 1. Professionalism, Integrity, and Leadership:** SAM models and promotes the highest levels of professionalism, integrity and leadership of its affiliates to create a foundation vital to success.
- 2. Advocacy:** SAM members will be equipped with accurate information and prepared to use it to advocate for public education.
- 3. Professional Learning and Services:** SAM will extend and expand the professional learning delivery system using the expertise of the SAM affiliate's, as well as other service providers through professional development, mentorship, and other member services.



Services SAM Provides

SAM...

- Maintains an office in Helena employing an Executive Director, an Associate Director, Operations Manager and Communication Specialist.
- Supports two way communication with its members.
- Provides direct membership involvement in program and policy positions.
- Lobbies actively on educational issues at the State Legislature.
- Acts as a liaison with educational agencies such as the Office of Public Instruction, the State Board of Public Education and the Board of Regents.
- Provides for communication and coordination with other education related groups and agencies, e.g. the Montana Public Education Center.
- Provides for a cooperative relationship with Montana colleges and universities.
- Holds an annual meeting for conducting business, professional development and promoting collegiality.
- Provides for personal and professional development through conferences, workshops, web-based project imbedded learning, and mentor program.
- Acts as a liaison with national organizations of its affiliates.
- Informs members on matters of educational concern through monthly news bulletins, affiliate list-serves, an active website, Facebook and Twitter.
- Speaks for education from an administrator's point of view with a united voice.
- Advocates for children and their educational issues and projects a positive leadership image for administrators.

SAM Affiliate Organizations

SAM is comprised of six affiliate organizations each of which are divided regionally within its own organization. The regions provide an opportunity for members to gather on a local level to discuss topics of interest.

Montana Association of School Superintendents (MASS): Members of MASS serve as school superintendents, assistant superintendents, or other central office personnel who hold titles with line staffing equivalent to that of assistant superintendent.

Montana Association of Secondary School Principals (MASSP): Members of MASSP are engaged in the administration and supervision of secondary schools or teach courses in education at institutions of advanced learning.

Montana Association of Elementary and Middle School Principals (MAEMSP): Members of MAEMSP are employed in professional work related to the elementary and middle level principalship.

Montana Association of County School Superintendents (MACSS): MACSS members serve as liaisons between schools, the state and county governments and the taxpayer, as well as administer at the small stand-alone elementary school districts.

Montana Council of Administrators of Special Education (MCASE): Members of MCASE administer, direct, supervise, and/or coordinate a program, school or class of special education for exceptional children or are members of a college faculty whose major responsibility is the professional preparation of administrators of special education.

Montana Educational Technologists Association (META): META members are technologists united into a professional association advocating for and supporting the education of all Montana children.

SAM Learning Opportunities

SAM is proud to offer innovative professional learning opportunities to district and school leaders across Montana. The SAM Leaders Professional Learning Program (LPLP) provides a unique approach to learning for Montana school leaders through student-focused, solution-based professional development designed to be responsive to the challenges and issues administrators face each day. Connecting administrators throughout the state, SAM LPLP's multi-faceted blended learning approach consists of a rich online resource center; collegial cohorts that meet both virtually and face-to-face allowing participants to share challenges, successes, and thought leadership with like-minded Montana leaders experiencing similar job roles, situations, and context; and personal learning networks, including the option of one-on-one coaching/mentoring with experienced Providers.

Visit <http://www.sammt.org> or contact the SAM office for more information.



SAM...Visionary leaders united in providing, advocating, and creating education excellence for Montana students!

Affiliate Organizations

- MASS
- MASSP
- MAEMSP
- MACSS
- MCASE
- META

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