

# SAM Leaders Professional Learning Program



# What is the SAM LPLP?



- An innovative approach to professional learning for Montana education administrators...
- The LPLP has been revised to offer an opportunity for participants to receive student-focused, solution-based professional development designed to be responsive to the challenges and issues administrators face each day.
- SAM, the Montana Office of Public Instruction, Montana University System Ed Leadership Programs, the Department of Administration and individual Montana business partners have worked together to create this opportunity, now in its 5<sup>th</sup> year.
- [SAM LPLP 2017-18](#)

# What does the SAM LPLP Provide?



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
- personal learning networks, including one-on-one coaching with experienced Providers.
- ❖ You have the option to work with experienced, highly qualified Montana administrators (Providers) plus have access to the online SAM LPLP Resource Center.
- ❖ The program is ***Job Embedded, Personalized, Learner Directed, Focused on the needs of your school***, and provides ***Access to Essential Resources***.

# Why do we need the SAM LPLP?



- Montana has had over 300 administrative positions open the past 4 years, so there are over 75 administrators new to their position in our schools each of these past 4 years. However, the revised program will be very suitable for even the most experienced administrator.
- Montana administrators are committed to their school and community and there are ever increasing demands on their time to meet the needs. Professional learning is an area that gets placed on the back burner when it should be up front for effective problem solving.
- Research and common sense show that the most powerful professional learning is inquiry-based, aligned to real-world applications, and embedded in the work environment.

# So how did the SAM LPLP happen?



- SAM strategic plan goals for professional development led to seeking innovative ways to meet the professional learning needs of Montana administrators.
- There has been continued, excellent support from the SAM Board to offer these professional learning opportunities to Montana administrators year after year since 2013.

So how did the SAM LPLP happen?



- [SAM LPLP Mid-Year Executive Summary 2016-17](#)

# Lessons Learned



What have past participants said about the LPLP?

“I liked the professional contact and having someone to bounce ideas off of and talk to about taxing issues!”

“I enjoyed having real conversations with someone who has been in similar situations and walked a mile in the shoes every month.”

“I think Montana should make it mandatory for all first year principals and Superintendents. Great way for everyone to be on the same page.”

“I’m ending the year feeling good about myself, the job, the school, and what I do. If I had not been in this program I am not sure I would be finishing on such positive notes!”

# Lessons Learned



“I liked the varied means of contact with participants, it was a nice blend.”

“My Provider was an invaluable resource!”

“The program was consistent and had good organization. Overall, I enjoyed the professional development and networking.”



# SAM LPLP 2017-18 Comes Alive!



## The LPLP Directors/Providers serving are:

- **Godfrey Saunders – LPLP Director.** Retired Bozeman High School principal, NAESP Certified Mentor, & MSU Ed Leader professor
- **Tom Unwin – LPLP Director.** President/CEO of JK Thomas & Associates international professional learning provider for educators

## LPLP Providers:

- **Jeff Blessum** - retired Superintendent of the Anderson Elementary District in Bozeman
- **Mark Brajcich** - retired Superintendent of Red Lodge Public Schools
- **Dan Farr** – recently retired Superintendent of Sidney Public Schools
- **Michael Redburn** - retired Superintendent of Bozeman Public Schools
- **Joel Voytoski** - retired Superintendent of the Evergreen Elementary District in Kalispell
- **Bruce Whitehead** - retired Principal of the Hellgate Elementary District in Missoula

Great educators, experienced administrators, trained with the best research.

# SAM LPLP RESOURCE CENTER 17-18



- The ONLINE SAM LPLP Resource Center is a powerful tool with teaching modules & a wealth of resources: hundreds of books, articles, videos & more.
- The SAM LPLP Resource Center is built around the 10 standards of the 2015 Professional Standards for Educational Leaders.
- Click [HERE](#) to see a short video describing the SAM LPLP Resource Center.
- Click [HERE](#) to see the Resource Center 'Mission, Vision and Core Values' Sample Unit.



# How do I sign up?

- You can sign up now on the SAM website at <http://www.sammt.org/leaders-professional-learning-program>.
- Or, fill out the SAM LPLP Registration form in your packet and return it to us at the Summit registration table or SAM Office.

# This is Important to SAM



- Providing access to high quality professional learning for Montana's administrators is a core value of SAM!
- Our association has developed relationships and support for your professional development through the Leaders Professional Learning Program
- Let us assist you in your continuous goal of being the best school and district leader you can be for the children of Montana!



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