

MASCD Goals

Goal 1

Expand the sphere of our influence by being a strong and proactive organization dedicated to providing exemplary leadership and support for educators throughout the state.

Goal 2

Make member services a priority in order to assure that across this geographically expansive and isolated state, we have a membership that represents all counties and includes a diverse array of cultures.

Goal 3

Address pressing contemporary issues for the purpose of bringing an awareness of critical concerns to our educational leaders, who will participate in determining responses appropriate to our diverse rural Montana school environment.

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**2009 Montana Educators' Institute
Christine Kuschel, MASCD President**

Over 243 Montana educators met at the Red Lion Colonial Hotel and Helena Middle School in Helena June 15-17, 2009 to participate in the annual Montana Educators' Institute. This year's theme, "Reaching Montana Students: Achieving with Data" encompassed in-depth workshops designed to focus instruction, increase student achievement, and attain desired results in the classroom.

Internationally-recognized speakers included Dr. Dan Mulligan, Dr. Mike Schmoker, Dr. Tom Roy, and Erin Gruwell. On Day 1, Dr. Dan Mulligan presented, "Learning in the 21st Century: THINKING Goes to School." Dr. Mulligan provided and modeled research-based strategies to assist teachers and administrators in raising the achievement of each student. His data-driven workshop engaged educators in the process of using assessment data to identify, plan for, and evaluate the effectiveness of next steps in raising the bar of understanding for each student.

On Day 2, Dr. Mike Schmoker presented, "The Opportunity for Results--NOW." Dr. Schmoker is a former administrator, English teacher, and football coach. He has written four books and numerous articles, which have appeared in Educational Leadership, Phi Delta Kappan, Education Week, and Time Magazine. His most recent book, selected as a finalist for book of the year by the Association of Education Publishers, is, "Results Now—How We Can Achieve Unprecedented Improvements in Teaching and Learning."

On Day 2 and Day 3, Dr. Tom Roy presented, "Assessment and Grading that Work: Formative

Assessment." Dr. Roy works with schools and districts on methods to improve student learning, assessment, and school leadership. He is a professor of education at Marian College in Wisconsin where he teaches a variety of leadership courses, research, statistics, and undergraduate courses. Dr. Roy provided a balance of theory and practice to help educators understand the research and local data. With these tools, educators were guided to local understandings and plans to produce positive changes in student performance.

On Day 3, Erin Gruwell presented, "Becoming a Catalyst for Change." Erin has earned an award-winning reputation for her steadfast commitment to the future of children and education. Her story of working with, "unteachable" students attracted Hollywood's attention. In January, 2007, Paramount Pictures released, "Freedom Writers," starring Hilary Swank as Erin. The film is based on, "The Freedom Writers Diary," the #1 New York Times best seller that chronicled Erin's extraordinary journey with 150 high school students at Wilson High School in Long Beach, California.

Participants had the option to earn MT OPI Renewal Units (Western Montana-Comprehensive System for Curriculum Development: WM-CSPD) or College graduate credits (Montana State University professor Lynn Kelting-Gibson). Helena Public School educators could earn PIR credits.

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The mission of the Montana ASCD is to facilitate teaching and learning to ensure success for all Montana students.

News from the Northwest

By: Eliza Sorte, Director of the Northwest Montana Educational Cooperative

The Northwest Montana Educational Cooperative is a curriculum consortium located in Kalispell, Montana. Like other consortiums in the state, ours provides services to multiple districts, twenty-one in fact which service over 9700 students.

Currently, we are in the midst of our summer institute week. We partner with multiple organizations such as WMCSPD (Region 5), NW CASE, the Flathead Special Education Cooperative, FVCC, Glacier National Park, the Northwest Montana Reading Council, OPI, and others to provide quality sustainable professional development to paraprofessionals, teachers, and administrators in our cooperative and beyond. This year, we have over twenty-seven offerings available to our educators. Without the partnerships, this type of opportunity would not be available. We'd like to thank those who attend, those who present, those who sponsor, and those who connect all of the dots to ensure the offerings go off without a hitch.

Additionally, we work through the state standards and benchmarks to create a local consortium curriculum. This year, we will begin Math to piggy-back off of the work that has been done by the state Math committee and we will also review World Languages. We are concluding our work on Music, Information Technology, Technology, the Fine Arts, and Communication Arts. With all of these content areas, we work to infuse Indian Education for All. We have an active IEFA committee that leads the other content areas through this process.

The Co-op also helps school administration with local and state needs. As with many schools, this year many of our school administrators will be working on their updated 5 Year Comprehensive Education Plans. Each month, our administration will focus on three of the Montana correlates which will allow all of the correlates to be covered before the December deadline.

Finally, we have to have some fun at the Co-op too. This year we will be hosting Neila Connors for a "Ramp up for the School Year" Educator's Extravaganza. She is author of the book If You Don't Feed the Teachers, They Eat the Students. She presented last year at the Montana Educators' Summer Institute and we're looking forward to bringing her to the Flathead Valley. We're going to have an evening with food, prizes, collegial friendships, and hopefully some laughter!

We appreciate the support we receive by being a part of MASCD. As I read through what we're doing, all of it is actively supported by my attendance, as Co-op director, at state MASCD meetings where I have the opportunity to network with colleagues across the state so that I can do a better job supporting the supervision and curriculum development going on locally. If you're ever in our neck of the woods, look us up and join us for a professional development opportunity! We'd love to share what we have to offer from our corner of the state.

Montana Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development
in association with Helena Public Schools
Presents

K-12 TEXTBOOK EXHIBITOR FAIR

FREE TO ALL EDUCATORS

**September 30, 2009
The Gateway Center
Helena, Montana**

Vendors include:
Carolina Biological
McGraw-Hill/Glencoe
Great Source
Houghton Mifflin-Harcourt
McDougal-Littell
Sopris West
Delta/FOSS Science
CPO Science
Pearson/Prentice Hall/Scott Foresman
Nystrom/Herff Jones

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**If you enjoyed this year's
Montana Educators' Conference,
you are really going to like what is
in store for you at the**

**2010 MEI Conference
June 15-17, 2010**

**The Gateway
Conference Center
Helena, Montana**

www.mtascd.org

Golden Triangle Curriculum Cooperative

Summer Institute Summary By: Diana Knudson, Director

All of our summer institute classes are open to our member teachers for \$40/class but they are open to any other teachers at a cost of \$100. Registration goes through our office with brianna@gtccmt.org. If you would like a summer schedule or would like to attend a class, just e-mail Brianna in the spring months to get the most current information. We truly welcome all of you.

This summer, we offered 25 two-day workshops that could be taken for semester credit or OPI renewal units. Most happened in July and were not finished at the time of this submission, but we have already had four that were high quality. Two of our Geysers teachers developed a Smartboard/Math training for 20 teachers with a huge waiting list. Even the teachers experienced using the Smartboard walked away raving about the content and quality. Dottie Susag taught two Level II, Indian Education for All classes. She truly understands how to teach reading and thinking literacy that should be developed in all the classes we teach no matter the content. 6 Traits just wrapped up with great reviews and the knowledge that this format really does make a difference in teaching students how to write.

In July and early August we have a great line up. Denise Conrad, Montana renowned presenter, is teaching two classes focusing on reading and classroom management. The MNCSR region is involved in a Technical Writing Grant for 30 teachers but we have a two-day offering for all teachers. Two math classes will address cognitively guided instruction and math in the elementary classroom. We have Step-Up to Writing, Project Success Enrichment, Inquiry-based Science, Integrating Music and Art in the Elementary Classroom, Indian Education for All by Margaret Petty, and five technology workshops such as Tech Toys by Jeredyne Mayfield and 3D Animation by Eric Gustafson. Jane Rhodes will teach "Managing People" and law and policy for administrators.

A new class we are offering is a pilot for us. Jeredyne Mayfield is downloading all of the CRT released items to the CPS "clicker" system. She will show teachers how to use that the first day. Day 2 will be taught by Sheryl Kohl, Montana math guru, who will show teachers how to develop classroom lessons using the released items. This process will improve the use of the released items from our CRT tests and make the process much easier for teachers.

In August I have the privilege of conducting a two-day "New Teacher Orientation" for all new or interested teachers in our coop. It explains the curriculum and process for revision and all of the other services provided to the school districts. We will also do a Harry Wong segment with new information and reminders for veterans about how to make the most of those first days back to school.

This will be my second year as Director of this fine organization, the Golden Triangle Curriculum Cooperative. I love working with teachers and administrators and have so many goals for myself to make improvements in our services. I certainly enjoyed working with MASCD.

MASCD builds and fosters collaborative partnerships to produce meaningful, effective, and timely professional learning for all educators. Be sure to check out our website at:

www.mtascd.org

Presenting the MASCD Board of Directors

President: Dr. Christine Kuschel, Missoula

President Elect: Chris Olszewski, Great Falls

2nd Vice-President: Kelly Glass, Helena

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- Robin Arnold, Bozeman
- Bobbie Barrett, Whitefish
- Colet Bartow, Helena
- Steve Engebretson, Glendive
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- TerraBeth Jochems, Billings
- Lynn Kelting-Gibson, Bozeman
- Dr. Marilyn King, Bozeman
- Diana Knudson, Shelby
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- Jerry Scott, Joliet
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- Eliza Sorte, Kalispell
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- Kim Stanton, Glendive
- Gail Surwill, Billings
- Dan Zorn, Kalispell

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- Dr. William P. McCaw, Missoula
- Keith Meyer, Helena
- Dr. Linda Vrooman-Peterson, Helena
- Jan Jamruszka-Wilson, Helena

Executive Director

- Dr. Janet Thomson, Great Falls

MSU-ASCD Student Chapter

**By: Lynn Kelting-Gibson, Ed.D.
Faculty Advisor, MSU-ASCD**

The first ASCD student organization in Montana has begun at Montana State University.

This past year was the induction year of the first Montana Student Organization of Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. The new student chapter has 32 students actively involved in their organization. The overall goal of the student chapter is to provide professional development related to current topics that may not be covered in coursework. It is our intent to invite teachers/administrators from our local district to share what is currently happening in education. During our first year we had a teacher discuss brain-based learning, one shared active teaching strategies, two special education teachers shared accommodation strategies and our final speakers were from the district technology committee who discussed current practices in technology education. For the 2009-2010 academic year we intend to continue our professional development meetings, but we are also going to add volunteer opportunities for our future teachers. These volunteer opportunities will take place in schools, working with students and teachers.

An opportunity that one of our student leaders took advantage of this past spring was to attend the National Conference in Orlando, Florida. The Montana Association for Supervision and Instruction was able to donate \$250 while the national organization matched these monies. This enabled Amber Waters, one of our student leaders to attend this conference. In her words, "I would like to sincerely thank you for the opportunity to attend the ASCD Annual Conference this past spring in Orlando, Florida. As a pre-service teacher, I was both thrilled and encouraged to participate in this nationally recognized event. The diversity of subjects and the professionalism in which they were disseminated gave me great hope for my future in the profession...Having had the opportunity to attend the ASCD conference was an occasion I'll never forget. Many of the ideas I was exposed to are ones that I will surely keep with me throughout my career."

PESA Update

The Prairie Educational Service Area (PESA), which encompasses 17 counties and will be the largest of the five Montana regional professional development service areas, is in the planning stages and beginning to take shape. PESA, when fully operational, will serve as an educational clearinghouse, helping to provide professional development opportunities to school districts in nearly a third of the state.

A board of directors has been established, which includes representatives from CSPD, Prairie View Curriculum Consortium (PVCC), Montana Small Schools Alliance (MSSA), Miles Community College (MCC), Dawson Community College (DCC), Fort Peck Community College (FPCC)/IEFA, the Northeast Montana schools, the Southeast Montana schools, Developmental Educational Assistance Program (DEAP), and Bridging the Gap. Glendive Public Schools will service as the fiscal agent. The board will work collaboratively to make decisions for the organization.

The stakeholders are excited about the tremendous progress that has been made in a very short amount of time, and are looking forward to serving the schools in their region in the near future.

IEFA: Eastern MT Institute

The Indian Ed. for All dept. @ OPI sponsored the Eastern MT Institute in partnership with the Prairie View Curriculum Consortium on Monday, June 1 and Tuesday, June 2.

The event was held on the Dawson Community College campus. Over 166 participants were able to enjoy the comfort and surroundings of the new Toepke Center Auditorium on the DCC campus.

Workshop attendees attended sectionals covering topics such as: the Essential Understandings, IEFA background knowledge, traditional food, medicine, and song, contemporary issues, and using literature in the classroom to teach IEFA concepts, among others.

The highlight of the experience was “An Evening at Makoshika.”

Monday evening attendees gathered at the Makoshika State Park outdoor amphitheater for a picnic meal and impromptu entertainment provided by Dr. Joe McGeshick of Fort Peck Community College and Mr. Mike Jetty of the IEFA division of OPI. The weather was perfect and the badlands’ view incredible!

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MASCD Executive Director Jan Thomson and Second Vice President Kelly Glass facilitated the MASCD Bookstore the first two days of the conference. Participants were able to purchase professional titles at or below cost, without paying shipping fees. The Montana Office of Public Instruction Indian Education Division also hosted a display of free materials.

MASCD Executive Director Jan Thomson provided, “book talks” during lunches, generously giving several books to participants from her personal collection. Alliance for Curriculum Development (ACD) Director Jerry Scott awarded door prizes. Other Institute Planning Committee Members, including SAM Executive Director Daryl Rud, Montana ASCD President Chris Kuschel, Vice-President Chris Olaszewski, Second Vice-President Kelly Glass, Past President Jan Jamruszka-Wilson, introduced speakers. Keith Meyer (Helena Public Schools—MT ASCD Past President), Julie Sykes (SAM Associate Director), Linda Peterson (MT OPI—MT ASCD Past President), Eliza Sorte (MT ASCD

Board Member), and Colet Bartow (MT OPI) were also instrumental in planning the Institute. Standby speaker Denise Conrad was available in the event of a cancellation.

The Institute was sponsored by Montana Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, School Administrators of Montana, Montana Reading Council, Alliance for Curriculum Enhancement, Golden Triangle Cooperative, Montana Office of Public Instruction, Helena Public Schools, Northwest Montana Educational Cooperative, Western States Insurance, Sodexo, Lifetouch Studios, and SRA McGraw-Hill. Conference management services were provided by Call Cass (Cassie Huntley: www.callass.org).

Conference handouts, Montana ASCD membership information, and other updates are available at the Montana ASCD website: www.mtascd.org. Mark your calendars for the 2010 Montana Educators’ Institute, set for June 15-17, 2010, in Helena.

Montana Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development
www.mtascd.org

Top 20 Duties of a County Superintendent of Schools

1. General supervision of all schools in the county.
2. Perform all administrative duties for schools that do not employ an administrator.
3. Calculate district and county mill levy requirements.
4. Authorize the county treasurer to distribute funds to schools.
5. Chair the county transportation committee.
6. Approve and process transportation contracts.
7. Administer oaths of office to trustees.
8. Hearing officer for school controversies.
9. Determine and establish trustee nominating districts.
10. Approve and process student attendance agreements.
11. Assist county election administrator in conducting school elections.
12. Register teaching certificates for all certified personnel employed in the county.
13. Attendance officer for 3rd class districts
14. Maintain a list of Home Schools in the county.
15. Serve as county spelling bee director.
16. Prepare and publish an annual financial report of all school districts in the county.
17. Process and act on school isolation requests.
18. Recommend library books, textbooks, and curriculum to school boards.
19. Keep records of official acts and preserve historical records.
20. Act on district boundary requests and maintain records of boundary changes.

Top 5 Things a County Superintendent of Schools Does NOT Do

1. “Fire” school trustees.
2. Order bus drivers to provide door-to-door service.
3. Interfere with school district grievance procedures.
4. Approve documents in place of school board chairs and/or personnel.
5. Hire and/or fire teachers employed by school districts.

The educator is like a good gardener, whose function is to make available healthy, fertile soil in which a young plant can grow strong roots.

**E.F. Schumacher (1911-1977)
German-born British Economist and Writer**

Book Review by Jan Jamruszka-Wilson, Teacher Helena School District #1, Capital High School Helena, Montana

Never Work Harder Than Your Students and Other Principles of Great Teaching By: Robyn R. Jackson, ASCD 2009

We all have heard the saying that good teachers are born; not made. Robyn Jackson's Never Work Harder Than Your Students and Other Principles of Great Teaching makes that statement an untruth. Her book demystifies good teaching, makes the target good learning and guides teachers through the process of becoming better teachers and improving student performance in their classrooms.

The Capital High School World Languages Department read and discussed Robyn Jackson's book this spring. All agreed that it was one of the better books to come out in recent years that encourages all teachers, individually or as a team, to evaluate their teaching, to reflect on both teaching and the impact of personal teaching practices on student performance and on the way students learn, and to make changes so that students can learn more effectively.

What caught our attention initially was the mastery self-assessment that measures how well you apply the mastery principles to your own teaching. Robyn Jackson names seven common-sense mastery principles that govern instructional practice. The mastery self-assessment indicates where the individual teacher is on the trajectory towards becoming a master teacher using the seven mastery principles. The ensuing chapters of Jackson's book leads you on a self-study experience that may renew your interest in your subject and in teaching.

Never Work Harder Than Your Students and Other Principles of Great Teaching is not a fast-read nor is it a quick-fix for teachers serious about improving the teaching and learning taking place in their classrooms. By capitalizing on their own individual strengths and studying and practicing each of the seven mastery principles, teachers will improve student performance in their classrooms. Jackson says that it takes about six weeks of active study and practice of each of the mastery principles to make a change. Available on the ASCD website is a study guide to use that addresses specific ideas that might warrant further reflection and discussion. We plan to use Jackson's book to fuel Department School Improvement work next year.

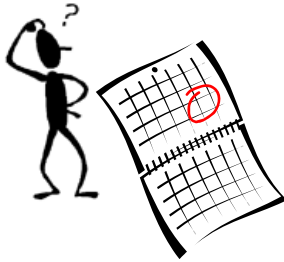
The Seven Mastery Principles

1. Start where your students are.
2. Know where your students are going.
3. Expect to get your students to their goal.
4. Support your students along the way.
5. Use feedback to help you and your students to get better.
6. Focus on quality rather than quantity.
7. Never work harder than your students.

The Master Teacher Trajectory

1. Master Teacher
2. Practitioner
3. Apprentice
4. Novice

2009-10 MASCD Board & A-Z Curriculum Directors Meetings



Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2009

A-Z Curriculum Directors
Front Street Learning Center
Helena, MT

6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2009

MASCD Board
Perkin's Restaurant
1803 Cedar Street
Helena, MT

7:30 a.m.—8:30 a.m.

Please plan to attend the MASCD/Helena Public Schools
Textbook/Materials Exhibitor Fair
The Gateway Center
1710 National Ave
Helena, MT

Friday, Nov. 13, 2009

MASCD Board
A-Z Curriculum Directors
OPI—1300 11th Ave. • Helena, MT
Video Conference with Miles City (Mid-Rivers Communication Center)

8:00 a.m.—10:00 a.m.
10:15 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 5, 2010

MASCD Board
A-Z Curriculum Directors
OPI—1300 11th Ave. • Helena, MT
Video Conference with Miles City (Mid-Rivers Communication Center)

8:00 a.m.—10:00 a.m.
10:15 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

June 14, 2010

MASCD Board Retreat
The Gateway Center
Helena, MT

8:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

June 15-17, 2010

Montana Educators' Institute
The Gateway Center
Helena, Montana

MASCD Exhibitor Fairs 2009



Plan to attend a Montana ASCD Exhibitor Fair!

Helena, Montana
The Gateway Center

9 a.m.—6 p.m.

- Wednesday, September 30, 2009
- Math K-5, Science K-12, Health K-12, Reading, Technology

www.mtascd.org

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