

MONTANA SCHOOL COUNSELING ASSOCIATION

STRATEGIC PLAN

The following Strategic Plan was adopted by the MSCA Board of Directors
February 2005

MISSION

The mission of the Montana School Counseling Association is to empower professional school counselors in the state of Montana with the knowledge, skills, linkages, and resources to promote student success in the school, the home, the community, and the world. MSCA is committed to representing professional school counselors and to promoting professionalism and ethical practices.

BELIEF STATEMENTS

We believe:

That professional school counseling services should be available to all students

That incorporating a comprehensive school counseling program into each school is a necessity for a high level of school counseling.

That counselors should make every effort to adhere to the ASCA ethical standards.

STRATEGIC PLAN

A. Facilitate communication between school counselors at all levels in Montana

1. Publish a newsletter via paper and/or electronically three times per year.
2. Maintain a functional website for MSCA
3. Facilitate counselor sharing and communication by level (K-12, Elementary, Middle, High School) by:
 - electronic communication
 - conference sectionals
 - newsletter articles
4. Provide e-mail updates to members.
5. Establish a list-serve for the membership plus additional list-serves by level.

B. Advocate for professional school counselors in the state of Montana

1. Advocate statewide to students and student needs such as access to college for all students.
2. Market the profession and our state association.

3. Promote the adoption of a comprehensive guidance program for all schools in Montana utilizing the Montana Model and the ASCA Model.
4. Continue to support state programs and efforts including: P-20, Gear-up, Counselor Initiative.
5. Provide a national perspective of Professional School counseling for counselors in the state of Montana.
6. Be proactive with legislation that affects school counselors.
7. Offer speakers/trainers/articles for SAM, MSBA, MEA on school counseling and implementation of the Montana Model (a comprehensive guidance and counseling program).

C. Develop opportunities for professional development for Professional School Counselors

1. Offer workshops to provide skills to implement the Montana Model.
2. Provide two statewide conferences annually.
3. Provide on-going ethical and legal issues support to all school counselors by training, website, and/or articles.
4. Offer three regional trainings

D. Maintain the stability of an organizational structure to support MSCA and school counselors across Montana.

1. Build and maintain a membership of at least one-third of the counselors in the state.
2. Hold an annual meeting of the membership each fall at the fall conference.
3. Facilitate leadership development among the membership.
4. Send the President and President-elect to the Delegate Assembly at the Annual Conference and to the ASCA Leadership Development Institute.
5. Create an annual budget and financial report to present at the annual meeting.