

MONTANA SCHOOL COUNSELING ASSOCIATION

STRATEGIC PLAN

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

April 2006

MISSION

The mission of the Montana School Counseling Association is to empower professional school counselors in the state of Montana with the knowledge, skills, connections, 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:

- *professional school counseling should be provided to all students,*
- *incorporating a comprehensive school counseling program into every school will enhance student success, specifically in the academic, career, and personal/ social domains ,and*
- *professional school counselors will adhere to the ASCA ethical standards.*

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

1. Publish a newsletter for all Montana school counselors via paper twice 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 article
4. Provide e-mail updates to members every other month

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

1. Advocate statewide to students and student needs such as access to post-secondary education 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 School Counseling Program and the American School Counselor Association Model.
4. Continue to support state programs and efforts including: P-20, GEAR-UP, High School Reform Initiative, and Counseling Leadership 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 School Administrators of Montana, Montana School Board Association, MEA/MFT on school counseling and implementation of the Montana School Counselor Program Model.

C. Provide professional development opportunities for school counselors in the state of Montana

1. Offer workshops to provide skills to implement the Montana School Counselor Program 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 two regional trainings

D. Maintain a stable organizational structure that supports MSCA and school counselors across the State of Montana.

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