

MSTA Board Meeting Minutes  
October 18, 2017  
Missoula, MT

Present: Jessi Anderson, Judy Boyle, Katie Capp, Kristi Gaines, Steve Eversoll, Shannon Jones, Michael Poser, Tom Cabbage, Walt Woolbaugh, John Graves

- President Jessi Anderson opened the meeting.
- Katie Capp gave the treasurers report. The current balance is \$5796.26. Membership rolls have dropped with only 72 currently fully paid, 33 lifetime members. 182 memberships have expired. A brief discussion of increasing membership ensued.
- Steve Eversoll, Region 5 reported that his area has been involved with DNA workshops, standards, curriculum and assessment work, and work on STEM classes.
- Kristi Gaines, Elementary Representative reported on the K-12 Montana Science Standards work in Bozeman. She also mentioned Melissa Tovaas, NSTA and work with SWMSS.
- Michael Poser, Chemistry suggested that MSTA consider combining the chemistry/physics representative position and suggested creating an engineering representative. A discussion ensued about this requiring by-law changes and that work towards that could be done before next year's conference.
- Kim Popham sent in her biology representative report:  
Please nominate biology teachers for the NABT Outstanding Biology Teacher Award. There were only 2 nominees last year and one of those was a retired teacher. For more information, check out the NABT website <http://nabt.org/Awards-About>  
Randy Mogen of Park High School is this year's recipient.

The NABT conference is in St. Louis this year and in San Diego next year. The conference this year is November 9-12 and next year November 8-11. It is the absolute best professional development opportunity I have attended and I highly encourage people to go.

### 2018 USABO Registration Is Now Open

Let's see your students bring home the GOLD for the USA in 2018!

You and your students are invited to participate in the 2018 USA Biology Olympiad(USABO). The USABO is a three-tier competition that demands the very best of students in biology theoretical and laboratory knowledge. The USABO mission concentrates on stimulating young scholars' intellectual curiosity and developing their critical thinking in laboratory skills and biological reasoning to propel them to careers of excellence and leadership in science and technology.

Registration for 2017 is now open for teachers and students! To register, please visit the USABO website at <https://www.usabo-trc.org/>. Be sure to check out the *Biology Story* of the day and to "friend" the USABO on Facebook. Students should check the Student Corner for study resources and how to form a USABO Club.

**Registration closes January 16, 2018.**

The final four students on Team USA will compete at the [International Biology Olympiad](#) in Tehran, Iran, July 15-22, 2018.

Contact Kathy Frame, USABO Director, at [kframe@cee.org](mailto:kframe@cee.org) if you have any questions.

- President Jessi Anderson shared strategic goals developed by the MSTA Executive Board and asked folks to sign up to volunteer to work on a goal team of their choice.
- The meeting was abruptly adjourned when we were asked by Big Sky School personnel to vacate the building.

John Graves, Executive Director