

Board of Public Education – MSDB Report: July 2015

Agenda Item	Notes
Superintendent Report	School is almost out. Summer projects have been planned. Tammy Lacey and I have scheduled our first mentoring meeting. I will be taking my last class for my TVI certification and doing my internship in the fall.
MSDB Foundation Report	The Foundation continues to work on nominations for new Board members. A total of \$6715 has been raised in honor of Steve Gettel for purchasing library materials for students. The Foundation was impressed with the Geyser cottage remodel and efforts to obtain more funds to remodel other cottages is underway.
Student Enrollment Evaluations	End of Year Count: 54 students – 3 graduates = 51
Human Resources	<p>Hired: ASL Bilingual Specialist</p> <p>In Process: Speech and Language Pathologist (have interviewed a strong candidate but are trying to work out details on how her Clinical Fellowship Year can be covered), Special Education Coordinator, Teacher for Students who are Visually Impaired (2), and ParaEducators (2), Lead Cottage Life Attendant, Cottage Behavior Counselor</p>
Education Program	<p>The fourth quarter was busy!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We continued to learn new skills and concepts • Completed our spring assessments • Spent a week with staff and students from Lipetsk (Russia) School for the Blind here at MSDB • Had our first “international” Games for the Visually Impaired • Spent a day with Salish Kootenai College pre-service teachers • Had our MSDB team travel to Russia (including our Post High School VI student) • Completed 10-day observations wherein we accepted new students • Graduated three seniors (and one preschooler) • Retired seven staff members • Started the process to hire new staff • Celebrated student and staff accomplishments • Began planning for next year
Outreach Program	<p>Consultants for the Blind and Visually Impaired consulted with over 4000 families, teachers, and other professionals on topics pertaining to vision conditions and supporting students with visual impairments this school year and the Consultants for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing has over 5000 consultations so far this year. Consultants performed 46 Functional Vision Evaluations, 5 Orientation and Mobility Evaluations, and 5 additional Education Evaluations for students with visual impairments. We have concluded Deaf Enrichment Weekend, Focus / Goalball Enrichment Weekend, and the Games for the Visually Impaired.</p> <p>In June, we will host the 19th Annual Family Learning Weekend for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the 15th Annual</p>

	Family Learning Weekend for the Blind and Visually Impaired. We anticipate over 30 families for each weekend.
Student Services Program	<p>Cottage students enjoyed an overnight trip to Helena on May 16th and May 17th. The students and staff toured the Capitol, visited the Museum, enjoyed some shopping, bowling and of course staying overnight at the hotel with a swimming pool. The students raised funds throughout the school year to help pay for this trip.</p> <p>June 4th the Cottage Student Council hosted an American Red Cross blood drive. There were several new donors as well as many of the MSDB staff donating blood.</p> <p>The school year ended well with various end of the year BBQ's and pizza parties. The last week of school is always difficult on the students and staff as they say their good-byes and wrap up another year. All the students and staff worked very hard to clean their cottages and get the place in great shape for the summer events happening on our campus.</p> <p>Summer programs will consume much of the summer months on the MSDB campus. The Deaf Family Learning Weekend was held June 12-14 and was a huge success. The Blind Family Learning Weekend will be held June 19-21. The Deaf Summer Camp will be held June 21-27 and the Blind Summer Skills program will be held July 12-18.</p> <p>For the Fall of 2015, the residential program will have the following vacancies to fill:</p> <p><u>Behavior Counselor</u>: this is a key position that was vacated in February of 2015. This position is difficult to fill based on the hours (evenings and weekends).</p> <p><u>Lead Cottage Life Attendant</u>: this will be an in house transfer for the Geysers cottage (girls with visual impairments). The last two years the Dean of Students has performed the duties of the Lead CLA. This is a wonderful opportunity for the students and staff in this department.</p>
Safety and Facilities	<p><u>Safety</u>: Summer Break</p> <p><u>Facilities</u>: Getting buildings cleaned, repaired, and ready for the fall when school starts.</p>
Budget and Finance	
Legislative Session	
School Calendar of Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 18 & 19: B&VI Family Learning Weekend • June 21-27: DHH Summer Camp • July 12 -18: BVI Summer Camp • August 17: Orientation week • August 24: 2015-16 school year starts