

BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION **MEETING MINUTES**

March 14 & 15, 2002
Montana Higher Education Complex
2500 Broadway
Helena MT 59624

Chairperson Dr. Kirk Miller called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 14, 2002.

Board members present were: Kirk Miller, Diane Fladmo, Storrs Bishop, Randy Morris, Joyce Silverthorne, Patty Myers, John Fuller and Josh Ewing, Student Representative, State Superintendent Linda McCulloch, and Commissioner Richard Crofts.

Staff present were: Steve Meloy, Executive Secretary, Peter Donovan, CSPAC Administrative Officer, Suzan Hopkins, Administrative Assistant to the Board of Public Education, and Tana Haxton, Administrative Assistant to CSPAC.

The following people were registered on the meeting roster: Denise Thompson, Board of Trustees, Havre; Lance Melton, MSBA; Christian Hur, Board of Regents; Carol Juneau, MWIEA; Erik Burke, MEA-MFT; Linda Peterson, OPI; Mary Coopersmith, OPI; Sue Dandliker, OPI; Denise Ewing; Dave Puyear, MSBA; Jeff Weldon, OPI; Bev Marlow, OPI; Maxine Mougeot, OPI; Loran Frazier, SAM; Christine Emerson, OPI; Rick Chiotti, OPI; Ellen Swaney, OCHE; David Strong, OPI; Judy Messinger, OPI; Jeff Hindoi, Governor's Office; Kris Goss, Governor's Office; Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT; Marilyn Roberts, OPI; Jodie Goss, Student Teacher, Browning District; Leona Skunk Cap, BCC; Tom Rogers, OPI; Lance Melton, MSBA; Leon Rattler, BCC; Harold Dusty Bull, MACIE-Blackfeet; Sarah Eyer, MSDB; and Connie Erickson, Legal Services.

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Miller requested that Ms. Diane Fladmo lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Hopkins conducted the Roll Call, and then Dr. Miller read the Statement of Public Participation and welcomed the two new staff members; Suzan Hopkins, Administrative Assistant for the Board of Public Education and Tana Haxton, Administrative Assistant for the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council (CSPAC). Dr. Miller also recognized Heidi Redman, the former Administrative Assistant for the Board of Public Education, Christian Hur, member of the Board of Regents, and Denise Thompson, member of the Havre Public School Board of Trustees. He also noted the additions to the agenda, which included the approval of the hiring of Ms. Hopkins and Ms. Haxton, the January 29, 2002 Board of Public Education Minutes with regards to the MSDB Conference call, a re-examination of the Annual Agenda Calendar, which was approved in January, and a request from MSU-Bozeman and the team that reviewed their accreditation to take action on their item, which will be moved to Friday, March 15. Ms. Silverthorne requested that item 18, the NASBE Study Group on E-Learning, be moved to the second day of the meeting. Mr. Miller agreed to this.

MOTION: Ms. Fladmo moved to adopt the agenda for the March 14 & 15, 2002 meeting as amended. Mr. Bishop seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Mr. Bishop moved to adopt the consent agenda. Ms. Silverthorne seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Item 1 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Dr. Miller gave a brief overview of some of the events that had transpired since the last meeting. He highlighted the following topics on his report:

- School Boards Association, NASBO, MREA, SAM, Board of Public Education, along with the Montana Quality Education Coalition have hired Augenblick and Myers to work on the adequacy study, which is comprised of three different levels of panels to be selected. They include a school-based panel, a district level panel and an expert panel, which will review the selections and make recommendations.
- Chairs of the Boards have been requested to be members of the Policy Leader of the Year Committee and Dr. Miller has consented to be on this committee. There are three types of awards, and the nominees for these awards need to be submitted by April 26. They consist of Policy Leader of the Year, Distinguished Service, and Friend of Education Awards. Dr. Miller gave a brief description of each award and who has been honored in the past. Dr. Miller recommended to the Board, Bob Brown, Secretary of State, a former board member, to be nominated for either the Policy Leader of the Year or the Distinguished Service Award.
- State Education Policy Network was referenced and Dr. Miller stated that this network focuses on assistance activities on implementation of the new elementary and secondary education act with particular emphasis on reading and accountability. It is a culmination of all of the national organizations working together to take a look at education policies. Dr. Miller posed the question to the board of whether or not we want to pursue being a state that has state specific assistance with policies focused basically on No Child Left Behind. Dr. Miller and Mr. Meloy will review the criteria when it comes out.
- Suggestion arose from Mr. Morris with regards to developing a white paper or some other type of correspondence to the legislature or the appropriate committees addressing the value of belonging to NASBE. The advantages of belonging to NASBE should be highlighted, along with the disadvantages, such as the non-reimbursement of travel expenditures while participating in any NASBE activities.
- Board of Public Education nominated Ms. Fladmo for Western Area Director. Dr. Miller shared letters of support from the education community.
- Unified Budget Process. Received correspondence from Mr. Swysgood, Director of the Governor's Office of Budget and Program Planning, outlining directions that the Board of Education is to take throughout the process. Leadership Committee is working on this and Mr. Meloy will address this issue in his budget report.
- Dr. Miller attended the Ed Forum meeting on March 4, 2002 with Mr. Meloy and many of the other board members. Items discussed at this gathering included an update on EDAG (Economic Development Action Group), Adequacy Study update, Interim Education Committee hearing coordination, Chapter 57 review update, discussion about how to proceed with the

education funding bill, and ESEA.

Item 2 Executive Secretary Report

Mr. Meloy gave an overview of his report, stating that the Executive Report mainly encompasses two reports. One document is the Secretary Report and the other is the report on the progress of meeting the goals and objectives that were set forth. Mr. Meloy stated that, in order to maintain an adequate level of understanding of the changes in the goals and objectives, he has interjected the new language in the form of either bold or italic print. Some of the other items that Mr. Meloy highlighted from his report were:

- Rewriting of position descriptions. The Administrative Assistant to the Executive Secretary of the Board of Public Education currently has no position description and CSPAC's Administrative Officer position description is outdated, so the process has started to upgrade Mr. Donovan's description and to formulate a description for Ms. Hopkins' position.
- Proposed three-year contracts for Executive Secretary position and also for the Superintendent to the School for the Deaf and Blind for the Board to review and later adopt at the next meeting in May 2002.
- Update website with listing conference calls as a form of public notice
- Teen Pregnancy checks have been distributed to MITI (Montana Indian Teaching Institute) and to MWIEA (Montana Wyoming Indian Education Association). Mr. Meloy thanked Ms. Kathy Kendall from OPI for working with him on this very frustrating issue.
- Attended State Action for Education Leadership project in Washington D.C. Stated we were awarded the money
- Reported that, after attending the CSPAC meeting, it was unanimously decided to bring the PPST issue to the Board for a resolution of its rescission.
- Met with Ms. Kim Kradolfer, Legal Counsel for the Board, MEA-MFT, MSBA, and MREA to discuss material and substantial non-performance rule in great detail. Reported that they had come to an agreement, which will be discussed on the second day of this meeting.
- Met with Ms. Dori Neilson with regards to her sequel to "Who Will Teach Montana's Children?"
- Attended Chapter 57 workforce meeting, which centered upon the "Temporary Rule" change to address recruitment and retention of administrator issues.
- Reported that Ms. Fladmo is performing well in her position of chair of the Low Performing Study Group.

Item 3 CSPAC Report

Mr. Donovan reported that the council would be meeting next month on the Montana State University-Northern campus in Havre, MT on April 11 and 12, 2002. Mr. Donovan stated that this is a great opportunity for members of the council to interact with teacher/educators as well as the students that are in the programs. He reiterated that there are two action items that will come before the Board on Friday. One is the abolishment of the PPST and the other is the Temporary Rule change with regards to addressing recruitment and retention of administrators. He presented a status report with regards to the Chapter 57 Committee progression toward its review of the Administrative Rules of Montana. Mr. Donovan reviewed the 2001 Annual Report for CSPAC and pointed out the format whereby he listed beneath each of the goals any actions that have been taken on those items.

Item 4 State Superintendent's Report

Ms. McCulloch presented an overview of her report. Topics that she highlighted to the Board included:

- Received the \$250,000 grant for the School Leadership project. She expressed gratitude to Dr. Joanne Erickson from MSU-Bozeman for bringing the proposal during the legislative session.
- The phone communication system, which was a source of concern for those out in the field, has been extensively reviewed, and policies in conjunction with phone training, have assisted in alleviating this problem.
- Latest newsletter called JUMP (Join Us in Measuring Progress) from the people who are involved in assessments, which is circulated once a month and is available on the OPI website.
- MWIEA spring conference, which is April 6-9, 2002, is being held at the Heritage Inn in Great Falls.
- Update on the OPI email accounts, reporting that more than 300 school districts have registered for email accounts. Surplus computers have been donated to schools from the state government in order to ensure that all schools will have Internet access.
- Attended Montana Teaching Foundation Meeting on March 9, 2002 and the next Montana Teacher Forum will be in Butte, on September 15 & 16, 2002. She wanted to let the Board of Public Education and CSPAC members know that they were also invited to attend this Forum. The topic on the 15th will be, for a panel discussion, The Testing Dilemma from Mandates to Opportunities.
- New OPI website is up and running. They have split up METNET from the OPI website.
- Shared with the Board some of the events she has participated in such as receiving autographs from the Grizzly football players that had done some reading with her.
- Launched Read Across America, sharing photographs of her participation with cheerleaders at Carroll College, during a basketball game.
- Correspondence sent out to school and county superintendents with regards to the five-year plan.

Item 5 Commissioner of Higher Education Report

Dr. Crofts reported on the draft statement of the Board of Regents' budget request, which will be considered next week. The actual document was not available at the time of the meeting, but Commissioner Crofts reported that it would be available by the end of the meeting on Friday. He described four initiatives that they have been involved with.

Item 7 Student Representative Report

Josh Ewing presented copies of an email account system that NASBE has set up just for student representatives in order to keep in touch. A list of the representatives and the states they were affiliated with was also distributed. Mr. Ewing stated how interesting it was to hear what other students from other states are going through. He plans on using this tool to keep in touch with other students. He also presented to the Board the State Board Member Survival Kit he received from NASBE. He will report, at a later date, to the Board, any information he receives from other states that are newsworthy.

Item 8 Montana Commission on Teaching Report

Mr. Donovan reported that he has only been to one MCOT meeting since his return to the Board of Public Education. His update included Secretary of State Bob Brown's informing

the commission that he would no longer be able to serve on this committee, but that he had an excellent replacement in the form of Ms. Diane Fladmo. Ms. Patty Myers is also a member of the commission. The commission met, in a planning mode, on February 1, 2002 and set up some committees to address various issues. One of which Erik Burke is heading up with a PowerPoint presentation titled State Level Student Assessment in Montana: Past, Present, and Future, which should be finalized for the next board meeting. A brochure, which will be an educational tool to teach the public about the value of assessments for measuring student performance, is also being formulated. Mr. Donovan, Ms. Margaret Bowles, and Ms. Kelly Green, from National Commission on Teaching in America's Future, set up a conference call a week prior, to discuss what the states have been doing, reassessing where the group has been and to talk about what direction the group will progress toward.

Item 9 Report on MWIEA

Representative Carol Juneau presented statistics with regard to graduation rates among American Indian students. The goal of MWIEA is to increase the graduation rate of American Indians in Montana's public schools to a minimum of 82%, which would be even with non-Indian students. Ms. Juneau went on to describe the various benefits that would be achieved if the graduation rates of American Indians were improved:

- Strengthen the potential of American Indian students to continue their education
- Strengthen the potential of American Indian students to improve their economic earnings
- Strengthen the American Indian community
- Strengthen school budgets
- Strengthen Montana's Public School System performance
- Strengthen Montana

Ms. Juneau also presented some recommendations, such as establishing a "Dropout Prevention Specialist" to work within OPI to develop programs, which will address this issue, and create a task force/committee of BPE and include representation from MACIE, MWIEA, and some of the other educational associations.

Item 10 Challenges of the New ESEA

Ms. Coopersmith presented an overview of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Some of the challenges she brought to the Board's attention were: scientifically-based research, adequate yearly progress, accountability, public school choice, supplemental services, education of limited English proficient children, highly qualified teachers, qualified paraprofessionals, greater flexibility, and putting it all together.

MOTION: Ms. Fladmo moved to have Mr. Meloy and Dr. Miller craft a resolution on behalf of the Board of Public Education in support of the full funding of special education. Motion seconded by Ms. Silverthorne. Motion unanimously carried

Item 11 School Foods Annual Report

Ms. Christine Emerson provided an overview of the School Nutrition Program, which includes the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, After School Snack Program, Special Milk Program, USDA Donated Foods Program, Cooperative Purchase Program, and Team Nutrition Program for the 2000-2001 school year. She also provided some statistics with regards to the number of participants in the above-mentioned programs and the figures of federal reimbursement for these programs. Ms. Emerson's presentation was strictly informational, with the main purpose being to inform the public of the changes to the program over the past five years, and to maintain the continued support of the Board of Public Education.

Item 12 GED Rule Process

Mr. Dave Strong, OPI, gave an overview of GED testing, updating the Board on the number of full testing sites (22) and the number of addendum sites (11). He also went on to discuss the changes that have been made to the GED test, advising the Board that the test hasn't been altered since 1988. It is now more business related, has an increased emphasis on organization and writing, includes two sections on dealing with mathematics, and the scoring range has been changed. Mr. Strong quoted some of the statistics taken from the GED Statistical Report, such as the fact that 4,584 people took the test in the year 2001. He also mentioned to the Board that the GED fees have increased.

Item 13 Comprehensive Educational Plan

Dr. Linda Peterson, OPI, reported on the progress of the five-year comprehensive educational plan. The Board of Public Education has extended the date for submission of this plan to May 1, 2003 subsequent to a change to ARM 10.55.601. Noting the changes in ESEA and the state plans, OPI has implemented a plan that takes into consideration all of these alterations. Division administrators and the cabinet of the Office of Public Instruction have been observing what other states are doing and how this can be developed here in Montana. Dr. Peterson discussed the elements of the five-year plan, the development of the format and suggested processes, the guidebook and reporting forms, and the technical assistance timelines.

Item 14 Bus Standards

Ms. Maxine Mougeot, Pupil Transportation Director, OPI, presented an overview of the 2002 School Bus Standards. Ms. Mougeot reported that the standards have not been updated since 1993 and her recommendation to the Board was to review a Proposed Notice of Rule Change and direct the staff at the May 2002 Board of Public Education meeting, to proceed with the rule making process. Following are some of the major recommendations that Ms. Mougeot brought to the Board:

- Installation of a "strobe" light on the back of each bus.
- Recommendation of an assisted lifting device for emergency exit windows that smaller children can not operate
- Recommendation to make mandatory on all new buses backup lights and warning alarms
- Recommendation to make mandatory two stop signs on all of the bigger buses (85 passengers)
- Standard and complete first aid kits available on all buses
- Additional "rub rail" to the bottom of the buses to strengthen and add to the safety of the bus
- Mandatory toe hooks to be installed on the backs of buses to assist in pulling the buses out of ditches, etc.
- Installation of handrails that are designed to prevent entanglement.
- Adoption of Operation Standards to require a minimum training program for drivers.

Item 15 Accreditation Process Information

Dr. Linda Peterson introduced Ms. Sue Dandliker, who presented an overview of the accreditation process. The presentation, which was basically informational, covered such issues as ensuring the alignment of the revisions to Chapter 57 with the other Accreditation Rules, e.g.,

Chapter 55, clarification of the process that districts need to follow when applying for the Alternative Standard, and examining current practice. Ms. Dandliker also presented an annual accreditation process calendar with a timeline that outlines the dates during this procedure. She also presented criteria for schools to be recommended for regular status, advice status, deficiency with assistance status, and nonaccredited status.

Item 17 Summary of EDAG Roundtables

Dr. Mary Moe asked to have her presentation re-scheduled to the May 16 & 17, 2002 meeting.

Item 16 5-Year Strategic Plan

Ms. Diane Fladmo reported that Mr. Meloy would be working with Mr. Carlos Vega to determine the process and the format.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Item 20 Video on “Stand Up For Education”

Mr. Erik Burke gave an overview of the Stand Up for Education campaign, which he plans to present around the state at community meetings, and allowed the Board to view the video addressing this campaign. This campaign is a coalition effort, led by MEA-MFT, which also involves Montana PTA, SBA, SAM, MREA, University of Montana Alumni Association, AAUW, Montana State University Alumni Association, League of Women Voters, AA Superintendents' Association, American Association of University Women-Montana, and Montana AFL-CIO. The goal of the campaign is to win adequate state funding for K-12 public schools and higher education in Montana. Mr. Burke reported that they would also be handing out a brochure, which will echo the themes of the video.

Item 21 ITBS Assessment Report

Ms. Judy Snow, OPI, gave an overview of the ITBS (Iowa Test of Basic Skills). The main goal of her presentation was to clarify some of confusion associated with this test. The three basic categories of Montana Standards are basic knowledge, application of basic knowledge and specific knowledge, and process skills. The IOWA tests basically measure basic knowledge and some application of basic knowledge. They do not measure process skills or the specific knowledge. The four main reasons for assessment are accountability, descriptive information, program evaluation, and classroom instruction. She went on to explain that the two most effective uses of the IOWA tests are accountability and descriptive information. Her presentation also included an initial report on Montana Native American students, which is researched and compiled at the University of Iowa. This report shows that there is a greater discrepancy between Montana Caucasian students and Montana Native American students than there is between the national norm group and Montana Native American students. Ms. Snow asked the board to consider inviting Dr. Dunbar, Statistician with University of Iowa, to a future board meeting (possibly in July) to discuss the findings of an item analysis (which is being conducted at the University) of the test to determine if any cultural bias exists.

INFORMATION ITEMS MOVED TO FRIDAY'S AGENDA

Item 6 Governor's Office Report

Mr. Hindoiien introduced Mr. Chris Goss from the Governor's Office, who is assisting Mr. Hindoiien with policy matters on education. Mr. Hindoiien reported that he has started taking the

school funding study advisory council recommendations on the road. He will be presenting this material in the form of a PowerPoint presentation as he travels around the state. Mr. Hindoien stated that he would also coordinate with the Commissioner of Higher Education and the Board of Public Education's Executive Secretary with regards to setting up a full Board of Education's committee meeting to discuss the unified budget process.

Item 19 MSU-Bozeman Accreditation Report

Mr. Pete Donovan, Mr. Tom Rogers (OPI), and Dr. Greg Weisenstein (Dean of the College of Education and Health & Human Development at MSU-Bozeman) presented a review that OPI/NCATE had done of the Teacher Education Program at MSU-Bozeman in October of 2001. The findings of this review were presented to the board members in the form of a three-ring binder, which reported that approximately all of the standards had been met. Mr. Donovan related his experiences with the NCATE team and his opportunities to visit with the faculty and students in the program. He was deeply impressed with the caliber of students involved with this program. Dr. Weisenstein reported that the Special Education area is one in which he has asked the faculty in education to consider and bring back recommendations on how they can strengthen that area. After discussion, questions, comments and recommendations from Mr. Rogers, the Board made a motion to adopt the Accreditation of the Teacher Education Program at Montana State University in Bozeman.

MOTION: Ms. Myers moved to accept recommendation for accreditation of all programs of the Teacher Education Program at MSU-Bozeman. Ms. Fladmo seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.

Item 22 Draft Contracts

Mr. Meloy presented the draft contracts regarding the 3-year agreement for Mr. Steve Gettel and the Executive Secretary to the Board of Public Education. The original contracts are insipid, and the additions will prove to make the contracts more consistent. New contracts provide for indemnification with regard to the Executive Secretary's actions. For the May meeting, contract conditions (salary and benefits) will be included, to be determined by a conference call to be held in April 2002.

Item 23 Board Member Appearances

Ms. Myers informed the Board that members should communicate, by email to the Administrative Assistant to the Executive Secretary, whenever they will be making any appearances on behalf of the Board.

Item 24 Proposed Legislation

Mr. Meloy stated that the deadline for submitting legislation as an agency is May 1, 2002. This submission is to the Governor's Office for inclusion in the Executive package. He presented four bills to the Board that he felt might have merit to the extent that they coincide with the Board's two-year plan. He requested of the board members to submit to him any ideas that they feel the Governor might embrace before May 1, 2002. To be submitted, the bills only have to be complete as far as concept.

ACTION ITEMS

Item 25 Proposed Temporary Rule

Mr. Donovan presented a summary of the proposed temporary rule, which would

address teacher and administrator shortages. This rule would enable someone to come from an NCATE or state board accredited institute here to Montana and they would be eligible for full certification here in Montana. The intent would be to recognize people who have completed regular certification programs in other states. The temporary rule would be in effect from 30 days after notice of the rule until June 30, 2003. Dr. Miller passed around a letter from the Superintendent of Bigfork Public Schools in favor of this temporary rule.

MOTION: Ms. Diane Fladmo moved to accept the recommendation of CSPAC to adopt the temporary rule as proposed. The motion was seconded by Ms. Patty Myers and unanimously carried.

Item 26 Material and Substantial Non-Performance Rule

Mr. Meloy presented a review of this rule, stating that the Board of Public Education may issue letters of reprimand or may suspend/revoke teacher/administrator/specialist certificates for reasons mentioned in the information packet. The language, which appears to be straightforward, would be made definitive by the proposed rule. Ms. Kim Kradolfer, legal counsel for the Board of Public Education, joined the meeting at 11:35 a.m. and proceeded to affirm to the Board why she is opposed to the proposed rule. Ms. Kradolfer stated the proposed rule limits the Board's discretion.

MOTION: Ms. Diane Fladmo moved to proceed with notice of the proposed rule on Material and Substantial Non-Performance and to include by reference the model rules of the Attorney General on contested cases. The motion was seconded by Ms. Myers and unanimously carried.

Item 27 CSPAC Recommendations Regarding PPST

Mr. Donovan reported that Chapter 57, as well as CSPAC, has looked very diligently at the issue of the PPST. The Board of Public Education rule has been in effect since 1996, and one of the selling points of the test was that it was allegedly free of bias, but during the eight years of having this in place, many people have had difficulty with it. Subsequently, CSPAC, along with Chapter 57, have unanimously voted to eliminate the PPST. Several people spoke on behalf of elimination of this test including Representative Carol Juneau, Mr. Leon Rattler, Mr. Harold Dusty Bull, and Ms. Jodie Skunk Cap Goss.

MOTION: Ms. Joyce Silverthorne moved to eliminate the PPST requirement to be a teacher in the state of Montana without hearing and to direct the Executive Secretary to work with OPI to carry out this intent. The motion was seconded by Ms. Fladmo and unanimously carried.

Item 28 MSDB Committee Meeting/Report

Mr. Steve Gettel, accompanied by Ms. Sarah Eyer, and Mr. William Sykes highlighted to the Board the activities that MSDB has been involved with since the last meeting. Some of the highlights include:

- Spotlight on Programs-Outreach-Mr. Gettel introduced Ms. Sarah Eyer, Outreach Consultant for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing at MSDB. She proceeded to give an overview of how she came to her position as Outreach Consultant and the various areas addressed with her position.
- Student Enrollment/Evaluation-MSDB has increased by three students since the last meeting, and by five evaluations.
- Personnel Actions-repetitive motion injuries with interpreters have caused worker's compensation rates to more than double. Two retirements; Nancy

Getten and Alice Guilbert. Mr. Meloy will draft letters to honor these retirees on behalf of the Board in order to thank them for their services and to commend them on their efforts.

- Negotiations with UFCW #8-Update-Draft of the final contract was discussed.

MOTION: Mr. Morris made a motion to approve the collective bargaining agreement between the United Food and Commercial Workers Local #8 (UFCW #8) as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Myers and unanimously carried.

- Policies/Procedures-How the staff handles disciplinary actions with the children was addressed.

MOTION: Mr. Morris moved to approve the following policies: 3.00, 3.00A, 3.07A, 3.15, 3.16, 3.17, 4.25, 4.26, 5.01, and 8.00. The motion was seconded by Ms. Myers and unanimously carried.

- Strategic Plan Initiative-Update-Continued work on goals and objectives with regards to meeting the needs of the children.
- Program Accreditation-Meeting with Lee Robinson, Superintendent of Utah School for Deaf and Blind to review process and to get some guidance on accreditation issues.
- Professional Development Activities-Activities that address children's' behaviors was discussed.

MOTION: Mr. Morris moved to support the efforts of MSDB to offer additional services and programs in the areas of Outreach services, Campus Transition Services, and additional professional development. The motions was seconded by Mr. Bishop and unanimously carried.

- School Calendar 2002-2003-Travel plans and proposed activities for the upcoming school year were presented to the Board.

MOTION: Mr. Morris moved to approve the 2002-2003 School Calendar as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Silverthorne and unanimously carried.

- Conferences, Meetings and Contacts-Discussion of numerous conferences, meetings and contacts since the last meeting in January.
- Budget and Finance-Personal Services Contingency Draw-will update Board. The Governor's Office will be contacted with a request to consider funding for five additional Outreach Consultants and financial support for curriculum development to assist children in transitioning smoothly into the public.
- Plant and Facilities-Working on a long-range proposal
- Student News and School Events-Twelve children were acknowledged for achieving high honors, along with other student news and events. Role playing events are being scheduled to assist the children in maintaining safety in various situations.
- Public Hearing on School Renovation Grant-MSDB was given \$26,000 to replace outdated equipment.

MOTION: Mr. Morris moved to approve the funds available under the School Renovation Grant to the MSDB. The motion was seconded by Ms. Myers and unanimously carried.

Preliminary Agenda Items

The Board reviewed the list of preliminary agenda items for the May 16 & 17, 2002 meeting agenda.

Item 29 Legal Affairs Report

Ms. Kradolfer, Assistant Attorney General, Agency Legal Services, stated that her report contained confidential information regarding Case # 1-200-1 and advised the meeting to be closed. Dr. Miller agreed and the meeting was closed at 4:00 p.m.

The meeting was opened at 4:20 p.m.

Item 18 NASBE Study Group on E-Learning

Ms. Silverthorne gave an overview on the progress on the E-Learning Study Group. There have been revisions made to the learning standards, along with streamlining of policies. Empowering families, development of a tracking system for home-schooled students, moving beyond geographic boundaries, and providing access to equipment and the Internet at school were some of the items highlighted by Ms. Silverthorne.

MOTION: Ms. Diane Fladmo moved to have the Chair issue a letter of reprimand with regards to Case #1-200-1. This letter is to be placed in the individual's certification file, where it will remain until September 30, 2003, with the intent as specified in the settlement agreement of parties involved. This motion was seconded by Ms. Patty Myers and unanimously carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.