

BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION
MEETING AGENDA

May 13 & 14, 2004

Montana School for the Deaf and Blind
3911 Central Avenue
Great Falls, MT

Chairperson Miller called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 13, 2004. Board members present at the meeting included: Kirk Miller, Chairperson; Diane Fladmo, Vice Chairperson; Storrs Bishop, Randy Morris, John Fuller, Erik Engellant, Patty Myers, and Cal Gilbert. Ex-Officio members present were Superintendent Linda McCulloch and Commissioner Sheila Stearns. Staff members present were Steve Meloy, Executive Secretary, BPE; Peter Donovan, Administrative Officer, CSPAC; and Suzan Hopkins, Administrative Assistant, BPE. Those in attendance included Darrell Rud, School Administrators of Montana (SAM); Calvin Johnson, Belt Schools; Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT; Carol Juneau, MIEA; Stan Juneau, Nancy Coopersmith, OPI; Linda Vrooman-Peterson, OPI; Rene' Dubay, OCHE; Bob Vogel, MTSBA; Al McMilin, OPI; Madalyn Quinlan, OPI; Kris Goss, Governor's Office; Judy Snow, OPI; and Tim Molloy, MQEC.

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Fladmo led the board members in the pledge of allegiance. Dr. Miller read the Statement of Public Participation.

Dr. Miller welcomed all the visitors to the board meeting, held at the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind (MSDB). He officially welcomed to the table, the newest board member, Cal Gilbert. He then introduced Steve Gettel, Superintendent of MSDB, who welcomed all to the school and mentioned that at 10:00 a.m. there would be a presentation of the Expressions of Silence. In the afternoon, there would be a demonstration of web-based training. On Friday, May 14, 2004, there was a pre-school presentation.

Dr. Miller presented revisions to the agenda, with Malta Public High School Accreditation Status being deleted, as Item #9. Item # 6, Governor's Office Report, was moved to 9:30 a.m. on Friday, May 14. Items 29, 30 and 31 (MSDB Committee Report, Evaluation of MSDB Superintendent, and Evaluation of BPE Executive Secretary) occurred after Item #12 (MACIE Update).

MOTION: Ms. Myers moved to adopt the agenda as amended. Ms. Fladmo seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Bishop discussed the budget and stated that it was in great order; with 75% elapsed time. Mr. Meloy stated that the CSPAC budget has run into the negative and a Budget Change Document is being prepared to utilize Research funds to supplement CSPAC's operating costs.

MOTION: Ms. Fladmo moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Mr.

Bishop seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.

Items appear on the agenda in the order in which they were addressed at the meeting.

ITEM 1 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Dr. Miller mentioned his attendance at the School Renewal Commission meetings on March 15 and April 26, 2004. The next meeting is scheduled for May 17, 2004.

He reported that the School Taxation and Revenue Working Group (a subgroup of the School Renewal Commission) is the new name for the MAPS group. This group has met, via conference call, on March 11, 25, April 21, 26, and May 12 in order to present some policy recommendations to the commission on May 17, 2004.

Dr. Miller is the chair of the Regionalization Working Group (another subgroup of the School Renewal Commission), which has met three times, March 10, April 7, and May 12, 2004. This group is taking a look at educational service delivery models.

He also attended a meeting with Deputy Secretary of Education, Eugene Hickok, in Missoula. Dr. Miller presented comments to the Deputy Secretary stating that the essence of being an educator and the fact that the capacity and lack of marketing time and finances that are occurring in Montana are creating a dim outlook for our future educators. No Child Left Behind is driving some of the hope out of the people who are educating our children.

The final item that Dr. Miller presented to the board is an effort that was brought to the attention of the board by the Montana Association of Student Councils. The issue is to look at a tuition fee waiver scholarship for the student representative on the Board of Public Education. This is an effort to ensure high quality students staying in Montana. Consensus was reached by the board to research this issue further.

BOARD MEMBER APPEARANCES

Patty Myers

4/19/04 MSDB Foundation-Great Falls

4/29/04 Review of Forum Guide to Education Statistics (National Forum on Education Statistics)-Great Falls

4/29/04 MSDB Committee-Great Falls

5/04/04 PEPPS-Helena

ITEM 2 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mr. Meloy highlighted issues he has been involved with since the last meeting. He has been working with the OBPP (Office of Budget Program Planning) on EPP (Executive Planning Process) items for the '07 biennium. One such item is expanding the budget to allow for six out of state trips for four board members to attend NASBE events and two trips for the Executive Secretary to attend NASBE conferences. The other is a request for \$2,000 a year to allow for the Board of Public Education to meet with the Board of Regents as the Board of Education.

He presented documents and discussion on progress of some of the committees of the Board of Education (Policy and Evaluation Committee, P-20 Committee).

He introduced Mr. Merrill, who discussed the progress being made on the BPE Communications Plan. This plan would advocate for children, along with dispensing excellent information about public education and the impact it has on every aspect of our lives. The message he wants to get across is that economic development and public education go hand in hand. The developments which have transpired are a result of the commitment to establish leadership on the part of the BPE.

ITEM 3 CSPAC REPORT

Mr. Donovan highlighted items that have come before CSPAC, one being the recommendations for CSPAC appointments. Dr. Douglas Reisig, Superintendent of Hellgate Elementary School, is requesting his reappointment as administrative representative to the

council. Also, Dan Villa is requesting his reappointment to CSPAC as the trustee representative be considered.

He also reminded members of the board that the July meeting has been changed to July 1 & 2, 2004 as the previous date interfered with the board's meeting.

MOTION: Ms. Myers moved to reappoint Dan Villa and Dr. Doug Reisig to serve on CSPAC. Mr. Fuller seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.

ITEM 4 STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT & MACIE NOMINATIONS

Superintendent McCulloch presented highlights from March and April, 2004 in her report, which included:

- ❖ General Accounting Office (GAO) Study of NCLB Impacts on Rural States
- ❖ BPE Student Survey-access on OPI website at <http://www.opi.state.mt.us/RegForms/StudentSurvey04/>.
- ❖ Superintendent's Budget Request for 2007 Biennium
- ❖ Highly Qualified Teachers: Montana's HOUSSE (High Objective Uniform State Standard of Evaluation
- ❖ OPI's Yellow School Bus Tour-next one is on May 18, 2004 to Anaconda Public Schools
- ❖ State Action for Education Leadership Project II
- ❖ Accreditation Division-new language regarding Distance Learning (ARM 10.55.907). Language can be found at www.opi.state.mt.us/ARM/index.html.
- ❖ Title I Allocation Information-NCLB Act now requires yearly updates to the U.S. Census Bureau's poverty figures.

Superintendent McCulloch presented to the board the following nominations to MACIE and asked the board to concur with these recommendations:

- ❖ Nora Bird, representing the Crow Tribe
- ❖ Lucille Tucker, representing urban Indians in Missoula
- ❖ Leon Rattler, representing Montana Association of Bilingual Education
- ❖ John Walter, Sr., representing Indian parents

MOTION: Ms. Myers moved to approve the appointments as listed above to the MACIE board. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fuller and unanimously carried.

Expressions of Silence Performance-Gymnasium at 10:00 a.m.

ITEM 5 COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION REPORT

Commissioner Stearns mentioned that she had visited four of the tribal colleges in the state. She also discussed the insert in the newspapers, promoting two-year colleges.

She talked about the Policy Alert, a document summarizing the effectiveness of education policies adopted by states which can increase the success rates of students at four key transition points spanning the period from high school to completion of a college degree.

These transition points are

1. High school graduation,
2. Entry into higher education
3. Persistence in higher education
4. Completing higher education.

The document also provided statistics for the success rate per 100 ninth graders at each transition point (2002). It also outlined three recommendations to improve the success rates of students. They were

1. Increase the number of high school graduates
2. Improve college access
3. Promote graduation from college.

Commissioner Stearns also addressed the second document distributed; titled Six

Action Items Designed to Implement Shared Leadership for a Stronger Montana Economy. These included:

1. Two-year education

-Proposed Action Item: Bring business, industry, government, and two-year colleges together to develop a comprehensive strategic plan for the state's two-year college system including specific recommendations for: changes in organizational structure to meet the state's future needs, campus specialization, standardizing programs in high-demand occupational areas, creating career pathways systems for occupational training, and better integration into the state's myriad workforce programs.

2. Distance Learning

-Proposed Action Item-Create a Montana University On-line System to centralize and coordinate distance learning throughout the university system.

3. MUS-Business Partnerships

-Proposed Action Item-Expand partnerships between the university system and Montana businesses.

4. MUS and Government Collaboration

-Proposed Action Item-Develop a method of outreach to determine the needs of state, local, and tribal government leaders in Montana for resources available within the MUS. The university system will also develop a systematic process for prioritizing those needs and focusing available resources to solve them.

ITEM 7 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Mr. Engellant reported to the board that he had attended the April 26, 2004 School Renewal Commission meeting.

Mr. Engellant shared the MASS (Montana Association of School Superintendents) Convention speech with members of the board and the audience.

He also attended the MASC (Montana Association of Student Councils) Spring meeting, which included discussion of the language regarding the student representative two-year term. One of the topics they were concerned with was implementing a two-year term for **every** student representative, or having the option to choose. There will be a conference call to further discuss this item of concern. Mr. Meloy expounded on this concern by stating that the council has plans to develop an internal evaluation process which will be implemented after the student representative's first year of service.

The Communication Link was also brought up at the MASC meeting. Mr. Engellant felt this would be a great tool for students.

Mr. Engellant shared with the board his plan to attend the National Student Leadership Camp in Nevada, from July 6-11, 2004.

ITEM 8 UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 5YCEP

Dr. Peterson, Accreditation Division Administrator, OPI, in the absence of Mr. McMilin, Accreditation Specialist, presented a review of the Five-Year Comprehensive Education Plan process-Annual Effectiveness Reports.

To provide some background in this issue, districts and schools across Montana are finishing up the first year of implementation of their respective five-year plans. Beginning this spring and working in to the fall 2004, districts and schools will be reviewing the effectiveness of the goals and action plans put in motion by the 5YCEP design and implementation. Following that review process, districts will provide the OPI a summary of the effectiveness reviews as part of the Annual Data Collection (ADC) process beginning in October 2004. The OPI will update the board on this phase of the 5YCEP process and on the highlights of the regional workshops held the last week of April and the first week of May to assist district's preparation for this critical step in their continuous improvement journey.

ITEM 9 MALTA PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL ACCREDITATION STATUS

This item was deleted from the agenda.

ITEM 10 CREDENTIALS FOR EDUCATIONAL INTERPRETERS AT THE K-12 LEVEL

Ms. Sandra Van Tighem, MRID (Montana Registry for Interpreters of the Deaf), substituting for Cathy Copeland, President of MRID explained how they had presented criterion to this organization (MRID) regarding competency entry level measures for interpreters throughout the state. They took the current statute and drafted language, amending it to include mental health education, K-12 and post secondary. They then met with Bob Runkel, OPI, and after reviewing the amended language, it was decided to ask the board for their help to develop competency criterion for educational interpreters.

Mr. Meloy explained to Ms. Van Tighem that there are varying degrees of what the state can provide in order to assure that those practicing a profession are qualified to do so. The most stringent of these provisions would be licensure. He stated that 20-2-121 would allow the board to research this issue further and establish some criteria. He explained that before action could be taken, this item would have to come before the board for further discussion.

ITEM 26 NASBE ELECTIONS

Dr. Miller presented to the board the ballots for Western Area Director and President-Elect. Dana Mann-Tavegia from Wyoming was running for Western Area Director and Diane Fladmo was running for President-Elect from Montana.

MOTION: Mr. Bishop moved to mark the ballot from Montana as Diane Fladmo for President-Elect and Dana Mann-Tavegia for Western Area Director. The motion was seconded by Ms. Myers and unanimously carried.

ITEM 11 MONTANA INDIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION UPDATE AND RESOLUTIONS FROM 2004 CONFERENCE

Ms. Juneau started out her presentation by welcoming the newest member of the board, Cal Gilbert. She then went on to report that the next MIEA meeting will be held on May 17, 2004, at the Heritage Inn in Great Falls. The date for the 2005 MIEA Conference is scheduled for April 2-5, 2005, at the Colonial Inn in Helena.

She then discussed each of the resolutions approved at the April 4, 2004 23rd Annual Conference in Missoula.

ITEM 12 MACIE UPDATE

Ms. Juneau presented an overview of the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education (MACIE) meeting, which was held on April 1, 2004 and the recommendations from MACIE to the state superintendent and the Board of Public Education. These recommendations are:

- ✓ That a summit be conducted by the Office of Public Instruction regarding successful Indian education practices with MACIE involvement
- ✓ That a request be made to the Commissioner of Higher Education for comprehensive data for all three years of the writing proficiency pilot of the test for admission to the Montana University System
- ✓ That Indian educators be included on the Board of Education P-20 Committee working group and that MACIE receive formal notification of meetings, agenda items, and information
- ✓ That consideration be given to the MIEA resolutions endorsed by MACIE

Ms. Juneau also presented some suggestions for the Office of Public Instruction regarding the use of the \$50,000 received to further Indian Education for All.

ITEM 29 MSDB COMMITTEE MEETING/REPORT

Mr. Gettel, Superintendent of MSDB and Mr. Sykes, presented an update on activities at the school since the last board meeting. The following is a summary of those activities:

1. Spotlight on Programs-performances by Expressions of Silence and Visually

- Impaired Program; Web Train Distance Education; and the Hearing Impaired Preschool
2. Student Enrollment/Evaluations-Campus total-74; Student Evaluations to date-23; Outreach total-280
 3. Human Resources-Terminations-1; Vacancies-3 in Education, 4 in Student Services; Over-assigned positions-3
 4. School Improvement Activities-

MOTION: Mr. Morris moved to approve the Memorandums of Understanding between MSDB and Hi-Line Home Programs, Inc., the Child Development Center, and STEP, Inc. The motion was seconded by Ms. Myers and unanimously carried.

5. Professional Development Activities-
6. MSDB Foundation Activities
7. Conferences, Meetings and Contacts
8. Budget and Finance
9. School Calendar of Events
10. Student News and School Events
11. Public Comment for Non Agenda Items

ITEM 27 BPE MEETING SCHEDULE AMENDMENT

Dr. Miller recommended that we move the November meeting to November 4-5, 2004.

MOTION: Ms. Fladmo moved to amend the meeting schedule to a November 4-5, 2004 meeting date instead of November 11-12, 2004, as this meeting date falls on a holiday and to also amend the annual agenda calendar to reflect this change. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bishop and unanimously carried.

ITEM 28 REVISIONS TO ANNUAL AGENDA CALENDAR

Mr. Meloy presented a revised agenda calendar which was a result of the meeting with Bud Williams, OPI; Spencer Sartorius, OPI; Steve Meloy, BPE; and Suzan Hopkins, BPE.

MOTION: Ms. Fladmo moved to amend the Annual Agenda Calendar to include the revisions presented, along with the above-mentioned amended meeting date. The motion was seconded by Ms. Myers and unanimously carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION- MEETING WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS

ITEM 30 EVALUATION OF MSDB SUPERINTENDENT

ITEM 31 EVALUATION OF BPE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Executive Session ended at 4:25 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

4:30-5:00 Web-based Training in Distance Education Demonstration

8:30 a.m. - Friday, May 14, 2004-Pre-School Presentation

ITEM 13 NCLB UPDATE

Ms. Coopersmith, Assistant Superintendent, OPI, and Dr. Peterson, Accreditation Division Administrator, OPI, discussed the newly developed electronic application that districts will be using to apply to the OPI for funding of NCLB programs, released on May 7, 2004.

They also discussed the recent reiteration of Montana's definition of Highly Qualified Teachers to the U.S. Department of Education, along with the process to amend the Montana

Accountability Workbook as submitted to the U.S. Department of Education in May 2003.

Finally, they presented discussion on the exception request submitted to the U.S. Department of Education concerning the 1% cap for assessment scores of students with significant cognitive disabilities.

ITEM 6 GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORT

Lieutenant Governor Ohs, and Kris Goss, Governor's Office updated the board on activities of the Governor's Office. He first welcomed Cal Gilbert as the newest member of the Board of Public Education, replacing Joyce Silverthorne, on behalf of the Governor.

He briefly discussed the progress of the Montana School Renewal Commission, relating that the next meeting will be on Monday, May 17, 2004.

Governor's Extra Learning Opportunities Summit was held on March 24-25, 2004 in Helena. This summit proved helpful in the long-term goal of raising awareness about the issues surrounding school-age care and after-school programs.

Montana was awarded SAELP Phase II funds, and the consortium will be presenting the work of SAELP I to the Governor and Superintendent McCulloch, along with the media at a follow up meeting.

Governor's School Readiness Task Force meeting to discuss pre-school was held on March 26, 2004, bring together national experts, K-12 education officials, early childhood officials, higher education experts, and parents.

Lt. Governor Ohs participated in the Week of the Young Child, April 12, 2004 by reading, "If You Give a Mouse a Cookie" to the Helena Head Start.

ITEM 15 COLUMBIA FALLS VS. STATE LAWSUIT UPDATE

Mr. Molloy, MQEC, updated the board on the lawsuit, citing Dr. Miller's testimony, along with Ms. Silverthorne's, and Superintendent McCulloch's as compelling. He mentioned that there is serious discussion at the state level to not appeal the decision. The deadline for appeal of the decision is the 18th or the 21st of May.

Mr. Molloy reported that he would meet with the School Renewal Commission's core group on Monday, May 17, 2004 to discuss further the update on the lawsuit.

Judge Sherlock's decision is available on the MQEC website, which is www.mqec.org.

ITEM 14 POTENTIAL AMENDMENT TO 10.55.909 TO MEET NCLB REQUIREMENTS

Dr. Peterson, Accreditation Division Administrator, OPI, provided discussion on the NCLB requirements related to FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act) and PPRA (Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment). Subsequently, the Board of Public Education may need to clarify the language of Administrative Rules of Montana 10.55.909 Student Records to meet this section of federal law.

The State Superintendent is requesting that the board consider moving this issue to an action item for the July 2004 board meeting.

ITEM 16 NASBE/CCSSO MEMBERSHIP ISSUE

Ms. Fladmo provided the board with the issue of CCSSO (Council of Chief State School Officers) excluding NASBE as an ex-officio member.

ITEM 17 ASSESSMENT UPDATE

Ms. Fladmo, with the assistance of Ms. Snow, State Assessment Director, OPI, and Ms. Quinlan, Deputy Superintendent, OPI, presented an update on the progress of the Assessment Policy Group. The group spent time discussing the purpose for the formation of the group. Issues that precipitated the development of this group are as follows:

- Improved communication between the BPE and OPI on assessment policies and planning
- Forum for discussing what a comprehensive system of assessment should look like

- ❑ Forum for reviewing assessment policies and developing recommendations
- ❑ Forum for determining need to refer assessment issues to the assessment advisory committee or to conduct survey for broader input

Topics which came before this group as discussion points were: NRT Administration in Spring 2005, Future of the BPE Requirement for a Statewide Assessment, and also the option of administering the NRT on a random sample, which would be determined through a statistical sampling process.

ITEM 18 FEEDBACK ON “NEW VISION FOR NAEP”

Ms. Fladmo and Ms. Snow presented discussion on NAEP (National Assessment for Educational Progress). The National Assessment Governing Board (governing board that oversees NAEP) established the National Commission on NAEP whose charge was to review the current purpose, strengths, and weaknesses of 12th grade assessment and reporting by NAEP and set forth recommendations for improvement to the National Assessment Governing Board.

The conclusions of this report were:

- ❖ NAEP must be changed and strengthened to provide the public with 12th grade results.
- ❖ NAEP needs to provide information about the readiness of 12th graders for postsecondary pursuits.
- ❖ Participation rates have to be improved.
- ❖ NAEP can be a precious and unique resource in American education.

ITEM 19 REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF TEACHING ENDORSEMENT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Dr. Peterson, Accreditation Division Administrator, OPI, reported on the implementation of the teaching endorsement internship program and the issues associated with this plan after its first full year of implementation.

The issues which were referred to included: accessibility to existing programs, transferability of credits, availability of teachers to take courses offered in traditional programs, and on-site supervision of interns.

ITEM 20 PEPPS UPDATE

Dr. Peterson, Accreditation Division Administrator, OPI, provided the board with an update on the Professional Educator Preparation Program Standards (PEPPS) review process. The discussion provided the board with an update within the restrictions of the Educator Preparation Program Review Process including the work of the Review Advisory Panel and the Pilot Testing Study Task Force.

Dr. Peterson also presented to the board a work plan and timeline of the PEPPS Review Advisory Panel.

A summary of the May 4, 2004 PEPPS Review Advisory Panel meeting was provided.

ITEM 21 RECRUITMENT & RETENTION REPORT

Mr. McMilin, Accreditation Specialist, OPI reported to the board on the 2003 Annual Data Collection, which is an instrument used to collect information from districts on personnel recruitment and retention issues. This information will be provided to the board on a yearly basis.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

ITEM 22 ALTERNATIVE STANDARDS REQUEST AND RENEWALS

Mr. McMilin, Accreditation Specialist, OPI provided to the board for consideration Alternative Standard Initial and Five-Year Renewal Requests recommended either for approval or disapproval by Superintendent McCulloch. This presentation included site visits, which were illustrated by a brief digital photo portfolio.

MOTION: Mr. Bishop moved to approve the initial alternative standard application requests for the six schools as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fuller and unanimously carried.

MOTION: Mr. Bishop moved to approve the Superintendent's recommendations for Five-Year Renewal Requests for the six schools as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Fladmo and unanimously carried.

ITEM 23 2003-2004 ACCREDITATION RECOMMENDATIONS-ADDENDUM

Mr. McMilin, Accreditation Specialist, OPI presented to the board for consideration the addendum to the 2003-2004 accreditation determinations for all schools as recommended by Superintendent McCulloch.

MOTION: Mr. Bishop moved acceptance of the addendum to the 2003-2004 accreditation determinations of the State Superintendent. The motion was seconded by Ms. Fladmo and unanimously carried.

ITEM 24 BOARD ACTION ON ASSESSMENT RECOMMENDATION

This item was postponed to a later date.

ITEM 25 BASE AID PAYMENT SCHEDULE APPROVAL

Ms. Coopersmith, Assistant Superintendent, OPI presented for approval the schedule for BASE aid for public education for the fiscal year 2004-2005. The Board of Investments has reviewed this schedule.

MOTION: Mr. Bishop moved to accept the Base Aid Payment Schedule for Fiscal Year 2004-2005 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fuller and unanimously carried*.

*Ms. Fladmo was not present for the above-mentioned motion.

Mr. Merrill again presented further information regarding the Communications Plan.

PRELIMINARY AGENDA ITEMS – July 14-16, 2004

- Communications Plan
- Potential amendment to 10.55.909 to meet NCLB requirements (Action Item)
- Strategic Planning
- Special Purpose Schools Report
- PEPPS
- Assessment Task Force (Action)
- Invite legislators to our meetings and become a part of the legislative interim committee on local government and education
- Appointment of Cal Gilbert to the P-20 Committee
- Unified Budget discussion
- Urge BOE to become involved in Strategic Planning discussion

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.