

**BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION**  
**MEETING AGENDA**

July 14-15, 2005

**Great Falls District Office**  
**1100 4<sup>th</sup> Street South**  
**Great Falls MT 59405**  
**Aspen Room**

Chairperson Kirk Miller called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. on Thursday, July 14, 2005. Board members present at the meeting included: Kirk Miller, Chairperson; Diane Fladmo, Vice Chairperson; John Fuller, Patty Myers, Cal Gilbert, Jack Jessop, and Gay Ann Masolo. Mr. Bishop was absent. Staff present at the meeting included: Steve Meloy, Executive Secretary, BPE; Suzan Hopkins, Administrative Assistant, BPE; and Peter Donovan, Administrative Officer, CSPAC. There were no ex-officio members present, but Deputy Superintendent Bud Williams was present for Superintendent McCulloch. Those in attendance at the meeting included: Beth Gerhart, SAM; Linda Peterson, OPI; Nancy Coopersmith, OPI; Norma Bixby, MACIE; Lance Melton, MTSBA; Debra Silk, MTSBA; Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT; Jules Waber, Powell County Superintendent; Kathy Bramer, OPI; Joe Lamson, OPI; Carol Juneau, MIEA; and Stan Juneau, MIEA-Retired.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Masolo led the Board in the pledge of allegiance. Ms. Hopkins took the roll call and a quorum was noted; Dr. Miller read the Statement of Public Participation, welcomed the visitors and introduced the new student representative, Jack Jessop to his first meeting. Mr. Jessop, who gave a brief biography, mentioned that he will be a senior at Belgrade High School. Some of his other leadership attributes include student body president, and Big Sky Squadron Commander. Dr. Miller read a letter from the outgoing student representative, Erik Engellant, as he couldn't be at the meeting due to a prior commitment.

Dr. Miller read the Statement of Public Participation and introduced audience members that were there at the beginning of the meeting; Ms. Nancy Coopersmith, OPI, Representative Norma Bixby, MACIE; and Dr. Linda Peterson, OPI. He also introduced Ms. Beth Gerhart, representing SAM.

Dr. Miller stated that Ms. Patricia Chlouber would not be able to attend this meeting, subsequently, Item 11, NCLB Updates from a Federal Perspective, was cancelled. This item will be on the board's agenda for the September 15-16, 2005 meeting, to be held in Kalispell. He also reported that discussion of Items 19, 22 and 23 would be potentially moved up but the actual action would not be taken on these items until Friday, July 15.

**MOTION: Mr. Fuller 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**

**MOTION: Ms. Fladmo moved to adopt the consent agenda. Mr. Fuller seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.**

In regard to the Board's budget and the legislative appropriation process, Mr. Meloy pointed out, under the current budgeting system; you start out with what you have spent, not with what you requested

each legislative cycle. Subsequently, if an agency is frugal and efficient, you could reduce your budget down each biennium, encouraging agency directors to spend unnecessarily towards the end of the fiscal year to create this base. Mr. Meloy is working with Mr. Donovan to devise some research projects in order to utilize the Research Fund monies in order to alleviate the possibility of reducing appropriation in subsequent biennia.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

\*\*\*\*\* Items in the minutes appear in the order in which they were addressed at the meeting.

### **ITEM 1 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Dr. Kirk Miller distributed a document updating the board on his work on the Quality Schools Interim Committee (QSIC). This document summarized the major discussion topics at the May 4, June 3, June 6, June 24, and the June 28 meetings. The website for the QSIC can be accessed at [http://www.leg.state.mt.us/css/committees/interim/2005\\_2006/qual\\_schools/default.asp](http://www.leg.state.mt.us/css/committees/interim/2005_2006/qual_schools/default.asp)

He also related a summary of his trip to Israel with Ms. Fladmo, which was sponsored by American Israel Friendship League. Historical, political, religious and non-religious perspectives were discussed. He related an experience on one end of the spectrum where there were children in a school until 5:00 p.m., in a low socio-economic area, 11-year olds, learning English, sitting on the floor. The students related they would still be there at 10:00 p.m. as that was the focal point of the community. Another end of the spectrum found them visiting a school in a higher socio-economic area where the students had just won the International Robotics Competition in Atlanta. He witnessed higher peaks and lower valleys than what the democracy in the United States has created for education, which is to be understandable, since democracy in Israel hadn't started until 1967.

Mr. Miller also related that he attended the College Summit new sites conference in Chicago with Regent Hamilton and Kelly Chapman from the Student Assistance Foundation in July.

### **BOARD MEMBER APPEARANCES**

**Patty Myers:**

**May 18-Retirement Tea-Doris Wise-MSDB**

**May 20-PEPPS Committee-Helena**

**May 21-Graduation-MSDB**

**July 20-P-20 Conference Call**

**July 20-MSDB Committee-Great Falls**

### **ITEM 2 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Mr. Steve Meloy reported on topics that he has been involved with since the last board meeting in May. The Board continues to track the Quality Schools Interim Committee, School Renewal Commission legislative outcomes, CSPAC Assessment Study Group, the BOE sub-committee work, the E-Learning work of the BPE, Pilot (Praxis II) testing task force, the Special Purpose Schools Task Force, the PEPPS Review Advisory Panel, the Counsellorship Initiative, SAELP phase II, Leadership Initiatives, the BPE five-year plan, the BPE communications plan, and the Writing Assessment Consortia Project, along with numerous others.

Some of the highlights that he touched upon during his report are listed below:

- Worked on fiscal responsibility processes for SB 152.
- Worked with Megan on web-site continuous modifications.
- Worked with OPI on a potential appeal of a class 5 license denial.
- Met with Healthy Schools Network to discuss the BPE's work with bullying.
- Attended June 14 staff-working group for the Interim study commission.
- Purchased a PA system for Board meetings
- Attended June 20 meeting of the PEPPS committee

He also related his experience with attending the NCTAF meeting (National Commission on Teaching in America's Future) with Mr. Donovan.

### **ITEM 3 CSPAC REPORT**

Mr. Peter Donovan related highlights from the CSPAC meeting, held on July 7, 2005 in Helena. There was an Ethics Panel discussion with Erik Burke (MEA-MFT), Bob Clemens (MSU-Bozeman), Cathy Warhank (OPI), and Bob Vogel (MTSBA) participating.

He stated that Mr. Scott McCulloch was elected as chair and Dr. George White was elected as vice chair. He also mentioned the newest member on the council was Kim Warrick from Bozeman.

He distributed a Power Point document, describing what NASDTEC (National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification) stands for. An annual meeting of this organization was recently held with Ms. Masolo in attendance. Mr. Donovan is the chairperson of the Professional Preparation and Continuing Development Committee of NASDTEC, which recently received a \$225,000 grant to conduct a teacher mobility study. He distributed a document overviewing what the study will entail along with a timeline.

### **ITEM 4 PEPPS REVIEW ADVISORY PANEL UPDATE**

Dr. Linda Peterson, Administrator, OPI, gave an update on the PEPPS Review Advisory Panel meeting, held on June 20, 2005. Topics of discussion included the following:

- PEPPS Manual Structure and Format Committee presented a draft report to the Advisory Panel. The Advisory Panel discussed the suggestions.
- Communication and delivery plan - A committee was formed to develop a plan to engage K-12, college, and university faculty in the comment process. A good starting point is to make a presentation of the PEPPS Review Process to the Board of Education. The communication plan subcommittee includes: Will Rawn, Erik Burke, George White, and Linda Peterson.
- Indian Education for All – Incorporate tenets of the Indian Education for All, where appropriate, across the curriculum. In addition, add another substandard to 10.58.501 General Requirements directly addressing Indian Education for All. Convene a subcommittee to complete a document review for consistent and appropriate reference to Indian Education for All.
- Include “technology” into existing language of 10.58.501 General Requirements.
- Joint meeting with the Montana Council of Deans of Education-Topic for discussion: No Child Left Behind Act requirements for highly qualified teachers.

Dr. Peterson also distributed a document outlining how the PEPPS document will be divided into three sections: Section A-Professional Educator Preparation Program Standards, Section B-Process and Procedures Manual, and Section C-Supporting Materials.

### **ITEM 5 STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Bud Williams, Deputy Superintendent, OPI, gave the report in the absence of Superintendent McCulloch. He spoke briefly about the All Schools process of determining AYP used by OPI which consists of 33 teams made up of 3-4 people on each team.

He reported that OPI has signed a (\$277,000) contract with Riverside for the 2006 fall testing.

He also mentioned that OPI has members of their staff working on the Quality Schools Interim Committee: Madalyn Quinlan and Joan Anderson, to mention two. Ms. Quinlan deals with coordinating data requests and Ms. Anderson works with the funds structure committee.

He mentioned the work that OPI is doing with Indian Education for All; once a week has a meeting with numerous other staff members to discuss possible strategies. Thirty people from across the state will be congregating at OPI to confer about curriculum development regarding Indian Education next week.

Discussion of the loss of the \$600,000 grant from Wallace Foundation was briefly mentioned. OPI is looking at the possibility of maintaining some of the paired school grants through the Title II program. The Wallace Foundation did contribute \$50,000 for the 2005-2006 school year to implement a system of professional development for school leaders that includes training for superintendents, principals and

aspiring superintendents and school leaders.

The last item discussed by Mr. Williams was the importance of Professional Development with regards to Indian Education for All. He stressed that this concept is imperative for teachers, superintendents, administrators, school districts, and each other.

#### **ITEM 6 COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION REPORT**

Commissioner Stearns was unable to attend due to a conflict with the Board of Regent's Retreat corresponding with this meeting.

#### **ITEM 7 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

Dr. Miller explained to Mr. Jack Jessop (incoming student representative) that this would be the time he would be bringing to the Board progress on items he would be working on as the new student representative. Dr. Miller also distributed Erik Engellant's (outgoing student representative) final report to the board and read a letter from him, expressing his gratitude for his experience on the Board.

#### **ITEM 8 GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORT**

A representative from the Governor's Office was unable to attend this meeting, subsequently there was no report.

#### **ITEM 9 STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE**

Mr. Steve Meloy presented a summary of the outcome of the Board's Strategic Planning meeting, held on Wednesday, July 13, 2005 in Great Falls. He thanked Mr. Feaver and Ms. Quinlan for attending the meeting and for offering some excellent ideas. He reported that the items from the "Wish List" would be compiled and prioritized. They will then be aligned with each of the four goals in the strategic plan. Finally, it will be decided which items will need new strategies designed for them and then the types of performance measures needed to complete these strategies.

**MOTION: Mr. Fuller moved that we analyze the Writing Assessment issue during the September meeting. Ms. Fladmo seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.**

#### **ITEM 10 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Mr. Fuller thanked OPI for the document summarizing legislation affecting K-12. He then turned the discussion over to Mr. Meloy who discussed various bills, their status and how they affect K-12 education.

#### **ITEM 19 MACIE REPORT**

Representative Norma Bixby, Chairperson, MACIE, presented the nomination of Sharon Beauchamp as a MACIE member to represent urban Native Americans. The Board will take action on this item on Friday, July 15, 2005 as stated in the Consent Agenda.

Ms. Bixby reported briefly on some of the data that was presented by Bob Runkel, Special Education Division Administrator, OPI at the MACIE Meeting. She reported that the data shows that the graduation rate for special education Indian students was higher than non Indian students. She recommended that the Board review the special education data presented by Bob Runkel and possibly request CSPAC do some research on it. She also recommended that CSPAC research how to improve the Native American Studies endorsement issue.

**Action was taken on Friday, July 15, 2005**

#### **ITEM 23 MSDB COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT**

Mr. Steve Gettel, Superintendent, MSDB reported to the board on issues that have transpired since the board met in May. Highlights of this report included the following:

1. Annual Report-review and evaluation of the comprehensive educational plans, and establishment of goals and objectives as they relate to:

- A review and evaluation of the present curriculum.
  - A projection of curriculum and resource needs.
  - A plan for new or revised instructional program implementations.
  - A review of present and future facility needs.
2. Human Resources-Update on Negotiations with MEA-MFT
  3. School Improvement-Update on accreditation activities
  4. Policies/Procedures-**Action Item**
    - Draft policy has been developed to bring existing MSDB 5225 “Smoking Policy” into compliance with 2005 amendment to 20-1-220, MCA

**Action was taken on Friday, July 15, 2005**

5. Quality Schools Interim Committee-Review of MSDB Needs Assessment Report
6. Professional Development-Twelve staff and administrators from the education and residential programs attended the Intermountain Special Study, June 13-June 16.
7. Conferences, Meetings, and Contacts-
  - June 7-Phone conference with Hearing Conservation Program Audiologist and the OPI Falls
  - June 16-18 MAD Biennial Convention, Helena
  - July 7-Meeting with Carol Halstad and Tom Antonick, Dept. of Admin, to discuss progress with the Core Competencies Project and movement to Pay Plan 60, Great Falls
  - July 18-MSDB Foundation Quarterly meeting, Great Falls
8. School Calendar of Events-
  - June 3-5-Deaf Family Learning Weekend
  - June 19-25-Deaf Summer Language Camp
  - August 16-First Day of Practice Golf, Volleyball, Cross Country and Soccer
  - August 28-Residential Students Return
  - September 23-26-Travel Weekend
9. Student News and School Events-5<sup>th</sup> annual Blind Family Learning Weekend held on June 10-12 with a record 97 participants. Speakers from the California School for the Blind participated. Summer Skills Program for the Blind will be held July 10-16. Co-directors for the camp are Betty Cook and Jim Kelly.
10. Public Comment for Non Agenda Items-

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment at this time.

**ITEM 11 NCLB UPDATES FROM FEDERAL PERSPECTIVE**

Item cancelled and moved to September meeting.

**ITEM 12 HEALTHY SCHOOLS NETWORK RECOMMENDATIONS ON PREVENTING BULLYING, INTIMIDATION AND HARASSMENT IN SCHOOLS**

Ms. Kathy Bramer, OPI; and Mr. Steve Meloy, Executive Secretary, BPE presented a report on national and state data on bullying and violence-related behaviors among youth, a definition of bullying, information on school climate, legal considerations regarding student-on-student bullying, the fundamental importance of a school policy, a model policy, suggested changes to Montana Accreditation Standards, and several recommendations for the Board’s consideration. Included in this presentation was a discussion paper prepared by the Montana Healthy Schools Network and the Office of Public Instruction’s Division of Health Enhancement and Safety. This item was presented as an information item and will be presented again at the Board’s September meeting, in Kalispell, as an action item.

**ITEM 13 NCLB UPDATE**

Ms. Nancy Coopersmith, Assistant Superintendent, OPI, presented information from the U.S. Department of Education concerning the following: **1.** Amendments to the state's accountability workbook concerning Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP); and **2.** Issues concerning the NCLB definition and requirements for Highly Qualified Teachers. In addition, the presentation included an overview of the state systems of support for schools and districts identified under NCLB for improvement.

#### **ITEM 14 SUPERVISION ENHANCEMENT GRANT/REGIONAL SERVICES DELIVERY**

Ms. Nancy Coopersmith, Assistant Superintendent, OPI, distributed a document explaining the grant that OPI has been awarded. This general supervision enhancement grant (GSEG) was awarded through the U.S. Department of Education and is titled "Making Connections" and proposes to develop critical components of an infrastructure that will support a coordinated and comprehensive system of professional development, technical assistance and information dissemination delivery. This system is designed to support the state, districts, and local entities in their efforts to improve student outcomes for **all** students. The grant is a one-year grant for \$412,000 and the effective date was October 1, 2004. There will be a one-year, no-cost extension to complete grant activities.

This summary also included current and future activities along with projected timelines.

#### **ITEM 15 INITIAL CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST FOR ACCREDITATION FROM VALLEY CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL, MISSOULA, MT**

Mr. Gary Warhank, Accreditation Specialist, OPI, presented a request on behalf of Valley Christian High School to be considered for reinstatement of regular accreditation status. The school has completed a review of all aspects of their school operations. The state superintendent is now ready to recommend that the Board consider the school for regular accreditation.

Several members of Valley Christian High School spoke in support of this recommendation.

Mr. Meloy stressed the protocol that is followed by items brought to the board which is first as an information item, secondly as a discussion item, and thirdly as an action item. This allows the public to give comment on any items before action is taken. It was then decided that Mr. Meloy would work with the Office of Public Instruction, and Valley Christian to explore any means of expediting this item for action to be taken possibly in September.

#### **ITEM 16 ACCREDITATION STANDARDS REVIEW UPDATE**

Dr. Linda Peterson, Administrator, OPI, reported on the 2005 review and revision of the Science Content and Performance Standards. This review ensures that the Science CRT is aligned to the current Montana standards. The review process will generate the Montana K-12 Standards Framework for Science, and will produce model K-12 grade-level expectations for science. Also, in 2008, the state Science Criterion-Referenced Test (CRT) will be administered to all Montana students in grades 4, 8, and 10.

#### **ITEM 18 MIEA (Montana Indian Education Association) CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS**

Representative Carol Juneau, Chairperson, MIEA, presented to the Board the resolutions that were passed at the MIEA Conference. They are summarized below:

- 2005-01-Indian Hiring Preference Law in Public Schools on or near Indian Reservations
- 2005-03-Oppose University System Writing and Math Proficiency Assessments
- 2004-04-Increase graduation rate of American Indians to 80%
- 2005-06-Oppose the use of Indian Mascots in Schools
- 2005-09-Funding for MACIE
- 2005-14-Report by Indian Education for All Committee
- 2005-15-Annual report on Indian Education by BPE and BOR
- 2005-19-Create an American Indian Data Bank at OPI
- 2005-23-MIEA urges the Montana Board of Public Education in collaboration with the Indian Education for All Committee of the Board as well as the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education to review all accreditation standards and make necessary revisions to include appropriate standards reflecting Indian Education for All Montanans and to begin this process in 2005-06 to insure that the State's Accreditation Standards meet the

- constitutional intent of Article X, 1 (2).
- 2005-08-MIEA requests OPI and BPE to work with MACIE and complete a study using a sample of public schools in Montana in 2005-2006 to determine the level of progress made in the full implementation of Indian Education for All Montanans within the Public School System. This study will include an assessment of the following as it pertains to Indian Education for All: policies, curriculum development and integration across the curriculum, professional development provided and participation, resources available for classrooms and library, and assessment strategies to evaluate student learning. The results of this study will be posted on OPI's website.

#### **ITEM 17 ASSESSMENT UPDATE**

Ms. Nancy Coopersmith, Assistant Superintendent, OPI, presented the preliminary report on the statewide aggregated results for the spring 2005 Iowa Tests in the absence of Ms. Judy Snow, State Assessment Director.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **ITEM 19 MACIE (ACTION)**

**MOTION: Mr. Gilbert moved to accept the nomination of Sharon Beauchamp as the newest member of MACIE. Ms. Myers seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried**

Absent from the above vote was Board members Storrs Bishop and Diane Fladmo.

#### **ITEM 20 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ALTERNATIVE STANDARD REQUESTS**

Mr. Gary Warhank, Accreditation Specialist, OPI, provided to the Board for consideration Alternative Standard Initial and Five-Year Renewal Requests recommended either for approval or for disapproval by the state Superintendent Linda McCulloch.

**MOTION: Mr. Fuller moved to deny the request for Alternative Standards, with the exception of the request of Absarokee. Ms. Myers seconded the motion and the motion carried. (Chairperson Miller recused himself from this vote and turned the chairmanship over to Vice Chairperson Fladmo.)**

**MOTION: Ms. Myers moved to accept the request for Alternative Standard for Absarokee. Mr. Fuller seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.**

#### **ITEM 21 FINAL ACCREDITATION RECOMMENDATIONS-ADDENDUM**

Mr. Gary Warhank, Accreditation Specialist, OPI, presented to the Board for consideration an addendum to the 2004-2005 accreditation determinations for all schools as recommended by the state Superintendent Linda McCulloch. These changes are due to errors identified by the Office of Public Instruction after the accreditation determinations were acted on during the March 2005 Board of Public Education meeting.

**MOTION: Ms. Fladmo moved to approve the addendum to the 2004-2005 accreditation determinations. Ms. Myers seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.**

#### **ITEM 23 MSDB ACTION**

**MOTION: Ms. Myers moved to approve policy 52-25 (Tobacco Policy). Mr. Fuller seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.**

#### **ITEM 22 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY COMPENSATION PACKAGE (MAY REQUIRE) EXECUTIVE SESSION)**

Session was closed at 2:00 p.m.

MOTION: Mr. Fuller moved to offer a salary of \$78,500 for 2004-2006 to the Executive Secretary. Ms. Fladmo seconded the motion and the motion and the motion unanimously carried.

Returned to open session at 2:32

### **PRELIMINARY AGENDA ITEMS – September 15-16, 2005**

- U M School of Education Accreditation report
- NCLB Updates from Federal Perspective-Patricia Chlouber
- Board to take a position on Writing Assessment issue and possibly a featured issue topic with panelists
- Action on Bullying issue
- How to proceed on Valley Christian topic-Executive Secretary to provide guidance
- Bob Runkel Special Education report for Native Americans
- Indian Education for All procedure into the future-Cal Gilbert
- Gay Ann Masolo and Diane Fladmo to discuss Accreditation Standards
- Strategic Planning Report

Things to do to improve the meeting-

PA system will impact the quality of our meeting

Meeting was adjourned at 2:45 pm.

APPROVED