

BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION
MINUTES

November 2-3, 2006

**Carroll College
Ross Room
1601 N. Benton Avenue
Helena, MT 59625**

November 2, 2006 - Thursday
8:33 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Ms. Diane Fladmo called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, November 2, 2006. The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Student Representative Ms. Jenny Tiskus. Carol Will took roll call; a quorum was noted. Ms. Diane Fladmo proceeded to note that Item 21 will be removed from the agenda due to duplication. Item 10 will be held at 1:30 p.m. on November 2, 2006 due to Chief Justice Gray's schedule and Item 18 will occur at 8:30 a.m. on November 3, 2006.

MOTION: Ms. Patty Myers moved to adopt the agenda as revised. Ms. Angela McLean seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Those in attendance at the meeting included the following board members: Chairperson Diane Fladmo, Vice Chairperson Patty Myers, Dr. Kirk Miller, Cal Gilbert, John Fuller, Angela McLean, and Jenny Tiskus. Staff present at the meeting included Steve Meloy, Executive Secretary of the Board of Public Education, Peter Donovan, Administrative Officer, Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council, and Carol Will, Administrative Assistant, Board of Public Education. Ex-officio Board members present were Linda McCulloch, State Superintendent, and Sheila Stearns, Commissioner of Higher Education. Jan Lombardi, Governor's Education Policy Advisor, was present for ex-officio member Governor Brian Schweitzer. Visitors in attendance at the meeting included: Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT; Nancy Coopersmith, OPI Assistant Superintendent; Bob Vogel, MTSBA; Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, OPI Accreditation Division Administrator; Gary Warhank, OPI Accreditation Division; Bud Williams, OPI Deputy Superintendent; Judy Snow, OPI Statewide Student Assessment; Denise Juneau, OPI Director of Indian Education; Madalyn Quinlan, OPI Chief of Staff; Chief Justice Karla Gray, Montana Supreme Court; Gay Ann Masolo, former Board of Public Education Member; Beck Mclaughlin, Montana Arts Council; Suzan Hopkins, former Board of Public Education Administrative Assistant; Joe Brott, MTSBA; Dr. Harold Jones, University of Great Falls; Mary Sheehy Moe, MSU-Great Falls; Deb Biegel, 2006 Teacher of the Year; Cathy Kendall, OPI Health Enhancement and Safety Division Administrator; Alyson Mike, science teacher; and Darrell Rud, SAM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA

Executive Secretary Steve Meloy noted that the budget is being expended as expected. BPE received the final audit report from Legislative Services Division with no exceptions or recommendations.

MOTION: Ms. Patty Myers moved to adopt the consent agenda. Mr. John Fuller seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Patty Myers noted a correction on Item 18 of the September 2006 Meeting Minutes that states, "Dr. Kirk Miller requested nominations for the chairperson" should read, "The gavel was transferred to Executive Secretary Steve Meloy. Mr. Meloy asked for nominations." Ms. Angela McLean also noted a correction on Item 6 that should state that "Eric Feaver was named one of the nation's seven new vice-presidents for the American Federation of Teachers (AFT)." The minutes were corrected and approved by acclamation of the Board.

8:45 State Superintendent Linda McCulloch arrived.

Items are listed in the order they were discussed at the meeting.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Item 1 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Diane Fladmo

- Conference call with the NASBE Finance Committee.
- Attended ceremony for National Board Certified Teachers in Helena, MT.
- Represented the Montana Board of Education at the NASBE Conference in Louisville, Kentucky. Attended many valuable sessions and had great opportunities to network with other state board members, state executives, state education attorneys, student board representatives, elected officials, NASBE staff members, sponsors and others. Presented prototype.
- Met with Kelly Chapman, VP SAF, for preliminary discussion of communications campaign.
- Attended MCEL and Teacher of the Year Award banquet in Billings, MT.
- Conference call with the NASBE Executive Committee.
- Conversation with Executive of Planned Parenthood regarding health standards.
- Telephone conversation with a representative from Missoula Children's Theatre about accreditation issues related to a possible magnet school or residential school affiliated with the MCT specializing in performing arts.
- Conversation with Roger Merrill about possibilities for Montana Board of Public Education Pilot Communications Program.
- Presented Ms. Gay Ann Masolo with a plaque and pottery for her service as a board member to the Board of Public Education.
- Presented Dr. Kirk Miller with a brass gavel and engraved gift box for his six terms of service as Chairman of the Board of Public Education.

BOARD MEMBER APPEARANCES

Patty Myers

- Conference Call for Mathematics Forum
- Educator Forum – Helena, MT
- MSDB Foundation – Great Falls, MT
- Business Leaders Summit on School Readiness – Missoula, MT
- Mathematics Forum for MEA-MFT Educator's Conference – Billings, MT
- MSDB Committee Meeting – Great Falls, MT

Kirk Miller

- Distance Learning Task Force and Celebration lunch for Linda Vrooman Peterson – Governor's Award
- Distance Learning Task Force – ITV Conference Call
- Teacher of the Year Celebration
- NASBE Annual Conference – Louisville, Kentucky
- Attended MCEL

Angela McLean

- MEA-MFT Educator Forum
- National Board Certification Ceremony – Helena, MT
- Ad Hoc Committee Meeting for Dual Enrollment
- Social Studies Forum for MEA-MFT Educator's Conference – Billings, MT

Item 2 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT – Steve Meloy

- Attended NASBE Annual Conference – Louisville, Kentucky.
- Distance Learning Task Force will begin in December.
- Ad Hoc Committee Meeting for Dual Enrollment.
- BPE Mathematics and Social Studies Forum for MEA-MFT Educator's Conference. Mr. Meloy provided the Board with copies of the survey, agendas, standards, and results of the mathematics forum survey. He stated that the comments from these forums need to be taken into consideration and reviewed by a BPE committee.
- Mr. Meloy suggested to the BPE to coordinate future content standards revision with an educator conference and have the break-out session actually be the hearing.
- Coordinated with Chief Justice Gray on an appearance in Helena in November to discuss civic education which will occur today.
- Presided over a rule hearing on the Science Standards, October 31, 2006. Action will take place at this meeting in November.
- Mr. Steve Meloy will be presiding a hearing on the PEPPS Standards on November 16, 2006.
- Mr. Steve Meloy has been appointed to the Governor's Kindergarten to College Work Group and looks forward to the opportunity to represent the Board of Public Education.
- Attended National Board Certification Ceremony at the Governor's office.
- Attended the Call to Greatness conference.
- Elected Secretary of the National Association of State Board Executives.

LEGAL AFFAIRS REPORT - Steve Meloy

- Two cases were brought before the Board for revocation of licenses in July. Both were given the opportunity to appeal. Mr. Meloy did hear from Mr. Harry Wiley on August 18, 2006 requesting an appeal. Mr. Meloy returned Mr. Wiley's phone call on August 23, 2006 requesting a written request for appeal to the Board. There has been no response to date. Mr. Meloy sent Mr. Harry Wiley and Mr. Roger Ogren a letter that stated the Board will close this issue which will result in the revocation of their Montana Educator Licenses and a subsequent report of the same to the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification by the Office of Public Instruction.
- The Board of Public Education's office has received four appeals of the Superintendent's decision not to license. Mr. Peter Donovan and Mr. Steve Meloy have been working on these appeals. One or two may appeal to the Board in January.

Item 3 CSPAC REPORT - Peter Donovan

- Attended Professional Practices Institute sponsored by the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification. A major topic of discussion at this institute was diploma mills and how bogus accrediting bodies are being created to help them appear legitimate.
- CSPAC met jointly with the Council of Deans in Great Falls, MT on October 12-13, 2006. CSPAC members and the Council of Deans wanted to extend a thank you to Superintendent McCulloch, OPI, and Denise Juneau for their work in Indian Education for All materials. The CSPAC Council also reviewed the Board of Public Education's strategic plan to align their goals with the Board's.

STANDARDS FOR INSTRUCTORS OF BRAILLE (ACTION ITEM) – Peter Donovan

- Mr. Donovan presented a notice of public hearing on the proposed adoption of new rule I – Assignment of Persons Providing Instruction to Braille Students. Discussion followed.
- Braille Instructors Work Group Contact List was provided with Douglas Reisig as the Chair.

MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to adopt the notification of Public Hearing on the Proposed Adoption of New Rule 1 – Assignment of Persons Providing Instruction to Braille Students. Ms. Patty Myers seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 4 STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT AND GOALS – Linda McCulloch

- Provided summary of Superintendent's activities for months of September and October of 2006.
- Electronic Grants Management System (E-Grants) – E-Grants will be fine-tuned during the User Acceptance Testing (UAT) process where the focus is on:
 - Supporting the Grant Designer Tool and Grant Application Mechanism,
 - How the automated system should perform, and
 - Changes needed to current grant management business processes.
- Achievement in Montana (AIM): Student Identifiers. The target date for the first collection using the new system is in December 2006 for MontCAS Criterion Referenced Test (CRT). A tutorial and a quick reference document for uploading or manually entering data can be found on the OPI website under the "Training" tab at <http://opi.mt.gov/ITProjects/AIM.html>. In an effort to help communication between the OPI, school districts, and parents, OPI has published the following documents:
 - Letter to Parents
 - Frequently Asked Questions for Education Leaders
 - Frequently Asked Questions for Teachers
- National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP assessment) will be conducted in 378 Montana schools in February and March of 2007. Subjects include reading, math, and writing in grades 4 and 8, and writing in grade 12.
- New staff announced in Career Technical & Adult Education (CTAE) and School Finance.
- Facts about Montana Education pamphlet was distributed by OPI.

INDIAN EDUCATION FOR ALL REPORT - Linda McCulloch

- Justine Jam has joined the OPI as the GEAR UP Specialist.
- Connecting Cultures and Classrooms Curriculum Guide was passed around for the BPE to review. The guide can be downloaded at <http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/indianed/ConnectingCultures.pdf>. It will be sent to school libraries so all teachers can access and use the guide.
- OPI mailed three DVD's to schools in September. The titles are: 1) *Long Ago in Montana* 2) *Talking Without Words* 3) *Tribes of Montana*. (copies of the DVD's can be found in the September 2006 Meeting Minutes). Additional films are available.
- OPI announced a new Indian Education for All web-based professional development module titled: *Connecting Communities, Cultures and Schools*. To access this ONLINE presentation go to <http://www.opi.mt.gov/indianed/topics.html>.
- Ready-to-Go Grants provide funding to public schools for the development of Indian Education for All curriculum materials or professional development models.
- Indian Education for All Implementation Grants are for organizations other than public school districts to assist the OPI in the development of appropriate resource materials and professional development for ongoing implementation of Indian Education for All.
- 1st Step - Benchmarks were included in the Science Content and Performance Standards to integrate Indian Education for All. 2nd Step – Develop grade level expectations. 3rd Step – Pull together educators to begin creating lessons to go along with these standards.

Item 5 COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION REPORT - Commissioner Sheila Stearns

- Commissioner Stearns stated that OCHE and BPE will probably remain in the same building for at least a year and a half. Commissioner Stearns and Mr. Meloy communicate regularly about what the possible options are for relocating to a new building. The Student Assistance Foundation is still looking at constructing a new building and then OCHE and BPE could possibly lease space from them.
- Commissioner Stearns presented the BPE with a handout on Remedial Enrollment and Remediation Rate of recent Montana High School Graduates, MUS High School Capture Rate & Remediation, and MUS Remediation Rates by Institutional Type. This handout also included Remediation & Retention

of Fall to Spring Persistence Rates and Fall to Fall Persistence Rates. A task force has been created to address remedial enrollment. The first step needs to be to define the term "remedial".

- Mr. Roger Barber will present the outlines of a planning group for Indian Education for All at the next Regents meeting.
- Commissioner Stearns has been visiting with members of the Montana Hospital Association Investment Board and there is a growing concern with the Department of Labor and OCHE's own data that is showing a need for health care education at the college level.
- Governor's College Affordability Plan (CAP) – Topics of discussion at the September meeting were:
 - What are the costs in the Montana University System?
 - Stabilizing tuition
 - Montana University System Honors Scholarship
- Commissioner Stearns invited a representative from the Board of Public Education, the Office of Public Instruction, and/or the Governor's office to routinely attend the Board of Regent's meetings as an agenda item.

Item 6 GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORT - Jan Lombardi

- Ms. Jan Lombardi extended a sincere thank you from Governor Schweitzer in regard to the effort that MEA-MFT put in to defeat CI-97.
- The Business Summit on School Readiness met in October to discuss Full-day Kindergarten.
- Follow-up with the National Governor's Association Grant.
- Congratulations to Mr. Steve Meloy for being appointed to the Kindergarten to College Work Group. Ms. Lombardi has been meeting with State Superintendent Linda McCulloch and chair Erin Williams to set up a meeting date in December. The group will specifically be looking at task force updates to make recommendations to the Board of Education.
- The Board of Education will be scheduled on January 18, 2007. Whether the meeting will occur in the a.m. or the p.m. is yet to be determined.
- November 15, 2006 is when the Governor's budget office will present the budget to the Governor.
- Governor Schweitzer and the First Lady have sent out requests to Elementary School Students to make ornaments out of natural or recycled products for the Capitol's Christmas Trees.
- Ms. Jan Lombardi recommended that the Board of Public Education invite Claudette Morton to present the research from NASBE in regard to the Connectivity of Distance Learning.
- A grant called Star Base from the National Department of Defense is available to 5th grade students to provide support in math and science.

Item 7 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT - Jenny Tiskus

- Ms. Diane Fladmo expressed her sincere gratitude on behalf of the Board to Jenny for coming to the NASBE conference in Louisville, Kentucky to represent the Board of Public Education so honorably.
- Ms. Jenny Tiskus provided the BPE with the NASBE Annual Conference report. She appreciates the professionalism and the opportunities for students to be an active part of the Board. She is involved with NASBE to create a blog or a portal for student representatives to keep in touch across the nation.
- Ms. Jenny Tiskus attended the Montana Association of Student Council's (MASC) conference in Billings, MT in October. Ms. Jenny Tiskus addressed the students in the executive session at the conference to make them aware of the opportunity that is available to them with the Student Representative position with the Board of Public Education. She also distributed the MASC survey, but because of the changes that she made, the surveys have to be scored by hand. It is her hope to have the information compiled by the next meeting in January. Ms. Jenny Tiskus is concerned about the reliability of the survey because most of the students taking it have high GPA's and high economical backgrounds which is not an accurate representation of most high school students in Montana. Ms. Jenny Tiskus requested permission of the BPE to apply for the MetLife Grant to reach out to all Montana students. Ms. Diane Fladmo agreed to any support that the BPE could provide to the grant application process.
- A copy of the MASC survey was provided for the record.

Item 8 MACIE ANNUAL REPORT- Denise Juneau

- Ms. Denise Juneau distributed a handout titled Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education Report to the Board members. It included MACIE members with the following changes: William Walks Along will be replacing Robert Murray from the MTSBA/Indian School Boards Association, Russell Boham will represent the Little Shell Tribe, Steve Lohning will represent Urban-Missoula, and Ivan Small will represent Indian Impact Schools of Montana. Other topics presented in this handout include: meetings, activities, Indian student achievement, and MACIE retreat.
- Previous MACIE meeting agendas were also distributed to the Board for review.
- MACIE has been an integral part of OPI's efforts to implement Indian Education for All. In its advisory capacity, MACIE provided input and recommendation by reviewing the following OPI initiatives and materials: Ready-to-Go Grants and Indian Education for All Implementation Grants. MACIE has also provided guidance regarding:
 - Indian Education for All brochures
 - Evaluating American Indian education services, products, and materials
 - American Indian education literature and resources
 - American Indians 101: Frequently Asked Questions
 - Funding spectrum guide
 - Revision of K-12 science content and performance standards
 - PEPPS
- In addition to guidance, MACIE has been an integral part in curriculum/materials development – particularly when materials reflect tribal specific information:
 - Social Studies grade-level expectations and lesson plan development
 - Lesson plans tied to 25 state parks (project in partnership with Fish, Wildlife and Parks)
 - Set of 3 DVD's
 - Connecting Cultures & Classrooms K-12 curriculum guide
- MACIE created 4 goals for the upcoming year: 1) to monitor an implementation model; 2) make recommendations to strengthen the network of stakeholders who are involved in Indian Education for All and closing the achievement gap through participation with the Montana University System Schools of Education and Tribal Colleges; 3) propose an accountability plan; 4) clarify MACIE's structure and protocol to carry out its purposes to create greater cooperation.
- The Board of Public Education has been formally invited to attend the MACIE meetings and be on the new listserve.
- There was discussion about the advisory roles of MACIE and CSPAC to the Board of Public Education.
- Invitation to the Best Practices Conference on May 12-14, 2007.

Item 9 ASSESSMENT UPDATE – Judy Snow

- Ms. Judy Snow presented the 2006 Montana Statewide Test Results Report to the Board of Public Education that includes an introduction and five subject reports: reading, language arts, mathematics, social studies, and science. The information is disaggregated by whole state and by district size categories. A corrected embargoed version of the 2006 Iowa Test Results report was provided to the Board.
- Ms. Judy Snow also presented a color coded report to show increases and decreases for each grade, subject, and disaggregation between 2005 and 2006.
- Discussion of proficiency level differences between male and female students.
- The last test under the current Riverside contract for the ITBS is the spring of 2007.

Item 11 NCLB UPDATE - Nancy Coopersmith

- This presentation included the latest information concerning Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and the process to determine AYP status for all schools, districts and the state of Montana. In addition, information was presented about the requirements concerning Highly Qualified Teachers (HQT), funding for programs included in NCLB, and reauthorization of the act.
- Handouts included the final copy of the Dear Friends letter that addressed the agreement on the

“Highly Qualified Teacher” requirements as contained in the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001* (NCLB) written by State Superintendent Linda McCulloch. A letter was also included written by Henry L. Johnson from the United State Department of Education to Superintendent Linda McCulloch in response to Montana’s request to amend its State accountability plan under Title I of the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965* (ESEA), as amended by the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001* (NCLB).

- The *Dear Friends* letter has been distributed at MCEL, MEA-MFT Educators’ Conference, and the State Reading Council Conference. Any support in relaying this information would be greatly helpful.
- Reviewing page 2 of the Henry L. Johnson letter spells out the amendments to the Montana Accountability Workbook. Because the state of Montana tested additional grades this year, as required by the NCLB act, we needed to establish new standards. The new standards couldn’t be established until the test results were received. Now that all of this has occurred the revision has been approved.
- There are no major changes with how AYP is calculated with the one exception. The OPI is going to use a “Best of” approach in determining AYP for those schools in the calculated process versus the small schools process. That is, those schools that have subgroups of 30 or more students in their “all students” subgroup. The OPI will include the achievement in all the tested grades into the calculations. If the school district meets AYP then they will move into the next AYP category. If the school district does not meet AYP, the OPI will use uniform averaging to look at the data in grades 4, 8, and 10 on the criterion reference test for the past two years.
- The OPI will mail the proposed AYP determinations to schools and districts no later than November 30, 2006. Districts will have until December 15, 2006 to file a written request to appeal their determination if they do not agree with the results. Instructions on how to appeal to the Office of Public Instruction will be included in the proposed AYP determinations. Final determinations for AYP will be made no later than January 17, 2007.
- Discussion of special education with the 1-2 percent rule that is in our accountability workbook revisions. Dr. Kirk Miller asked, “What is going on with our tracking at the federal level to provide a different, more substantial special educational flexibility than has ever been put out there before?” Many school districts are not going to meet the demands of the law.
- Mr. Steve Meloy questioned OPI regarding instances when a school district wishes to appeal a ruling of the OPI in issues involving NCLB. He continued with the question, “Who does the appeal go to then if someone wants to explore all of their options?” Ms. Nancy Coopersmith responded that the Office of Public Instruction’s actions are appealed to the Department of Education.

Adjourned for lunch until 1:20 p.m.

State Superintendent Linda McCulloch and Commissioner Sheila Stearns did not return for afternoon meeting.

Item 10 CIVIC EDUCATION - Chief Justice Gray

- Chief Justice Gray’s purpose is to urge the Board of Public Education to take any and every possible and appropriate step to reinvigorate civic education in its broadest sense to Montana’s K-12 public schools.
- Distributed Resolution 33 In Support of Civic Education that was adopted as proposed by the Public Trust and Confidence in the Judiciary Committee of the Conference of Chief Justices at the 28th Midyear Meeting on January 26, 2005. Other documents distributed were: *Inventory of Civic Education in Montana Schools* and *Talking Points on the Need to Restore the Civic Mission of Schools*.
- Chief Justice Gray described herself as wearing three hats: 1) private citizen, 2) Chief Justice, 3) member of the newly reinvigorated Montana Campaign for the Civic Mission of Schools.
- Discussion by the Board in regard to the need to revitalize civic education in Montana public schools.

Item 12 MONTANA STATEWIDE ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM FOR EDUCATION (MONTSASE) UPDATE – Madalyn Quinlan

- The Montana Statewide Accountability System for Education (MontSASE) includes all of the data systems used to meet the Office of Public Instruction's federal and state reporting requirements, such as enrollment, graduation and dropout rates, special education student information, fiscal reporting, grant applications, and more. These information systems support core business processes and a quality education in Montana. Two new data systems include: Electronic Grants Management and Achievement in Montana (AIM).
- Electronic Grants Management System will: view available grants, enable application for grants on-line, request payments, request amendments, submit reports, complete the Federal Consolidated Application (FCA), link district plans to grant resources, automate grant processes, increase accuracy and timeliness, maintain consistency, improve the quality of monitoring and oversight, and provide technical assistance to districts.
- Achievement in Montana system will: assign a unique state student ID to Montana students; collect enrollment records; improve collection, availability, and use of high-quality education data; track students' assessment progress over time; use the system as a source of student counts for funding of K-12 school districts; complete and maintain required paperwork for special education students; provide some documentation used when billing Medicaid; and phase out multiple existing OPI data collections as more components are added to the system.
- Handouts included: a brochure titled *MontSASE Montana State Accountability System for Education*; a PowerPoint presentation from the Office of Public Instruction; a letter dated October 16, 2006 to the parents and students that addressed the mandate from the 2005 Montana Legislature to define a basic system of free quality public education, which included the requirement to assess and track student achievement (20-9-309, MCA); *Frequently Asked Questions for Teachers*; and *Frequently Asked Questions for School Leaders*.
- Ms. Madalyn Quinlan addressed questions from the Board in regard to: discipline citations for students that transfer; transferring to higher education facilities; tracking with the Department of Corrections; home-schooled children; and private school sectors.

Item 13 DUAL ENROLLMENT AD HOC COMMITTEE UPDATE – Gary Warhank

- Dual Enrollment Ad Hoc Committee met on October 10, 2006 at the State Capitol Building, Helena, MT. The purpose of the Ad Hoc Committee is to make a final recommendation to the Kindergarten to College workgroup regarding the unresolved issues from the task force's work.
- Items of discussion were: review of Running Start Legislation; ARM 10.55.907 Distance, Online, and Technology Delivered Learning; licensure requirements; advanced placement courses; inconsistent transcripts; need for interlocal agreements; highly qualified teacher requirements; funding issues; tech prep classes; transfer of credit; and high school basic program/graduation requirements.
- Unresolved issues from the task force:
 - Dual enrollment courses will be provided as additions to the educational options available to individual high school students, not as replacements of the high school curriculum for all high school students.
 - To extend access to dual enrollment to areas without a higher education institution nearby, distance-delivered dual enrollment opportunities and best practices for delivering dual enrollment courses at a distance should be developed and publicized.
 - Staffing of a dual enrollment course must meet all applicable certification requirements of the Board of Regents, K-12 licensure, and all applicable Administrative Rules of Montana depending on the configuration and location of the class being offered.
- The Dual Enrollment Ad Hoc Committee decided that more information is needed in order to make the most effective recommendations to the Kindergarten to College Workgroup.
- The needed items are:
 - Dual Enrollment data to include: courses offered and taken, delivery (location and type), detailed examples of inter-local agreements, success rate of dual enrollment students,

and transcripts for dual enrollment and dual credit courses.

-Information concerning other states' dual enrollment policies and processes to include: supplement not supplant, teacher licensure and qualifications, funding, transcripts, and high school graduation requirements.

-Licensure requirements for K-12 and post secondary.

-Core class requirements for 9-12.

Item 14 SCHOOL HEALTH PARTNERS – Representative Elsie Arntzen

- No representative came to the Board of Public Education meeting to present this important issue.
- Handouts were distributed in the agenda packet to review: *Administering Medicines to Students* and *Montana Authorization to Carry and Self-Administer Medication*.

Item 15 RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION ISSUES DISCUSSION – Dr. Kirk Miller

- Dr. Kirk Miller distributed a draft of the committee goals and emerging issues that the Quality Schools/Quality Educators Task Force are addressing in recruitment and retention issues.
- Committee goals listed were:
 - Continue to promote with the education community, Governor's Office, and legislature, research compiled by the 2001 Governor's Funding Advisory Council, 2003 Montana K-12 School Renewal Commission, and 2005 Quality Schools Interim Committee. This focus is to assure that this research is included in future steps contemplating quality school funding.
 - Provide leadership to and communicate with the education community's effort to assess educational needs and implement a cost-based K-12 funding formula using the definition of a basic system of quality schools.
- Emerging issues listed were:
 - The Wyoming legislature's action to increase educator wages significantly and its direct affect on retention of quality teachers in Montana.
 - Current study being conducted by APA (Augenblick, Palaich & Associates, Inc.) for the Montana Quality Education Coalition. These results will provide additional evidence for funding based upon needs in our schools.
- Dr. Kirk Miller stated, "The Board of Public Education believes in being on the leading edge in providing long-term sustainable solutions to educational funding because it will be good for kids."
- Dr. Kirk Miller prepared a booklet titled: *Positions on Public School Funding and Structure – Research Conducted over the Past Three Interims* to help provide information to specifically address BPE's goal #1.
- Brief discussion occurred in regard to draft legislation requested by Senator Sam Kitzenburg.

Jan Lombardi left the meeting at 3:15 p.m.

Item 16 BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION BYLAWS DISCUSSION – Diane Fladmo

- Included in the agenda packets were the Board of Public Education Bylaws and Operational Rules.
- Ms. Diane Fladmo suggested the following changes in the Bylaws:
 - The Executive Committee should include the Past Chairperson, Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and the Executive Secretary for at least a year. This would not occur if the past chairperson did not remain as a current member of the Board.
 - With the election being held during the September meeting, there should be a transition period that passes prior to the passing of the gavel and the assumption of the new chairmanship.
- It was recommended to review the Bylaws and the Operational Rules during the mid-summer meeting as written in the Board of Public Education's Operational Rules.
- Ms. Patty Myers inquired if needing twenty-four hours notice prior to the meeting shall be deemed sufficient in the case of a conference call with our open meeting law. Mr. Steve Meloy will check to see if the Board of Public Education is in compliance with the open meeting law.

Item 17 REPORT ON EMERGING ISSUES AND COMMITTEE GOALS FOR 2006-2007 – All BPE Committee Chairs

- Every chair from each of the committees addressed the Board concerning their thoughts in regard to

emerging issues and committee goals. Some were presented verbally and some in written documentation. It was requested by Ms. Diane Fladmo that each committee chair prepare a written document to present to the Board at the January meeting.

- Ms. Diane Fladmo would like to work on a communications pilot project for Montana via NASBE. She worked with the NASBE Ad Hoc Communications Committee to provide a vehicle for state boards and other educational applicants to communicate effectively to anyone interested in the value of public education. There is a need to secure a private donor to assist Montana in doing a pilot project. Ms. Diane Fladmo is requesting the Board to allow the Executive Committee to serve as the steering group for this pilot project for Montana.

- Ms. Diane Fladmo recommended to the Board to look at a more systematic way to review the reports from the NASBE Study Groups. Board of Public Education staff will create a table containing all of the policy recommendations and suggestions of possible needed steps for consideration by the board.

The titles of the reports are:

1. Citizens for the 21st Century: Revitalizing the Civic Mission of Schools
2. Who Will Own Our Children?
3. Fulfilling the Promise of Preschool

November 3, 2006 – Friday

Meeting reconvened at 8:33

Jan Lombardi and Commissioner Sheila Stearns were not present.

Item 18 2006 TEACHER OF THE YEAR – Deb Biegel

- Ms. Deb Biegel is a 30-year music teacher with 27 of those years in Bozeman, MT.
- Presented to the Board a brochure from Hawthorne Elementary School and the National Coalition for Music Education Information Sheet.
- A quote that was shared with the Board, among others, was – “Students with coursework/experience in music performance scored 51 points higher on the verbal portion of the SAT and 39 points higher on the math portion of the SAT than students with no coursework or experience in the arts.” Profiles of SAT and Achievement Test Takers, The College Board, compiled by Music Educators National Conference (MENC) 1995.
- Ms. Deb Biegel referred to the book, Third Space – When Learning Matters. This book addresses 10 schools that have focused on the fine arts and addresses how well students from these schools performed on achievement tests.
- Board members asked some follow-up questions.

Item 19 PEPPS UPDATE – Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson

- Dr. Linda Peterson presented to the Board of Public Education an update on PEPPS related issues:
 - Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 10.58.102-802 – campus meetings; public hearing, November 16, 2006.
 - The following professional education units propose new teaching endorsement programs:
 - Carroll College – Minor in Physics
 - Montana State University-Northern – Major in Mathematics
 - University of Great Fall – Major in Music
 - Test Review – November 14–15, 2006 – ETS Praxis II: Elementary Content Knowledge; fundamental subjects K-12 (special education); science general content knowledge; and social studies general content knowledge - The purpose of the meeting is to have expert panels of practitioners examine materials and make a decision as to whether or not to move the test forward to a standard setting study.

Item 20 DISTANCE LEARNING TASK FORCE UPDATE - REVIEW OF 10.55.907 – DISTANCE, ONLINE, AND TECHNOLOGY DELIVERED LEARNING – Gary Warhank

- This presentation provided the Board of Public Education updated information on the proposed process, procedures, and timeline for review of the Distance Learning Rule ARM 10.55.907.
- Guiding principle of distance education is to serve the student learning needs of the present and future, offering flexibility and maintaining quality.

- Some changes have occurred in the membership from the constituent groups. Those changes are:
 - Added 2 teacher representatives to the MEA-MFT constituent group.
 - Specified a school superintendent and a school principal from the School Administrators of Montana (SAM).
 - Added the Governor's Office.
- Dr. Kirk Miller, BPE, and Mr. Bud Williams, OPI, have agreed to Co-Chair the committee.
- An outside records facilitator will be assigned to support the committee with its records.
- The meeting that was scheduled in November did not take place. The first meeting will occur on December 4, 2006 in Helena. The Task Force meetings will be broadcast over VisionNet or METNET. The rest of the proposed timeline remains the same as originally proposed.
- Letters of invitation were mailed on November 1, 2006 and expect a R.S.V.P. by November 20, 2006.
- The Board of Public Education will be requesting a board member to serve on the task force. Dr. Kirk Miller will recommend that Board Member Storrs Bishop serve in this capacity.

Item 21 ALTERNATIVE STANDARDS REQUEST – Gary Warhank (Duplicate Item – eliminated)

Item 22 10.55.705 ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL: ASSIGNMENT OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS/PRINCIPALS-RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NEXT STEPS – Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson and Gary Warhank

- This presentation presented to the Board of Public Education the issues related to Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 10.55.705 and recommended a small task force to develop rule language to review the FTE assignments for the BPE to consider at its January meeting.
- There are discrepancies that appear to exist between Montana statute and ARM 10.55.705 regarding the assignment of administrative personnel. In addition, district interpretation of the ARM 10.55.705 varies across the state.
- Montana Code Annotated 20-4-402 and 20-3-207 were distributed.
- Administrative Rules 10.55.704 and 10.55.705 were distributed.
- Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson recommended that there needs to be something between the fewer than 9 FTE and more than 19 FTE for administrative personnel.
- Recommended language will be presented to the BPE as an action item in January.

The public will be afforded the opportunity to comment before the Board on every action item on the agenda prior to final board action.

ACTION ITEMS

Item 23 INITIAL ACCREDITATION PROCEDURES – Gary Warhank

- Mr. Gary Warhank presented to the Board of Public Education for consideration the application procedure for schools seeking initial accreditation. The informational page will be added to the Appendix E (Accreditation Procedures/Applications/Forms) of the Montana School Accreditation Standards and Procedures Manual.

MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to approve the state superintendent's recommendation to accept the Initial Accreditation Application Procedure. Dr. Kirk Miller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 24 ALTERNATIVE STANDARD REQUEST – Gary Warhank

- Mr. Gary Warhank presented to the Board of Public Education for consideration Initial Alternative Standard and Five-Year Renewal Alternative Standard Requests recommended either for approval or for disapproval by State Superintendent Linda McCulloch.

- I. Initial Alternative Standard recommended approvals:
(Note: Rosebud County has two schools within the county requesting the same initial alternative standard for approval.)
- Rosebud County
 - Ashland School K-6
 - Ashland 7-8
 - Teton County
 - Bynum School
- Initial Alternative Standard recommended disapproval:
- Bigfork Elementary
 - Bigfork Elementary

MOTION: Ms. Patty Myers moved to accept the state superintendent's recommendations on the request for Initial Alternative Standard to approve the two recommended approvals and the one recommended disapproval. Ms. Angela McLean seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- II. Five-year Renewal Alternative Standard Applications recommended approvals:
(Note: Some schools within a county may have one or more five-year renewal alternative standards to approve.)
- Beaverhead County
 - Grant Elementary K-8
 - Polaris Elementary K-8
 - Reichle Elementary K-8
 - Flathead County
 - Creston Elementary K-6
 - Powder River County
 - Biddle School K-8
 - South Stacey School
 - Richland County
 - Rau Elementary K-6
 - Rosebud County
 - Birney Elementary K-8
 - Silver Bow County
 - Divide Elementary
 - Stillwater County
 - Fishtail Elementary K-8
 - Nye Elementary K-8
 - Yellowstone County
 - Morin School K-6
- Five-year Renewal Alternative Standard Application recommended disapproval:

- Flathead County
-Evergreen Elementary

MOTION: Mr. John Fuller moved that the Five-year Renewal Alternative Standard requests of twenty-two approvals and one disapproval recommended by the state Superintendent be accepted. Ms. Patty Myers seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 25 FINAL ACTION – 10.54.5010-5098 SCIENCE CONTENT STANDARDS AND PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTORS – Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson and Alyson Mike

- This presentation to the Board of Public Education addresses the comments and responses to the October 31, 2006, Public Hearing on the K-12 Science Standards. Final action is requested of the BPE to approve the K-12 Science Content Standards and Performance Descriptors as amended.
- Ms. Alyson Mike addressed the process of revising the K-12 Science Content Standards and Performance Descriptors.
- Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson noted the comment OPI received from an educator that the requirements for incorporating Indian Education for All were included in the content standards, but not the performance descriptors. The State Superintendent concurred with the comment and proposes that ARM 10.54.5087 through 10.54.5098 be further amended to rectify this oversight and submitted proposed amendments.
- Two documents were distributed to the Board: 1) notice of adoption with the revisions marked; 2) a copy of the science content standards as they would appear if approved as written.

MOTION: Dr. Kirk Miller moved to adopt the Montana K-12 Science Content Standards and Performance Descriptors. Ms. Angela McLean seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 26 INCREASING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PHYSICAL ACTIVITY – Cathy Kendall and Bob Vogel

- The Board of Public Education received information in March 2006 presenting data relating inadequate physical activity and rising obesity among Montana students. The 2005 Youth Risk Behavior Survey revealed that over 20% of Montana high school students are at risk of becoming or are currently overweight. Only 65% of those same high school students exercised or participated in physical activity for at least 20 minutes on 3 or more days during the past week according to their responses on the same survey.
- The request presented to the BPE is to adopt a position statement encouraging all Montana schools to provide increased opportunities for health enhancement.
- Ms. Cathy Kendall distributed *Overweight and Physical Activity Among Children, Ten Easy Ways a School can Increase Physical Activity Opportunities for Students, Making It Happen! School Nutrition Success Stories, and Living with HIV/AIDS*.
- Discussion was pursuant to the importance of life-long activities and healthy nutrition.

MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to adopt a resolution encouraging all Montana schools to provide increased opportunities for health enhancement. Ms. Patty Myers seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

ITEM 27 UNIVERSITY OF GREAT FALLS EDUCATION DEPARTMENT FOLLOW-UP ON-SITE REVIEW – Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson and Dr. Harold Jones

- The Office of Public Instruction provided to the Board of Public Education the Exit Report of the follow-up on-site visit of the Professional Education Unit at the University of Great Falls, October 24-25, 2006.
- In accordance with Section IX of the Professional Educator Preparation Program Standards and Procedures Manual, unit standards and programs recommended for provisional approval shall require a follow-up on-site visit within a year. This visit will be conducted by the OPI; a report will be provided to the BPE at the first meeting following the review. The Office of Public Instruction conducted a Full State Review of the Professional Education Unit at the University of Great Falls,

October 23-26, 2005.

- The University of Great Falls's Graduate Council recommended to inactivate the Master of Science in School Psychology. Inactivation means to not accept new applications for the program, effective immediately. Discussion followed concerning the need for school psychologists.
- Some changes occurred on the document titled: *The University of Great Falls Professional Education Unit – Follow-up On-Site Review Exit Report – October 24-25-2006* written by Linda Vrooman Peterson, Chairperson. On page 2 the standard numbers were corrected:

10.58.340	10.58.309	Unit Governance and Resources
10.58.602	10.58.601	Advanced Programs – Planning and Development
10.58.540	10.58.509	English Minor
- Dr. Kirk Miller questioned if the Office of Public Instruction is using what has been learned in the NCATE model to approve these standards.

MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to approve the follow-up exit report and accreditation recommendations for the Professional Education Unit at the University of Great Falls. Ms. Patty Myers seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

11:45 Mr. John Fuller left the meeting.

Item 28 MSDB COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT – Patty Myers

Ms. Patty Myers provided the report on behalf of Mr. Steve Gettel due to the agenda progressing quicker than expected. Mr. Steve Gettel hadn't even left Great Falls at the time of this item.

- Student Enrollment/Evaluation
- Human Resources
 - Personnel Actions
 - Update on core competencies projects
- School Improvement
 - Update on SIP activities
 - 2005 Effectiveness Report
 - Update on legislative activities
- Professional Development Activities
 - Update on in-service training
 - Fall conferences
- MSDB Foundation Activities
 - Update on activities
- Conferences, Meetings and Contacts
- Finance and Facilities
 - Update on budget and maintenance projects
 - Update on '09 Biennium budget proposals
- School Calendar of Events
- Student News and School Events
- Public Comment for Non Agenda Items

Item 29 BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION ANNUAL AGENDA CALENDAR – Diane Fladmo

- Ms. Diane Fladmo noted a conflict of schedules of the NASBE meetings with the Board of Education meeting scheduled for January 18, 2007 and the Board of Public Education meeting scheduled for March 8-9, 2007. This would affect the attendance of Ms. Diane Fladmo and Dr. Kirk Miller. Ms. Fladmo suggested that the Board supports Governor Brian Schweitzer's request of meeting on January 18, 2007 and that the Board of Public Education reschedule the March 8-9, 2007 meeting to be held on March 15-16, 2007.
- Discussion was ensued regarding to the joint CSPAC/BPE meeting scheduled for March 8-9, 2007.

MOTION: Ms. Patty Myers moved to hold the Joint CSPAC/BPE meeting to March 15-16, 2007 in Helena, MT. Ms. Angela McLean seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Item 30 MEETING EVALUATION AND FEEDBACK

- The Board discussed the pros and cons of the meeting and agenda.
- An example of a pro was the open discussion that occurred as a result of this particular item.
- An example of a con was having more participants attend the Board of Public Education meetings.
- Ms. Diane Fladmo asked the following questions for discussion:
 - How can the Board better communicate with our legislators?
 - Is the amount of discussion during each item enough or not enough?

PRELIMINARY AGENDA ITEMS FOR JANUARY 11-12, 2007

- 5 yearly comprehensive education plan process update
- Exiting board member – Last meeting (If applicable)
- Transportation report
- Assessment update
- NCLB update
- MACIE update
- Report on *Teacher Education Program*
- PEPPS – Final action
- Distance learning
- 10.55.705 Administrative personnel
- Statement for increasing opportunities for physical education
- Board of Education update
- NASBE report
- Video conferencing
- Civic Education – Invite Ms. Angela McLean students to present
- Board work from NASBE reports
- Report on emerging issues and committee goals for 2006-2007

MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Cal Gilbert seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.