

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

**September 14-15, 2006**

**Rocky Boy High School  
RR1 Box 620  
Rocky Boy, MT  
Jr/Sr High School Cafeteria (Room 207)**

**September 14 - Thursday**  
**8:30 a.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Dr. Kirk Miller called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 14, 2006. The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Vice Chairman Diane Fladmo. Carol Will took roll call; a quorum was noted. Dr. Miller introduced Superintendent of Rocky Boy Schools, Voyd St. Pierre. He also recognized Denise Thompson, Chairperson of the Havre Board of Trustees. Dr. Miller proceeded to note a change in the agenda; Item 12 will be reopened as an action item after Item 20 due to the nomination of Ivan Small to serve as a representative on the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education (MACIE).

**MOTION: Ms. Diane Fladmo moved to adopt the agenda as revised. Ms. Patty Myers seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

Those in attendance at the meeting included the following board members: Chairperson Dr. Kirk Miller, Vice Chairperson Diane Fladmo, Storrs Bishop, Cal Gilbert, Patty Myers, 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, Steve Gettel, Superintendent of the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind, and Carol Will, Administrative Assistant, Board of Public Education. Ex-officio Board member present was Superintendent Linda McCulloch. Jan Lombardi, Governor's Education Policy Advisor, and Lynn Morrison-Hamilton, Chairperson, Board of Regents were present for ex-officio members Governor Brian Schweitzer and Commissioner Sheila Stearns respectively. Visitors in attendance at the meeting included Denise Thompson, Chairperson of the Havre Board of Trustees; Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT; Nancy Coopersmith, OPI Assistant Superintendent; Bob Vogel, MTSBA; Debbie Casey, OPI; Dr. Linda V. Peterson, OPI; Voyd St. Pierre, Superintendent of Rocky Boy; David Strong, OPI; Bill Sykes, MSDB; and Gary Warhank, OPI.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment at this time.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Storrs Bishop noted that the budget is running a little ahead of the elapsed time year-to-date under the Board of Public Education's general budget of operating expenses. This excess was noted that it is because of the NASBE dues that are paid in two half-year increments. Mr. John Fuller noted, that in the minutes, Item 25 should read the motion passed 5-0. He was absent for the motion, but did not oppose the action.

**MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to adopt the consent agenda as revised. Ms. Diane Fladmo seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**8:50 Jan Lombardi and Lynn Morrison-Hamilton arrived.**

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

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **Item 1 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT - Dr. Kirk Miller**

- Dr. Kirk Miller expressed sincere gratitude for the expressions of sympathy of the passing of his father on August 6, 2006.
- Acknowledged Lynn Morrison-Hamilton, Chairperson, Board of Regents sitting in for the Commissioner of Higher Education.
- Corresponded with Commissioner of Higher Education, Dr. Sheila Stearns, as follow-up to her request for research background on the shortage of Speech-Language Pathologists in Montana Schools. The letter and a document titled, "The Speech/Language Pathologist 'Hunt' for Havre Public Schools", prepared by Karla Wohlwend, have been included in the chairperson's report. Dr. Miller stressed the severity of this shortage.
- Received correspondence for Heather Cirillo, Assistant Dean of an AP On-Line Academy (Linda Christa's Programs). Response letter from Executive Secretary, Steve Meloy, to Heather Cirillos is included in the correspondence of this meeting's agenda packet.
- Submitted two BPE members, Board chair and vice-chair, Dr. Kirk Miller and Ms. Diane Fladmo, for consideration on the Kindergarten to College Work Group to Governor Schweitzer's office.
- Signed a Board of Public Education and Office of Public Instruction Interagency Agreement that accurately reflects Board action during the November 4-5, 2004 BPE meeting. Bob Runkel, Administrator of the State Division of Special Education, discovered, upon reviewing records in his office in preparation for a visit from the feds (Department of Education), that a document indicating our intent to comply with the IDEA, as amended in 1997 and subsequent reauthorizations, had not been finalized. Both Superintendent McCulloch and Dr. Kirk Miller signed the official document based on the BPE's action in November 2004 to get the records up to date.
- Reviewed the significance of the Accreditation Standards and the role of the Board of Public Education. Received inquiry from the Director of the Missoula and Ravalli County Curriculum Consortium about the process for having the Board of Public Education address potential rule changes.
- Montana Campaign for Civic Education in Schools has distributed a survey to all school districts in Montana to collect input on what is being done in regard to civic education in Montana. Chief Justice Karla Gray will be addressing civic education to the Board in November.
- Not in Montana Coalition CI-97 was held in Havre on September 13, 2006. Dr. Kirk Miller spoke in opposition to the initiative.
- Dr. Kirk Miller extended an invitation to a reception at his home on Thursday, September 14, 2006.

### **BOARD MEMBER APPEARANCES**

#### **Storrs Bishop**

- 3 OPI phone conversation with Gary Warhank

#### **Patty Myers**

- Welcomed MSDB faculty and staff back to work
- MSDB conference call committee

### **Item 2 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT – Steve Meloy**

- Mr. Steve Meloy continues to work with LSD on fiscal responsibility processes for Senate Bill 152.
- Corresponded with Senator Bob Hawks regarding legislative provisions of Senate Bill 152. Letter is included with Executive Secretary's report.

- Coordinated with Chief Justice Gray on an appearance in Helena in November to discuss civic education.
- Corresponded with Representative Arntzen for a second presentation regarding her concerns of medication handling in the schools.
- Submitted OBPP unified budget.
- Continued work with the Legislative Auditor regarding the audit of the BPE, '09 budget presentations to Legislative committee, state's broadband system and competencies for the agency and its employees.
- Conducted a rule hearing on aggregate hours for professional development possibilities.
- Met with OPI and CSPAC regarding a time-line regarding a review of Chapter 57.
- Attended CI-97 Rally September 13, 2006 in Havre, Montana.
- Mr. Steve Meloy, Dr. Kirk Miller and Diane Fladmo will be attending the NASBE Conference in Louisville, Kentucky.
- Worked on developing agency competencies for the state's broadband system.
- Discussed the expiring lease for the agency of the Board of Public Education.
- Mentioned the BPE's successful audit.
- Administrative Assistant, Carol Will, addressed the Board in regard to receiving reimbursements electronically. This would save the agency money, expedite reimbursements, and save the Board members from having to go to the bank to cash a check.
- Diane Fladmo asked Superintendent McCulloch to express her thoughts to the Board in regards to the concerns raised by Senator Bob Hawks. Superintendent McCulloch will address this in November.
- Angela McLean - On February 28 Anaconda High School will be hosting a summit on Bullying, Harassment and Intimidation. Would like to have schools represented. This should take place during the transmittal period of the legislature. Ms. McLean wanted to thank Mr. Steve Meloy for his participation and is hoping to have many schools, school leaders, state leaders and community leaders represented. Ms. McLean requested suggestions from the Board for ideas. Mr. Steve Meloy also addressed the word hazing. This may be an excellent forum to address this word and its definition. There will be a panel of experts present. This panel will take a look at the need for legislation. Ms. Patty Myers recommended that Ms. McLean should get the information to Eric Feaver and Linda McCulloch to get the word out in regard to this summit.

#### **LEGAL AFFAIRS REPORT - Steve Meloy**

- Thompson Falls Junior High School – Change the sentence that reads – “The purpose of the letter was to discuss the reason why the Office of Public Instruction recommended to the Board of Public Education a status of regular with deviation in regard to Thompson Falls Junior High School.” The phrase “status of regular with deviation” needs to be changed to “status of deficiency”. Dr. Jerry L. Pauli, Superintendent of schools in Thompson Falls, MT, addressed his concern of the “status of deficiency” in a letter on March 21, 2006 to Superintendent Linda McCulloch. Specifically, OPI cited that Thompson Falls Junior High was in violation of 10.55.703.1(c) in that its supervising teacher does not have an administrator's license endorsement as a secondary principal. The problem is that our rule seems to be ambiguous. We don't need to resolve this today, but Gary Warhank and Nancy Coopersmith will bring this forward in November.
- On Friday, September 15, 2006 Mr. John Fuller asked Mr. Steve Meloy about whether or not we had heard from the two teachers whose licenses the Board moved to revoke from the July 13-14, 2006 meeting. Mr. Meloy stated that we did hear from Mr. Harry H. Wiley, case #2006-02 on August 18, 2006. Mr. Wiley indicated that he wanted to appeal this decision. Mr. Steve Meloy spoke with Mr. Wiley over the phone on August 23, 2006 and suggested to write a written request for a hearing before the Board. The Board of Public Education staff has attempted to follow-up with Mr. Wiley by phone because a letter has never been received to date. Mr. Steve Meloy also informed the board that both teachers were issued certified letters and this was the only response.

**Item 3 CSPAC REPORT - Peter Donovan**

- Meeting on Monday, September 18, 2006 with Elizabeth Keller, Kim Warrick, and Cathy Warhank to begin the initial planning for the 5-year review of Chapter 57.
- Meeting on Monday, September 25, 2006 to determine the standards for instructors of Braille. A draft of administrative rule language will be the result of this meeting that will then go to CSPAC and then back to the BPE.
- Mr. Peter Donovan provided a power point presentation by Susan Sexton on the NASDTEC Interstate Mobility Study.
- As Vice-President of NASDTEC, Mr. Peter Donovan presented to the Board an Education Update highlighting the keynote speaker, Neil Howe, who speaks about the expectations and potential of the kids who currently populate our classrooms, "the Millennials." Eric Feaver will present at the NASDTEC conference. Mr. Donovan reviewed the strands and the main goal of the conference. The strands are Recruit, Retain, Prepare, and Technology. The NASDTEC conference is June 3-6, 2007 in Salt Lake City.

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

- Linda McCulloch had several hand-outs and CD's that were distributed to the Board
- Superintendent's Goals – Not in any priority order:
  - Reading K-12
  - Indian Education
    - \*American Indian Dropout Prevention
    - \*Closing the Achievement Gap
  - Indian Education for All
    - \*Implement MCA 20-5-501
  - School Funding K-12
    - \*Inflationary adjustment on new funding components
  - President Bush's No Child Left Behind Law
  - Communications to Schools
    - \*OPI Webpage-content and design
    - \*Official E-mail
    - \*Vision Net
  - Services and Resources to Schools
    - \*Yellow School Bus Tour
  - Legislative Agenda
    - \*2007 Session
  - Upcoming Federal Reauthorization
    - \*ESEA/NCLB
  - MontSASE (Montana State Accountability System for Education)
    - \*AIM (Achievement in Montana)
    - \*E-Grant System
  - High School Reform
    - \*What works for Montana schools.
- Superintendent Linda McCulloch's Report (See handout)
  - Highlights of what Superintendent has been involved with during July and August
  - A Call to Greatness
  - Assessment
    - \*Spring Statewide Assessment Conference scheduled April 30 & May 1, 2007 at the Red Lion Colonial Inn, Helena
  - Information Technology Services

### **INDIAN EDUCATION FOR ALL REPORT - Linda McCulloch**

- Indian Education for All Ongoing Initiative – Handout dated July 2005 – September 2006
  - Grant Administration
  - Curriculum Development
    - New materials available
    - Updated materials
  - Administration
  - Professional Development
  - Public Education Campaign
- Superintendent Linda McCulloch's Report on Indian Education – Handout dated September 2006 and 3 DVD's
  - A Call to Greatness
    - \*Meeting will be held on October 2 and 3, 2006 in Helena. This meeting brings together education leaders, school board members, superintendents, and principals from each of the 33 schools currently in the restructuring phase of the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) process to discuss the important issues surrounding Indian student achievement and school improvement. This Call to Greatness will serve as a stepping stone toward greater communication and collaboration among districts, OPI, and OPI's education partners to improve student achievement.
  - New Indian Education for All Films (3 DVD's) – available in every school library and <http://www.opi.mt.gov/indianed/topics.html>
    1. Long Ago in Montana
    2. Talking Without Words
    3. Tribes of Montana
  - Indian Education for all – Oyate Librarian's Institute – November 16 – 18, 2006 at the Lewistown Yogo Inn. (Handout included)
  - Indian Education for All Ready-to-Go Grants – Round 1 Awardees (Handout included)
  - Ready To Go Grants Round 3 will be posted on the OPI Indian Education website at <http://www.opi.mt.gov/indianed/grantsNew.html>
  - Indian Education for All Curriculum Materials can be found at <http://www.opi.mt.gov/indianed/teachers.html>
- Mr. Steve Meloy requested that Superintendent McCulloch report in November on the MontSASE System.
- Ms. Jan Lombardi asked Superintendent McCulloch to address the accountability for funding of Indian Education for All and whether or not it should be legislated. Superintendent McCulloch met with the State and Tribal Relations Committee and discussed a committee bill. "What they were looking to put in their bill is already in place to do this fall," said Superintendent McCulloch. The money is already scheduled to go out with the regular distribution cycle. The non-fiscal data questionnaires will be going out to ask school districts how they intend to spend the Indian Education for All money. This information will be available for the legislature in January. There will also be follow-up on how the money was actually spent. Superintendent McCulloch said to keep in mind there are two separate pots of money 1) Three million dollars of on-going Indian Education for All money per student basis 2) Seven million dollars of one-time only money, allotted during the special session, which goes into the miscellaneous program fund and doesn't have to be spent in one school year. Discussion about funding being put in the general fund – not a separate account. Superintendent McCulloch wants Indian Education to be integrated and not separate.

### **Bob Vogel presented School Nutrition Information for the September 2006 Board of Public Education meeting– Submitted by Katie Bark, RD – Montana Team Nutrition Program to Bob Vogel to be included in his report to the Board. (See handout)**

- Much discussion about the healthy choices of lunch and health programs in our public schools within the State of Montana
- Box Elder School just received a Healthier US School Challenge, Silver Award from USDA

#### Mountain Plains Region

- Rocky Boy School has made great strides to plan healthy menus for meals and snack programs for school aged children and children attending Head Start. They plan to apply for a Healthier US School Challenge, Gold award in the future.
- Technical Assistance and Training Opportunities- Through support from the OPI, Health Enhancement & Safety Division and the Montana Action for Healthy Kids Team, training and technical assistance is available to school staff, community partners and parent organizations on the implementation of the school wellness policy.
- Healthy Alternatives Vending Company in Montana: Jennifer Ragsdale of Billings, Montana has started a Healthy Alternatives Vending Company to offer milk vending machines to schools. This company has placed (Nesquik) Milk Vending machines in five schools in Billings. The response from the Billings students and administration has been very positive.
- Mr. Vogel commented the challenge is to get a policy in place for every school district. Mixed reaction. A number of districts (maybe 80-90%) are implementing nutrition policies and many of these districts are putting the policy to practice.
- Mr. Storrs Bishop stated that Ennis Public Schools received the Regional Best Practice Award by the Healthy Schools Nutrition Environment Program.
- Ms. Diane Fladmo discussed this issue at a national level.
- Ms. Jan Lombardi addressed federal support for the Healthy School's Network.
- Ms. Angela McLean stressed the need to increase physical education requirements and increase federal funding for these requirements.

#### **Item 5 COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION REPORT - Commissioner Sheila Stearns**

##### ***Chairwoman, Montana Board of Regents Lynn Morrison-Hamilton presented the report***

- The September Board of Regent's meeting will receive the report titled: *Admission, Placement and Remediation in the Montana University system* – prepared by Jan Clinard, Director of Academic Initiatives  
-Admission policy and the placement of students into college-level or remedial coursework are intertwined. Although the Board of Regents has set policy on admission and revisited admission issues periodically, introducing the Regents' College Preparatory Core in 1990 and Mathematics and Writing Proficiency Policies in 2003 and 2005, the absence of Board policy on placement and remediation is glaring. When students are admitted to college, but not yet ready to tackle college-level work, who has the responsibility to help them succeed? Can more stringent admission standards reduce the need for remediation? How are admission, placement, and remediation practices related to retention? How can policy help us collect accurate data that will help improve the system for all students? The report provides a context for these issues in the Montana University System and offer recommendations for developing policy.
- Chairwoman Morrison-Hamilton addressed the Board in regard to the Measuring Up 2006 Report. This report spotlights the intersection of public and post-secondary education. She congratulated the Board of Public Education on behalf of the Board of Regents on the excellent grades in student preparation. Chairwoman Morrison-Hamilton shared the concerns of the BPE for high school dropouts, affordability, and dual enrollment.
- Ms. Angela McLean stated that she sees the benefit of dual enrollment to save taxpayers money. She would like to see the BPE work with the Commissioner and the Board of Regents to address this issue before the next meeting, if possible, to streamline dual enrollment. She would like for the Board to move and take some action to work collaboratively with the Board of Regents which could save Montana parents' money. In addition, she believes that the dual enrollment programs work effectively to keep Montana students from falling through the "leaky pipeline."
- Superintendent McCulloch stated that Board of Education has a Dual Enrollment Ad Hoc committee which will be meeting in October. Superintendent McCulloch also addressed the remediation portion of Chairwoman Morrison-Hamilton's presentation. She asked the following questions: What are the predominant courses? What are the ages of students who need

remediation? Who are the students who take the remediation?

- Mr. John Fuller concurred with the statements made by Ms. Angela McLean but expressed some concern in regards to the dual enrollment process due to our accreditation standards. We have no control over the content and standards of what is being taught in the classes at the college. He expressed a specific example in his school where dual enrollment sparked a concern. Ms. McLean assured the Board that none of the state's content standards are being compromised if done correctly. It needs to be streamlined.
- Executive Secretary Steve Meloy stated that the very first Board of Education P-20 agenda item was dual enrollment. The committee decided to appoint a state-wide task force. The task force was staffed by members of the Office of Public Instruction and the Commissioner's Office. Based on their work an Ad Hoc committee was formed. Mr. Meloy suggested to Arlene Parisot that she write a charge for the Ad Hoc committee and begin to meet as this filters with the Governor's Kindergarten to College Work Group.
- Dr. Linda V. Peterson addressed the Board in regard to the Dual Enrollment Ad Hoc committee. Mr. Gary Warhank and Ms. Arlene Parisot have been preparing for this committee to meet. She feels the direction of the group is already established to supplement and not supplant licensure issues. The educational team makes the agreement of what is being taught to ensure quality of what is being taught.
- Ms. Diane Fladmo is a proponent of dual enrollment. She wants to ensure the integrity of the standards and the requirements for high school graduation. When Dr. Kirk Miller testified at the Interim Committee on Education and Local Government, he clearly brought up points of concern about the way some courses had been offered. Ms. Fladmo wants to ensure that the Board needs to address the good work that has been done with the current needs in our strategic plan, OPI, OCHE, Board of Regents and the Governor's group. The Board needs to discuss this further during our conversation of committee assignments.
- Ms. Diane Fladmo also asked Ms. Jan Lombardi when the assignments will be made for the Kindergarten to College Work Group and when will that group meet?
- Ms. Jan Lombardi said the work is progressing, but is not complete at this time. Ms. Jan suggested that Angela McLean attend the Ad Hoc Task Force on Dual Enrollment.
- Dr. Kirk Miller has taken under advisement the recommendation. Maybe we should have Ms. Diane Fladmo attend due to the years of work and experience with this issue in addition to other recommendations to infuse the points Ms. Angela McLean has made at this meeting.
- Dual enrollment discussion continued.

#### **Item 6 GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORT - Jan Lombardi**

- Ms. Jan Lombardi brought the Governor's message of CI-97 and how we are going to defeat it. She would like to hear from Eric Feaver in regard to the potential of next steps and the how the appeal process might work. It is very alarming as to what it would mean if these spending caps do happen to many issues, such as: new bond issues for the state's low cost learning programs, all school funding, state's contribution to state retirement system, etc.
- Kindergarten to College group – Patti Keebler from the Governor's office is still working on it. The committee is not established at this time.
- The Governor and First Lady sent out invitations to schools to let them know what the schools are doing specifically with Math and Science.
- Series of Science Facts – Building a web site for Math and Science.
- Update on the Summit – Early Childhood Summit for October 4, 2006. Focus is on school readiness.
- Tuition cap work continues to keep college affordable.
- Looking at women in need in the prison system in regards to education. Specifically the GED program to help these women to be committed to education for themselves and their children.
- Mr. Eric Feaver on CI-97 - Thanks to the Governor for his position. Grateful to the Board of Regents and the Board of Public Education. Their statements have been heard. We cannot assume anything, despite our current successes. We need to stay together as a very robust team. He is confident that we will win if this is taken to the ballot. Mr. Eric Feaver likes our odds.

- Ms. Angela McLean acknowledged that Eric Feaver was named one of the nation's seven new vice-presidents for the American Federation of Teachers (AFT).

**Item 7 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT - Jenny Tiskus**

- Ms. Tiskus has been in contact with Maris Aldrich about the Montana Association of Student Council's Conference in Billings on October 24, 2006. Ms. Aldrich has asked Ms. Tiskus to complete a student survey which includes input from the members of the Board of Public Education about what information the Board would find helpful to its work. Ms. Aldrich has also asked Ms. Tiskus to present at the conference about government beyond the school level.
- Ms. Tiskus agreed to present at the State's Principal Conference in April.
- In August, Ms. Tiskus met with Brendan Carroll, a student who is involved with New York's Board of Public Education. They discussed the differences between the Boards and what Mr. Carroll's actions have been.
- Linda McCulloch said there should be a copy of the Student Representative's survey on the OPI's web site.

Lunch provided by the Rocky Boy Senior High Students – Proceeds go to the Senior Graduation project.

**Item 8 GENERAL EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT (GED) ANNUAL REPORT - David Strong**

- Two additional handouts were distributed: 1) Montana GED Center 16 & 17 year-old testers 1/1/2005-12/31/2005 2) US Demographics General Educational Development Testing Program
- The 2005 Montana GED Statistical and Demographic Reports were used to give an overview of the GED testing program in Montana and to identify current trends occurring in the state.
- The yearly status report of GED fees was also presented.
- Fee structure is \$48 for all five tests throughout the state. Retesting fee for Language Arts and Writing would remain at \$12. All other portions of the exam will be \$6 for retesting. Official transcripts are provided at no charge.
- GED Statistical Report (Gray Paper)
- Demographical Statistical Report (Buff Paper) - 2005 data
- Mr. Strong invited the Board to present any proposals of questions that should be asked on the GED Recording sheet. The GED program is presently looking to administer this test on-line.
- Ms. Diane Fladmo was interested in item 31 which is the Reasons for Not Completing on the demographic statistical report. Ms. Fladmo asked if this could be expressed as a percentage of individuals giving that particular response in comparison to the percentage of individuals responding. Then track this information so that the data can be expressed throughout the years to note trends. In addition, Ms. Fladmo would like to find out what the students' perceive that they would need to be successful in school.

**Item 9 INITIAL ACCREDITATION PROCEDURES DISCUSSION - Gary Warhank**

- Mr. Gary Warhank presented to the BPE information regarding the application procedure for schools seeking initial accreditation (2<sup>nd</sup> reading).
- The Initial Accreditation Application Procedure informational page will be added to Appendix E (Accreditation Procedures/Applications/Forms) of the Montana School Accreditation Standards and Procedures Manual.
- Initial Accreditation Application Procedure form was provided as a handout.

**Item 10 PROPOSED PROCESS AND PROCEDURES TO REVIEW 10.55.907 - DISTANCE, ONLINE, AND TECHNOLOGY DELIVERED LEARNING - Gary Warhank**

- Mr. Gary Warhank provided the Board of Public Education with information on the proposed process, procedures and timeline for review of the standard.
- The document titled Montana Board of Public Education (BPE) Distance Learning Ad Hoc Committee was provided to review and revise 10.55.907 – Distance, Online, and Technology Delivered Learning as needed to align the standard with current best practices.
- **Proposed Timeline**

-Recommended Process/Procedure to the BPE	September 2006
-Ad Hoc Committee Meets	September-December 2006
-Committee Progress Update to BPE	November 2006
-Recommendations to BPE	January 2007
-Notice of Public Hearing to BPE	March 2007
-Final Action by BPE on Revisions	May 2007
-Revisions Effective	July 1, 2007

- **Process/Procedure**

- Membership from Constituent Groups**

- Board of Public Education, Office of Public Instruction, Montana Indian Education Association, MEA-MFT, Montana Council for Computers, Montana Rural Education Association, Montana Small Schools Alliance, Montana School Boards Association, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education, School Administrators of Montana, Montana Curriculum Consortium, Montana Parent Teachers Association (additional individuals invited to provide relevant information as needed)
    - Request one representative from each constituent group
    - Each constituent group is responsible to provide travel expenses for its representative

- BPE and OPI Co-chair Committee**

- Outside facilitator hired
    - Facilitator consults with BPE and OPI to develop process, agenda and ground rules
    - Committee meets
    - Committee makes recommendation to the BPE

- Mr. Storrs Bishop asked when the Ad Hoc Committee would be appointed. There will be a request sent out by the first week of October replied Mr. Gary Warhank. In addition, Mr. Bishop asked if this was an over zealous time-line. Mr. Warhank responded in the affirmative as the best case scenario.

#### **Item 11 NCLB UPDATE - Nancy Coopersmith**

- Ms. Nancy Coopersmith presented correspondence from Henry L. Johnson for the U.S. Department of Education concerning the Highly Qualified Teacher requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act. This letter has nothing to do with the approval of the OPI definition of Highly Qualified Teacher. It is only critiquing the six requirements of the plan and of these components we have met two; numbers one and three. Three requirements have been partially met; numbers two, four and five. One of these requirements has not been met; number six. Requirement six states: The revised plan must include a copy of the State's written "equity plan" for ensuring that poor or minority children are not taught by inexperienced, unqualified, or out-of-field teachers at higher rates than are other children. The OPI does not have the capacity to collect experience data on teachers.
- Ms. Coopersmith presented a document that is embargoed until released by Superintendent Linda McCulloch titled: Meeting Montana's Federally Approved Definition for "Highly Qualified Teachers" – Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) – September 2006. Montana is the only state that does not require a single written paper and pencil test to determine a "Highly Qualified Teacher". The multiple measures include: Grade point average on content course work, professional evaluation of student teaching, and the score on the Praxis II content test. This document will be posted on the OPI web site and a plan for distribution.
- Superintendent McCulloch stated that 99.4% meet the "Highly Qualified Teachers" in our state. This is the same percentage of teaching certificates issued in our state. This is reflective of the good work that the state enforces with licensure standards.
- Ms. Coopersmith addressed the timeline of Adequately Yearly Progress – The assessment staff met this summer to set the standards for the tests and the results will be back to the OPI in October. Once the results are back then they can continue their work on AYP. The preliminary

determinations for AYP will be scheduled for November 30, 2006. This date may change if the test results come back later than anticipated. Following November 30<sup>th</sup>, the districts will have until December 15, 2006 to file an appeal to the Office of Public Instruction. January 12, 2007 will be when the final determinations of AYP will be released.

- Another part of Adequate Yearly Progress refers to the Board's rules concerning the Five Year Comprehensive Education Plan. The Office of Public Instruction follows the small schools process, which uses the multiple measures concept. The OPI looks at more data than is required by the law. They use the test score, graduation rate at the high school level, attendance rate at the elementary level, and the participation rate. The small schools process will begin in Helena on September 26-27, 2006. This process follows the parallel walk of the federal requirements with the state requirements. The effectiveness report will go out to all districts in November.
- A Call to Greatness meeting will be held on October 2 – 3, 2006 in Helena. This meeting brings together education leaders, school board members, superintendents, and principals from each of the 33 schools currently in the restructuring phase of the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) process to discuss the important issues surrounding Indian student achievement and school improvement. This Call to Greatness will serve as a stepping stone toward greater communication and collaboration among districts, the Office of Public Instruction, and education partners as they work together to improve student achievement.

#### **Item 12 MACIE REPORT - Voyd St. Pierre**

- Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education (MACIE) met on May 15, 2006. The council discussed the following topics:
  - Accreditation Update
  - Indian Education for All Initiatives
    - \*OPI Research Projects
    - \*Tribal College History Projects
    - \*OPI Resources and Guidance for Indian Education for All
  - Report on Dropout Prevention Program
  - Update on GEAR UP Program
  - Description of OPI Support Teams for schools designated in need of improvement under NCLB
  - MACIE Retreat – Goals and Agenda
- MACIE requests that the Office of Public Instruction and the Board of Public Education review the MIEA resolutions passed in the spring of 2006. OPI responds that the resolutions are currently under review.
- Mr. Cal Gilbert requested input on Ivan Small the Superintendent of Schools from Popular, MT to serve as the MACIE representative. Superintendent Linda McCulloch submitted a letter of nomination for Mr. Ivan Small. She recommends him highly and feels fortunate that he is interested in being a part of MACIE. Mr. Voyd St. Pierre and Dr. Kirk Miller endorsed this recommendation as well.

#### **Item 13 BPE STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL REVIEW - Steve Meloy**

- Mr. Steve Meloy presented the BPE Strategic Planning Session meeting minutes.
- The document titled: Board of Public Education's Strategic Plan 2006-2007 As It Relates to Kindergarten to College Homework Assignments is a way to take a look at the work that the Board of Public Education is doing to work towards the Governor's Homework Assignments. The first sheet is the color coded key that reflects how the BPE's goals, strategies and performance measures meet the homework assignments.
- Mr. Steve Meloy asked the Board how aggressive they want to be with the bold approach (legislation) to funding solution that addresses recruitment and retention of highly qualified educators – 30% solution – long range plan.
- Dr. Kirk Miller asked if the Board would like to craft legislation.
- Mr. John Fuller suggested that the Board should take a leadership role with recruitment and retention of teachers.

- Mr. Steve Meloy cautioned the Board that the piece of legislation could not state, “By the request of the Public Board of Education.” It would have to be a piece of legislation that the Executive Secretary would find a legislator interested in carrying and indicate that it is supported by the Board of Public Education.
- Continued discussion about losing Montana educators to Wyoming.
- Mr. Steve Meloy suggested that he work with the Executive Committee to craft some legislation.
- The Board addressed their concern of a time line in regard to the legislative session.
- Ms. Diane Fladmo said that the bold approach was a top priority to the Board and it is something that should be stamped with approval.
- Mr. Steve Meloy has attended a meeting with Jim Applegate, Vice-President of Academic Affairs at the University of North Carolina, and realizes that he could potentially find non-state, private sector dollars to keep up marketing campaigns.
- Ms. Angela McLean encouraged the Board to address the marketing campaign. The marketing campaign can be closely linked with the legislation to address the flux of people leaving the state for other teaching opportunities. It needs to happen now.

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**September 15 – Friday**

**Meeting reconvened at 8:41**

**Jan Lombardi and Lynn Morrison are absent today.**

**Reflections On.....A collection of essays and ideas from Montana’s GEAR UP Students**

Mr. Voyd St. Pierre brought a few students who had essays that were published in a collection of essays and ideas from Montana’s GEAR UP Student. The book, Reflections On..., was brought forth by Ms. Angela McLean. The students who were still in attendance at the school were recognized by the Board for their accomplishments of being published authors. The students were:

- Jacyne Coffee
- Martina St. Pierre
- Michael Eagleman

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. G. Bruce Myers, Chippewa-Cree Director of Stands in the Rain Associates, addressed the Board in his native attire. The Pow Wow garment was worn to make a point on behalf on American Indian children statewide to those who have a huge voice with the future of American Indian children. Despite all of the legislation, there is still a divide. Mr. Myers’s uncle said the feathers are sacred. There is a reason why Native Americans use the porcupine. There is a story behind the beadwork. There is a side of Native American culture that the Indian children need to know to provide them with pride and a reason to achieve academically. There is a side of our Indian students that our teachers have not seen, just like there is a side of Bruce Myers that the Board has not seen. Mr. Myers wishes there were more guests, visitors, teachers, and state representatives who, as Indians, celebrate their pride during pow wows, etc. Mr. Bruce Myers took off his native attire and he continued to show all sides of himself in clothing that he would typically wear to an educational meeting. He says that Native American students need to lose a part of their Native American side to succeed in the present culture. Indians need to have Indian parents, aunts, uncles, etc. to come to the schools to show support for their students. Parents are left out of the planning and they don’t feel welcome. The school doors may be open, but it is necessary to instill an active involvement in the pride of the Native American children. On behalf of the Montana Indian Education Association, Mr. Myers invited the Board to the Montana Indian Education Summit on Indian Education Policy and Budget

Issues scheduled for September 17-18, 2006 in Helena, MT at the Great Northern Hotel. Mr. Myers wanted to thank the Board and the Superintendent for the funding that is provided to their education. American Indians are concerned that there needs to be more legislation for funding and better control of how these funds are utilized. Montana Indian Education Association does not want the funds to go to the general fund. In accordance with 20-9-344, they request that the Board take a position on the use of IEA funds, Closing the Achievement Gap Funds, and At Risk Funds by Montana schools. The Montana Indian Education Association has issued a strong letter to the Billings public schools and Missoula schools on the misuse of funds. Mr. Myers distributed a document from MIEA, business card and a pamphlet titled Stands in the Rain Associates, LLC.

***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**

Superintendent Linda McCulloch acknowledged Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson for the Governor's Award for Excellence.

Mr. Steve Meloy acknowledged Ms. Megan Kerzman for the Governor's Award for Excellence.

### **Item 14 STANDARDS REVISION STATEMENT OF PURPOSE - Dr. Linda Peterson**

- As requested by the Board of Public Education to approve the modifications to the Standards Revision Statement of Purpose.
- Dr. Linda Peterson distributed a new copy of the Montana Board of Public Education Standards Revision Statement of Purpose form with corrections. Number 5 which reads "Standards will address diversity specifically fulfilling the commitment to implementing MCA 20-1-501, Indian Education for All and MCA 20-9-306 2 (c)" should contain the following correction: MCA 20-9-309 2 (c). Note: The difference is located where the number is underlined.
- Dr. Linda Peterson also indicated that number 7 is new to this document. It reads, "Consider comments from professional education associations;"
- MCA 20-9-309 was included in the report for reference.

**MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to approve the modifications to the Standards Revision Statement of Purpose. Ms. Diane Fladmo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

### **Item 15 NOTICE OF HEARING AND TIMELINE – 10.54.5010-5098 SCIENCE CONTENT STANDARDS AND PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTORS - Dr. Linda Peterson**

- As requested by the Board of Public Education to approve the notice of hearing document and time line of the draft K-12 Science Content Standards and Performance Descriptors.
- This presentation highlighted the additions and changes made to the draft standards and statement of purpose. The public's comments are incorporated into the draft document as appropriate by the writing team.
- Proposed Timeline:
  - Proposed notice to SOS for notice in MAR – 9/25/06
  - MAR publication out – 10/5/06
  - Hearing date – week of 10/30/06
  - Final Public Input deadline – Date of hearing
  - To BPE for adoption – November meeting
  - Final rule changes to SOS for notice in MAR – 11/27/06
  - MAR publication out – 12/7/06

- Effective Date of Rules – 12/8/06

- Note bold box on page 1 of the Montana Standards for Science. It reads: Pursuant to Article X Sect 1(2) of the Constitution of the state of Montana and statutes §20-1-501 and §20-9-309 2(c) MCA, the implementation of these standards must incorporate the distinct and unique cultural heritage of Montana American Indians.
- Mr. John Fuller made the recommendation that on standard 1, page 4, #6 the benchmark should strike the following language on 4<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades: identify how observations and understandings of the interdependence between of nature and ecological relationships form an essential base of knowledge among the Montana American Indians”.

**MOTION: Mr. John Fuller moved to approve the Science Content standards and performance descriptors as amended. Ms. Angela McLean seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

**MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to notice for hearing 10.54.5010-5098 Science Content Standards and performance descriptors. Ms. Diane Fladmo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Item 16 ADOPT ARM 10.65.101 PUPIL INSTRUCTION-RELATED DAYS - Steve Meloy**

- On July 27, 2006, the Board of Public Education published MAR Notice No. 10-65-239 regarding the public hearing on the proposed amendment of the ARM 10.65.101 concerning pupil instruction-related days at page 1769 of the 2006 Montana Administrative Register, Issue Number 14.
- The Board of Public Education has amended ARM 10.65.101 exactly as proposed.
- On August 24, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. a public hearing was held in the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education to consider the amendment of the rule.
- This order after first being recorded in the order register of this department shall be forwarded to the Secretary of State for filing by September 25, 2006.

**MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to adopt ARM 10.65.101 Pupil Instruction-Related Days. Ms. Diane Fladmo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Item 17 SET ANNUAL AGENDA CALENDAR - Dr. Kirk Miller**

- Note Joint BPE/CSPAC meeting on March 8-9, 2007.
- There was much discussion and many ideas about where the September 13-14, 2007 meeting should take place.
- Final consensus was to leave the schedule as written. For the September 13-14, 2007 meeting the Board will leave it open but look to one of the eastern reservations.

**MOTION: Mr. John Fuller moved to adopt the 2007 Board of Public Education meeting schedule as printed. Ms. Patty Myers seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Item 18 ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS - Dr. Kirk Miller**

- The gavel was transferred to Executive Secretary Steve Meloy. Mr. Meloy asked for nominations.
- Mr. John Fuller nominated Diane Fladmo for chairperson.
- Dr. Kirk Miller seconded the nomination.
- Discussion followed concerning Ms. Diane Fladmo’s dedication and experience to the Board of Public Education, NASBE and education.

**MOTION: Mr. John Fuller moved to nominate Ms. Diane Fladmo for chairperson. Dr. Kirk Miller seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

**MOTION: Mr. John Fuller moved that any further nominations be closed. Dr. Kirk Miller seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

**MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean nominated Ms. Patty Myers for vice chairperson. Dr. Kirk Miller seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Item 19 COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS - Dr. Kirk Miller**

- A draft Board of Public Education Committee Description 2006-2007 was distributed.
- A draft Board of Public Education Committee Assignments 2006-2007 was distributed.
- Mr. John Fuller recommended that a press release needs to go out on behalf of the new chair and vice chair of the Board.
  
- The suggested Standing Committees are:
  - Executive Committee
    - \*Diane Fladmo, Chair
    - \*Patty Myers, Vice Chair
    - \*Steve Meloy, Secretary (ex-officio)
  - Accreditation Committee
    - \*Storrs Bishop, Chair
    - \*Jenny Tiskus, Member
  - Licensure Committee
    - \*Angela McLean, Chair
  - Montana School for the Deaf and Blind Committee
    - \*Patty Myers, Chair
    - \*Cal Gilbert, Member
    - \*John Fuller, Member
  - Government Affairs Committee (NASBE Delegate)
    - \*Kirk Miller, Chair
  - Legislative Committee
    - \*John Fuller, Chair
    - \*Jenny Tiskus, Member
- The suggested Task Forces are:
  - Quality Schools/Quality Educators
    - \*Kirk Miller, Chair
  - Indian Education for All
    - \*Cal Gilbert, Chair
  - Distance Learning
    - \*Kirk Miller, Chair
  - Pathways for Learners
    - \*Diane Fladmo, Co-Chair
    - \*Patty Myers, Co-Chair
  - Assessment
    - \*Diane Fladmo, Chair
- The suggested Advisory Group Liaisons are:
  - CSPAC (Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council)
    - \*Angela McLean
  - MACIE (Montana Advisory Council for Indian Education)
    - \*Cal Gilbert
  - MSDB Foundation
    - \*Patty Myers, MSDB Foundation
- The State Board of Education Workgroup
  - Kindergarten to College Workgroup
    - \*Yet to be appointed

**MOTION: Dr. Kirk Miller moved to approve the Board of Public Education Committee Descriptions and Committee Assignments for 2006-2007. Ms. Patty Myers seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Item 20 NOTICE OF HEARING AND TIMELINE – 10.58.102-802 (CHAPTER 58) PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES (PEPPS) - Dr. Linda Peterson**

- The Office of Public Instruction requested approval from the Board of Public Education of the notice of hearing document and time line for the draft Professional Educator Preparation Program Standards ARM 10.58.102-802.
- Proposed timeline for the Educator Preparation Program Standards
  - Proposed notice to SOS for notice in MAR - 9/25/06
  - MAR publication out - 10/5/06
  - Hearing date – week of 11/13/06
  - Final Public Input deadline – Date of hearing
  - To BPE for adoption – January meeting
  - Final rule changes to SOS for notice in MAR – 1/07\*
  - MAR publication out – 1/07\*
  - Effective Date of Rules – 1/07\*
- PEPPS Draft was distributed to the Board

\*The schedule of filing dates for 2007 has not been adopted by the Secretary of State's office at this time.

**MOTION: Ms. Patty Myers moved to approve the notice of hearing document and time line for 10.58.102-802 (Chapter 58) Professional Educator Preparation Program Standards and Procedures (PEPPS). Ms. Angela McLean seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Item 21 MSDB COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT - Steve Gettel and Bill Sykes**

- Montana School for the Deaf and the Blind Board of Public Education Committee Agenda
  1. Student Enrollment/Evaluations
  2. Human Resources
  3. School Improvement
  4. Professional Development Activities
  5. MSDB Foundation Activities
  6. Conferences, Meeting, and Contacts
  7. Finance and Facilities
  8. Response to CI-97
  9. School Calendar of Events
  10. Student News and School Events
  11. Public Comment for Non-Agenda Items
- Additional handouts presented to the Board
  - Recommendations from Accreditation Report March 2006 Related to 5Y CEP
  - Letters to Superintendent Steven Gettel from National Accreditation Council for Agencies Serving People with Blindness or Visual Impairment and Patti Keebler, Appointments Coordinator from the Office of the Governor.
- MSDB draft newsletter
- Program Indicators for the 2007 Biennium – Year 2
- EPP – Agency Summary by Priority within Status
- Montana UNHSI Grant, Year Two – Grant number H61MC00053
- Hip Hop Program
- Wellness Policy and Program
- FY 2007 Budget Status
- Decision Package Description Report for All Programs

- Letter to parents and constituents of MSDB in regard to the negative impact of CI-97.

## **PRELIMINARY AGENDA ITEMS – NOVEMBER 2-3, 2006**

- Assessment Update
- NCLB Update
- Alternative Standards Request
- MACIE Annual Report
- Joint MACIE/BPE/OPI meeting
- MontSASE – Montana State Accountability System for Educators
- Representative Arntzen – School Health Partners
- Civic Education – Chief Justice Gray
- Deb Biegel – Teacher of the Year
- 10.55.705 (1) FTE Rule
- Report from Ad Hoc committee on dual enrollment
- More executive committee discussion on the bold approach of recruitment/retention of teachers
- Science Content Standards – Adoption
- Quality Schools

Committee chairs were asked to think about what direction they plan to take with their committee(s). Please e-mail Mr. Steve Meloy and CC Ms. Diane Fladmo with a paragraph that describes your charge.

**MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Patty Myers seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

APPROVED