

BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES

January 11-12, 2007

Best Western Helena Great Northern Hotel
835 Great Northern Blvd.
Helena, MT 59601
(406)457-5500

January 11 - Thursday
8:30 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Diane Fladmo called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, January 11, 2007. The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Mr. Storrs Bishop. Carol Will took roll call; a quorum was noted. Mr. Steve Meloy noted that on Item 24 – Final Action – 10.58.102 – 802 Professional Educator Preparation Program Standards on the Executive Summary the requested decision statement should read: Approval of the notice of public hearing adoption on proposed amendment of PEPPS ARM 10.58.102-704. Ms. Diane Fladmo noted that the Commissioner of Higher Education's report will be presented when Commissioner Sheila Stearns arrives at the BPE meeting from a prescheduled appointment.

Those in attendance at the meeting included the following board members: Chairperson Diane Fladmo, Vice Chairperson Patty Myers, Dr. Kirk Miller, Storrs Bishop, 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. 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; Bud Williams, OPI Deputy Superintendent; Bruce Messinger, Helena District Superintendent; Jan Clinard, OCHE; Arlene Parisot, OCHE; Madalyn Quinlan, OPI; Lance Melton, MTSBA; Darrell Rud, SAM; Claudette Morton, MSSA; Alan Nicholson, parent; Beck Mclaughlin, Arts Council; Dan Zorn, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Kalispell, MT; Josh Middleton, Laurel Public Schools Superintendent; and Honors American History Class from Anaconda High School and their parents.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Dan Zorn, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Kalispell, MT, commented on dual credit in Kalispell and its desire to expand career elective courses to students. Mr. Zorn requested that the Board consider not being too restrictive with the dual credit rules so that the students in the Flathead have options to prepare them for the future they are entering. Mr. Zorn provided a document titled Career Fields.

Mr. Alan Nicholson, Former Board of Public Education Member and Chairman, father of five, and former teacher, addressed the Board in regard to addressing their responsibility to the children of Montana. Mr. Nicholson was concerned about the lack of funding provided for education and asked the Board to make a strong stand to promote adequate funding for schools.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to adopt the consent agenda. Dr. Kirk Miller seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Items are presented in the order in which they appeared

INFORMATION ITEMS

Item 1 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Diane Fladmo

- 11/17/2006 – Served as one of five panelists representing the Board for “The World is Flat” Forum, sponsored by the Helena Education Foundation
- 11/22/2006 – Reviewed information on Kentucky's individual learning plan program
- 12/1/2006– Corresponded with Board member Fuller on high school graduation requirements in Montana
- 12/6/2006 – Attended MEA-MFT Committee week-end. Vice chair Myers and Chair Fladmo gave a report on BPE at professional development committee meeting
- 12/20/2006 – Reviewed substitute rule provisions and proposed changes
- 12/21/2006 – Researched information on graduation requirements

BOARD MEMBER APPEARANCES

Ms. Patty Myers

- 11/22/2006 – Ed Forum – Helena, MT
- 12/6/2006 – Attended MEA-MFT Committee week-end. Vice chair Myers and Chair Fladmo gave a report on BPE at professional development committee meeting
- 12/19/2006 – MSDB Holiday Program Rehearsal
- 1/9/2007 – MSDB Committee Meeting

Ms. Angela McLean

- 12/4/2006 – Blue Ribbon Ceremony at Lincoln Elementary School - Anaconda, MT

Dr. Kirk Miller

- 11/15/2006 – Phone call with Kathy Anderson – Pennsylvania Department of Education concerning school funding studies
- 11/28/2006 – Distance Learning Task Force Planning Conference Call
- 12/4/2006 – Distance Learning Task Force Meeting
- 12/7/2006 – Worked on Speech-Language Pathologist Program at the University of Montana with Dr. Bobbie Evans
- 12/11/2006 – Distance Learning Task Force Planning Conference Call
- 12/12/2006 – Ed Forum – attended by video conference
- 12/13/2006 – Distance Learning Task Force Planning Conference Call
- 12/15/2006 – Distance Learning Task Force Meeting
- 12/16/2006 – Reception for Senator-Elect Jon Tester
- 12/19/2006 – Panelist – Expert Panel for MQEC APA Study
- 12/31/2006 – E-mail correspondence with Financial Education Consultant, Brad Dupdale concerning the Idaho Legislative Resolution on Financial Education
- 1/2/2007 – Distance Learning Task Force Planning Conference Call
- 1/4/2007 – Distance Learning Task Force Planning Conference Call
- 1/5/2007 – Distance Learning Task Force Planning Conference Call
- 1/6/2007 – Distance Learning Task Force Consensus Meeting in Helena, MT

Item 2 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT - Steve Meloy

- Continued work with LSD on fiscal responsibility processes for SB 152
- Budget presentation for 2009 biennium and the executive vote will take place on 1/12/07
- 60th Legislative Session updates
- Presided over PEPPS rule modification hearing and the Braille Instructors hearing
- Worked with Distance Learning Task Force

- Attended K-College Workgroup meeting and Dual Enrollment Ad Hoc Committee
- Board decided to send Mr. Steve Meloy and Dr. Kirk Miller to the executive discussion of the BPE budget at the legislative session on 1/12/07.

Item 3 STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - Linda McCulloch

- Superintendent Linda McCulloch presented a report that contained: 1) Office of the State Superintendent - Electronic Grants Management System (E-Grants), Achievement in Montana (AIM), Full-Time Kindergarten Survey; 2) Accreditation - Proposed AYP Determinations, Small Schools Accountability Process, Calculated Accountability Process; 3) Assessment - New Faces in the Assessment Division; 4) Career Technical & Adult Education - New Acting Administrator in CTAE; 5) School Finance - K-12 Facilities Condition Assessments Progress Report; and 6) Special Education - McCarthy to Serve on National Advisory Board.
- Presented 2007 School Funding Budget Proposal from OPI. Three key areas were being proposed: 1) Hire six curriculum specialist to provide assistance to schools at a cost of \$1.9 million; 2) Continuation of the new student data system will cost \$3.4 million; 3) Redirect \$1 million from the Indian Education Ready to Go Grant Program to provide Indian Education for All professional development for teachers and to provide assistance to improve American Indian student achievement and graduation rates.
- Linda McCulloch addressed the different bills that are being presented to the legislature
- State of Education Address is Friday, February 9th.

INDIAN EDUCATION FOR ALL REPORT – Linda McCulloch

- Superintendent Linda McCulloch presented a document with the following information: Ready to Go Grants Round 3; Montana Indian Education Association (MIEA) Conference; Indian Education Professional Development; Call to Greatness II; Indian Education for All Best Practices Conference; Indian Education for All Capitol Rotunda Day; and Indian Education Social Studies Lessons.

Item 5 GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORT - Jan Lombardi

No report was given.

Item 6 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT - Jenny Tiskus

- MASC Survey Results 2006-2007.
- Applying for the MetLife Grant through NASBE called Enhancing Peer Communication of Student Leaders – Due January 26, 2007.
- Developing a weblog.
- Next BPE student representative is Katie Wood, a sophomore from Laurel. Caitlin Brown, a junior from Billings Central, was selected as an alternate.
- Preparing a student representative handbook as a resource.

10:00 Commissioner Stearns arrived.

Item 4 COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION REPORT - Commissioner Sheila Stearns

- Writing proficiency report and newsletter from Proficiency Admissions.
- Adjustments to the University System honors scholarships – moved to make them a 4 year scholarship – may be a fewer number who receive the scholarships, but are 4 year vs. 2 year scholarships.
- Slides presented concerning the College Affordability Plan, Board of Regents' Strategic Plan, Transferability & Student Data, and Coordinate and Enhance Distance Learning, Equipment and Technology in High Demand Fields.
- If present law is funded then the Board of Regents won't raise tuition. If present law is not funded then the Board of Regents will raise tuition.

Item 7 TRANSPORTATION ANNUAL REPORT - Maxine Mougeot

- An update to the Board of Public Education with limited statistics, current problems facing the transportation community, and current success with on-line transportation program. OPI requested of the Board its continued support for safe and consistent transportation for the students in Montana.
- The presentation included information regarding the continued growth for school bus driver training, the new web-based transportation program, and about the 2005 National Standards Committee.
- Discussion ensued about HB 35 in regard to the 3-mile limit.

Item 8 ASSESSMENT UPDATE - Judy Snow

- Ms. Madalyn Quinlan presented in lieu of Ms. Judy Snow from the Office of Public Instruction. Ms. Quinlan presented OPI's budget request for the 2009 biennium which includes \$310,000 for fiscal year 2008 and \$325,000 for fiscal year 2009 for a norm-referenced test in grades 4, 8, and 11. The current contract with Riverside Publishing Company expires June 30, 2007. OPI will be writing a Request for Proposal (RFP) beginning in January 2007. The following dates are tentative: End of April 2007, Deadline for Responses – June 2007, Contract Award. The award of a contract is contingent upon legislative funding.
- Superintendent Linda McCulloch stated this is the time that the Board needs to make a decision about the future of the norm-referenced test in Montana. Superintendent McCulloch recommended to the Board to discontinue administering the norm-referenced test (NRT) for a period of time and re-evaluate yearly. Superintendent McCulloch makes this recommendation based on: data is not being used to make decisions for Montana from the NRT; OPI cannot provide any additional staff; and there is no continuity of the Iowa test. Criterion-reference tests are required with No Child Left Behind (NCLB). Superintendent McCulloch is concerned that there may be a ramping up of testing with NCLB in the future.
- Superintendent Linda McCulloch briefly touched on other options that were presented at prior meetings: Board developing a technical assistance plan for helping schools with their local assessments as well as ACT, SAT etc. which would include legislative appropriations; keeping same 5 subjects in the spring; moving the spring testing to the fall keeping the same 5 subjects; keeping the same schedule and within the next two years transition to the two subjects that are not tested on the CRT which are language arts and social studies; immediately drop the NRT with the exception of language arts and social studies; and other options that have been presented previously.
- The Board will consider every option that Superintendent McCulloch has presented. The Board will present a proposal for the future of the NRT in Montana for the March BPE meeting.

Item 9 DISTANCE LEARNING TASK FORCE UPDATE REPORT ON CONNECTIVITY - Claudette Morton, Ed.D.

- Dr. Claudette Morton provided the Board with the Report on Connectivity titled: *Moving All Montana's Children Across the Digital Divide*. Included in this report are: related research; methodology of research; analysis of internet connectivity, e-rate, correlations between type of connectivity and e-rate subscription, and options for districts with no or slow connectivity; conclusions; references; appendix A – public school districts in Montana without connectivity; appendix B – Montana public school district with only 56K dial-up modem connectivity; and table one – internet connectivity of the independent elementary K-8 school districts in Montana, June 2006.
- Dr. Claudette Morton expressed her concerns in regard to no state general funding for technology and no funding for OPI to provide leadership to meet the technology needs for Montana's students. The Board requested that Dr. Morton provide the final recommendations of this report.
- The Board will invite Dick Clark, the State Information Technology Director to present at the March BPE meeting.

**REVIEW OF 10.55.907 DISTANCE, ONLINE, AND TECHNOLOGY DELIVERED LEARNING -
Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson**

- Mr. Bud Williams and Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson presented Phase I of the proceedings of the Montana Distance Learning Task Force that was prepared by Dr. Janet Thomson and Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson. Dr. Kirk Miller thanked Superintendent Linda McCulloch and those that were involved in this task force. Dr. Kirk Miller was proud that the education committee followed the guiding principle of the task force: “*Distance education serves the student learning needs of the present and future providing flexibility and ensuring quality.*”
- The Montana Board of Public Education Distance Learning Task Force Final Report included the following: the executive summary; distance learning task force findings and recommendations; distance learning task force meeting summaries; distance learning task force sub-committee; references and materials; appendix A – list of distance learning task force members and alternates; appendix B – power point presentation; appendix C – list of vendors who testified on December 15, 2006; and “parking lot” lists of topics as of January 6, 2007 meeting.
- The rules revised were 10.55.602, 10.55.701, and 10.55.907.
- Phase II will continue in the spring after the legislative session. Some issues that will be addressed in Phase II are: funding, what is a credit, how much time for ANB funding, length of classes, review other definitions, educator endorsement, facilitator and teacher pedagogy, and dual enrollment.
- Mr. John Fuller requested Dr. Claudette Morton to direct her concerns to the Board as presented in the report as minority issues. Dr. Kirk Miller formally moved this item into a discussion item to open the dialogue between those in attendance and the Board. Some topics were raised in regard to: determining impact, highly qualified teachers, licensure/endorsements/standards, reciprocity, accreditation, fiscal impact, and dates of implementation.

**Item 10 10.55.705 ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL: ASSIGNMENT OF SCHOOL
ADMINISTRATORS/PRINCIPALS - RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RULE CHANGE –
Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson**

- OPI provided to the BPE a proposed amendment to Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 10.55.705. In November 2006, the BPE recommended a small task force develop rule language for the BPE to consider at the January meeting.
- OPI is recommending that the BPE develop notice for public hearing for consideration in March 2007.
- The proposed major content changes are:
 - (a) FOR SCHOOLS IN THIRD CLASS ELEMENTARY DISTRICTS WITHOUT A LICENSED ADMINISTRATOR UNDER CONTRACT, a part-time district superintendent or supervising teacher and county superintendent for schools WILL BE ACCEPTED IN SATISFACTION OF ADMINISTRATOR REQUIREMENTS FOR with fewer than nine UP TO EIGHT full-time equivalent (FTE) licensed staff;
 - (B) FOR SCHOOLS IN DISTRICTS WITH AN ASSIGNED LICENSED ADMINISTRATOR UNDER CONTRACT, THE FOLLOWING STAFFING REQUIREMENTS SHALL APPLY:
 - (i) .5 FTE principal for schools with 9-17 more than 8 and less than 18 FTE licensed staff A DISTRICT MAY SATISFY THE FTE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBSECTION FOR A SCHOOL UNDER THIS CIRCUMSTANCE BY PRORATING THE ASSIGNMENT OF BUILDING ADMINISTRATORS IN OTHER BUILDINGS OF THE DISTRICT, SO LONG AS THE NUMBER OF LICENSED FTE STAFF FOR WHOM EACH ADMINISTRATOR IS RESPONSIBLE IS NOT MORE THAN 29 AND SO LONG AS THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS FOR WHOM EACH ADMINISTRATOR IS RESPONSIBLE IS NOT MORE THAN 550;

Item 11 10.55.716 SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS DISCUSSION – Eric Feaver

- Eric Feaver presented this item in lieu of Erik Burke.
- A comprehensive review of the Montana educator licensure rules was conducted in 2001 and 2002. The revised rules that were adopted by the Board of Public Education in 2002 are not as intended. The waiver language in subsection (5) of 10.55.716 was intended to apply only to

subsections (2), (3) and (4) of the rule. As written, subsection (5) also appears to apply to subsection (1). This was not the intent of the language developed by the review committee.

- The only change necessary to rectify this rule is:
 - (5) ~~The requirements~~ Subsections (2), (3) and (4) of this rule may be waived by the trustees in whole or in part, if the non-licensed substitute has previous teaching or substitute teaching experience in an accredited public school in Montana prior to November 28, 2002.

Item 12 PEPPS UPDATE - Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson

- **ETS PRAXIS II TEST REVIEW UPDATE** – Elementary Content Knowledge; Fundamental Subjects K-12 (Special Education); Science General Content Knowledge; and Social Studies General Content Knowledge.
- **STANDARDS SETTING PROCESS – PRAXIS II CONTENT KNOWLEDGE TESTS** – These Praxis II Tests were recommended to move to the Standard Setting Process: Elementary Content Knowledge, Fundamental Subjects K-12 (Special Education), Social Studies Content Knowledge, and Science Content Knowledge. Standard setting will be conducted by representatives of Educational Testing Service (ETS) in the spring of 2007. Expert panels of 15 educators will engage in the process – one panel for each subject area. The result will be to establish a recommended threshold score for each of the tests adopted in the state of Montana. Montana remains a “no test” state. However, Montana must complete a standard setting process to officially adopt the Praxis II tests. Once adopted, the OPI will receive state, institution, and student aggregated and disaggregated data reports, students will be able to use their scores to meet another state’s federally approved definitions, and professional education units will factor the scores into the established multiple measures rubric to make recommendation for licensure to the OPI.
- **REPORTING GUIDELINES FOR MONTANA PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION UNITS -** Professional Educator Preparation Program Standards require that Montana Professional Educator Units report annually to the Office of Public Instruction (OPI). The reporting requirements are incorporated into the proposed amendments of Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 10.58.104 Accredited Programs and ARM 10.58.305. The document provided includes the proposed amendments.
- **2007-2008 PROPOSED TIME LINE TO IMPLEMENT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS -**

January 12, 2007	Present information to the BPE regarding reporting requirements.
January 13, 2007	Final action by BPE on the PEPPS Notice of Adoption of Professional Educator Preparation Program Standards. (Actually occurred 1/18/2007)
January/February	Establish criteria, process, procedures, format, and time line for reporting required. This process will be accomplished by working collaboratively with the Montana Council of Deans of Education.
March/May	Present to the BPE for discussion the data collection and reporting process.
Summer/Fall	Test data collection and reporting process and procedures. Identify and solve problems.
October/November	Professional Education Units prepare and submit reports to OPI.
December 1, 2007	Data due to OPI.
January, 2008	Accredited Programs Report and Assessment Report presented to BPE.

Item 13 PEPPS – MINOR IN PHYSICS PROPOSED BY CARROLL COLLEGE PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION UNIT - Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson

- The Office of Public Instruction provided to the Board information pertaining to the request by Carroll College to add a Physics Minor to the Professional Education Unit’s educator endorsement program areas. OPI reviewed the material submitted by the Education Department Chairperson, Dr. Lynette Zuroff, regarding the proposed Physics Minor in Secondary Education. OPI followed the process outlined in the Professional Educator Preparation Program Standards 10.58.802 Standards for Approval and 10.58.522 Science. The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends to the BPE that the program be granted provisional approval with an

on- site review conducted within two years. The institutional report was included.

Item 14 REPORT ON EMERGING ISSUES AND COMMITTEE GOALS FOR 2007 - All BPE Committee Chairs

- Each committee chair presented documentation for the emerging issues and committee goals for 2007. Some examples from several committees were: improve research of current and emerging education issues, including use of student achievement and school performance data; research current best practices in assessment and work with OPI to determine appropriate steps to improve Montana's Comprehensive Assessment System; work with Chair of Board of Regents, OPI, and OCHE to coordinate policy and systems to ease transition for students; work with MSDB and its administration in putting forth the long term goals and objectives as stated in the school's reports; BPE's commitment to preserving the integrity and quality of the accreditation content and performance standards in a rapidly changing environment; work cooperatively with CSPAC to study and make recommendations on the status and efficacy of approved teacher educator programs in Montana; communicate with Montana education community to determine positions to be represented at the national table; to review and revise ARM 10.55.907 – Distance, On-Line, and Technology Delivered Learning as needed to align the standard with current best practices; and 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.

Item 15 BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT - Steve Meloy

- The Kindergarten to College Workgroup met on December 14, 2006 from 1:00-5:00 pm in the Governor's Budget Office Conference Room. The items on the agenda included: Introductions; Opening Remarks, *Chairperson Erin Williams*; Board of Education Governor's Homework Assignments Overview, *Governor's Education Advisor Jan Lombardi*; Updates – Taskforce, *Linda Peterson, Office of Public Instruction and Rene Dubay, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education*; and Workgroup Discussion and Recommendations to the Board of Education.
- Mr. Steve Meloy presented a report with the greatest concern centering on finding a focus from which the workgroup could work. In the report it states that Representative Windy Boy demanded the workgroup to take action and suggested a strategic plan ought to be devised to create results. In the report a question was posed by Ms. Vicki Turner as to the future of the task forces and whether or not they should be asked to continue working. The question was never clearly answered. Superintendent Linda McCulloch, Commissioner Sheila Stearns and Executive Secretary Steve Meloy all agreed to serve on a small group to compare and coordinate the strategic plans of each agency. Superintendent Linda McCulloch suggested a focus on something doable and Mr. Steve Meloy suggested that recommendations ought to be pointed toward policy under each participating Board's jurisdiction.
- This small group will meet in February to begin reviewing strategic plans.

Item 16 NASBE Update - Diane Fladmo

- Ms. Diane Fladmo presented a document to the Board titled *Citizens for the 21st Century*. This document contains the NASBE recommended action steps from its study in the first column and then the second column has the Montana Board of Public Education's status. The third column was left blank for the Board of Public Education members to complete their recommendations for the Board's actions. There was no discussion from the Board on behalf of their recommendations. Ms. Diane Fladmo requested that the Board establish a timeline to complete their recommendations.

- Dr. Kirk Miller received draft legislation from a financial education consultant, Brad Dupdale from Coeur d'Alene, ID who has been instrumental with the financial education group in Idaho. This legislation for financial education includes a legislative mandate. Dr. Miller believes that this legislation is in the best interest of children and that the Board could promulgate rules which could be consistent with the intent of legislators interested in this topic. If the Board would like to pursue this financial aspect in detail, Dr. Miller would like to invite this financial consultant to a future Board meeting.

Item 21 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - Steve Meloy and John Fuller

- Mr. Steve Meloy and Mr. John Fuller presented a document titled *Bills of Interest to the Board of Public Education* as of December 26, 2006. Some of the bills of interest were: LC 949-elects Board of Education, SB 123-full-time kindergarten, HB 45-revises school finance, and SB 152-education funding including kindergarten.
- Mr. Steve Meloy stated that the best lobbyists are the BPE members and the student representative. Discussion ensued how the Board could connect more positively with legislators.

Adjourned at 4:38

January 12 – Friday
8:30 A.M.

Item 17 CIVIC EDUCATION - Students from Anaconda High School

- Ms. Angela McLean's Honors American History Class from Anaconda High School presented the curriculum, titled *We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution*. This curriculum is a project of the Center for Civic Education funded by the U.S. Department of Education by act of Congress. Ms. McLean explained the rigor of the curriculum and the performance assessment through the state competition. Unit One presented their responses in an essay format to the philosophical and historical foundations of the American political system by answering the following questions:
 1. How and why did the natural rights philosophers use an imaginary state of nature to think about the basic problems of government?
 - What was John Locke's view of human nature and how did that view influence his ideas about what type of government was best?
 - How did Locke distinguish between a government and a legitimate government, and why is that distinction important?
 2. What ideas born of the Renaissance, the Reformation, and the Enlightenment influenced the Founders' beliefs about individual rights?
 - A famous philosopher suggested that the motto of the Enlightenment should be "Dare to know! Have courage to use your own reason!"* Do you think that is an appropriate motto? Why or why not?
 - Evaluate the claim that "The American Founders belonged to the Age of Enlightenment."**

*Immanuel Kant quoted Horace in Peter Hanns Reill and Ellen Judy Wilson's *Encyclopedia of the Enlightenment*, revised edition. (New York: Facts on File, Inc., 2004), p.xi.
***We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution*. (Calabasas, California: Center for Civic Education, 1995), p. 25.
- 3. What basic ideas of constitutional government were developed and used in the American colonies before they gained their independence?
 - What ideas accepted in England did the colonists discard? Which ideas did they adopt?
 - Why did the colonists attach special importance to such constitutional principles as written guarantees of rights and representative government?

- The students then responded to questions without the aid of their written presentations. Mr. John Fuller asked the students some grueling questions. The students handled themselves honorably and reflected the level of preparation necessary to demonstrate proficiency of the Social Studies Content and Performance Standards.

Ms. Patty Myers took over the chairmanship of the Government Affairs Committee due to Mr. Steve Meloy and Dr. Kirk Miller leaving at 9:10 to testify to the legislature.

Item 18 NCLB UPDATE - Nancy Coopersmith

- OPI presented an overview of the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) process and preliminary school and district determinations of AYP status. In addition, current information about the federal appropriations process was highlighted.
- The documents presented were: Letter from Superintendent Linda McCulloch concerning 2006 Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP); Montana annual measurable objective trajectory; proposed AYP status report-calculated process, feeder school process, and Montana small schools accountability process; effectiveness report review; and improvement interventions for Title I schools/districts dated January 20, 2005.
- Superintendent Linda McCulloch believes that all of Montana's schools should be in the small schools process due to the size of Montana's schools compared to those across the nation. The hesitation is that there is a lot of work and limited funds. No other states follow the small schools process.

Item 19 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS - John Fuller

- A document titled: *Alignment of High School Graduation Requirements and State-Set College Admissions Requirements* by Jennifer Dounay of the Education Commission of the United States was presented to the Board.
- Mr. John Fuller believes that the Board needs to review high school graduation requirements to challenge the students of Montana. Presently it is feasible for a high school student to graduate in 2 ½ years. Some concerns that need to be addressed would be the evaluation of schools on its graduation rates and drop-out rates. Mr. John Fuller stated that Montana graduation requirements are deficient as a mandatory minimum.

**Item 20 DUAL CREDIT REPORT (FROM THE AD HOC COMMITTEE AND DISTRICT SURVEY) –
Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson**

- This report provided the Board of Public Education with summary information related to dual credit and dual enrollment opportunities and participation by Montana K-12 students. In addition, it provided the material from the Dual Enrollment Ad Hoc Committee as presented to the Kindergarten to College Workgroup on December 14, 2006.
- The Board of Education charged the Dual Enrollment Ad Hoc Committee to address the unresolved issues from the work of the 2004-2005 P-20 Dual Enrollment Task Force and to make a final recommendation to the Kindergarten to College Workgroup regarding the unresolved issues. The Dual Enrollment Ad Hoc Committee was formed in 2006 to meet in work sessions on October 10, 2006 and on November 20, 2006.
- The three unresolved questions remain: 1) How does Montana ensure that dual credit courses "supplement but do no supplant" the high school curriculum? 2) What credentials, if any, should be required for teaching dual-credit courses? 3) How will distance-delivered dual credit courses comply with applicable standards and statutes?
- There were four documents included in this report: 1) 2004-2005 P-20 Dual Enrollment Task Force Overview; 2) Dual Enrollment Ad Hoc Committee Report to the Kindergarten to College Workgroup; 3) K-12 Summary Report to the Kindergarten to College Workgroup; 4) Higher Education Report to Kindergarten to College Workgroup.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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 22 INCREASING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PHYSICAL ACTIVITY STATEMENT - Steve Meloy

- Mr. Bob Vogel presented a resolution encouraging Montana school districts to provide increased opportunities for physical activity and promote healthy nutritional choices. Discussion ensued how to distribute this resolution to schools.

MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to adopt the resolution for increasing opportunities for physical activity as revised. Mr. John Fuller seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Dr. Kirk Miller was absent for the vote.

Item 23 PROPOSED NOTICE OF RULE AMENDMENT TO 10.55.716 SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS- Peter Donovan

- Mr. Peter Donovan reiterated the intent of this rule and requested that the Board take action on the notice of public hearing on the proposed amendment of ARM 1.55.716 relating to substitute teachers.

MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to notice for public hearing the proposed amendment of ARM 10.55.716 relating to substitute teachers. Ms. Patty Myers seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Dr. Kirk Miller was absent for the vote.

Item 24 FINAL ACTION – 10.58.102 – 802 PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM STANDARDS - Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson

- OPI requested action by the Board of Public Education to approve the notice of adoption on the proposed amendment of ARM 10.58.102-704 Professional Educator Preparation Program Standards. This presentation highlighted the additions and changes made to the draft standards based on the comments from the public hearing held November 16, 2006 as well as the comments gathered from the field during the public hearing process.
- Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson provided the notice of adoption to the Board at this time.
- Ms. Angela McLean requested to suspend action until the special BPE meeting scheduled for January 18, 2007 on the adoption of proposed amendment of ARM 10.58.102-704 Professional Educator Preparation Program Standards. This will provide the Board ample time to review the amendments. The Board agreed by concurrence to suspend the action until 1/18/2007.

Item 25 FINAL ACTION FOR ADOPTION OF ASSIGNMENT OF PERSONS PROVIDING INSTRUCTION TO BRAILLE RULE - Peter Donovan

- Mr. Peter Donovan requested final action by the Board of Public Education to approve the adoption of New Rule I Assignment of Persons Providing Instruction to Braille Students.

MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to adopt the assignment of persons providing instruction to Braille students. Ms. Patty Myers seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Dr. Kirk Miller was absent for the vote.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Item 26 CSPAC REPORT - Peter Donovan

- Mr. Peter Donovan provided the Board with the Certification Standards & Practices Advisory Council meeting agenda scheduled for Tuesday, January 16, 2007. Some of the items of interest will be: NASDTEC Annual Conference, Presentation on Indian Achievement, and Montana Schools E-Learning Consortium (MSELC) Research Project Report.

Item 27 MSDB COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT - Steve Gettel

- Ms. Patty Myers presented the MSDB report as Mr. Steve Gettel was attending the legislative committee hearing dealing with the MSDB budget. The following items were presented:
 1. Student Enrollment/Evaluation
 - December child count/outreach data
 2. Human Resources
 - Personnel Actions
 - Update on core competencies project
 3. School Improvement – Action Item*
 - Effectiveness report update
 - Update on CHRIS data systems
 - NAAS annual report
 - *Approval of 2007-08 Calendar

MOTION: Ms. Patty Myers moved to accept the proposed MSDB 2007- 08 calendar. Mr. John Fuller seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Dr. Kirk Miller was absent for the vote.

4. 2007 Legislative Session
 - Status of proposals
 - Requests for fiscal notes
 - Bill drafts effecting MSDB
5. Professional Development Activities
 - Update on in-service training
6. MSDB Foundation Activities
 - Update on activities
7. Conferences, Meetings and Contacts
8. Budget and Finance
 - Update on budget
9. Facilities and Safety
 - Update on current projects
10. School Calendar of Events
11. Student News and School Events
12. Public Comment for Non Agenda Items

Item 28 MEETING EVALUATION AND FEEDBACK - Diane Fladmo

- Ms. Diane Fladmo presented a meeting evaluation form to the Board. The focus of the evaluation was: 1) How well do the presentations connect new information with what the Board members already know? 2) Materials provided were accurate, reliable, and will be valuable as a resource. 3) How was the mix of presentation and discussion? 4) Are there any suggestions you would like to see for future meetings? 5) Which presentations were most beneficial? Two Board members responded with “excellent” markings and the appreciation for the number of students in attendance of the meeting.
- Ms. Diane Fladmo submitted her resignation from the Board of Public Education effective immediately.

- Meeting was concluded with many heartfelt comments of appreciation for Ms. Diane Fladmo's advocacy on behalf of Montana's children.

PRELIMINARY AGENDA ITEMS – March 8-9, 2007

- Executive Secretary Evaluation and Contract Extension Discussion
- MSDB Superintendent Evaluation and Contract Extension Discussion
- Establish Executive Staff Salaries
- CSPAC/BPE Joint Meeting
- Annual CSPAC Report
- Assessment Update with option presented of NRT
- Accreditation Recommendations
- NCLB Update
- Alternative Standards Requests and Renewals
- MACIE Update
- Special Education Report
- BOE Updates
- NASBE Updates
- Meeting Evaluation/Feedback
- Distance Learning
- Administrative Personnel 10.55.705
- PEPPS
- Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment

Meeting was adjourned by concurrence of the Board at 12:00 p.m.

Approved