

BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES

May 8-9, 2008

MONTANA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND BLIND
3911 CENTRAL AVENUE
GREAT FALLS, MT 59401

May 8, 2008 - Thursday
8:30 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Patty Myers called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. on Thursday, May 8, 2008. The Montana School for the Deaf and Blind's (MSDB) Kindergarten Class and Lewis and Clark's 2nd Grade Class led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance using sign language. Ms. Patty Myers introduced the students and teachers. Mr. Steve Gettel presented MSDB pins to the Board, staff, and visitors acknowledging educator's week. Ms. Carol Will took roll call; a quorum was noted. Ms. Angela McLean was not in attendance due to illness. State Superintendent Linda McCulloch was at the Best Practices Conference in Billings, MT. She will be in attendance on Friday, May 9, 2008. Ms. Patty Myers noted that Item 16 was withdrawn from the agenda and will be rescheduled for the July BPE meeting.

Those in attendance at the meeting included the following Board members: Chair Ms. Patty Myers, Ms. Sharon Carroll, Dr. Kirk Miller, Mr. Storrs Bishop, Mr. Bernie Olson, Mr. Cal Gilbert, and Ms. Katie Wood. Staff present at the meeting included: Mr. Steve Meloy, Executive Secretary, Board of Public Education; Mr. Peter Donovan, Administrative Officer, Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council; and Ms. Carol Will, Administrative Assistant, Board of Public Education. Ex-officio members present at the meeting included: State Superintendent Linda McCulloch, Commissioner of Higher Education Sheila Stearns, and Ms. Jan Lombardi represented ex-officio member Governor Brian Schweitzer. Visitors in attendance at the meeting included Mr. Bud Williams, Deputy Superintendent, OPI; Ms. Nancy Coopersmith, Assistant Superintendent, OPI; Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, Accreditation Division Administrator, OPI; Ms. Katherine Moore, Science Curriculum Specialist, OPI; Mr. Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT; Ms. Anna Green, Governor's Office; Ms. Colet Bartow, Library Media Specialist, OPI; Ms. Gloria Curdy, Facilitator, Information Literacy/Library Media Revision Team; Mr. Darrell Rud, School Administrators of Montana; Mr. Al McMilin, Educator Quality Program Specialist, OPI; Mr. Michael Hall, Instructional Technology Specialist, OPI; Mr. Matt Clausen, Technology Revision Team; Mr. Steve Gettel, Superintendent, MSDB; Dr. Bruce Messinger, Chair, MQEC; Ms. Pam Joehler, Legislative Fiscal Division; Mr. Donald Eisenmenger, State Superintendent Candidate; Senator Sam Kitzenburg, State Superintendent Candidate; Ms. Kathleen Magone, Attorney, OPI; Ms. Katie Moore, OPI; Mr. David Ewer, Budget Director, Governor's Office; Ms. Barbara Ross, Apple Computer; Ms. Nancy Hall, Senior Budget Analyst, Governor's Office; Mr. Tom Kotynski, Workforce Development Facilitator, Great Falls Public Schools; Ms. Katie Kotynski, Great Falls Public Schools; Ms. Dulce Whitford, MIEA; and Mr. Kris Goss, concerned citizen.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to approve the agenda as revised. Dr. Kirk Miller seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Angela McLean was absent for the vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

Items Pulled from Consent Agenda if Requested

No items were pulled.

Consent agenda was approved as presented by concurrence of the Board.

Dr. Kirk Miller offered a word of thanks to the Board and staff for being honored as a nominee for the NASBE Distinguished Service Award as noted in the correspondence.

Items are presented in the order in which they appeared.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Item 1 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT - Patty Myers

Chairperson's Appearances

- March 13, 2008 K-12 Subcommittee Meeting
- March 14, 2008 Education and Local Government Meeting
- April 29, 2008 MSDB Committee Meeting
- May 2, 2008 Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools & Programs for the Deaf (CEASD) Reception

Ms. Patty Myers announced the following:

- Mr. Tim Joern, science teacher at Whitefish Middle School, Whitefish, MT received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Teaching
- Ms. Anne Keith, math teacher at Chief Joseph Middle School, Bozeman, MT received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics Teaching
- Ms. Anke Davis, Greenfield Elementary School, Fairfield, MT received the Montana Rural School Teacher of the Year Award
- Mr. Tom Blakely, Principal, Three Forks High School, Three Forks, MT was named the Principal of the Year by the Montana Association of Secondary Principals

Board of Public Education Appearances – Calendar provided for the months of March, April, and May 2008.

Dr. Kirk Miller

- March 10, 2008 Dual Enrollment Conference Call
- March 11, 2008 DLTFII Class 8 Dual/Credit Post Secondary Education License Group
- March 13 – 14, 2008 2008 NASBE Legislative Conference – Washington, DC
- March 31, 2008 MASS Meeting
- April 22, 2008 Subcommittee Class 8
- May 1, 2008 DLTFII Meeting

Ms. Sharon Carroll

- April 28-29, 2008 OPI Assessment Conference

Mr. Bernie Olson

- April 29, 2008 MSDB Committee Meeting

Mr. Storrs Bishop

- May 1, 2008 DLTFII Meeting

Ms. Katie Wood

- March 16, 2008 MASC Executive Board Meeting

Item 2 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT - Steve Meloy

Mr. Steve Meloy highlighted the following:

- According to Montana Code Annotated (MCA) 20-7-101(2) "Prior to adoption or amendment of any accreditation standard, the board shall submit each proposal to the education and local government interim committee for review. The interim committee shall request a fiscal analysis to be prepared by the legislative fiscal division. The legislative fiscal division shall provide its analysis to the interim committee and to the office of budget and program planning to be used in the preparation of the executive budget." (3) "If the fiscal analysis of the proposal is found by the legislative fiscal division to have substantial fiscal impact, the board may not implement the standard until July 1 following the next regular legislative session and shall request that the same legislature fund implementation of the proposed standard. A substantial fiscal impact is an amount that cannot be readily absorbed in the budget of an existing school district program." Mr. Meloy stated that the Board has noticed Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD) through standard noticing procedures, but a formal letter that outlines the rule needs to be submitted directly to the LFD
- The Board continues to work with Administrative Law Judge, Beda J. Lovitt on revocation cases. These cases are costly for the agency at \$84.00 per hour. Financial assistance from the legislature and/or the Legislative Services Division may be necessary
- MSDB has been audited recently by the Legislative Audit Division (LAD). During the performance audit the Deputy Legislative Auditor, Ms. Angie Grove noted the following recommendations:
 - Examine the efforts required to comply with Title I of NCLB and if appropriate, take actions to ensure MSDB receives the Title I grant monies
 - Secure IDEA monies for MSDB based on the poverty factor, as well as the at-risk state school funding component
 - Determine relevant workload factors for outreach
 - Collect data on relevant activities for outreach consultants
 - Use existing and newly collected workload data to implement equitable workloads for outreach consultants
- NASBE invited Mr. Bernie Olson to the 2008 New State Board Members Institute being held in Alexandria, VA on July 18-20, 2008
- Ms. Brenda Welburn, NASBE Director, will assist in the facilitation of the Board's planning session on July 9, 2008

NASBE WESTERN AREA MEETING

NASBE is in the process of developing a new strategic plan and expressed an interest in conducting a Western Region Meeting tentatively scheduled for early August to be held in Denver, CO. The meeting would include a discussion of education issues of particular concern to the western states as well as a focus session on how NASBE can best meet the needs of this region. Mr. Steve Meloy notified NASBE that the Montana Board of Public Education has an interest in being represented.

Item 3 CSPAC REPORT - Peter Donovan

Mr. Peter Donovan addressed some of the following meetings along with their outcomes. In addition to this accounting, please refer to the Board of Public Education Appearances calendar.

- March 11, 2008 DLTFII Class 8 Dual/Credit post secondary education license group
- March 18, 2008 Chapter 57
- March 19, 2008 School Staffing Module
- March 27, 2008 DLTFII Class 8 Subcommittee Meeting
- April 11, 2008 Interpreter Standards Planning Meeting
- April 18, 2008 DLTFII Class 8 Sub-subgroup with Council of Deans
- April 21, 2008 NASDTEC Conference Call
- April 22, 2008 DLTFII Class 8 Subcommittee

CSPAC APPOINTMENTS (Action)

Dr. Mary Susan Fishbaugh re-applied as the representative to the Montana Council of Deans of Education to serve on CSPAC. Ms. Sharon Applegate, 6th Grade Teacher from Kalispell Middle School applied as the elementary teacher representative and Ms. Patty Muir, Special Education Teacher, Laurel Public Schools applied as the specialist representative to serve on CSPAC. Mr. Eric Feaver, Mr. Bud Williams, and Mr. Bernie Olson expressed their support of either one or both of the candidates.

MOTION: Dr. Kirk Miller moved to approve the appointments of Dr. Mary Susan Fishbaugh, Ms. Sharon Applegate, and Ms. Patty Muir to the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council (CSPAC). Mr. Storrs Bishop seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Angela McLean was absent for the vote.

INTERPRETER WORKGROUP

Mr. Peter Donovan distributed a memo dated April 30, 2008 to the participants of the Educational Sign Language Interpreter Standards Work Group from Dr. Douglas Reisig, Chair, Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council (CSPAC) in regard to the initial meeting that will occur during the week of June 9-13, 2008 in Helena. The purpose of the group is to research and recommend to the Board a set of standards for Montana accredited schools to follow when employing individuals who will provide educational sign language interpreters. The group will also research options to enhance opportunities for training, professional development, and mentoring for educational interpreters.

Item 4 COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION'S REPORT - Commissioner Sheila Stearns

Commissioner Sheila Stearns announced that there are two finalists for the Deputy Commissioner for Academic & Student Affairs and one finalist for the Deputy Commissioner of Two-Year Education. These positions should be filled within the next month. Commissioner Stearns thanked Mr. Steve Meloy for his involvement in the selection committee of the Deputy Commissioner for Academic & Student Affairs.

The development of two-year education in the state of Montana was discussed along with the use of the Making Opportunity Affordable Initiative that focuses on encouraging higher education systems and institutions to be more cost-effective and collaborative with K-12 education in order to enhance student access and success, further contain costs, and introduce additional productivity improvements. Commissioner Sheila Stearns stated the goal is to have a recommendation to the Board of Regents soon to expand capacity and bolster productivity of two-year schools.

The April 2008 newsletter titled Writing Proficiency in the Montana University System was presented. The Montana Board of Regents adopted the test scores of the Montana University System Writing Assessment (MUSWA) as a standard of readiness for college-level composition. As juniors in high school, students take the MUSWA and find out if they will be ready for credit-bearing, college-level composition or if they are more likely to need a developmental writing course when they enter college. A graph was included that shows the operating costs and .5 FTE for Academic Initiatives; Title II Improving Teacher Quality grants to campuses for onsite facilitators, training costs and college credits; and an estimate for the cost to K-12 schools for substitute teachers and teacher travel.

In conclusion, discussion ensued around the successful work of the Distance Learning Task Force Phase II, financial aid, student loans, and the new Board of Regents' Student Representative.

Item 5 GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORT - Jan Lombardi

Ms. Jan Lombardi provided the Board with a press release dated Wednesday, May 7, 2008 announcing Mr. Mitch Jessen from Dillon, MT as the new student regent on the Board of Regents beginning July 1, 2008. Mr. Jessen grew up in Dillon and is currently a student at the University of Montana: Western. He has also attended Universal Technical Institute and the University of Utah. He works in the Admissions

Office, for Facilities Services and for Safe Ride at Montana Western. At the University of Utah, Mr. Jessen worked as an orientation leader and as a resident advisor. Mr. Jessen served his LDS mission in Britain.

- Mr. David Ewer, Budget Director, Governor's Office visited MSDB on Thursday, May 8, 2008. He addressed the Board of Public Education upon the completion of his tour. Minutes of Mr. Ewer's comments are listed in the order in which they appeared

K – COLLEGE UPDATE

Ms. Jan Lombardi provided a press release dated Friday, May 2, 2008 on the recommendations of the Distance Learning Task Force Phase II to the Board of Public Education. Governor Brian Schweitzer said, "Our high school students are competing in a global economy. That is why one of my first homework assignments to the Board of Education was to prepare our students for college and work. I am thrilled that they made this practical and important decision. Now more Montana high school students will have a chance to get a jump start on college." Under the recommendations students will have greater access to dual-credit courses.

- Ms. Anna Green is in the process of organizing the next K-College meeting to be held on July 31, 2008

Item 7 SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION CANDIDATE - Donald Eisenmenger, Libertarian Candidate

Some points presented were:

- Mr. Donald Eisenmenger stressed the fact that he offers a different perspective, which is unique to the other state superintendent of public instruction candidates, because he is not presently in the education system. If elected he would represent the interests of parents and taxpayers
- Not pressing for any major increases in the funding of education
- Noted an excessive fondness of educators and wants to be clear and objective to who are paying the bills
- Montana is not a wealthy state, but is spending approximately 125% more on education than what most U.S. citizens are paying according to national norms. Montana's educational system is exceptionally good, but tax payers are speaking out when they do not pass current mill levies
- Montana does not provide a level of funding and support for options to other public education systems. Montana needs to look at ways to address the 8% of students who choose not to engage in the traditional public school system
- The Libertarian party is supportive in individual decision making at the lowest level possible
- Mr. Eisenmenger views that OPI needs to be more of a resource to school districts to enhance their curriculum rather than mandate what needs to be taught
- Addressed issues in regard to artificial barriers he views in licensure
- Would like to see more flexibility of funding for school districts and review the accreditation standards to determine why school districts are not able to meet them

Item 6 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S SURVEY REPORT - Katie Wood

Ms. Katie Wood worked with Ms. Jan Lombardi on getting informational DVD's from the various colleges around the state to have high school students review a typical college day. During the Montana Association of Student Council's Executive Board Meeting held on March 16, 2008 in Helena, Ms. Katie Wood was selected by the MASC to serve a second term for the Board of Public Education.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Item 8 NASBE 2008 LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE - Dr. Kirk Miller

Dr. Kirk Miller reported on his attendance to the NASBE 2008 Legislative Conference on March 13-14, 2008, in Washington, D.C. Some items included on the agenda were: Election 2008; Briefing on Federal Issues; Elementary and Secondary Education Act Reauthorization Congressional Leadership Discussion; State Board Member Visits with Congressional Delegations; School Leadership; U.S. Department of Education Briefing; Where Do We Go From Here? What's Next for NCLB in 2009 and Beyond; and The

Price of NCLB – The Cost of Education Reform. Dr. Kirk Miller had the opportunity to meet with Senator Tester, Senator Baucus, and others from Montana to converse about educational issues. Senator Tester was clear that he would not support reauthorization of NCLB because he believes it is broken. Senator Baucus intends to talk with Senator Kennedy about NCLB's impact on Montana and other rural states. He appreciated the changes that Montana has offered forth. Representative Rehberg said he doesn't believe that NCLB will be reauthorized under the current status. There was some discussion about broadening the tax base by expanding natural resource development to create a sustainable source of funding. Dr. Kirk Miller had the opportunity to spend about an hour with Senator Jon Tester in the Bozeman School District to discuss what is happening with education in Montana shortly after the 2008 Legislative Conference.

Mr. Eric Feaver noted that the mill levies failed in Great Falls and in Billings. It makes a statement of public perception of not indicating a good sign of public support. Mill levies are an intricate part of school funding. Some characterize them as a "necessary evil", but Mr. Feaver believes that they are a "necessary good". It is how taxpayers invest in public schools and maintain local control.

Item 9 NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND UPDATE - Nancy Coopersmith

This item included information concerning the E-Grant timelines for the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) applications for funding; allocations of funds for NCLB programs; recent federal reviews of Montana NCLB programs; and recently proposed regulations for NCLB. Ms. Nancy Coopersmith was proud of the joint statement that was prepared by Ms. Linda McCulloch, State Superintendent; Mr. Eric Feaver, President, MEA-MFT; Mr. Lance Melton, Executive Director, Montana School Boards Association; Mr. Steve Meloy, Executive Secretary, Board of Public Education; Ms. Beth Verlanic, President, Montana Parent Teacher Association; Mr. Dave Puyear, Executive Director, Montana Rural Education Association; and Mr. Darrell Rud, Executive Director, School Administrators of Montana; in regard to the Montana statement on reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) found in correspondence and under Item 30 State Superintendent's Report included in the agenda packet.

The detailed summary of proposed Title I Regulations dated April 22, 2008 addressed the following:

- Ms. Nancy Coopersmith reminded the Board that no appropriation of ESEA Title V is available this year
- Assessments and multiple measures
- Minimum subgroup size and increasing inclusion of students in accountability determinations
- NAEP data on state and local report cards
- Graduation rates and AYP
 1. Establish a uniform definition of graduation rate by 2012-2013
 2. Provide flexibility for states to propose an alternate definition of "standard number of years"
 3. Require states to set a graduation rate goal, and define "continuous and substantial improvement" for AYP determinations
 4. Require disaggregated graduation rates in AYP
- Including individual student academic progress in AYP
- Strengthening state assessment and accountability systems
- Limiting identification for improvement by subject or subgroup
- Strengthening restructuring
 1. Restructuring interventions must be more rigorous than corrective action
 2. Interventions must address the problem
 3. Replacing school staff may also include replacing the principal, but replacing the principal by itself is not sufficient
- Supplemental Educational Services (SES) and Public School Choice
 1. Public school choice and SES notification timeline
 2. Reporting how LEAs implement SES and public school choice
 3. Reporting on state monitoring of SES implementation by LEAs
 4. Approving SES providers

5. Monitoring the effectiveness of SES providers
 6. Costs for outreach and assistance to parents regarding SES and public school choice
 7. Unspent funds for public school choice and SES
- Highly qualified special education teachers

Ms. Nancy Coopersmith noted that the Emergency Supplement Appropriation could provide \$6.5 million to aging and dilapidated schools. It is her hope that this moves forward and provides some relief of facilities to our nation's schools. Dr. Kirk Miller clarified that Title V funds continue to exist, so there is the flexibility of transfer within other Title funds. Discussion ensued around the federal review and the definition of a highly qualified teacher in Montana. The Office of Public Instruction is waiting for the final review letter.

Item 10 JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE WORK OF THE EDUCATION AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE - Patty Myers and Pam Joehler, LFD Analyst

Ms. Patty Myers presented the K-12 Subcommittee meeting agenda that was held on Thursday, March 13, 2007. One item Ms. Myers specifically mentioned was presented by Mr. Chris Lohse, Research Director, American Indian Student Achievement, NCSL, concerning the Indian Education Achievement Gap.

Ms. Pam Joehler was introduced as the Board of Public Education's LFD Senior Analyst. Ms. Joehler shared with the Board that at the Interim Committee on Education and Local Government's (ELG) March 2008 meeting, the committee charged staff with reporting back to the committee and Chairman Laible with ideas on a process that would lead to a deliverable document that would be a set of shared policy goals by and among the following four institutions: 1) Legislature; 2) Board of Public Education; 3) Board of Regents and the staff of the Commissioner of Higher Education; and 4) Office of Public Instruction. It is also envisioned that the Executive Secretary to the Board of Public Education would be part of this process with a role in the deliverable document of larger shared policy goals.

Product Deliverable

During the 2009-2010 interim of the legislature, there will be developed one joint-document of "larger shared policy goals" that is comprised of the following three components:

- Shared Policy Goals and Accountability Measures for the Montana University System, signed by the Board of Regents and the legislature [no change to this document or process]
- Shared Policy Goals and Accountability Measures for the K-12 Public Education System, signed by the Board of Public Education, the Office of Public Instruction, and the legislature [additional document recommended by staff]
- Shared Policy Goals and Accountability Measures for Public Education from Kindergarten through Graduate School, signed by the BOR, BPE, OPI, and the legislature

These three components will address a broad range of education policies and be organized in a way that recognizes a distinct set of policy goals for both higher education and for K-12 that will merge into a joint set of policy goals that involve all institutions. The deliverable process was also presented along with the two subcommittees for Postsecondary Education Policy and Budget (PEPB) and K-12 Public Education Policy and Budget (KPEPB). This would create the equivalent of PEPB for K-12 and the whole committee would umbrella both entities to make decisions on the common spectrum of issues and bridge the conversation between higher education and K-12.

Discussion ensued around who makes the appointments, who are the voting members, and does this KPEPB make recommendations to the ELG. Ms. Pam Joehler believed that it would be comprised of members representing the Montana Legislature appointed by the legislature, Board of Public Education members appointed by the Board, and the Executive Branch as ex-officio members including the BPE Executive Secretary, Governor, and the Governor's Educational Advisor. The KPEPB will make recommendations to the ELG in the same manner as the PEPB.

David Ewer arrived at 11:55 a.m. to have lunch with the Board and visitors at the MSDB Cafeteria.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

KINDERGARTEN CLASS AND THE “FAIRVIEW READING PROGRAM” ROOM 16 - Julie Dee Alt, MSDB Kindergarten Teacher

VISUALLY IMPAIRED PERFORMERS (VIP) - IMC STAGE - Sheryl Lute

COTTAGE ACTIVITIES - BPE BOARD MEETING ROOM - Maeona Lee, Supervising Counselor, MSDB Cottage Program

INFORMATION ITEMS

DAVID EWER, GOVERNOR’S BUDGET DIRECTOR

Mr. David Ewer thanked Mr. Steve Gettel and his staff for the opportunity to tour the MSDB campus. Mr. Ewer expressed his interest in continuing to meet the needs of deaf and blind students and noted how MSDB delivers services have evolved throughout the years. The Schweitzer administration wants to ensure that all of Montana’s children are prepared for life-long learning. Since this is a world of scarce resources, the Board needs to ask itself what can be done to assist Montana’s students to lead productive lives and survive the world of work in a competitive nature. Mr. David Ewer and Governor Schweitzer have been in front of the Montana Quality Education Coalition (MQEC) to address the scarcity of resources. Support needs to come from legislators, BPE, and our communities. Governor Schweitzer is committed to improving the communities of Montana and money by itself will not resolve the issues. More needs to be done than just augment the status quo.

Discussion centered on the issues Governor Schweitzer wants the BPE to consider when it prepares the long-range strategic plan on July 9, 2008. Mr. David Ewer noted the declining enrollment of rural Montana and stressed that Governor Schweitzer wants the Board to ensure the efficiency of dual enrollment through distance learning, re-evaluate ANB funding, continue progress of Indian Education for All, and create a seamless system between K-12 and higher education. Mr. Ewer acknowledged that the state of Montana has a financial responsibility to fund quality education, but the state is not solely responsible as noted by mill levies that either passed or failed in the recent election.

2:08 Commissioner Sheila Stearns Departed

Item 12 SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION CANDIDATE - Sam Kitzenburg, Democratic Candidate

Some points presented were:

- Strongest qualification is 17 years of experience in the legislature
- Goal is not to join the recession in regard to education. Need to achieve the best possible education in the state of Montana
- People in North Eastern Montana are concerned about the cost of living in this great state
- Need a new funding formula. Feeling the vibrations of declining enrollment. A new formula should meet the needs of students more effectively
- Healthcare is a missing element
- Wants to provide more educator initiatives
- As a former teacher, Senator Kitzenburg wants to empower teachers through better pay and resources for classrooms
- If elected, the new sign on the Office of Public Instruction would be, “How Can We Serve You?” He wants to communicate more with the teachers in regard to what can be done for them, even if it means being available on Saturdays
- Noted that if he hadn’t changed political parties, full day kindergarten would not have passed
- Wants to provide more computers for students

- Views a great future in education because the state of Montana does care about doing what is necessary to improve the education of its children

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Bud Williams introduced Ms. Katherine Elizabeth Moore as the Office of Public Instruction's Science Curriculum Specialist from Vancouver, Washington.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Item 11 ASSESSMENT UPDATE - Madalyn Quinlan

In January 2008, the Office of Public Instruction (OPI) presented five recommendations to the Board of Public Education for the further development of the Montana Comprehensive Assessment System. At this meeting, Mr. Bud Williams provided an update on the progress related to the following statewide assessment recommendations since Ms. Madalyn Quinlan was on vacation. The italics are what were added to the original recommendations listed as of April 30, 2008.

1. Pilot a writing assessment for K-12
 - *Purpose and technical aspects of writing assessments*
 - *Panel on local writing assessments*
 - *Panel on commercial writing assessments*
 - *Testing contractors presented information about demonstrations of their writing assessment products and services. CTB-McGraw-Hill, Measured Progress, and Data Recognition Corporation each gave a one hour presentation to OPI assessment planning staff*
 - *Writing Assessment Pilot for grades 5 and 9 – May's Request for Information (RFI) and August's Request for Proposals (RFP) will follow*
2. Analysis of seven years of NRT results
 - *A letter of agreement with Brookhart Enterprises has been signed and the contractor has the necessary materials and data to complete the project. The completion date is September 15, 2008*
3. Creating interest and awareness in formative assessment
 - *Moderated panel on commercial formative assessments*
 - *Use of NAEP Questions Tool as a resource for constructing classroom formative assessments*
 - *Use of Smart Boards and other technology for classroom formative assessment*
 - *Formative assessment basics*
 - *CPS+CRT= Success (NOTE: CPS are handheld "clicker" devices that individuals in a group use to indicate an answer)*
 - *OPI will purchase copies of Dr. Jim Popham's, Transformative Assessment, for all test coordinators, the assessment task force, and the OPI Resource Center*
 - *2008 MEA-MFT Educator Conference: OPI will present a moderated panel on formative assessment, which will include participation from Montana school districts*
 - *OPI will contract for professional development modules on best practices in formative assessment*
4. Survey of school districts to identify needs for state and local assessment
 - *The focus groups provided input for the questionnaire. A questionnaire is being developed based on themes raised by the focus groups including writing/performance assessments, local assessment needs, formative assessment needs, and suggestions for the next generation of the CRT. OPI has signed a Letter of Agreement with WestEd to develop the questionnaire. The completion date for the results of the questionnaire is November 7, 2008*
5. Form an assessment task force
 - *The original recommendation of the survey dates has been amended so that focus groups at the April 2008 statewide assessment conference can inform the content of the questionnaire. A letter of agreement with WestEd has been signed for the focus groups, survey,*

questionnaire, results, and reports. WestEd will work with the OPI and the BPE's formed assessment task force to provide input and recommendations on the questionnaire drafts. The final questionnaire will be used in a statewide survey in September 2008. A written report and recommendations will be presented to the Board at its November 2008 meeting

Mr. Bud Williams distributed a packet of information from the 2008 OPI Statewide Assessment Conference that was held on April 28-29, 2008. Discussion centered on who should be on the Assessment Task Force, the 2008 timeline, and addressed the concept of a seamless system.

Item 13 REVISED INFORMATION LITERACY/LIBRARY MEDIA CONTENT AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS - Colet Bartow

This presentation provided for consideration the draft K-12 Content Standards and Performance Descriptors for Information Literacy/Library Media. It also included discussion of the review process, foundation resources, key issues, draft standards and related materials. Attached is the "user-friendly" document of the K-12 Content Standards and Performance Descriptors for Information Literacy/Library Media. Ms. Colet Bartow, Library Media Specialist and Ms. Gloria Curdy, Facilitator for the Information Literacy/Library Media Revision Team presented a memorandum dated April 24, 2008 in regard to the revision progress report. The Literacy/Library Media and Technology teams worked closely together and used the national experts Mr. Mike Eisenberg and Mr. Doug Johnson. Mr. Eisenberg informed the teams that the standards in the draft form should be a model and reviewed by the nation for the quality of their excellence. An additional standard was added to satisfy the need to use information safely, ethically, and legally in the growing world of technology. There is a greater clarity to the substance of these standards.

Item 14 REVISED TECHNOLOGY CONTENT AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS - Michael Hall

This presentation provided for consideration the draft K-12 Content Standards and Performance Descriptors for Technology. It also included discussion of the review process, foundation resources, key issues, draft standards and related materials. Attached is the "user-friendly" document of the K-12 Content Standards and Performance Descriptors for Technology. Mr. Michael Hall, Instructional Technology Specialist and Mr. Matt Clausen, Team Member for the Technology Revision Team informed the Board that the technology standards have embedded two standards within the remaining four standards because the skills should be taught across the curriculum. Mr. Hall and Mr. Clausen reiterated the effectiveness of collaboration between the two teams to revise both sets of standards.

Closed Meeting 3:30 p.m.

MEETING CLOSED FOR ITEMS 15 – 17

INFORMATION ITEM

Item 15 NOTIFICATION OF SURRENDER OF EDUCATOR LICENSE - Kathleen Magone

Report to the Board of Public Education in closed session of the surrenders of two educator licenses as required by Administrative Rules of Montana 10.57.605(5): "The superintendent of public instruction shall provide notice to the board of public education of each surrender of a license and of the circumstances surrounding the surrender." The two surrenders were identified as folio #74123 and folio #43309.

ACTION ITEMS

Item 16 HEARING – DENIAL CASE NO. 2008-01 BPE - Steve Meloy and Kathleen Magone

The hearing was postponed until the July 10-11, 2008 Board of Public Education Meeting.

Item 17 REVOCATION CASE NO. 2008-02 BPE - Steve Meloy and Kathleen Magone

Open Meeting 3:52 p.m.

MOTION: Mr. Bernie Olson moved to revoke the license of Revocation Case No. 2008-02. Dr. Kirk Miller seconded. Ms. Sharon Carroll was recused from the vote. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Angela McLean was absent for the vote.

MEETING OPEN FOR THE REMAINING ITEMS

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.

Item 20 K-8 TRAFFIC SAFETY EDUCATION RESOLUTION - Nancy Coopersmith

For the reasons articulated in the proposed resolution, the Montana Comprehensive Highway Safety Planning Coalition has identified several priorities to help improve traffic safety among Montana's Young drivers and those who share the roadway with them. One countermeasure is increasing support and activities in Montana public schools related to traffic safety as a means of increasing knowledge and good experience with pre-driving K-8 children using Montana's roads and streets.

The proposed resolution was initially presented at the January 10, 2008 BPE meeting and represents one way to increase awareness of this important issue among schools, and to encourage schools to include traffic safety education and activities. In addition to this proposed resolution, other items are also being investigated. One is to develop an activity book for schools similar to the very popular "Mind & Body" activity book, but providing age-appropriate activities that improve the child's knowledge, awareness and skills about traffic safety behaviors. OPI asked the Board to consider adopting the Traffic Education Resolution as presented.

MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to adopt the K-8 Traffic Safety Education Resolution as presented. Mr. Cal Gilbert seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Angela McLean was absent for the vote.

Item 21 NOTICE OF AMENDMENT RELATING TO K-12 CONTENT STANDARDS & PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTORS FOR INFORMATION LITERACY/LIBRARY MEDIA AND TECHNOLOGY - Colet Bartow and Michael Hall

This presentation requested action by the Board of Public Education to approve the notice of public hearing document and timeline relating to the proposed amendments to the K-12 Content Standards and Performance Descriptors for Information Literacy/Library Media, Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 10.54.6510 through 10.54.6598, and K-12 Content Standards and Performance Descriptors for Technology ARM 10.54.7510 through 10.54.7598. The proposed timeline entailed the following dates:

- May 8-9, 2008 Proposed notice to BPE
- June 2, 2008 Proposed notice to SOS for notice in MAR (by 12:00 p.m.)
- June 12, 2008 MAR publication out
- Week of June 20-July 3, 2008 Hearing date
- Date of Hearing Final public input deadline
- July 8, 2008 Proposed adoption notice to BPE
- July 21, 2008 Adoption notice to SOS for notice in MAR (by 12:00 p.m.)
- July 31, 2008 MAR publication out
- August 1, 2008 Effective Date of Rules

MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to approve the notice of public hearing on the proposed amendments of ARM 10.54.6510 through 10.54.6598 relating to K-12 Content Standards and Performance Descriptors for Information Literacy/Library Media. Mr. Bernie Olson seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Angela McLean was absent for

the vote.

MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to approve the notice of public hearing on the proposed amendments of ARM 10.54.7510 through 10.54.7598 relating to K-12 Content Standards and Performance Descriptors for Technology. Ms. Sharon Carroll seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Angela McLean was absent for the vote.

It was discussed to have two hearings on the same day, but have some time separating each one.

Item 18 BPE AND BOR MEETING SCHEDULES - Steve Meloy

Ms. Carol Will, BPE's Administrative Assistant; Ms. Lynette Brown, Executive Assistant to the Commissioner and the Board of Regents; and Ms. Sherry Rosette, Former Executive Assistant to the Commissioner and the Board of Regents worked together to develop the proposed schedule to ensure that the BOR and the BPE do not overlap in meeting schedules. The proposed changes have been approved by Mr. Steve Meloy, BPE's Executive Secretary and Commissioner Sheila Stearns. The following changes were recommended:

- **July 2008** BOR will move its meeting to July 8, 2008; BPE will remain on July 9-11, 2008
- **January 2009** BOE will remain January 8, 2009 in the morning; BOR will meet all day on January 7, 2009 and the afternoon of January 8, 2009 after the BOE; and BPE will remain on the afternoon of January 8, 2009 after the BOE and all day on January 9, 2009
- **March 2009** BOR will remain March 4-6, 2009; BPE will move its meeting to March 12 – 13, 2009
- **July 2009** BOR will remain July 9, 2009; BPE will change its meeting to July 15-17, 2009

All remaining meetings for the Board of Public Education will remain the same.

MOTION: Mr. Bernie Olson moved to accept the proposed changes to the Board of Public Education's 2008-2009 meeting schedule. Mr. Cal Gilbert seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Angela McLean was absent for the vote.

Item 19 BPE JUNE 13, 2007 CONFERENCE CALL MEETING MINUTES - Steve Meloy

Mr. Steve Meloy reviewed the two-step process that the Board of Public Education uses to: 1. prescribe the term and duties with a contract; and 2. establish the salary of the BPE's Executive Secretary and MSDB's Superintendent. Mr. Meloy noted that the two motions that were acted upon during the June 13, 2007 BPE's conference call meeting read that the annual salary rate should extend throughout the length of the contract. Discussion ensued that it was the Board's intent to establish the salary for the 1st year of the contract that was extended for both the BPE's Executive Secretary and the MSDB's Superintendent.

The motions would read if amended:

1. MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to accept the proposed salary of the Superintendent of the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind at the annual rate of \$80,974.00 for the 1st year of the contract extended from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2010. Dr. Kirk Miller seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Storrs Bishop, Mr. Cal Gilbert, and Mr. John Fuller were absent from the vote.
2. MOTION: Dr. Kirk Miller moved a 3% increase in the Executive Secretary's annual salary for the Board of Public Education for the 1st year of the contract extended from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2010. Mr. Storrs Bishop, Mr. Cal Gilbert, and Mr. John Fuller were absent from the vote.

MOTION: Dr. Kirk Miller moved to amend motion 1 and motion 2 as presented to include "the 1st year of the contract extended" for the Superintendent of the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind and the Executive Secretary to the Board of Public Education. Mr. Cal Gilbert seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Angela McLean was absent for the vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Chris Goss, Former Education Policy Advisor to the Governor, came to speak with the Board because the Board's passion of education has continued to reside within him.

Adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

May 9, 2008 – Friday

8:30 a.m.

State Superintendent Linda McCulloch present

Deputy Commissioner Roger Barber attended for Commissioner Sheila Stearns

Meeting called to order at 8:35 a.m.

Item 22 ADDENDUM TO 2007-2008 ACCREDITATION STATUS RECOMMENDATIONS - Al McMilin

This presentation provided the BPE to consider an addendum to the 2007-2008 accreditation determinations for all schools as recommended by the State Superintendent Linda McCulloch. These changes are due to errors identified by the Office of Public Instruction after the accreditation determinations were acted on during the March 2008 BPE meeting and the districts were notified of those determinations. The report was included. Mr. Al McMilin stated that the addendums are usually a move up in accreditation status.

MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to approve the amendments to the 2007-2008 Montana Accreditation Status Recommendations as presented. Mr. Cal Gilbert seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Angela McLean was absent for the vote.

Item 23 PROGRESS REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REVISED 2006-2007 IMPROVEMENT PLANS FOR SCHOOLS WITH ADVICE OR DEFICIENCY ACCREDITATION STATUS - Al McMilin

A progress report was provided from OPI of the improvement plans to correct accreditation deviations that were disapproved at the January 2009 BPE meeting. OPI requested the BPE to approve the state superintendent's recommendations. Mr. Al McMilin stated that 215 schools with advice and deficiency accreditation status are submitting improvement plans. The improvement plans are very labor intensive but extremely important. Discussion ensued whether or not more schools are meeting the improvement plans and what happens if they do not meet the goals presented. Mr. Al McMilin said that could be answered more accurately in July.

MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to approve the State Superintendent's recommendation of the Summary of Improvement Plans Submitted by Schools Receiving Advice or Deficiency Status 2007-2008 May Update as presented. Mr. Cal Gilbert seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Angela McLean was absent for the vote.

Item 24 PROGRESS REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON ON-SITE ACCREDITATION VISITS FOR SCHOOLS WITH CONTINUING SERIOUS ACCREDITATION DEVIATIONS - Al McMilin

The State Superintendent of Public Instruction provided annual recommendations to the Board of Public Education for accreditation status determinations for all Montana accredited schools. The continuing concern is: How does the OPI accreditation staff address continuing deviations fairly, consistently and with intention toward continuous education improvement? The State Superintendent follows the process approved by the Board of Public Education to address ongoing accreditation deviations. Included in this report was the "Accreditation Response Options for Continuing Deviations." Letters from several schools were included to represent the tone of serious accreditation deviations. Discussion ensued that there are many variables involved that would cause a school to continue with serious accreditation deviations. When the Office of Public Instruction appears on the school's step it provides a reality check that generally makes a significant difference. Following up with these schools seems to be the key to success. If these measures do not ensure progress, then they are asked to appear before the Board of

Public Education. Mr. Eric Feaver expressed his outrage that more isn't done to ensure that these schools in serious accreditation deviations comply with the laws written by the Board of Public Education.

MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to approve the State Superintendent's recommendation of the Summary of Improvement Plans Submitted by Schools Receiving Advice or Deficiency Status 2007-2008 On-Site Visits Update as presented. Ms. Sharon Carroll seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Angela McLean was absent for the vote.

Item 25 ALTERNATIVE STANDARD REQUESTS – RECOMMENDATIONS - Al McMilin

This presentation provided to the Board of Public Education for consideration of Initial Alternative Standard and/or Five-Year Renewal Alternative Standard Requests recommended either for approval or for disapproval by State Superintendent Linda McCulloch. Mr. Al McMilin stressed that the major consideration in determining if a proposed alternative would be acceptable is whether the proposed change or modification shows clearly how it will meet or exceed the results under the current standard(s) as written in ARM 10.55.604. 15% or 183 of Montana's schools have at least one alternative standard. Of the 183 schools with alternative standards listed below is the breakdown by standard:

- 86 schools 10.55.709 Library Media
- 88 schools 10.55.710 Guidance
- 8 schools 10.55.704 Administration
- 1 school 10.55.902 Basic Program

The schools that choose to use alternative standards do so because the others may not be practical, viable, or they find a "better" way to meet or exceed the standard. A PowerPoint presentation was shared of the many schools Mr. Al McMilin has attended during his accreditation visits.

MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to approve the State Superintendent's recommendation to renew the five-year renewal alternative standard applications in accordance with ARM 10.55.604 representing Fortine Elementary School in Lincoln County and Greenfield Elementary School in Teton County as presented. Ms. Sharon Carroll seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Angela McLean was absent for the vote.

Item 26 BASE AID PAYMENT SCHEDULE - Nancy Coopersmith

As required by 20-9-344, Montana Code Annotated (MCA), the Board of Public Education must approve the distribution of K-12 BASE aid for public education. The schedule is the same as past years, approximately the 25th of each month, with the adjustment for weekends and holidays. The Board of Investments has reviewed it.

MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to approve the 2008-2009 BASE aid payment schedule to K-12 schools as presented. Dr. Kirk Miller seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Angela McLean was absent for the vote.

INFORMATION ITEM

Item 27 MONTANA QUALITY EDUCATION COALITION (MQEC) REMEDY RECOMMENDATIONS - Dr. Bruce Messinger

Dr. Bruce Messinger presented the following Montana Quality Education Coalition (MQEC) remedy recommendations to the Board of Public Education as the Chair of the MQEC Remedy Committee using a PowerPoint and the March 20, 2008 Initial Discussion Draft titled, *A Roadmap for Restoring Our Shared Commitment to the Children Served in our Public Schools*:

1. **Quality Educator Payment Increase:** An increase of \$7,250 per Quality Educator with an

estimated annual fiscal impact of \$91 million

2. **Special Education Costs:** An increased in special education in an amount necessary to bring the state back to its previously-demonstrated commitment to special education of 80% of costs that existed in 1989 with an estimated annual fiscal impact of \$47.5 million
3. **At-Risk Funding:** An implementation of a flat payment of \$1,000 per at risk ANB, with the designation of at-risk based on eligibility for free or reduced lunch with an estimated annual fiscal impact of \$47.8 million
4. **Payment for Textbooks and Supplies:** A new formula component for textbooks and supplies, set at \$260 per pupil with an estimated annual fiscal impact of \$39 million
5. **Indian Education for All:** A state increase of funding for the Indian Education for All component consistent with the proposal advanced in Senate Bill 390, 2007 Legislative Session with an estimated annual fiscal impact of \$4.5 million
6. **School Unit Allocation for Building Operations:** A state increase of funding for building operations, distributed on a school unit allocation consistent with the one time only allocation for school units under Senate Bill 2 of the May 2007 Special Session with the estimated annual fiscal impact of \$29.9 million

Some additional suggestions in restoring the state's role in funding K-12 schools were presented:

- Consumer Price Index – Unit to all formula elements
- + 25% local option above the BASE budget funded by the state
- Implement a permissive levy above BASE for up to 4% per year, any increase beyond 4% subject to voter approval
- Track state's progress on facilities
- Reasonable phase in over time
- Make appropriations for schools biennial

Discussion ensued about the repercussions surrounding bringing this coalition's arguments back to the courts and providing results to the public of what they can expect from Montana's schools when fully funded.

11:00 a.m. Ms. Katie Wood Departed

ACTION ITEMS

Item 28 PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE DISTANCE LEARNING TASK FORCE PHASE II (DLTFII) - Dr. Kirk Miller and Bud Williams

Dr. Kirk Miller and Mr. Bud Williams expressed their thanks and appreciation for all that have been involved. Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson presented the following DLTFII unanimous recommendations to the Board of Public Education for consideration:

- Amendment to ARM 10.55.907 (3) and (3)(a) in Montana and elsewhere. Refer to the included handout Approved by DLTFII at its January 15, 2008 work session
- Amendment to ARM 10.57.102 Definitions "faculty"
- Amendment to ARM 10.57.201 General Provisions to Issue Licenses
- New Rule – Class 8 Dual Credit-Only Postsecondary Faculty License

The draft copy of the following rules was distributed:

- 10.57.102 Definitions
- 10.57.201 General Provisions to Issue Licenses
- 10.57.437 (New) Class 8 Dual Credit-Only Postsecondary Faculty License
- 10.55.907 Distance, Online, and Technology Delivered Learning (3) and (3)(a)

The proposed timeline for Chapter 55-57 Rules and Class 8 Licensure was presented:

- May 8-9, 2008 Proposed rules to BPE for Review
- July Meeting Proposed notice to BPE for authorization to publish
- July 21, 2008 Proposed notice to SOS for notice in MAR
- July 31, 2008 MAR publication out

- Week of August 25th, 2008 Hearing date
- August 28, 2008 Final Public Input deadline
- September Meeting Proposed adoption notice to BPE for review
- September 25, 2008 MAR publication out
- September 26, 2008 Effective Date of Rules

The May 1, 2008 press release from the Board of Public Education, the May 7, 2008 Great Falls Tribune article, and the May 9, 2008 letter from Mr. Tom Kotynski, Workforce Development Facilitator, from Great Falls Public Schools were distributed. Discussion ensued around the purpose of the DLTFII to review and resolve K-12 education issues related to teacher qualifications/dual credit being well on its way to be completed with the quality that is expected and providing for flexibility.

MOTION: Dr. Kirk Miller moved to accept the recommendation of the four amendments as outlined by the DLTFII. Mr. Storrs Bishop seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Angela McLean was absent for the vote.

Ms. Jan Lombardi stated that it was exciting to see the shared enthusiasm around this work. On behalf of the Governor, Ms. Jan Lombardi commended the Board of Public Education and the Office of Public Instruction.

Item 29 RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF THE CARROLL COLLEGE MAJOR IN HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION K-12 TEACHING ENDORSEMENT - Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson

At the Board of Public Education meeting in March 2008, the Office of Public Instruction provided information for discussion to the BPE regarding the request by Carroll College to add a Health and Physical Education K-12 Major to its endorsement areas. Carroll College's Dr. Gloria Lambertz, Education/HPE faculty, presented additional information related to the proposed new program.

The OPI reviewed the documentation submitted by Carroll College and confirms that the Health and Physical Education K-12 Major meets the Professional Educator Preparation Program Standards Administrative Rules of Montana 10.58.513 Health and 10.58.520 Physical Education as approved by the BPE. OPI requested approval by the BPE of the Carroll College Health and Physical Education K-12 Major. The major, other, and professional education program requirements were provided.

MOTION: Dr. Kirk Miller moved to approve the Carroll College Major in Health and Physical Education K-12 Teaching Endorsement as outlined in ARM rules 10.58.513 Health and 10.58.520 Physical Education. Mr. Bernie Olson seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Angela McLean was absent for the vote.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Item 30 STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - State Superintendent Linda McCulloch

State Superintendent Linda McCulloch provided the Board of Public Education with her March and April highlights. Reviewed the following topics: 2008 spring yellow school bus tour; high school survey regarding math offerings and graduation requirements; Quality Educator Loan Assistance Program; acceptable use of district computers; general reminder to school board trustees; changes in reporting race/ethnicity of students; call for nominations – a working conference June 23-27, 2008; OPI statewide assessment conference; 2008-2009 MontCAS testing windows; NAEP writing results for 2007 released; and Board of Regents policy changes.

The March 18, 2008 press release announcing that applications are available for the Quality Teacher Loan Assistance Program was distributed. To qualify for loan assistance an educator must be:

- A full-time educator holding a valid educator license or licensed professional providing services to students in a school district, an education cooperative, the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind, the Montana Youth Challenge Program or a state youth correctional facility

- Teaching in an impacted school. These schools tend to be rural and isolated, have a higher percentage of economically disadvantaged students, and/or have greater challenges in closing the achievement gap. A list of qualifying schools is available at http://www.opi.mt.gov/PUB/PDF/Cert/ImpactedSchools_CQESRpt.pdf
- Teaching in an impacted academic area. These areas are Business Education, Library/Media, Mathematics, Music, School Counselor, Science, Special Education, Speech/Language Pathologist, and World Languages

Applications and instructions are available online at <http://www.mgslp.org> and must be received at the Montana Guaranteed Student Loan Program, 2500 Broadway, Helena, MT 59601 no later than May 31, 2008.

INDIAN EDUCATION REPORT

The Office of Public Instruction is offering Indian Student Achievement Professional Development Grants to support schools in their efforts to close the achievement gap that exists between American Indian students and all other students in Montana. These grants are offered to Montana public school educators who work with American Indian student populations with priority given to those who work either with schools that are in the restructuring phase of the AYP process or those who can demonstrate a significant achievement gap within their school. Professional development opportunities must match the demonstrated need.

Listed is the Indian Education for All ongoing initiatives during July 2007-May 2008:

- Indian Education for All Museum Educator Best Practices Program: A "Museum-Educator Best Practices Handbook"
- Ready-To-Go IEFA Professional Development Contracts 2008
- Additional Ready-To-Go IEFA Professional Development Grants
- Montana University System Teacher Education Professional Development Grants 2008
- Indian Education for All Museum Educator Best Practices Program II
- Math-Science Leadership Association

The Indian Education Report from State Superintendent Linda McCulloch contained the following: Professional Development for Indian Education for All; Closing the Achievement Gap Summer Professional Development Grants; Indian Education for All Best Practices Conference; Montana tribal history projects sent to schools; Indian Education for All material sent to schools; and Call to Greatness Academies.

12:45 p.m. Dr. Kirk Miller Departed

Item 31 MSDB COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT - Steve Gettel

The following items were presented during the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind report:

- Student Enrollment/Evaluation
- Human Resources
 - Update on personnel actions
- School Improvement
 - Update on CEP
 - Update on strategic planning process
 - Update on LFC and LAD performance audits
 - Update 2011 biennial budget process
- Professional Development Activities
 - Update on in-service training
- MSDB Foundation Activities
 - Update projects and grants
- Conferences, Meetings and Contacts
- Budget and Finance
 - Update on budget

- Update on LAD fiscal audit
- Facilities and Safety
 - Update on current projects
- School Calendar of Events
- Student News

The March 17, 2008 letter from Mr. Al McMilin, Educator Quality Specialist, was presented in regard to the final determinations of MSDB's accreditation status. MSDB will need to submit an improvement plan to correct the deviations for teachers who are not endorsed in the area(s) in which he/she is assigned to teach to the Office of Public Instruction by August 1, 2008.

PRELIMINARY AGENDA ITEMS – July 9-11, 2008

Wednesday, July 9, 2008

5-Year Strategic Planning Session

Thursday and Friday, July 10-11, 2008

Strategic Meeting – Review Bylaws and Operational Rules

Assessment Task Force

NCLB Update

MACIE Update

Annual GED Report

Special Education Report

Distance Learning – Proposed Notice for Authorization to Publish

Library Media Standards Adoption Notice

Technology Standards Adoption Notice

Hearing – Denial Case No. 2008-01 BPE

Hearings – Two Revocation Cases (1-Tentative)

1:20 p.m. Adjourned by Concurrence