

BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION
CONFERENCE CALL MEETING MINUTES

February 27, 2009

February 27, 2009
4:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Patty Myers called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM. Ms. Carol Will read the statement of public participation and took roll call: a quorum was noted. Ms. Patty Myers noted that each comment will be an action item and conducted by using a roll call vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to adopt the consent agenda. Ms. Angela McLean seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Those in attendance at the meeting included the following Board members: Chair Ms. Patty Myers, Vice Chair Ms. Angela McLean, Ms. Sharon Carroll, Mr. Storrs Bishop, Mr. Cal Gilbert, and Mr. Bernie Olson. 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; Ms. Anneliese Warhank, Administrative Assistant, Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council; and Ms. Carol Will, Administrative Assistant, Board of Public Education. Ms. Sue Tinsley represented ex-officio member Governor Brian Schweitzer and Ms. Nancy Coopersmith represented ex-officio member State Superintendent Denise Juneau. Visitors in attendance included: Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, Accreditation Division Administrator, OPI; Ms. Elizabeth Keller, Licensure Specialist, OPI; Ms. Ann Gilkey, Legal Council, OPI; Dr. Claudette Morton, MSSA; Mr. Marco Ferro, MEA-MFT; and Mr. Bob Vogel, MTSBA.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

ACTION ITEM

Item 1 COMMENTS AND BOARD DECISIONS REGARDING THE NOTICE FOR ADOPTION OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF ARM 10.57.102, 10.57.112, 10.57.201, 10.57.201A, 10.57.215, 10.57.216, 10.57.301, 10.57.401, THROUGH 10.57.421, 10.57.424, THROUGH 10.57.430, 10.57.432, THROUGH 10.57.436, 10.57.601A AND REPEAL OF ARM 10.57.104, 10.57.110, 10.57.220, 10.57.422, AND 10.57.423 RELATING TO EDUCATOR LICENSURE FROM THE HEARING

On February 24, 2009, at 9:00 AM a public hearing was held in the conference room of the Office of Public Instruction building in Helena, Montana to consider the amendment and repeal of the rules listed above relating to educator licensure in Chapter 57. The hearing closed on February 26, 2009 at 5:00 PM.

Mr. Steve Meloy stated the objective of this conference call was to direct the Executive Secretary to draft language reflecting the Board's intent in response to the comments of those who testified at the Board's hearing regarding amendments to Chapter 57. The language will be prepared in an adoption notice and forwarded to the Secretary of State's Office for publication.

1. Mr. Marco Ferro, MEA-MFT, supported the rule as written with the exception of 10.57.414 (b)(vii). He would like to keep the language in that section that reads, "three semester credits of college coursework in Montana school law and three semester credits of college coursework in Montana school finance." Mr. Ferro would like the Board of Public Education to consider amending the next sentence to be similar to the Class 5 language that applies to Class 1, 2, or 6 licensure. The Board moved to approve response 1A that reads, "The Board thanks this witness for his input and agrees with his testimony. **(Rational)** The Board concurs that the following amendment be made to 10.57.414(b)(vii): three semester credits of college coursework in Montana school law and three semester credits of college coursework in Montana school finance. Applicants who meet all other requirements for the superintendent endorsement but lack these courses, shall be issued the class 3 license and must sign and file a plan of professional intent with the Superintendent of Public Instruction agreeing to complete these courses by the first renewal of their class 3 license."

MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to accept the comment by Mr. Marco Ferro, agrees with his testimony, and approved the amendment. Ms. Sharon Carroll seconded.

Discussion ensued about the recruitment and retention of administrators in Montana, the differences between teachers and administrators, flexibility or lack of flexibility in the rule, and provisional licenses.

Motion passed unanimously.

2. Mr. Dave Puyear, MREA , supported the rules as written with the exception of 10.57.414 (b)(vii). He recommended that the Board amend this section to be similar to the Class 5 language. He believes that it would eliminate any confusion between what is expected for licensure of teachers and administrators. It would promote a seamless system of licensure. The Board moved to approve response 2A that reads, “The Board thanks this witness for his input and agrees with his testimony. **(Rational)** The Board concurs that the following amendment be made to 10.57.414 (b)(vii): three semester credits of college coursework in Montana school law and three semester credits of college coursework in Montana school finance. Applicants who meet all other requirements for the superintendent endorsement but lack these courses, shall be issued the class 3 license and must sign and file a plan of professional intent with the Superintendent of Public Instruction agreeing to complete these courses by the first renewal of their class 3 license.”

MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to accept the comment by Mr. Dave Puyear, agrees with his testimony, and approved the amendment. Mr. Cal Gilbert seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Mr. Bob Vogel, MTSBA, supported the rules as written and believed they are clear and straight forward. He pointed out what he considered to be substantive differences between teachers and administrators to support a rule which is different between the two professions.

MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to adopt the comment that reads, “The Board thanks this witness for his support but disagrees with his testimony.” Ms. Sharon Carroll seconded.

Discussion ensued about the differences between teachers and administrators. Mr. Bob Vogel stressed the need to continue working around this issue, but did not want to taint the excellent collaborative process that has occurred to complete the work of Chapter 57.

Motion passed unanimously.

4. Mr. Darrell Rud, SAM, supported the rules as written.

MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to adopt the comment that reads, “The Board thanks this witness for his support but disagrees with his testimony. Mr. Cal Gilbert seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Dr. Claudette Morton, MSSA, supported the rules as written with the exception of 10.57.414 (b)(vii). She believed that 10.57.414 (b)(vii) shouldn't be written as a

matter of credits but in a manner which acknowledged competency.

MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to adopt the comment that reads, “The Board thanks this witness for her support and agreed with her testimony.” and added the language “will take her comments under advice.” Ms. Sharon Carroll seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Dr. Claudette Morton, MSSA, provided an additional comment that supported the rules as written with the exception of 10.57.102 (20)(b). Dr. Morton offered the following amendment to be consistent with the Office of Public Instruction’s current policy: “the school(s) they are claiming to hold or have held supervisory responsibilities over have noted there is no superintendent or principal by having the chair of the Board of Trustees sign the school’s Annual Data Collection report. submit evidence of the supervisory role of the county superintendent.” Dr. Morton stated the way the rule as proposed is certainly the preferred method of submitting the ADC report, but may not always be possible in small schools.

Discussion ensued about current practice and implementation of the rule as proposed and if it were to be amended according to Dr. Morton’s suggestion.

MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to adopt the comment that reads, “The Board thanks this witness for her support and agrees with her testimony.” Ms. Sharon Carroll seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Ms. Ann Gilkey, OPI, supported the rules as written with some non-substantive ministerial amendments. She provided the Board with a copy of the suggested amendments.

MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to adopt the comment that reads, “ The Board thanks this witness for her support and agrees with her testimony.” Mr. Storrs Bishop seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Meeting adjourned at 5:06 PM

Approved