

**BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

May 7-8, 2009

**MONTANA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND BLIND**  
**3911 Central Avenue**  
**Great Falls, MT**

**May 7, 2009 - Thursday**  
**8:30 AM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Patty Myers called the meeting to order at 8:35 AM. Ms. Patty Myers' 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students from Lewis and Clark Elementary, Ms. Leann Goss' kindergarten students from MSDB, and Ms. Gail Bechard's preschool students from MSDB led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Patty Myers introduced MSDB's staff present, her 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students, Lewis and Clark's Principal Vickie Donisthorpe, new Board of Public Education (BPE) member Mr. John Edwards, and new BPE student representative Mr. Tim Seery. Ms. Carol Will took roll call; a quorum was noted. Further introductions were: Ms. Ruth Uecker, Ms. Kelly Maki, and Ms. Shary Fiske from Meadowlark School. Meadowlark School won the Blue Ribbon School Award. Mr. Kenny Evans, a 5<sup>th</sup> grader from Meadowlark School presented his winning speech on the topic of why it is a bad idea to have 4-day school weeks. Ms. Patty Myers announced that item 8 will be moved before item 25 on Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup> to have Voyd St. Pierre provide the MACIE report.

**MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to accept the revised agenda. Mr. Storrs Bishop seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Items Pulled from Consent Agenda if Requested**  
(Nothing was pulled)

**Consent agenda approved by consensus.**

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, Mr. Bernie Olson, Mr. John Edwards, Student Representative Ms. Katie Wood, and upcoming Student Representative Mr. Tim Seery. 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 included: State Superintendent Denise Juneau; Dr. Mary Sheehy Moe represented Commissioner Sheila Stearns, and Ms. Jan Lombard represented Governor Brian Schweitzer. Visitors in attendance included: Ms. Nancy Coopersmith, Assistant Superintendent OPI; Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, Accreditation Division Administrator, OPI; Ms. Kris Wilkinson, LFD; Mr. Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT; Mr. Dale Kimmert, Accreditation Specialist, OPI; Mr. Al McMilin, Educator Quality Program Specialist, OPI; Mr. Richard Whitesell, Brockton Superintendent; Ms. Elaine Boyd, Brockton Board of Trustee; Dr. Douglas Reisig, CSPAC Chair; Dr. Bonnie Jones Graham, Director of Licensure Standards and Clinical Practice, MSU-B; Ms. Denise Ulberg, School Finance Division Administrator, OPI; Ms. Jean Howard,

Mathematics Curriculum Specialist, OPI; Mr. Voyd St. Pierre, Superintendent of Rocky Boy Schools; Dr. Larry Baker, Dean of Education, MSU-Bozeman; Dr. Robert Carson, MSU-Bozeman; Ms. Gail Bechard, Preschool Teacher, MSDB; Ms. Leann Goss, Kindergarten Teacher, MSDB; Ms. Kim Schwabe, Supervising Teacher, MSDB; Ms. Julie Dee Alt, School Improvement Coordinator, MSDB; Mr. Bill Sykes, Finance Director, MSDB; Mr. Steve Gettel, Superintendent, MSDB; Ms. Diane Moog, Principal, MSDB; Ms. Geri Darko, Teacher of the Visually Impaired, MSDB; and Ms. Stephanie Soderquist.

**Items are presented in the order in which they appeared.**

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **Item 1**

#### **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT - Patty Myers**

- April 28, 2009 MSDB Committee Meeting Conference Call

#### **BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION APPEARANCES**

##### **Mr. Bernie Olson**

- April 28, 2009 MSDB Committee Meeting Conference Call

##### **Ms. Katie Wood**

- March 27, 2009 Montana Association of Student Councils Meeting – Helena, MT

Ms. Patty Myers noted that the Board of Public Education, the State Superintendent, and representatives from the Governor's Office and the Commissioner of Higher Education's Office will be convening the first part of June to discuss how to proceed with the request made by Sue Buswell the President of the Montana Association of School Nurses to consider revising the nursing standards to create a ratio of one registered, professional school nurse for every 750 students. Other topics that will be discussed extensively are HB 459 in regard to the creation of the Montana Virtual Academy, common core, and teacher shortages at MSDB.

The Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) from the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO), the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA Center), and a letter of support from Brenda Welburn, Executive Director from the National Association of State Boards of Education, was distributed to the Board. The MOA commits states to a voluntary state-led process that will draw on evidence and lead to the development and adoption of a common core of state standards in English language arts and mathematics for grades K-12. These standards will be aligned with college and work expectations, include rigorous content and skills, and be internationally benchmarked. The intent is that these standards will be aligned to state assessment and classroom practice. The second phase of this initiative will be the development of common assessments aligned to the core standards developed through this process. An important tenet of this work will be to increase the rigor and relevance of state standards across all participating states; therefore, no state will see a decrease in the level of student expectations that exist in their current state standards. It was discussed that Montana is confident in its state standards and will dovetail nicely into a strong common core. NASBE will be asking each state board to recommend individuals to participate in the standards review and each state will be given the opportunity to comment on the proposed standards. It was stressed by all that Montana needs to be actively engaged at the table to ensure that the standards will meet the needs of Montana students. Ms. Patty Myers recommended that the Executive Secretary, Mr. Steve Meloy, represent the Montana Board of Public Education.

**MOTION: Ms. Angela moved that the Board of Public Education support the CCSSO and the NGA's Common Core Standards Memorandum of Agreement to support the effort to develop and adopt a common core of state standards in English language arts and**

**mathematics for grades K-12. Mr. Storrs Bishop seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Item 2 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT - Steve Meloy**

Mr. Steve Meloy reviewed the letter dated May 5, 2009 to Jim Standaert concerning the Board of Public Education's interpretation that the modifications to Chapter 57 are not subject to accreditation standards review by the legislature as required by 20-7-101(2).

Mr. Meloy stressed the additional expenses that have been incurred since switching from the Montana University System to the Montana State ITSD system. The additional appropriation was approved in the Board of Public Education's budget, but BPE has a 2% reduction like all state agencies. There was an attempt to exclude small agencies, but it did not prevail. The BPE still does not have a line item for legal, which could be significant to such a small budget. There may be the need to look at the possibility of a supplemental appropriation to add to the budget during the next legislative session due to legal expenses.

Mr. Steve Meloy met with Mr. David Huff from the Montana Traffic Education Program along with MASS, MTSBA, DOJ Driver Services, MHP, MREA, MSUN and Western Transportation Institute of MSU. This group of stakeholders met to discuss and help frame a nationwide initiative beginning with the three jurisdictions of Manitoba, Oregon, and Montana to evaluate driver education programs.

The Montana Association of School Nurses requested that Mr. Steve Meloy speak to them in regard to the accreditation standards on nursing. He stressed to the association that the Board along with some partners will be meeting in June to determine how to proceed with revising the current standard. At the conclusion of the report, Mr. Bernie Olson asked if the issues of the nursing standards will be revisited at some other point in the meeting because he wanted to share some thoughts. Ms. Patty Myers said that she will re-open Item 2 later in the meeting.

**Item 3 CSPAC REPORT – Pete Donovan**

Mr. Peter Donovan attended the Educational Testing Service (ETS) Client Meeting in Princeton, NJ on April 29 – May 1, 2009. He presented copies of some PowerPoint slides pertaining to *Education Policy, the Obama Administration and the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress* and reviewed some of the highlights from the March 11-12, 2009 Certification Standards Practices Advisory Council (CSPAC) Meeting.

**CSPAC APPOINTMENTS (Action)**

Ms. Judie Woodhouse requested to be considered for a second term on CSPAC. Mr. Jon Runnalls from Helena Public Schools and Ms. Deena Miller from the Write/Right 2 Read Program at the Holy Spirit School in Great Falls applied for the K-8 teacher position that was available on CSPAC. Mr. Peter Donovan reviewed the applications and recommended to reappoint Ms. Judie Woodhouse for a second term and appoint Mr. Jon Runnalls for the K- 8 teacher CSPAC position. Ms. Jan Lombardi expressed her support for Mr. Jon Runnalls.

**MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to reappoint Judi Woodhouse for a second term to the Certification Standards Practices Advisory Council. Mr. Bernie Olson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to appoint Jon Runnalls to the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council for the K-8 teacher position. Mr. Bernie Olson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Item 4 STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - State Superintendent Denise Juneau**

State Superintendent Denise Juneau acknowledged that public education was attacked over and over throughout the legislative session. There are 30 open seats due to term limits and the Office of Public Instruction will be paying close attention to those vying for those seats. Expressions of gratitude were given to those who advocated for public education. Some events that State Superintendent Denise

Juneau attended were: Montana Council for Exceptional Children (MCEC) Conference; Land Board meetings; Montana Indian Education Association (MIEA) Conference; Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education (MACIE) Meeting; Board of Regents' Meeting; and had lunch with the First Lady of Montana. She expressed her fascination with the Trust Land Management Division to administer and manage the state trust timber, surface, and mineral resources for the benefit of the common schools and the other endowed institutions in Montana under the top elected officials of Governor Brian Schweitzer, Attorney General Steve Bullock, State Auditor Monica Lindeen, Secretary of State Linda McCulloch, and herself.

The Office of Public Instruction has been setting up some webinars on its website in regard to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. State Superintendent Denise Juneau stated that with the election of new school board members we need to work with communities to let them know the power of school boards. In conclusion, State Superintendent Denise Juneau exercised her right to invoke ARM 10.57.109 that grants her the authority to approve a Montana educator Class 5 license for Mr. William Soderholm effective July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 to enable him to teach for 50 years.

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

Dr. Mary Sheehy Moe, Deputy Commissioner for Two-Year Education, presented the Commissioner of Higher Education's Report. Dr. Moe provided a copy of the current delivery models for dual enrollment programming in Montana. All models included are in use for both dual-credit and college-credit-only courses. Dr. Moe stated that she included tech prep and advanced placement, even though they are not dual enrollment, because they are important to concurrent enrollment and Running Start. Mr. Bernie Olson questioned why K-12 licensure is considered a minus in regard to the column under the Running Start Program. Dr. Moe stated her concern that currently Montana State University - Great Falls has about 50 people applying for this particular license and hopes that it is not a barrier, but an asset. Discussion ensued about who determined the plusses and minuses, the differences between K-12 discussing standards and post-secondary education discussing scores, the need to promote a merger between K-12 and post-secondary education, remediation requirements, and admission requirements.

Dr. Mary Sheehy Moe stated that the policy audit report will be presented to the Board of Regents during its May meeting. This policy audit reviews and evaluates the current statutes and policies affecting Montana's productivity agenda with respect to 5 key factors: 1) Readiness; 2) Access/Capacity/Retention; 3) Curriculum/Transfer; 4) Affordability; and 5) Finance/Administration. Ms. Angela McLean is on this team.

A conference will be held May 26-27, 2009 in Great Falls titled - **Taking Stock: Priorities and Opportunities for Two-Year Education in Montana**. The conference is part of the Making Opportunity Affordable Initiative. Mr. Steve Meloy will be in attendance. Ms. Angela McLean and State Superintendent Denise Juneau will be participating in the Making Opportunity Affordable Conference in Denver, Colorado June 10-11, 2009.

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

Ms. Jan Lombardi stated that Montana is in better shape than much of the country, but acknowledged the hardships many Montanans are experiencing. As a result Governor Brian Schweitzer has created a rapid response team that is headed up by the Department of Labor and DPHHS and involves many other state agencies. The team will assist workers who have experienced job loss and help direct families in need of healthcare and unemployment benefits.

Ms. Jan Lombardi reviewed the results of some of the following bills:

- HB 388 or E-squared was introduced by Representative K. Van Dyk to provide a surtax on oil and natural gas production for quality educator energy for education payment. E-squared died in committee.

- LC 1914 was drafted to implement federal facilities improvement grants for public schools. Died in process.
- SR 38 was the confirmation hearing concerning John Edward's appointment. Unanimously approved.
- SR 5 was the confirmation hearing concerning Bernie Olson's appointment. Unanimously approved.
- HB 152 was sponsored by Robin Hamilton to create the quality schools facility grant program. It became law.

**Item 9                    ELEMENTS OF A SUCCESSFUL PRESCHOOL PROGRAM FOR DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING CHILDREN - Geri Darko, Teacher of the Visually Impaired, MSDB; Gail Bechard, Preschool Teacher, MSDB; Leann Goss, Kindergarten Teacher, MSDB; Kim Schwabe, Supervising Teacher, MSDB; and Julie Dee Alt, School Improvement Coordinator, MSDB**

A PowerPoint was presented titled the *Elements of a Successful Pre-school Program for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children*. These highly qualified teachers of the visually and hearing impaired presented a program by the Oregon Project that was designed for use with children from birth to six. This program has shown significant impact on the pre-school students of MSDB. The teachers stressed that using different ways to teach the concepts of shapes, letters body awareness, and positional concepts that are learned incidentally by most, need to be taught directly and specifically to these students. English is not the first language of a deaf and hard of hearing student, so they need to be taught the structure of simple sentences that is second nature to a student who is not hearing impaired. Sign language and spoken language is equally important to the success of mainstreaming these students into the regular classroom. The students need to learn to use an interpreter, build relationships with hearing peers, and promote self advocacy. It was discussed the multiple meanings of the same word that are signed the same. Reviewed how the students are showing significant achievement through the Northwest Evaluation Association's Measures of Academic Progress (NWEA MAP). In conclusion, Mr. Steve Gettel stressed the training of the instructors and how this reflects in the success that was demonstrated by these student involved in the Oregon Project.

**LUNCH AT 12:15 – 1:15 PM**

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

Once the Governor's Office Report was re-opened there was further discussion about E-squared and the groups that either supported the bill or chose not to support the bill for reasons that were not clear to Ms. Jan Lombardi. In addition, discussion ensued about whether schools can withhold school lunches from students who are behind in their lunch charges. Ms. Nancy Coopersmith stated that the interagency response team has a report that comes from OPI that indicates how much money comes from the general fund to support those families.

Ms. Nancy Hall reviewed some financial issues from the legislative session that provided a 3% increase for schools and noted that the state of Montana is fortunate to fund its schools at the 2009 level. Even though it is not all on-going money, the level of funding has been maintained. Ms. Hall also pointed out the assurance that the following 4 areas are likely to be the priorities for Secretary of Education Arne Duncan: 1) Teacher effectiveness, distribution; 2) Data systems; 3) Standards and assessments; and 4) Turning around low performing schools. These areas will be funded by the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) \$4.3 billion state incentive grants that are provided to help stabilize state and local government budgets in order to minimize and avoid reductions in education.

**Item 7                    STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT - Katie Wood**

Ms. Katie Wood distributed Mr. Tim Seery's student application to the Montana Board of Public Education. Some specific facts about Mr. Seery include: Central Montana Youth Coordinator for the Montana Meth Project; member of the Great Falls Public Schools Calendar Committee; organized the

first high school Black History Academic Bowl in the Great Falls Public Schools; member of the Black History Month Planning Board; and is a cellist in the Great Falls Symphony Youth Orchestra. Ms. Holly Capp from Great Falls is the alternate student representative to the Board of Public Education if Mr. Tim Seery is unable to fulfill this role. Ms. Patty Myers presented Ms. Katie Wood with an engraved pen and pencil set on behalf of the Board to express the appreciation of the work that Ms. Wood has done on behalf of the Board. Heartfelt wishes were expressed by all.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **Item 10 ASSESSMENT UPDATE - Nancy Coopersmith**

The information presented included the Office of Public Instruction's (OPI) acceptance of bids from vendors to participate in a pilot for an online writing assessment. In addition, the OPI awarded a contract to an individual to develop staff, and conduct formative assessment online courses for professional development of teachers. An update was provided concerning contract negotiations with Measured Progress for the MontCAS Criterion-Referenced Test (CRT) and the CRT-Alt.

Ms. Nancy Coopersmith stated that the Office of Public Instruction anticipates four contractors to conduct a pilot of their off-the shelf online writing assessments. The contractors are Vantage Learning, CTB/McGraw-Hill, Pearson, and Riverside. The OPI will provide this assessment opportunity and professional development to four schools and classrooms in the state as a pilot to consider its application to larger groups of students. It is expected that one or two classrooms in a school will participate, possibly a total of 60 students per contract in one to three grades and will span the elementary, middle, and early high school grades.

The Office of Public Instruction has contracted with Dr. Margaret Heritage, Assistant Director of the UCLA-National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards and Student Testing (CRESST) to develop staff and conduct only courses for professional development of teachers in formative assessment. Dr. Heritage will include her colleagues and Montana educators in the online classes as speakers, consultants, and mentors.

Ms. Nancy Coopersmith noted that the OPI and Measured Progress have signed a five-year contract for the Criterion-Referenced Test (CRT) and the CRT-Alternate. The new contract will begin on July 1, 2009 which reflects a significant savings.

Discussion ensued about how AYP is affected and whether or not a higher education institute will accept a student who drops out of high school, does not obtain a GED, and then registers for courses at a higher education institute. The concluding thoughts were that this student would be considered a drop out unless he went to another K-12 school. Dr. Mary Moe suggested that cases like this may be mitigated by a post-secondary institution because the student is in a continuous stream of education. Mr. Bernie Olson believes this should not be allowed and believes that the Board of Regents and the Board of Public Education should pursue this topic further.

### **Item 11 NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND REPORT - Nancy Coopersmith**

The information presented included the latest facts concerning the findings of the U.S. Department of Education on-site review (April 2008) of the Montana Office of Public Instruction administration of ESEA/NCLB Title II, Part A program. In addition, information concerning funding and future activities for ESEA/NCLB Montana programs was highlighted.

A letter of resolution dated April 8, 2009 to State Superintendent Denise Juneau from the US Department of Education was provided. This letter is a response to the monitoring report that resulted from a program review conducted by the Academic Improvement and Teacher Quality Programs Office of the US Department of Education's Office of Elementary and Secondary Education. It included the corrective actions agreed to by the Office of Public Instruction in which many have been completed. The following

areas required corrective action:

- Critical Element I.1 – Submit a plan and timeline to ensure that all secondary teachers complete a subject matter major or coursework equivalent to a major in their primary assignment area.
- Critical Element I.2 – Submit a plan and timeline establishing uniform corrective action procedures to ensure that the highly qualified status of special education teachers who teach core classes is correctly determined as approved by statute and that the status of these teachers is included in the State's reported Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) data.
- Critical Element I.3 – Submit a written plan with specific procedures and a timeline the state will implement ensuring that elementary teachers employed on a Class 5 Alternative License are required to demonstrate subject matter competency prior to being counted as highly qualified for their classroom assignments.
- Critical Element III.A.1 – Submit a plan and timeline for determining any LEAs that currently have not met annual measurable objectives for two consecutive years, ensure that improvement plans are in place, and address how the SEA will provide technical assistance to the LEAs in formulating and implement the plans.
- Critical Element III.A.2 – Submit a plan and timeline for determining any LEAs that currently have not made progress on meeting their HQT annual measurable objectives for three consecutive years and have also failed to make Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) for three years.
- Critical Elements I.4, II.A.1, and II.B.1 – OPI assured ED that the highly qualified teacher data it reports in the CSPR in December 2009 and in the 2009 annual report card, reflecting the 2008-09 school year, will be accurate. Similarly, the OPI has assured ED that, beginning with the 2009-10 school year, all teachers hired in Title I schools will be highly qualified.

Ms. Nancy Coopersmith provided the Funds for State Formula-Allocated and Selected Student Aid Programs by the US Department of Education Funding in Montana. The amounts listed by State for Impact Aid Construction under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act are formula grants and offered as One Time Only (OTO) funds. Discussion ensued on the separate funds from Reading First and Head Start, assessment savings, and more money needed for civic education.

**Item 12           REPORT OF COMMUNICATION ARTS CONTENT STANDARDS AND PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTORS REVIEW AND REVISION PROCESS - Julie Ferro and Kim Warrick**

The Office of Public Instruction provided to the Board of Public Education an update of the revision process of the K-12 Communication Arts Content Standards and Performance Descriptors. This presentation included the use of focus groups; the selection of the writing team; the summary of the process so far including some of the standards-based educational foundational, research, and best practices documents utilized; timeline for next steps in the process; and 2009 draft of communication arts content standards and benchmarks.

Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson presented and stressed that the Office of Public Instruction does not write the standards, but followed the process listed below:

- December 2008 – Focus groups participants reviewed the standards and the revision process and gathered input. Participants consisted of two groups:
  1. School administrators and business leaders – superintendents, principals, curriculum consortium administrators from across the state; Hughes Kellner Sullivan & Alke, PLLP; Montana West Benefit Solutions; MEA-MFT
  2. Teachers and community leaders – K-12 teachers from Billings, Bozeman, and Helena; Montana State Corrections, Habitat for Humanity, Department of Public Health and Human Services, Career Training Institute
- October – December 2008 – Revision team member nomination and selection
- January 16-18, 2009 – Writing Session One in Helena
- February 27 – March 1, 2009 – Writing Session Two in Helena

- March 13-15, 2009 – Writing Session Three in Helena
- April 24-26, 2009 – Writing Session Four in Helena

Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson noted that there are a reduced number of standards from 17 to 7 and that there were a revised number of benchmarks from approximately 90 to 47, which made the document more manageable, clarified language, and improved the measurability of benchmarks. The next steps include: In mid May the survey was released online to gather comments/suggestions for the 1<sup>st</sup> draft of revisions; in early June the survey results will be compiled, 4-5 will be selected from the writing team to make needed revisions, write performance descriptors for the benchmarks, and write a preface; and in early August the nominations and selection of a team to write the Essential Learning Expectations (ELE).

In conclusion, discussion ensued about how these standards are going to align with the common core at the national level. The consensus was that most feel confident that these standards are going to be right on track with minor revisions.

### **Dr. Mary Sheehy Moe Departed**

### **ACTION 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 13      CONSIDERATION OF BROCKTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS' PLAN TO CORRECT ONGOING EMPLOYMENT OF NON-LICENSED TEACHER - Dale Kimmet**

At the March Board of Public Education meeting the Board directed the following action regarding Brockton Public Schools: 1) a letter from the Board disapproving the corrective plan; 2) request for the Brockton Superintendent and Board Chair to appear before the Board of Public Education at the May meeting; and 3) a meeting to be arranged by the Office of Public Instruction to deliver and discuss the disapproval letter. A meeting between the Accreditation Specialist and the Brockton Superintendent and Board Chair was held on May 4, 2009.

Mr. Al McMilin provided a brief history and stressed this has been intermittently occurring during the years prior to Superintendent Whitesell and has continued during Superintendent Whitesell's tenure. Mr. McMilin stressed that non-licensure is a critical issue that needs to be avoided at all cost. Mr. Dale Kimmet met with Superintendent Whitesell and a Brockton Board of Trustee on May 4, 2009 and provided them with the following options:

- Advertise for a licensed music teacher. Mr. Dale Kimmet noted that Brockton has an active advertisement for this position.
- The minimum standards for music are to provide instruction for grades 7-8 at the junior high level. Brockton could employ an elementary licensed teacher to teach music at that level and provide art instruction by its licensed art teacher at the high school level. This would meet the fine arts requirement and provide properly licensed teachers.
- Brockton could employ an elementary licensed teacher for music instruction at the elementary and junior high level. Then continue to employ the person that Brockton has to teach at the high school level but have her act as the facilitator along with a licensed music teacher via a distance learning program.

Mr. Richard Whitesell and Brockton Board of Trustee member Ms. Elaine Boyd appeared before the Board of Public Education. Mr. Whitesell stressed that he will not be in this position next year and believes that the new superintendent should address this issue next year. Mr. Whitesell also pointed out that the chairman of Brockton's Board of Trustees is not running for re-election. Some additional points that Mr. Whitesell addressed included: There are only two weeks left of this school year; Brockton has continued to advertise for a licensed music teacher; 90% of Brockton's teacher commute; Brockton is

very isolated so it is difficult to find and retain teachers; Brockton needs higher salaries with better benefits; most American Indian schools in the state of Montana do not meet AYP; and he believed it better to employ a teacher who can teach, but is not licensed, to provide all students of Brockton with the opportunity for music instruction.

Mr. Storrs Bishop stressed that the Brockton School District was brought before the Board of Public Education to resolve the deficiency accreditation status with the options that were provided by Mr. Dale Kimmet. The following may occur at the July's Board of Public Education meeting in regard to Brockton's accreditation:

1. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction approves the plan that Brockton will implement to correct the accreditation deviation; or
2. If the State Superintendent of Public Instruction disapproves the plan that Brockton will implement to correct the accreditation deviation, the Board of Public Education may deny Brockton Public Schools its accreditation status.

**MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to accept the State Superintendent Denise Juneau's recommendation to initiate the process that can lead to the denial of future accreditation, or the removal of the current accreditation for the schools of the Brockton Public School District – Barbara Gilligan School, Barbara Gilligan 7-8, and Brockton High School. Ms. Angela McLean seconded.**

Mr. Storrs Bishop stated that the rationale behind this motion includes:

- This step is taken given the district's refusal to cease using a non-licensed teacher to provide music instruction as part of the elementary, 7-8, and high school academic programs.
- The Accreditation Division has worked with the Brockton School District for over a year to try and resolve this matter but the district has been unwilling to accept the solutions provided.
- The district representatives that appeared before the Board of Public Education have refused to agree to stop using the non-licensed teacher. This situation constitutes a serious deviation from the accreditation standards and is a failure on the part of the district to comply with state law MCA 20-4-202.
- The Accreditation Division of the Office of Public Instruction will work with Mr. Steve Meloy and with the approval of the State Superintendent will provide the Board with an outline of this process to be presented at the July Board of Public Education meeting.

State Superintendent Denise Juneau expressed her understanding of the situation facing the Brockton Public Schools, but supports the rules set by the Board of Public Education and will enforce that all schools meet these standards. It is with regret that she made this recommendation to the Board. Mr. Al McMillin informed the Board that a timeline and a process for initiating the procedure will be provided for the Board at its July meeting.

**Motion approved unanimously.**

Ms. Elaine Boyd asked before leaving the presenter's table, "Who is the native voice?" Mr. Cal Gilbert responded, "We all are."

**Item 14      PROGRESS REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REVISED 2007-2008  
IMPROVEMENT PLANS FOR SCHOOLS WITH ADVICE OR DEFICIENCY  
ACCREDITATION STATUS AND FOR SCHOOLS WITH REGULAR WITH  
DEVIATIONS STATUS DUE TO MISASSIGNED TEACHERS - Dale Kimmet**

This presentation provided to the Board of Public Education a progress report of the improvement plans to correct accreditation deviations. This report provided current information on the action taken by schools to meet the 2007-08 improvement plans. By August 1, each school receiving Advice or Deficiency Accreditation or Schools with Regular with Deviation Status Due to Misassignments are

required to submit an improvement plan describing its action to correct the deviations.

Mr. Dale Kimmet reviewed the Summary of Improvement Plans Submitted by Schools receiving Advice or Deficiency Status in the 2007-08 May Update. Some specific schools addressed in the report were:

- Helena Flats School in Flathead County does not provide the minimum equivalent of one full-time counselor for each 400 students. The school currently needs .468 FTE for 187 students according to ARM 10.55.710.2. This is the third occurrence. According to ARM 10.55.712.2 the multi-grade classroom exceeds maximum class size. This is also the third occurrence. A review of the alternative standard will be conducted May 1, 2009 and a recommendation will be made at the July Board of Public Education meeting.
- Lustre Christian High School – Private Schools
- Highland, Poly Drive, Boulder, and Meadowlark Elementary Schools in Yellowstone County do not provide school counseling services at the elementary level according to ARM 10.55.710.1. Mr. Dale Kimmet and Mr. Al McMilin met with Ms. Kathy Olson, Director of Elementary Education, at the Lincoln Center to discuss the disapproval of the district's improvement plan for Highland, Poly Drive, Boulder, and Meadowlark Elementary Schools due to insufficient counseling FTE. This is the fourth year that all four schools have had this deviation. Superintendent Jack Copps had intended to be present, but was unable to attend on 2/9/2009. Some of the following points were stressed during the meeting:
  - ✓ With the denial of the elementary counseling alternative standard in 2005, it was expected that the district would gradually add FTE to bring all schools up to the required level of counseling FTE required. While the district had been moving in that direction the current improvement plan made the statement that continued addition of FTE would be contingent on additional/available state funding. Correcting deviations from the minimum standards in a timely manner cannot be based upon "funding".
  - ✓ The district believes that they need to provide the necessary counseling FTE using the elementary population as a whole not by school. Once that threshold is met then they must determine the best use of that counseling FTE at each school.
  - ✓ The district also employs some social worker FTE in support of the counselors. Ms. Olson also noted that some of the elementary principals also hold counseling endorsements.

After meeting with Superintendent Copps on 4/27/2009, Mr. Copps requested that the Board of Public Education consider another alternative that is similar to the Helena School District that was approved. He stressed that everyone will be served equally and will not be affected by economic demographics. The Accreditation team provided an update report in May 2009 and OPI will report the alternative standard to the BPE at its July meeting.

Mr. Dale Kimmet also reviewed the Summary of Improvement Plans Submitted by Schools Receiving Regular with Deviation Status Due to Misassignments May Update for 2007-2008.

**MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to accept the State Superintendent's recommendations for the updated progress report on the revised 2007-2008 Improvement Plans for Schools with Advice or Deficiency Accreditation Status and Schools with Regular with Deviation Status Due to Misassignments. Mr. Cal Gilbert seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Item 15            PROGRESS REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ON-SITE ACCREDITATION VISITS FOR SCHOOLS WITH CONTINUING SERIOUS ACCREDITATION DEVIATIONS - Dale Kimmet**

This presentation provided to the Board of Public Education a progress report and recommendations regarding on-site accreditation visits for schools with continuing serious accreditation deviations. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction provided annual recommendations to the Board for accreditation status determinations for all Montana accredited schools. The continuing concern is: How

does the Office of Public Instruction's accreditation staff address continuing deviations fairly, consistently, and with intention toward continuous education improvement? The State Superintendent of Public Instruction follows the process approved by the Board to address ongoing accreditation deviations. See the attached, "Accreditation Response Options for Continuing Deviations."

The Progress Report on On-Site Accreditation Visits for Schools with Continuing Serious Accreditation Deviations included the following schools: Pryor, Lambert, Plentywood, and Lewistown Elementary. Mr. Dale Kimmet stressed that the process is working quite well in most cases with very few exceptions.

**MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to approve the State Superintendent's recommendation to approve the progress report and recommendations on the On-Site Accreditation Visits for Schools with Continuing Serious Accreditation Deviations. Ms. Angela McLean seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Item 16            ADDENDUM TO 2008-2009 FINAL ACCREDITATION STATUS  
RECOMMENDATIONS  
Dale Kimmet**

This presentation provided to the Board of Public Education for consideration an addendum to the 2008-2009 accreditation determinations for all schools as recommended by State Superintendent Denise Juneau. These changes are due to errors identified by the Office of Public Instruction after the accreditation determinations were acted on during the March BPE meeting and the districts were notified of those determinations. Mr. Dale Kimmet explained that the letters go to the Board of Trustees Chair and the Superintendent. The addresses are often the school's address so some Board of Trustees Chairman do not receive the letter unless given to them directly by the school's staff. The status changed or there was some correction to the following school districts/school(s): Hays-Lodge Pole 7-8; Townsend K-12 Schools; Belfry High School; Cascade High School; Amsterdam School; West Yellowstone School; Ryegate K-12 Schools; Davey Elementary; Geyser 7-8; Valley View School; Broadwater School; Alberton K-12 Schools; Frontier Schools; Rosebud High School; Thompson Falls 7-8; and St. Labre Catholic High School. Most of the changes were positive with the exception of Ryegate. Ryegate K-12 Schools changed from regular status to regular with deviation.

**MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to approve the State Superintendent's recommendation to approve the addendums to the 2008-2009 Accreditation Status. Mr. John Edwards seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Item 17            RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ALTERNATIVE STANDARD REQUESTS - Dale Kimmet**

This presentation provided to the Board of Public Education for consideration of the Initial Alternative Standard and/or Five-Year Renewal Alternative Standard Requests recommended either for approval or for disapproval by State Superintendent Denise Juneau. In addition, Mr. Al McMilin provided a brief overview and history of the alternative to the standard rule prior to the action items. A sample application and rubric was attached. A spreadsheet of the current approved variances was also included. This report was requested as an ongoing report. The yellow band represents the alternative to the standards to be approved at this meeting. The green band represents the alternative to the standards that expire at the end of June.

Mr. Dale Kimmet addressed the following alternative standards data:

- Currently 12% of our schools have at least one alternative standard
- There are a total of 154 alternative standards in place
- Currently 71 rural schools have alternative standards
- Currently 27 non-rural schools have alternative standards

He stressed that there are 154 alternative standards in place because a standard may not be a "practical" or a "viable" option to a particular school district. Then schools need to develop a different model or way of addressing the standard by either meeting or exceeding the standards. Often times the alternatives

are better. Two schools were pulled from this report: 1) Luther K-8 School in Carbon County; and 2) Absarokee 7-8 in Stillwater County. Discussion ensued about the need to revise Chapter 55.

**MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to accept the State Superintendent's recommendations pertaining to the alternative standard requests with the exception of Luther K-8 in Carbon County and Absarokee 7-8 in Stillwater County. Mr. Cal Gilbert seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Dale Kimmet provided the Board with a slide presentation of the many schools in which he traveled within the last year.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Eric Feaver commended the Board of Public Education for taking the necessary steps along with the Office of Public Instruction for the position taken in regard to the Brockton Public Schools. All public schools are under the purview of the Board of Public Education with no exceptions. Being a public school requires all to meet the accreditation requirements.

Heartfelt wishes were shared by all with Ms. Katie Wood. Ms. Katie Wood stated, "The kids in Montana are in good hands."

**Dismissed at 4:50 PM**

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**May 8, 2009 – Friday**  
**8:30 AM**

**Ms. Katie Wood is excused today due to a softball tournament**

**Ms. Anna Green is present on behalf of the Governor's Educational Policy Advisor Ms. Jan Lombardi**

**Meeting called to order at 8:35 AM**

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

The Montana School for the Deaf and the Blind's Class of 2009 were introduced and a congratulation letter was presented to each student from Ms. Anna Green on behalf of Governor Schweitzer. The graduates are: Nathan Decker, Helena; Robert Kindle, Malta; Allen Nearhoof, Great Falls; Karyll Perkins, Great Falls; Max Jiron, Missoula; Samantha Ellis, Billings; Sarah Johnson, Great Falls; Melissa Lane, Forsyth; and Dana Smith, Great Falls. Melissa Lane was unable to attend.

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

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

This item was reopened to extend the discussion concerning the number of school nurses to students' ratio. Mr. Bernie Olson addressed the tight budget and recommended that the Board of Public Education consider a pilot project or implement the ratio in phases. This will enable the Board to begin with at-risk schools, determine the impact, and gather significant data to present to the next legislative session. State Superintendent Denise Juneau pointed out that the 2009 Legislature cut at-risk funding, but felt that the Board is taking the necessary steps to address this important issue. Dr. Mary Sheehy Moe suggested that there may be additional funding through the Montana Hospital Association. The Board is

supportive to have the Executive Committee meet with its partners to determine the best plan of action. A report will be presented at the July BPE meeting.

**Item 18 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - Steve Meloy and Bernie Olson**

Mr. Steve Meloy presented a number of bills that were of interest to the Board of Public Education during the 2009 Legislative Session. Some of them included:

- HB 2 – The Board of Public Education received a 2% reduction like all state agencies
- HB 15 – Fund K-12 Education - Died
- HB 388 (E-squared) – Impose Oil and Gas Surtax for Quality Educator Energy for Education Payment – Died
- SB 67 – Required Funding Before Schools Rules with Fiscal Impact Implemented – Died
- SB 81 – Elect Board of Public Education – Died

Mr. Eric Feaver commented that there will always be attacks on the accreditation standards and the public good, but the attacks were not specifically directed toward the Board of Public Education. He continued to say that the Board should not be afraid to take a stand on significant issues that may cause a fiscal impact, such as the school nurse to students' ratio. There will be some kick back, but the Board has the constitutional authority. MEA-MFT should not be the only opponent on many of these bills and hopes that the Board of Public Education remains engaged in these legislative discussions.

**Item 19 REPORT ON SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS' STANDARDS WORKGROUP – Dr. Douglas Reisig and Workgroup Participants**

In January of 2008, the Board of Public Education requested CSPAC to convene a task force to study the possibility of establishing standards for sign language interpreters who work in P-12 schools in Montana. The task force met six times and created draft rules to present to the Board that would establish standards for sign language interpreters who work with P-12 students. This presentation provided a summary of the workgroup discussions and an overview of the proposed ARM rules to establish standards for sign language interpreters. Dr. Doug Reisig stressed the need to establish the standards for sign language interpreters who work in P-12 school in Montana and the workgroup addressed the following issues:

- How can Montana assure that the interpreters have the necessary skills?
- What are the resources necessary for training?
- What level of training is necessary?

Discussion ensued about the fact that there is currently no training available in the state of Montana except through distance learning. Ms. Marilyn Pearson stated that with these proposed standards it may be feasible to have post-secondary education support training. Ms. Pearson continued to say that there is not an increase in the need of interpreters, but there will certainly be attrition over time.

**ACTION ITEM**

**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 23 RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF EXIT REPORT OF STATE ON-SITE REVIEW OF MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BOZEMAN - Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson**

At the March 2009 Board of Public Education meeting, Dr. Lynette Zuroff, On-Site Team Chairperson, presented the exit report and team recommendation of the provisional accreditation for the Professional Education Unit at Montana State University (MSU). Dr. Larry Baker, Dean of the College of Education, Health and Human Development at MSU, provided to the BPE the MSU Rejoinder to the exit report. Following the March meeting, Dr. Zuroff called together the On-Site State Verification Review Team to consider the MSU Rejoinder. The State Verification Review Team met Wednesday, April 8, 2009. After

careful review and deliberation, the team members confirmed the Exit Report with minor corrections. This presentation provided to the BPE the on-site team's response to the MSU rejoinder. Provisional accreditation requires the Dean of the Professional Education Unit at MSU to provide to the BPE the description of the unit's plan to meet the standards "Met with Weakness" and "Not Met." If the report to the BPE indicates the Professional Education Unit is making progress toward meeting the standards, the team chairperson and appropriate team members will conduct a focused site visit of the professional Education Unit at MSU in the fall of 2009. The purpose of the focused site visit is to verify the targeted standards are met. A final recommendation will be presented to the BPE in July 2009.

Dr. Larry Baker and Dr. Robert Carson received the Office of Public Instruction's response to the rejoinder at the meeting. Dr. Baker stated that MSU and OPI are at an impasse due to a difference of opinion and approach. Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson requested that the Board accept the response to the MSU rejoinder and approve the timeline to take final action in July 2009 with a focused on-site visit in the fall of 2009. Another exit report will be generated after the fall visit and brought before the Board.

**MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to accept the Response to the MSU Rejoinder and approve the timeline to take final action in July 2009 with a focused on-site visit in the fall of 2009. Mr. Cal Gilbert seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **DISCUSSION ITEM**

##### **Item 8           MACIE REPORT - Norma Bixby**

Mr. Voyd St. Pierre reported on the April 16, 2009 MACIE meeting that summarized the discussion regarding communication among MACIE members, the agencies they represent, the Office of Public Instruction, and the Board of Public Education. A written process will be submitted to the Office of Public Instruction and the Board of Public Education. Ms. Norma Bixby was unable to attend as planned. Mr. St. Pierre reported there were three new members introduced and two members retiring. Mr. Steve Meloy was in attendance of the MACIE meeting and reported that MACIE was reauthorized through November 2010. Legislative issues were significant within the context of the meeting. Mr. Cal Gilbert expressed his frustration at how quickly the meeting dates are being set and hopes that MACIE will make more of an effort to provide advanced notice. This will enable him to be more effective as a liaison to MACIE.

**Dr. Mary Sheehy Moe departed at 10:45 AM**

#### **ACTION ITEM**

#### **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.***

**CLOSED SESSION FOR ITEM 25 AT 10:45 AM**

**Item 25           MATERIAL AND NON-PERFORMANCE HEARING - BPE CASE #2009-03 – Steve Meloy**

**The Board of Public Education chose not to exercise its discretion in the material and non-performance BPE Case #2009-03. No motion occurred.**

**OPENED SESSION AT 11:20 AM**

#### **DISCUSSION ITEM**

**Item 20 SPOTLIGHT ON THE OPI SCHOOL FINANCE DIVISION - Denise Ulberg**

The School Finance Division consists of 10 Office of Public Instruction staff members who are responsible for a wide variety of duties related to school finance, budgeting, and accounting. Their primary customers are Montana's 430 school districts and 21 special education cooperatives. They work with approximately 800 to 1,000 school and county staff (clerks, business managers, superintendents, trustees, directors and county officials). They also provide information and services to the following: OPI staff; Board of Public Education; other state agencies; federal agencies; legislators; Montana education associations; taxpayers; community leaders; students; parents; bus drivers; bus contractors; and district pupil transportation directors. The OPI School Finance Division distributes over \$700 million of state K-12 payments each year under 14 state programs. This division handles close to 40% of the entire state budget with an operating budget of just 1/10<sup>th</sup> of 1% of that amount to make it all happen. The total to be paid in FY2009 is \$704,067,442.

**ACTION 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 21 RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF BASE AID PAYMENT SCHEDULE - Denise Ulberg**

As required by 20-9-344, 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 25<sup>th</sup> of each month, with adjustments for weekends and holidays. It has been reviewed by the Board of Investments.

Ms. Denise Ulberg noted that the At Risk Student Component Payment needs to be stricken from the payment schedule because the legislature did not fund.

**MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to approve the proposed payment schedule for fiscal year 2009-10 as presented with the At Risk Student Component Payment stricken from the schedule. Mr. Storrs Bishop seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Item 22 RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF NEW PROGRAMS – MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BILLINGS: PROPOSAL TO ADD PROGRAMS FOR ENDORSEMENTS IN BROADFIELD SCIENCE, POLITICAL SCIENCE, AND AREAS OF PERMISSIVE SPECIAL COMPETENCY FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD AND TECHNOLOGY IN EDUCATION - Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson**

The State Superintendent of Public Instruction recommended to the Board of Public Education approval of the provisional accreditation of the Montana State University – Billings (MSU-B) Broadfield Science Major; Political Science Major; and Areas of Permissive Special Competency in Early Childhood and Technology in Education. In March 2009, Dr. Bonnie Jones Graham, Director of Licensure Standards and Clinical Practice at MSU-B and the Science Program Dean and faculty, presented to the Board descriptions of the proposed programs including the rationale, justification, and program of study requirements relating to the specific standards of Chapter 58 – Professional Educator Preparation Program Standards: ARM 10.58.522 Broadfield Science; ARM 10.58.523 Political Science; ARM 10.58.527 Areas of Permissive Special Competency: Early Childhood and Technology in Education, and ARM 10.58.802 Standards for Approval. The Office of Public Instruction reviewed the materials for the proposed programs and recommended approval of the provisional accreditation of Broadfield Science Major; Political Science Major; and Areas of Permissive Special Competency in Early Childhood and Technology in Education. In 2011, the OPI will conduct an on-site visit of MSU-B to review the implementation of the provisionally accredited programs. A report will be provided to the Superintendent and the Board at a future date. Dr. Bonnie Jones Graham was present for this item.

**MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to approve the provisional accreditation of New Programs – Montana State University – Billings Broadfield Science Teaching Major;**

**Political Science Teaching Major; and Areas of Permissive Special Competency: Early Childhood and Technology in Education as recommended by the State Superintendent. Ms. Sharon Carroll seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Item 24           RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF EXIT REPORT OF JOINT NCATE/STATE ON-SITE REVIEW OF UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA – WESTERN - Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson**

In March 2009, the Office of Public Instruction presented to the Board of Public Education the exit report of the October 2009, Joint NCATE/State Review of the Professional Education Unit at the University of Montana-Western in Dillon. The Montana State Review Team examined the specific program standards articulated in the Board of Public Education approved Professional Educator Preparation Program Standards (PEPPS). Dr. Mary Susan Fishbaugh, Interim Dean of Education at Montana State University – Billings, served as chairperson of the review process and the team. State Superintendent Denise Juneau recommended approval of the exit report and approval of full accreditation status of the Professional Education Unit at the University of Montana – Western. Discussion ensued about the accrediting process and that not every teacher preparation program needs to be directly involved in NCATE, but they must certainly meet the Board's standards.

**MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to approve the recommendation of the State Superintendent to accept the Joint NCATE/State Review of the Professional Education Unit at the University of Montana –Western. Mr. Bernie Olson seconded.**

Ms. Angela McLean suggested that Mr. Tim Seery and Mr. Peter Donovan work together to present a proposal to promote and encourage students to participate in teacher prep programs and be diligent in addressing high need areas.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**Item 26           RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND TIMELINE RELATING TO PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ADMINISTRATIVE RULES OF MONTANA 10.57.110, 10.57.412 AND 10.57.527 PERTAINING TO AREA OF PERMISSIVE SPECIALIZED COMPETENCY, MENTOR TEACHER - Pete Donovan**

At the March Board of Public Education meeting, Dr. Jayne Downey, MSU-Bozeman, Ms. Judie Woodhouse, CSPAC member, and Mr. Peter Donovan, Administrative Officer, CSPAC, presented a recommendation on behalf of CSPAC for the Board of Public Education to adopt rules to add an Area of Permissive Specialized Competency for Mentor Teachers in Montana. This presentation was to request the Board of Public Education to adopt a Notice of Public Hearing and timeline on the amendment of ARM 10.57.110, 10.57.412, and 10.58.527 pertaining to mentor teachers to create a new Area of Permissive Special Competency (APSC). The current APSCs authorized by the Board include: early childhood education, gifted and talented education, and technology in education. The APSCs are statements of specialized competency that appear on educator licenses to indicate that the educator has completed a minimum of 20 semester college credit hours or equivalency in a specific academic area that has been approved by the Board of Public Education.

Mr. Peter Donovan reviewed the proposed rules and timeline. Mr. Donovan stated that the hearing will occur on June 22, 2009 at 9:00 AM at the OPI 1300 Conference Room if the Board of Public Education approves this proposal.

**MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to adopt the notice of public hearing and timeline relating to the proposed amendments to the Administrative Rules of Montana 10.57.110, 10.57.412 and 10.57.527 pertaining to the area of permissive specialized competency.**

**mentor teachers. Mr. Bernie Olson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Item 27           RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND TIMELINE RELATING TO ADMINISTRATIVE RULES OF MONTANA 10.54.4010 THROUGH 10.54.4098 MATHEMATICS CONTENT STANDARDS AND PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTORS - Jean Howard**

The Office of Public Instruction provided to the Board of Public Education the Notice of Public Hearing and Timeline relating to the K-12 Mathematics Content Standards and Performance Descriptors. This presentation included the final process for comments, review and editing, areas of focus and resulting documents. Attached are the draft Notice of Public Hearing and Timeline, "user-friendly" K-12 Mathematics Content Standards and Performance Descriptors, "A Vision of Montana Mathematics" and a synopsis of the PowerPoint.

Ms. Jean Howard reviewed the proposed rules and timeline. Ms. Howard stated that the hearing will occur on June 22, 2009 at 10:30 AM at the OPI 1300 Conference Room if the Board of Public Education approves this proposal. Discussion ensued about the four areas: 1) number sense and operations, 2) data analysis, 3) algebraic and functional reasoning, and 4) geometric reasoning. These are not courses but concepts. There is a reoccurring theme in which quantitative literacy is at the core and the proficiencies, principles, and processes are interconnected around the core. The team ensured that there is a specific link to Indian education and technology. In conclusion, Ms. Jean Howard stated that she was very confident that these math standards will be aligned with the common core.

**State Superintendent Denise Juneau departed at 12:15 PM. Ms. Nancy Coopersmith represented the State Superintendent at the table.**

**MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to approve for the notice of public hearing and the timeline relating to the adoption of New Rule I through New Rule XII, amendment of ARM 10.54.4010 through 10.54.4013, 10.54.4020 through 10.54.4023, 10.54.4030 through 10.54.4033, and 10.54.4040 through 10.54.4043, and repeal of ARM 10.54.4050 through 10.54.4053, 10.54.4060 through 10.54.4063, 10.54.4070 through 10.54.4073, and 10.54.4087 through 10.54.4098 pertaining to math standards and performance descriptors. Ms. Sharon Carroll seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**LUNCH AT 12:30 PM**

**RECONVENED AT 1:10 PM**

**Ms. Angela McLean was absent.**

**INFORMATION ITEM**

**Item 28           MSDB COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT - Steve Gettel**

A packet of information was presented to the Board of Public Education that was designed to be presented to the Senate Finance and Claims Committee. The main focus of a document that was included is to provide MSDB students the building block to independence by:

- being ready to enter school with peer equivalent skills;
- having meaningful access to curriculum, instruction, and the school community; and
- demanding sufficient resources to meet the needs of deaf and blind students state-wide.

The draft strategic plan was completed and has been sent out to all members of the Strategic Plan Summit for review and to solicit comments and suggestions. The final copy for the Board of Public

Education will be available June 26<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Steve Gettel reviewed the professional development activities at MSDB and stated that he wants to have a professional training institute for those who teach the deaf and blind.

#### **Ms. Angela McLean returned at 1:20 PM**

Mr. Steve Gettel supported the interpreter standards as presented to the Board of Public Education because this will force the issue in regard to how the state is going to train interpreters. Mr. Gettel asked the following questions:

- Who is responsible?
- Who will foot the bill?
- Why do we put the standard before we establish how to train interpreters?

The university system may not deem that it is viable to provide the training. The interpreter rule is more difficult than the Braille rule because of the issue of providing the necessary training. Building level administrators need further instruction because they are the ones that are making the decision that will affect the instruction for these students. Mr. Steve Gettel requested that the Board of Public Education provide support in regard to the strategic plan.

Mr. Steve Gettel reviewed the reassignment of staff for 2009-10, status of the budget with only a 1% reduction instead of the 2% reduction like all state agencies, MSDB Foundation activities, and the school calendar of events.

#### **ACTION ITEM**

#### **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 29 ESTABLISH EXECUTIVE STAFF SALARIES - Patty Myers**

Ms. Patty Myers recommended that Mr. Steve Meloy's and Mr. Steve Gettel's salaries remain the same as contracted for 2008-2009 since all classified state employees' salaries are frozen for FY10 and FY11. Mr. Steve Meloy and Mr. Steve Gettel are exempt staff.

**MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to establish the Executive Secretary Steve Meloy's salary at \$88,277.25 for July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010. Mr. John Edwards seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to establish the MSDB Superintendent Steve Gettel's salary at \$85,022.00 for July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010. Mr. John Edwards seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **PRELIMINARY AGENDA ITEMS – July 15 - 17, 2009**

Strategic Meeting – Review Bylaws, Operational Rules, and Boardmanship  
Assessment Update  
NCLB Update  
MACIE Update  
Annual GED Report  
Special Education Report

**MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bernie Olson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Meeting adjourned at 2:20 PM**

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