

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

**December 2-3, 2010**

**HAMPTON INN  
Montana Room  
725 Carter Drive  
Helena, MT**

**December 2, 2010 - Thursday**  
**8:30 AM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Patty Myers called the meeting to order at 8:32 AM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Cal Gilbert. Ms. Carol Will took roll call; a quorum was noted.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Ms. Patty Myers pulled the financials from the consent agenda. The remaining items on the consent agenda were approved as presented. Ms. Patty Myers reported that the Executive Committee met on October 21, 2010 to review the Board of Public Education's financials and set some priorities. During the September Board of Public Education meeting, Ms. Myers reported that NASBE paid for Mr. Steve Meloy's trip to Salt Lake City, Utah for the NASBE Annual Conference October 13-16, 2010. Ms. Myers corrected that statement and reported that the Board of Public Education paid for that particular conference. During the Executive Committee meeting on financials, the concern was raised that CSPAC was receiving limited funding for continuing education for its members. It is the intent of the Board to send a CSPAC member [Mr. John Harris] to the Western States Conference. Sharon Carroll, Chair of Licensure Committee, will be attending the NASDTEC Conference along with two CSPAC members. Ms. Patty Myers intends to attend the NASBE/CCSSO Legislative Conference. Additional travel money will be available for lobbying the 2011 Legislature. The recommendations for the Legislative Audit Division were included in the consent agenda. State Superintendent Denise Juneau requested more information about the BPE's budget. Mr. Steve Meloy said he would address that under the Executive Secretary's report. Discussion ensued about the NASBE's New Board Member Institute.

**ADOPT AGENDA**

Chair Patty Myers reported that Item 8 will contain two MACIE Members being approved; pulled Item 12 from the agenda; and Item 24 will contain two action items in the MSDB Report.

***Mr. Bernie Olson moved: to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. John Edwards seconded. Motion passed unanimously.***

Those in attendance included the following Board members: Chair Ms. Patty Myers, Vice Chair Ms. Sharon Carroll, Mr. Cal Gilbert, Mr. Bernie Olson, Mr. John Edwards, Ms. Erin Williams, and Student Representative Mr. Tim Seery. Staff present 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; Commissioner of Higher Education, Sheila Stearns; and Mr. Dan Villa represented Governor Brian Schweitzer. Visitors in attendance included: Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, Accreditation Division Administrator, OPI; Ms. Norma Bixby,

MACIE; Ms. Beck McLaughlin, Montana Arts Council; Mr. Dennis Parman, Deputy Superintendent, OPI; Mr. Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT; Dr. Jayne Downey, Montana State University-Bozeman; Ms. Penelope Strong, Attorney; Ms. Nancy Coopersmith, Assistant Superintendent, OPI; Ms. Ann Gilkey, Chief Legal Counsel, OPI; Ms. Madalyn Quinlan, Chief of Staff, OPI; Ms. Elizabeth Keller, Licensure Unit Manager, OPI; Ms. Linda Brandon-Kjos, Legal Services Administrative Officer, OPI; Mr. Dustan Toth; Ms. Jennifer Pryor; Ms. Debora O'Brien via teleconference; Ms. Connie M. Peterson via teleconference; Ms. Crystal Joy Carpenter via teleconference; Ms. Shirley Isbell, County Superintendent; Dr. Rosalyn Templeton, Provost, MSU-Northern via teleconference; Ms. Pamela Wilson, Field Placement Director, MSU-Northern via teleconference; Ms. Carol Reifschneider, Chairperson of the College of Education, Arts and Sciences, and Nursing, MSU-Northern via teleconference; Mr. Norton Pease, MSU-Northern via teleconference; Mr. Steve Gettel, Superintendent, MSDB; and Ms. Judy Snow, Assessment Specialist, OPI.

## INFORMATION

### Item 1

#### CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT - Patty Myers

- September 23, 2010 Board of Regents Meeting – Butte, MT
- September 27, 2010 Chapter 55 Planning Meeting Conference Call
- September 28, 2010 Chapter 55 Leadership Meeting – Helena, MT
- September 29-30, 2010 Chapter 55 Meeting – Helena, MT
- October 5, 2010 Meeting with Steve Gettel – Great Falls, MT
- October 8, 2010 MEA-MFT Montana Educator Forum – Helena, MT
- October 18, 2010 MASC State Meeting – Great Falls, MT
- October 19, 2010 Chapter 55 Leadership Meeting – Helena, MT
- October 21, 2010 Teacher of the Year – Helena, MT
- October 21, 2010 Executive Committee Budget Meeting – Helena, MT
- October 21-22, 2010 MEA-MFT Educator Conference – Helena, MT
- October 25, 2010 Scheduling Conference Call Case #2009-05
- November 4, 2010 *Waiting for Superman* Film – Helena, MT
- November 9, 2010 Chapter 55 Leadership Conference Call
- November 14, 2010 Chapter 55 Leadership Meeting – Helena, MT
- November 15-16, 2010 Chapter 55 Meeting – Helena, MT
- November 17, 2010 Board of Education Meeting – Missoula, MT
- November 23, 2010 MSDB Committee Meeting Conference Call
- November 30, 2010 MMSTI – Helena, MT

#### BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION APPEARANCES

##### Sharon Carroll

- October 21, 2010 Teacher of the Year – Helena, MT
- October 21, 2010 Executive Committee Budget Meeting – Helena, MT
- October 21-22, 2010 MEA-MFT Educator Conference – Helena, MT

##### Erin Williams

- November 17, 2010 Board of Education Meeting – Missoula, MT

##### Gisele Forrest

- November 17, 2010 Board of Education Meeting – Missoula, MT

##### Tim Seery

- October 18, 2010 MASC State Meeting – Great Falls, MT
- October 21, 2010 Teacher of the Year – Helena, MT
- October 21-22, 2010 MEA-MFT Educator Conference – Helena, MT

Ms. Patty Myers reported on the MEA-MFT Conference. Discussion ensued about NASBE in regard to the following: Services that are provided to the states; membership costs per year; New Board Member Institute; which states belong; and task forces. Mr. Bernie Olson requested further information on how much NASBE spends per year; how much of that money goes to resource briefs and task forces; and the general value of its service to the states.

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

State Superintendent Denise Juneau raised the question about the BPE's budget during the consent agenda. Mr. Steve Meloy specifically addressed how the BPE will work with the Office of Public Instruction to ensure appropriations using teacher's license fees as the source are in accordance with state law. In addition, Mr. Meloy reported that the BPE considered proposing legislation to increase the \$4 and \$2 fees that are set in statute, but the Governor's Office requested that the BPE did not follow that path at this time. The BPE's Research Fund balance was reduced over the past few biennia to a conservative level to allow reasonable cash flow and still maintain funding for the purposes stated in 20-4-109, MCA. The Governor's Office agreed to a new proposal that funds \$15,000 per year with General Fund for the operating expenses previously paid with the State Special Revenue Fund. Other topics presented were: Sharon Applegate, Chair of the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council; waiting for recommendation for the State Superintendent of Public Instruction in regard to the Common Core Standards; 44 states adopted the Common Core Standards to-date; MEA-MFT Conference; Chapter 55; Class 8; material and substantial non-performance case; *Waiting for Superman* film; Board of Education in Missoula; Governor's budget; and NASBE's Annual Meeting. Mr. Steve Meloy also reviewed the two audit exceptions that were listed in the consent agenda under the correspondence written to Ms. Tori Hunthausen, Legislative Auditor, Legislative Audit Division.

**Item 3 CSPAC REPORT - Peter Donovan**

Mr. Peter Donovan reviewed the highlights for the CSPAC and Joint Council of Deans Meeting on October 14-15, 2010 in Missoula, MT. Mr. Steve York of OPI presented at the CSPAC and Joint Council of Deans meeting the Council of Chief State School Officer's State Consortium for Educators Effectiveness (SCEE). The deans expressed their interest in being active participants of the SCEE. Mr. Peter Donovan reported the Mr. John Harris from CSPAC will attend the Western States Certification Conference in Portland, Oregon. The next CSPAC meeting is January 13, 2011 in Helena, MT.

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

State Superintendent Denise Juneau introduced Ms. Allyson Hagen as the new Communication's Director at the Office of Public Instruction. State Superintendent Denise Juneau recently traveled to eastern Montana to determine the impacts of oil and gas on the schools and to listen to the concerns expressed. Sidney, MT used much of their oil and gas revenue to upgrade the 50-year-old high school. The Sidney School District also contributes to a health-retirement account for teachers and pays its teachers a higher starting salary compared to many districts across the state of Montana. Some concerns that school districts in eastern Montana are facing include, but are not limited to: influx of students; high rent for apartments and trailers; and limited rentals. Some school districts have built substantial reserves from oil and gas revenue. On the other hand State Superintendent Denise Juneau visited Wibaux, MT and had dinner with the teachers and the school board and reported that it is a poor community and still uses the original school.

The Office of Public Instruction identified the following school districts for the Title I School Improvement Grants: Frazer, Lodge Grass, Pryor, and Lame Deer. Hays-Lodge Pole schools were also identified, but the Office of Public Instruction denied the agreement because the school district could not agree to some of the reform conditions. The Office of Public Instruction has the following 4 staff members at each school district: transformation leader; instructional leader; school board coach, and community liaison. The funding is available for three years.

The mission of the Montana Math and Science Teacher Initiative (MMSTI), is dedicated to improving the recruitment and retention of highly qualified teachers of mathematics and science is fourfold: 1) raise awareness of the importance of math and science education; 2) increase the quantity, quality, and diversity of mathematics and science teachers; 3) recruit students from STEM disciplines; and 4) continuously work towards developing assessment strategies that will enhance success in the development and sustainability of statewide practices. State Superintendent Denise Juneau reported that this group continues to receive data, but there have been no decisions made with this collection of data. State Superintendent Juneau would like President Waded Cruzado and President Engstrom to attend a Board of Public Education meeting to address the vision of the MMSTI.

#### **9:46 AM Mr. Dan Villa arrived**

The Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) is sponsoring the State Consortium on Educator Effectiveness (SCEE) during a December webinar and state team webinars will be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month in 2011. The Board of Public Education will receive an invitation, Deans of Education would like to participate, and other educational groups will be invited. The consortium's webinars will develop and share knowledge about defining educator effectiveness, measuring educator effectiveness, and growing the effectiveness of our educators. It is at the nexus of the Common Core Student Standards, the new InTASC core teaching standards, and the ISLLC 2008 Educational Leadership Policy Standards that the SCEE can best help states define effectiveness. Within the concept of measuring effectiveness, there are at least four big categories of work for SCEE to examine:

- Using student achievement and growth – and all of the attendant complexities
- Evaluating professional practice and normative expectations of teachers
- Teacher and leader performance assessments
- Integrating policies and practices to design state infrastructures for education evaluation

Within the concept of growing educator effectiveness, SCEE will look at presenting several webinars on educator preparation, induction, professional development, and collaboration.

State Superintendent Denise Juneau reported the following proposed legislation for the 2011 Legislative Session: Prevent transfer out-of-district transportation funds; residency requirements of students; coordinate JOBS fund for retirement; education funding bill; fund the ACT for every junior in Montana; and raise legal dropout age. The proposed legislation will raise Montana's legal dropout age to 17, or upon graduation or passing a GED test, whichever happens first. Discussion ensued about being a GED option state, students enrolled in Job Corps, ANB fund distribution if student obtains a GED, and college and career ready.

On November 11-12, 2010 forty students gathered at Carroll College in Helena for the first-ever convening of the State Superintendent's Student Advisory Board. This group of young people represented different parts of Montana from small schools and large schools, with different ethnic and cultural backgrounds, and varying academic class standings. Thirty-one schools were represented. The Student Advisory Board was designed to advise State Superintendent Denise Juneau to increase the number of Montana students who graduate from high school through collaborative partnerships with schools, community organization, businesses, and youth. Some things that were expressed included:

- Students want more flexibility in their schools, both in scheduling and learning spaces/environments
- Student want their learning to be relevant to their interests and lives

The Student Advisory Board will meet again in the spring and a report will be presented to the Board of Public Education after the Student Advisory Board's spring meeting. Discussion ensued about incarcerated youth.

In conclusion, State Superintendent Denise Juneau would like to engage the Board of Public Education in more discussion about its priorities and how the Office of Public Instruction could assist the Board in processing them.

**Item 6 GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORT - Dan Villa**

Mr. Dan Villa reported the following in regard to the Governor's education budget: Research Fund balance switch of \$15,000 per year with General Fund for the operating expenses previously paid with the State Special Revenue Fund for the Board of Public Education; increase the Hearing Conservation Program contract to ensure the continuation of services for proper identification of students with hearing impairments; National Board Certified Teachers; Montana Digital Academy; restored \$10 million At-Risk Student Payment funding found in 20-9-328, MCA; inflationary increase for Special Education; and the additional items can be found at [http://budget.mt.gov/excubudgets/2013\\_Budget/default.mcp](http://budget.mt.gov/excubudgets/2013_Budget/default.mcp). Mr. Villa also report that every district will receive new funding if the Governor's budget is approved as presented. This can be done with the oil and gas money which flows to communities across eastern Montana to fund schools statewide as proposed by Governor Brian Schweitzer. Mr. Dan Villa says that other revenue from timber and mining is shared among schools statewide, and that oil and gas revenue shouldn't be an exception. "Everyone in the state should benefit from the oil and gas money," said Mr. Villa. Some school districts socked away excess oil and gas revenues in reserve or "flex" funds that have sizeable reserves that could help offset the need to raise property taxes to replace that money. Mr. Villa stated that it becomes a local school board decision as to whether or not the district needs to raise property taxes to replace that money. Mr. Eric Feaver supported the Governor's budget and stated that it is "politically creative." Mr. Feaver provided a historical perspective on school funding and the big cash bags of flex funds. Mr. Bernie Olson reported that the western part of the state opposes the proposal. Mr. Steve Meloy referred to the work of the Renewal Commission, in regard to taxation equalization, that became politically charged. In conclusion, Mr. Villa explained how the oil and gas money would be re-allocated through a funding formula.

**11:10 AM Mr. Dan Villa departed**

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

Commissioner Sheila Stearns announced that Mr. John Cech will replace Dr. Mary Sheehy Moe on January 3, 2011 as the Deputy Commissioner for Two-Year and Community College Education. Commissioner Stearns reported that she is in support of the Governor's education budget and is a fan of the digital academy and believes that the funding should be with the Office of Public Instruction instead of the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education. 1500 students are currently enrolled in the Montana Digital Academy and the array of courses expands from French to Oceanography. 56% of Montana high school graduates go to college immediately after graduation. Montana has turned a corner to become a net importer of college graduates versus a net exporter of college graduates. Discussion ensued about the number of Montana schools that do not offer a 4<sup>th</sup> year of math; Class 8 licenses; remediation statistics in math and writing; and admission standards.

Commissioner Sheila Stearns and Dr. Jan Clinard presented the Montana University System Admission Standards that was updated on October 22, 2010. Other documents presented were Academic Affairs Policy 301 – Admission Requirements and Policy 301.1 – Admission Requirements for Undergraduates into Four-year University Programs, revised on September 23, 2010. Dr. Clinard reported that a great deal of work occurred on the immunization component and integrating six different policies into policy 301.1 to be more logical and complete. The redundancy in the policies was removed to assist in the organization. Discussion ensued about placement exams, ACT scores, ACT waivers, and challenge tests.

**Item 7 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT - Tim Seery**

Mr. Tim Seery reported that the history department at the Great Falls Public School hosted a Holocaust survivor to share her experiences with the high schools and middle schools. The Holocaust survivor was 89 years old, a retired 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, grew up in Hungary, Jewish, and was transported to Auschwitz in a rail car. When she arrived in Auschwitz they were all placed in one line and were directed in one of



two directions. She went to the right and her family was directed to the left. That was the last she saw of her family. She made it to the United States by hiding inside a ball of yarn. Mr. Seery also reported on the Montana Association of Student Council's State Meeting that was held in Great Falls on October 19, 2010. Ms. Patty Myers was also in attendance. Mr. Seery provided a history of the Board of Public Education at the MASC Meeting. Mr. Seery noted that applications are being accepted for the Student Representative replacement to the Board of Public Education. Interviews will be conducted in March in Billings, MT. Other topics discussed were: the MEA-MFT Teacher Convention's presentation by the BPE; federalism and how it relates to education; and the Common Core Standards.

## **DISCUSSION**

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

The following were nominated for the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education: Ms. Penny Kipp, nominated by the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes and Melissa Hammett, nominated by the Missoula Indian Center. State Superintendent Denise Juneau concurred with the recommendation and asked the Board of Public Education to consider approving them as members of MACIE.

***Mr. Cal Gilbert moved: to approve Ms. Melissa Hammett as a member of MACIE. Mr. Bernie Olson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.***

***Mr. Cal Gilbert moved: to approve Ms. Penny Kipp as a member of MACIE. Mr. Bernie Olson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.***

Ms. Norma Bixby reported on the MACIE meeting held on October 28, 2010. The Office of Public Instruction is in the process of linking the MACIE website to each of the tribes' websites. This is an effort to assist in making ties between the tribes and education. In conclusion, Ms. Bixby reported some of the statistics from the American Indian Student Achievement Data Report as prepared by Mr. Michael Munson, OPI.

### **Item 9 ASSESSMENT UPDATE - Judy Snow**

Ms. Judy Snow provided the Board of Public Education with an update in regard to the Phase 2 Pilot Writing Program concerning the online writing formative assessment. The purpose is to examine the value and use of an online writing program as a collaborative tool in formative assessment and profession development. It is for grades 4-12 in which approximately 1300 students, 30 teachers, 15 schools, and 10 systems that range from large, small, urban and rural districts are participating. Beginning in January 2011 the FAME-CI (Formative Assessment for Montana Educators: Classroom Implementation) will occur. The 2011 OPI Statewide Assessment Conference: On the Horizon Current Practices, What's New, and Things to Come will occur January 20-21 in Billings, MT. The Keynote speaker is Paul Anderson, the 2011 Montana Teacher of the Year.

**1:30 PM TIME CERTAIN**

## **ACTION**

### **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.***

**1:32 PM Closed Session**

### **Item 11 DENIAL HEARING BPE CASE #2009-05 (CLOSED) - Steve Meloy**

**5:10 PM Opened Session**

**Mr. John Edwards moved: in the case of the Denial Hearing BPE Case #2009-05 to take the matter under advisement with the record before this Board, subject to the mutually agreed upon dates and deadlines set forth in the scheduling order for the hearing, and to have a decision made no later than or on February 17, 2011. Ms. Sharon Carroll seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

~~Item 12 ——— REVOCATION HEARING BPE CASE #2010-05 (CLOSED) — Steve Meley-  
CANCELLED —~~

**DISCUSSION**

**5:11 PM Closed Session**

**Item 13            LICENSE SURRENDER REPORT BPE CASE #2010-09 (CLOSED) - Ann Gilkey**

**5:14 PM Opened Session**

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**December 3, 2010 – Friday**

**8:32 AM Meeting Reconvened**

Mr. Cal Gilbert was unable to attend due to poor driving conditions. No representation from the Governor's Office or the Commissioner of Higher Education's Office.

**Item 10            CHAPTER 55 JOINT TASK FORCE PROGRESS UPDATE - Patty Myers and Dennis Parman**

Mr. Dennis Parman provided the Board of Public Education with an update on the Montana Digital Academy. Mr. Parman provided the number of students enrolled from Class AA, A, B, and C schools. The difference in numbers affirmed that different size schools have different needs. There are no students who are enrolled in one class only. Mr. Parman expressed his surprise by this figure and intends to explore this data further. Many students are trying to get caught up with their cohorts and stated the classes are rigorous. Mr. Parman believes that taking classes through the Montana Digital Academy provides different opportunities for students.

The Chapter 55 Joint Task Force of the Board of Public Education and the Office of Public Instruction met on September 29-30, 2010 at the Gateway Center in Helena, MT. The expected outcomes for the September meeting were to:

1. Complete the study of Chapter 55, with at least 20 initial rule language recommendations and corresponding rationales;
2. Review and agree on the guiding principles for the work of the Chapter 55 Joint Task Force;
3. Understand and articulate the issues and related implications for Chapter 55 based on the Constituent Group comments;
4. Identify key components, appropriate to Montana, of a "blended" accreditation model (Innovative practice to encourage flexibility while ensuring education quality and accountability);
5. Establish the subcommittee to address the Chapter 55 language for the framework for the Evaluation of School Leaders/Teachers; and
6. Establish the next meeting date.

The September 29-30, 2010 meeting materials were included. The September agenda and meeting accomplishments are posted on the Chapter 55 Joint Task Force Web page: [http://www.opi.mt.gov/Programs/SchoolPrograms/index.html#gpm1\\_3](http://www.opi.mt.gov/Programs/SchoolPrograms/index.html#gpm1_3). The next meeting date for the Chapter 55 Joint Task Force is December 13-14, 2010. The November meeting agenda and expected

outcomes were included. Discussion ensued about setting standards to let schools know that they are good enough; cannot devise a system to set the lowest standards and be punitive; goal is to identify needs and assist; build a performance-based accreditation model that fits Montana; guiding principles; evaluation systems; and responses of school superintendents.

#### **8:46 AM State Superintendent Denise Juneau arrived**

##### **Item 14 COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS - Nancy Coopersmith**

Information was presented concerning awareness workshops this fall about the Common Core State Standards Initiative. In addition, a planned statewide activity was outlined. Ms. Nancy Coopersmith reported that there is the Common Core State Standards survey found on the OPI's website at <http://keysurvey.mt.gov/survey/107148/1910/>. State Superintendent Denise Juneau intends to make a recommendation to the Board of Public Education in May 2011. A statewide effort to address questions and answers for policy makers will occur in January regarding the Common Core State Standards. This will provide an educated dialogue with policy makers about the Common Core State Standards, why we may need to adopt them, what happens to a state who chooses not to adopt them, and how they compare to state standards. Texas, Alaska, and Virginia say they will not adopt them. Minnesota adopted the reading Common Core State Standards and not the math. Montana is currently part of the Smarter Balance Consortium along with 31 states. If Montana wants to remain in the Consortium then it will have to adopt the Common Core State Standards. Discussion ensued about the difference between curriculum, instructional strategies, and standards. State Superintendent Denise Juneau concluded that the word "National" has been dropped from the title and if the word "Federal" is used, the standards will not receive support. The Common Core State Standards are being referred to as "the framework." The federal government has had no role in the development of the Common Core State Standards. The Common Core State Standards Initiative was led by the National Governor's Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers, working with Achieve, ACT and the College Board, among other education groups. The federal government will have the opportunity to support states as they begin adopting the standards. For example, the federal government can:

- Support this effort through a range of tiered incentives, such as providing states with greater flexibility in the use of existing federal funds, supporting a revised state accountability structure, and offering financial support for states to implement the standards.
- Provide long-term financial support for the development and implementation of common assessments, teacher and principal professional development, and research to help continually improve the Common Core State Standards over time.
- Revise and align existing federal education laws with the lessons learned from the best of what works in other nations and from research.

##### **Item 15 FEDERAL UPDATE - Nancy Coopersmith**

This informational report included four topics: 1) A report on the Annual Measureable Objectives (AMOs) required in calculation of Adequate Yearly Progress. The AMOs will increase this year as required by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) as reauthorized by the No Child Left Behind Act; 2) The long-delayed reauthorization of the ESEA was discussed; 3) At its September 2010 meeting, the Board requested information on federal program administration and staffing at the Montana Office of Public Instruction. This information was presented; and 4) Information concerning the federal budget for Federal Fiscal Year 2011 was presented. Ms. Nancy Coopersmith provided the Board of Public Education with the Montana Annual Measurable Objective Trajectory for reading and math. There is no reauthorization of ESEA at this time, so these trajectory goals are still in effect. The Office of Public Instruction predicts there will be a drastic increase in schools not making Annual Yearly Progress because the percentage increases from 83% to 92% proficiency in reading and 68% to 84% proficiency in math in 2010-2011. Discussion ensued using scale scores; schools that do not meet AYP; school improvement process; waiver provisions; cut-off scores; low performing schools; gathering data; and students with disabilities. In conclusion, Ms. Nancy Coopersmith provided the Board with the organizational chart of the Office of Public Instruction that was requested at the September 2010 BPE



meeting.

**Item 16 SPOTLIGHT ON THE OPI CENTRAL SERVICES DIVISION - Julia Dilly**

An overview of the Centralized Services Division and a description of the services provided to the Office of Public Instruction and to members of the public were presented. Ms. Julia Dilly is the Division Administrator for the Centralized Services Division at the Office of Public Instruction. Ms. Dilly oversees the following units: purchasing/payroll; accountants; accounts receivable and federal reporting; budgeting; and word processing/mailroom/ receptionist. Discussion ensued about how the Office of Public Instruction's budget may be different than many agencies because the State Superintendent is an elected official.

**Item 17 TRANSPORTATION REPORT - Maxine Mougeot**

This presentation included information regarding transportation data and bus accident information, the continued growth of the school bus driver training program, National and State Standards Rewrite, and a Stakeholders' meeting review. The presentation was designed to update the Board of Public Education with limited statistics, current issues facing the transportation community and current success of the transportation program. New construction and operational standards are currently being written and will be presented to the Board of Public Education for action at a later date. Ms. Maxine Mougeot reported that during the current school year, districts and contractors added 58 new 2011 yellow replacement buses to the Montana fleet. Of those 58 new buses, 32 buses were purchased with a combination of the federal Diesel Emission Reduction Program funds and local funding. About 44% of the buses are district owned and just over 56% of the buses are contractor owned. Slightly more than ½ of the entire fleet is greater than 10 years old. Discussion ensued about training requirements, funding, seat belts, and retrofitting buses. Mr. John Edwards requested information in regard to the cost of an integrated seated system, which states require and use seat belts in buses, and how did those states obtain the necessary funding.

**Item 18 REPORT ON STATUS OF ARTS EDUCATION IN MONTANA SCHOOLS - Beck McLaughlin**

Ms. Beck McLaughlin reported that a survey was sent to all Montana public and accredited private schools a year ago. The Montana Arts Council initiated the survey to help establish important and missing baseline information in the area of arts education in Montana. The report summarizes the status of arts education in Montana using data collected from 313 of Montana's elementary, middle and secondary schools statewide. This information was formed from responses by principals, superintendents and supervising teachers – it is their perception of the state of arts education in their schools. Questions throughout the survey were designed to quantify and evaluate each school's situation in offering the arts as a core subject. To evaluate the arts' standing as a core academic subject as outlined in the No Child Left Behind Law, it was necessary to assess instruction that met the following criteria:

- Instruction that follows a sequential and ongoing arts curriculum
- Instruction that is aligned with state or national arts standards
- Instruction that is taught by a certified/licensed and endorsed specialist.

If students received instruction that did not meet these criteria, the instruction was not counted. 38% of Montana's 847 schools participated in this survey. Discussion ensued about the number of licensed music and art teachers in the state, integrating music and arts into the core subjects, and using regional service areas to provide a central support group to teachers while serving rural communities.

**ACTION**

**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 19                    ADOPTION OF THE CRITICAL QUALITY EDUCATOR SHORTAGE AREAS REPORT**

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**Madalyn Quinlan**

Section 20-4-501 through 506, MCA provides for a quality educator loan assistance program. The Quality Educator Loan Assistance Program is administered by the Board of Regents through the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education. The program provides for the direct repayment of educational loans of eligible quality educators for up to 4 years. The total annual repayment assistance may not exceed \$3,000. This presentation included information about the responsibilities of the Board of Public Education and the Office of Public Instruction in the implementation of this program. The Office of Public Instruction reported and recommended for Board adoption, a listing of specific schools and specific quality educator licensure and endorsement areas impacted by critical quality educator shortage areas. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction requested adoption of the Critical Quality Educator Shortage Areas Report. If adopted, the report will be used to establish eligibility for the quality educator loan assistance program in the spring of 2011. Ms. Madalyn Quinlan reported in FY2010, 163 teachers received quality educator loan repayment assistance totaling \$471,753. The appropriation for FY2011 is \$985,065. This funding level is expected to fund loan payments for approximately 264 educators in FY2011. The methodology used by the Office of Public Instruction for identifying critical quality educator shortages was reviewed. Discussion ensued about the reduction of emergency authorizations in FY2010 compared to FY2009.

**Mr. John Edwards moved: to adopt the Critical Quality Educator Shortages Report for the 2010-2011 school year as presented. Ms. Sharon Carroll seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**11:20 AM State Superintendent Denise Juneau departed**

**Item 20                    ALTERNATIVE TO STANDARDS REQUEST - Linda Vrooman Peterson**

This presentation provided to the Board of Public Education the report of Initial Alternative to Standards requests. The State Superintendent recommended approval of the report as presented. The report was included. Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson reviewed the Montana Small Schools Alliance (MSSA) Plan for Alternative Standard Collaboration before the following 2 initial alternative standard requests representing 2 districts and 15 schools were received and evaluated in accordance with 10.55.604, ARM.

1. Lewis & Clark County – Helena Public Schools – The Helena School District submitted a new two-year initial Alternative to Standard Request for Counseling addressing the areas of deficiency from the previous two-year Alternative to Standard Request. The proposal meets or exceeds the current standard as evaluated by the Office of Public Instruction.
2. Park County – Arrowhead Schools – The district will be using the MSSA model for this alternative standard. The necessary letter of agreement with MSSA was provided. This model provides for measurable objectives and corresponding formative assessment. The district also has provided the necessary mission statement, description of the alternative and summative measure to be used. In addition to maintaining a small library which is a satellite of the Belle Fourche Public Library four times per year.

**Mr. John Edwards moved: to approve the recommendations of State Superintendent Denise Juneau concerning the report of Initial Alternative to Standards requests for Helena Public Schools and Arrowhead Elementary Schools. Ms. Erin Williams seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Item 21                    RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF STANDARDS REVISION SCHEDULE – Linda Vrooman Peterson**

Pursuant to Administrative Rules of Montana 10.54.2503, the Office of Public Instruction provided to the

Board of Public Education the revised Standards Review Schedule for approval as follows:

<b>Cycle</b>	<b>Standards</b>	<b>Standards Adopted by BPE</b>
Cycle I 2005-2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Science</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adopted November 2006</li> </ul>
Cycle II 2007-2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information Literacy-Library Media</li> <li>• Technology</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adopted August 2008</li> <li>• Adopted August 2008</li> </ul>
Cycle III 2008-2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mathematics</li> <li>• Communication Arts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adopted September 2009</li> <li>• Adopted January 2010</li> </ul>
Cycle IV 2011-2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Career and Technology Education</li> <li>• Workplace Competencies</li> <li>• Health Enhancement</li> <li>• English Language Proficiency (ELP)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposed Adoption 2012 for all standards in Cycle IV</li> </ul>
Cycle V 2012-2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School Counseling</li> <li>• World Languages</li> <li>• Social Studies</li> <li>• Arts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposed Adoption 2013 for all standards in Cycle V</li> </ul>

Ms. Judy Snow provided the following tentative action plan for English Language Proficiency Standards:

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Action</b>
June 1, 2010 – Summer 2011	Review and revise Montana ELP standards and link to current Montana content standards or if approved in Montana, link to Common Core Standards.
December 2010 – Summer 2011	Adoption process for Montana ELP standards.

***Mr. John Edwards moved: to approve the revised Standards Review Schedule as recommended by State Superintendent Denise Juneau. Mr. Bernie Olson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.***

**Item 22 RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BOZEMAN - Linda Vrooman Peterson**

In March 2010, the Board of Public Education approved the corrective plan and progress made by the Professional Education Unit at Montana State University - Bozeman toward meeting the standards marked with “Met with Weakness” and “Not Met” from the November 2009 follow-up focused on-site accreditation review. The BPE approved provisional accreditation status of the Professional Education Unit at MSU. Provisional accreditation status required MSU to provide to the BPE an annual report on the continued progress toward meeting the standards listed below. The MSU report was included.

10.58.210	Conceptual Framework	Met with Weakness
10.58.305	Assessment System and Unit Evaluation	Met with Weakness
10.58.306	Field Experiences and Clinical Practices	Met with Weakness
10.58.309	Unit Governance and Resources	Met with Weakness
10.58.501	General Requirements (1) (j) & (l)	Met with Weakness
10.58.527	Permissive Specialized Competency Early Childhood	Met with Weakness

The Office of Public Instruction will continue to monitor the progress of the Professional Education Unit at MSU. On January 16-17, 2011, the OPI will facilitate a second focused on-site accreditation review. Dr. Jayne Downey reported that the Teacher Education faculty has been energized by the concept of continuous program improvement and every faculty member has contributed to the important work of ongoing program assessment and development. Dr. Downey stated that the faculty sees a clear commitment to data-driven decision-making across the Teacher Education Program and extended appreciation for the guidance and support offered by Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson. Discussion ensued about building better relationships within the community by students completing service learning projects outside of the school system to build a respect for the community in which they teach.

**Ms. Sharon Carroll moved: to approve the Correction Action Plan of Montana State University - Bozeman. Ms. Erin Williams seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Item 23            RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY – NORTHERN - Linda Vrooman Peterson**

In July 2010, the Board of Public Education approved provisional accreditation status of the Professional Education Unit at MSU-Northern. Dr. Rosalyn Templeton, Provost, Pamela Wilson, Field Placement Director, and Carol Reifschneider, Chairperson of the College of Education, Arts and Sciences, and Nursing, provided to the Board of Public Education the progress that MSU-Northern has made toward meeting the standards marked with “Met with Weakness” and “Not Met” from the November 2009 on-site accreditation review. Provisional accreditation status requires MSU-Northern to provide to the BPE an annual report on the continued progress in meeting the standards listed below. The MSU-Northern report was included.

10.58.210	Conceptual Framework	Met with Weakness
10.58.305	Assessment System and Unit Evaluation	Not Met
10.58.308	Faculty Qualifications	Met with Weakness
10.58.512	School Counseling	Met with Weakness
10.58.521	Reading Specialist K-12	Met with Weakness
10.58.601	Program Planning	Met with Weakness
10.58.602	Teaching Areas-Advanced	Met with Weakness
10.58.603	Assessment-Advanced	Met with Weakness
10.58.705	School Principals, Superintendents, Supervisors and Curriculum Directors	Not Met

The Office of Public Instruction will continue to monitor the progress of the Professional Education Unit at MSU-Northern and will schedule a follow-up focused on-site accreditation review within 12 months. The following participated via a conference call to review the plan before the Board of Public Education: Dr. Rosalyn Templeton; Ms. Pamela Wilson, Ms. Carol Reifschneider, and Mr. Norton Pease.

**Ms. Sharon Carroll moved: to approve the Correction Action Plan of Montana State University - Northern. Mr. Bernie Olson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**PRELIMINARY AGENDA ITEMS – February 17-18, 2011, Helena, MT**

Exiting Board Member – Last Meeting  
MACIE Update  
Annual School Food Services Report  
Assessment Update  
Federal Update  
Alternative Standards Requests & Renewals  
Accreditation Status Recommendations – Conference Call (If Necessary)  
Accreditation Report  
Material & Non-Performance Hearing BPE Case #2010-07  
Denial Hearing BPE Case #2010-08

Additional items added to the preliminary agenda items are: Denial Hearing Action for BPE Case #2009-05; revocation hearing BPE Case #2010-05; licensure process; relationship and benefits with NASBE; internship programs for superintendents and principals; and new construction and operational standards from the transportation department at OPI.

**12:44 Mr. Bernie Olson departed**

**DISCUSSION**

**Item 24 MSDB COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT - Steve Gettel**

Mr. Steve Gettel presented the following: Student enrollment/evaluations; human resource actions; school improvement; legislative activities; professional development activities; MSDB Foundation activities; conferences, meetings, and contacts; budget and finance; facilities and safety; school calendar of events; and student news. Discussion ensued on resignations and planned vacancies that may cause personnel services to go over budget and require a supplemental; upgrading the fire alarm system in the cottages and Aspen Hall; a parent advocacy group; and legislative initiatives along with open house for regional legislators. A policy on school wellness (2510) and nutrition (8230) was distributed to the Board of Public Education for review and approval.

***Ms. Sharon Carroll moved: to approve the school wellness (2510) and nutrition (8230) policies as presented. Mr. John Edwards seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Bernie Olson was absent for the vote.***

Mr. Steve Gettel distributed the draft Summary of Data from MSDB Outreach Consultants for LEA Provisions of Services to Students Who are Deaf, Hard-of-Hearing, or Visually Impaired along with a spreadsheet full of data.

***Ms. Erin Williams moved: to adjourn the Board of Public Education Meeting. Mr. John Edwards seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Bernie Olson was absent for the vote.***

**1:37 PM Meeting adjourned**

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