

BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES

July 15 – 16, 2010

MONTANA STATE CAPITOL
Room # 152
Helena, MT

July 15, 2010 - Thursday
8:30 AM

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Patty Myers called the meeting to order at 8:37 AM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Judie Woodhouse, Chair of the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council. Ms. Carol Will and Ms. Anneliese Warhank took roll call; a quorum was noted.

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda was approved as presented.

ADOPT AGENDA

Ms. Patty Myers removed Item 15 from the agenda.

Mr. Bernie Olson moved: to adopt the agenda as amended. 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, 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; Ms. Anneliese Warhank, Administrative Assistant, Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council; and Ms. Carol Will, Administrative Assistant, Board of Public Education. Ex-officio members present included: Deputy Superintendent Dennis Parman represented State Superintendent Denise Juneau; Dr. Mary Sheehy Moe represented Commissioner Sheila Stearns; and Mr. Dan Villa represented Governor Brian Schweitzer via conference phone. Visitors in attendance included: Ms. Nancy Coopersmith, Assistant Superintendent, OPI; Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, Accreditation Division Administrator, OPI; Ms. Kelly Glass, Accreditation Accountability Specialist, OPI; Mr. Marco Ferro, MEA-MFT; Ms. Jean Howard, Math Curriculum Specialist, OPI; Ms. Pamela Wilson, Director of Clinical and Field Experiences, Montana State University-Northern; Ms. Carol Reifschneider, General Science and Biology, Montana State University-Northern; Ms. Elizabeth Keller, Licensure Specialist, OPI; Mr. Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT; Ms. Sue Mohr, Measurement and Accountability Division Administrator; Mr. Andy Boehm, Data Information Coordinator, OPI; Mr. Bob Vogel, MTSBA; Dr. Jo Swain, Rocky Mountain College; Dr. Stevie Schmitz, Rocky Mountain College; Dr. Mary Susan Fishbaugh, Montana State University-Billings; Ms. Kris Goyins, Communication Arts Curriculum Specialist, OPI; Mr. Rodd Zeiler, Math Teacher, Laurel School District; Ms. Kathy Pfaffinger, Billings Public Schools; Ms. Andrea Johnson, Ophir School District #72; Dr. Barbara Vail, Rocky Mountain College; Ms. Margaret Bowles, Ms. Jerrie Boksich, Whitefish School District; Dr. Cindy O'Dell, Salish Kootenai College; Dr. Jan Clinard, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education; Ms. Jody Parsons, Hamilton School District; Ms. Kathleen Dent, Hamilton School District; Ms. Rosalyn Templeton, Montana State University-Northern; Ms. Colet Bartow, Library Media Curriculum Specialist, OPI; and Ms. Sue Buswell, Montana Association of School Nurses.

BPE/CSPAC JOINT MEETING

Board of Public Education Chair Ms. Patty Myers extended the chairmanship to Ms. Judie Woodhouse, Certification Standards Practices Advisory Council Chair.

Item 1 CSPAC ANNUAL REPORT - Judie Woodhouse

Ms. Judie Woodhouse spoke about the work CSPAC completed in the past year, as well as the changes in membership due to limits and retirement. She informed the Board of Public Education of the Licensure and Endorsement Committee (which consists of Mr. Jon Runnalls and Ms. Sharon Applegate) reviewing the Code of Ethics. The Council elected a new chair person, Ms. Applegate, and a new vice chair, Mr. Runnalls, as Ms. Woodhouse retired this past spring, making her ineligible to hold the position of Teacher 9-12 on the Council.

Item 2 JULY 14, 2010 CSPAC MEETING SUMMARY/CSPAC GOALS - Judie Woodhouse

Ms. Woodhouse began by reading the 5 main goals the Council is always working to achieve; followed by ways they plan to achieve the goals.

- 1) Study and make recommendations to the Board of Public Education on the status and efficacy of approved teacher educator programs in Montana.
 - The Council would like to work closely with OPI and the revision of the PEPPS standards.
 - They would like to encourage more mentoring pathways in the state.
 - As stated earlier, the Council would like to review the Montana Code of Ethics by reviewing code of ethics from other states.
- 2) Study and make recommendations to the Board of Public Education in the areas of pre-certification training and educational requirements and in certification renewal requirements and procedures.
 - The Council would like to continue to work with the Board, OPI, and MSDB to develop ways of providing adequate training for educators and support staff that serve the students with visual and hearing impairments.
 - Ms. Applegate suggested we remove the phrase "As funding permits" from the goal to attend national conference dealing with education prep programs and licensure as a way to emphasize how important attending the conferences really are to the Council.
 - Ms. Woodhouse emphasized how important it is to meet with both the Board and the Council of Deans of Education.
- 3) Study and make recommendations to the Board of Public Education on policies related to the denial, suspension, and revocation of teachers' certificates and the appeals process.
 - The Council heard from Ms. Ann Gilkey of OPI the previous day to learn more about the processes that surround these cases. The Council is glad to have Mr. Donovan work closely with OPI help resolve these issues; however they would like to know they will become involved when necessary.
- 4) Study and make recommendations to the Board of Public Education on the feasibility of establishing standards of professional practices and ethical conduct.
 - Reviewing the Code of Ethics also falls into this goal.
- 5) Study and make recommendations to the Board of Public Education on the status and efficacy of alternative and/or nontraditional teacher preparation opportunities.
 - The Council is, and will continue the semi-annual review of the Class 8 Dual Credit-Only Post Secondary Faculty License applications.

The Council also announced Ms. Applegate is currently serving on the Chapter 55 Task Force to review the state's school accreditation standards. The Council will follow closely the progress the Task Force is making during the review process. They will also monitor any teacher licensure issues that may emerge from the implementation of distance learning programs such as the Montana Digital Academy. A few

other areas they have worked in over the past year included: Chapter 57; received a presentation from Dr. Messenger about the Montana Virtual Academy; received a presentation from Ms. Elizabeth Keller about licensure denials; attended the opening to the Phyllis Washington School of Education at the University of Montana; received a presentation from former Secretary of State Bob Brown about the Confucius Institute at U of M; and received a presentation from Dr. Jan Clinard about the Montana University System Writing Assessment.

Item 3 SUMMARY OF BPE STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION - Steve Meloy

Mr. Steve Meloy distributed the Summary of Strategic Planning Session, which took place on the afternoon of July 14, 2010. CSPAC was able to attend and participate in the session following the adjournment of its meeting. The Board invited education partners to participate in the session as a way to gain better understanding of where people stand in regards to the main education issues in both the state and the union the moment. These five areas are: 1) Teacher Evaluation/Professional Development; 2) Performance-based Accreditation; 3) School of Promise/Drop Out/Early Childhood; 4) P-20/Strategic Partnership; 5) Common Core Standards. Everyone was asked to identify a strength, weakness, opportunity, and threat in each of these areas. This information was collected and used to compile the Summary of Strategic Planning Session. Ms. Patty Myers was very pleased with the work accomplished at the meeting, stating so much was covered and the conversation was rich. Ms. Woodhouse reiterated if the Board needs the Council to task on any task they are more than willing to do so.

Item 4 CSPAC APPOINTMENTS (ACTION) - Peter Donovan

Mr. Peter Donovan presented the Board with candidates for the School Trustee and Teacher 9-12 positions currently open on the Council. Two applicants applied for each position.

Ms. Sharon Carroll moved: to appoint Ms. Janice Bishop to the Teacher 9-12 position on the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council. Mr. Cal Gilbert seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Sharon Carroll moved: to appoint Mr. John Harris to the School Trustee position on the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council. Mr. Bernie Olson seconded.

Mr. Bernie Olson stated his only reservation about Mr. Harris is the fact he has only one year experience as a school trustee.

Motion passed unanimously.

9:18 AM CSPAC/BPE JOINT MEETING ADJOURNED

9:35 AM BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION MEETING RESUMED

INFORMATION

Item 1 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT - Patty Myers

- May 17, 2010 MSDB Foundation – Great Falls, MT
- June 4, 2010 Chapter 55 Conference Call
- June 10, 2010 Education & Local Government Interim Committee – Helena, MT
- June 10, 2010 Chapter 55 – Helena, MT
- June 18, 2010 Chapter 55 – Helena, MT
- July 6, 2010 MSDB Committee Meeting Conference Call
- July 13, 2010 SAS Online Data Collection Program – Helena, MT
- July 13, 2010 Licensure Meeting – Helena, MT
- July 13, 2010 Chapter 55 Planning – Helena, MT

- July 14, 2010 CSPAC Meeting – Helena, MT
- July 14, 2010 Governor's Office Meeting – Helena, MT

BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION APPEARANCES

Sharon Carroll

- May 16, 2010 Rural/Frontier Education Task Force Conference Call
- May 24, 2010 Rural/Frontier Education Task Force Conference Call
- June 3, 2010 Rural/Frontier Education Task Force Conference Call
- June 11, 2010 Public Value Partnerships Grant Process – Miles City
- July 13, 2010 Licensure Meeting – Helena, MT
- July 14, 2010 CSPAC Meeting – Helena, MT
- July 14, 2010 Governor's Office Meeting – Helena, MT

Bernie Olson

- June 6, 2010 MSDB Committee Meeting Conference Call

John Edwards

- June 18, 2010 Chapter 55 – Helena, MT

Ms. Patty Myers reported that the Board of Public Education will meet September 16-17, 2010 at the Paris Gibson Education Center in Great Falls, Montana. As it is traditional that the emphasis of the September meeting be Indian education, she will ask that a presentation be given highlighting what is being done throughout the state with regards to urban Indian education. Mr. Cal Gilbert stated that he was pleased that the plight of the urban Indians will be presented to the Board of Public Education. Ms. Patty Myers encouraged the Board to attend the Montana Educator Forum, October 8, 2010.

9:45 AM Mr. John Edwards Departed

Item 2 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT - Steve Meloy

Senator Kim Gillan invited Mr. Steve Meloy to participate on a panel to discuss Law, Practicalities, and Cost & Policy of Dealing with Bullying and Technology. During the May 2010 Board of Public Education Meeting, State Superintendent Denise Juneau expressed concern about signing the K-12 Shared Policy Goals and Accountability Measures. Mr. Steve Meloy reported that the wording changed and now it is a non-binding agreement with signatures affixed to memorialize the body of work to be accountable to the plan but not specifically to the legislature.

Item 3 STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - State Superintendent Denise Juneau

Deputy Superintendent Dennis Parman reported the State Superintendent Denise Juneau was in Minneapolis, MN at the Council of Chief State School Officer's Summer Institute. The Summer Institute will address pertinent issues such as collaborating with higher education in areas of faculty engagement in the adoption of the Common Core State Standards and providing high quality clinical experience for teachers and school leaders; developing state systems for educator support in an era of accountability for effectiveness; measuring teacher effectiveness in multiple ways; and hearing from the assessment consortia on the use of assessment in the learning environment and in the evaluation of teachers.

Notifications of Race to the Top finalists are scheduled in July, the finalists defend their applications in August, and awardees announced in September. In the event that Montana does not receive the RTTT grant, there is an element of moving forward with the following: National Common Core State Standards; school leader and teacher evaluations; Smarter Balance Assessment; Montana Digital Academy; performance-based accreditation; teacher and administrators preparation programs; and the school of improvement grant. The work of Chapter 55 will specifically address school leader and teacher evaluations through a sub-group directed by Mr. Steve York, Assistant Superintendent of Education

Services at the Office of Public Instruction.

Deputy Superintendent Dennis Parman reported that Ms. Madalyn Quinlan continues to work on the statewide longitudinal data system. This project was funded by the US Department of Education in 2009.

The objectives of the grant are to build a data governance system and put into place a data warehouse for K-12 information. The establishment of a data warehouse and the accomplishment of the related objectives will lay the foundation for a longitudinal data system with long-lasting benefits for public education in Montana. The data warehouse is the backbone of a longitudinal data system. Such a system makes it possible to use growth models both for school accountability and for improving instruction of individual students. It will facilitate federal and state reporting and it will allow more individualized tracking, instruction and intervention with students by teachers and administrators. The OPI hired a third party to determine the number of stewards of data and 80 were identified.

The Montana Digital Academy considers iTunes University to supplement its program. iTunes University brings the power of the iTunes Store to education, making it simple to distribute information to students and faculty. With an iTunes University site, the Montana Digital Academy contains a single home for the digital content created or curated by educators which can download easily and viewed on any Mac, PC, iPod, or iPhone. More information concerning the iTunes University will be presented in the future.

NOMINATION TO THE MONTANA ADVISORY COUNCIL ON INDIAN EDUCATION (ACTION)

Mr. Cal Gilbert moved: to appoint Dawn Bishop-Moore to the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education as recommended by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Ms. Sharon Carroll seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. John Edwards was absent from the vote.

Public Comment

Mr. Eric Feaver reported that MEA-MFT worked closely with the Office of Public Instruction in regard to the Title I School Improvement Grant to turn around the state's lowest performing schools. The following districts in Frazer, Lame Deer, Pryor, and Lodge Grass are identified as "Schools of Promise." Hays Lodge Pole may be eligible to apply for the grant too. The school districts act as partners with the Office of Public Instruction to determine the best plan to increase student achievement. Mr. Eric Feaver stated that MEA-MFT moved forward with this venture not without risk when teachers may be rated on a student performance scale, but the union cannot support ineffective teaching. Another risk is the outsourcing opportunity of the Montana Digital Academy, but it is MEA-MFT's hope that local bargaining units address that issue. Both the Schools of Promise and the Montana Digital Academy are enormously innovative. The Montana Board of Public Education, State of Montana, and the MEA-MFT members understand that though it is risky, this work needs to be completed whether or not Montana obtains the Race to the Top Grant.

Item 4 COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION'S REPORT - Deputy Commissioner for Two-Year Education Dr. Mary Sheehy Moe

Dr. Mary Sheehy Moe presented to the Board of Public Education the Montana University System Operational Guidelines (Draft) for Dual Enrollment and other Opportunities for High School Students to Earn College Credit. Two dual enrollment delivery models include concurrent enrollment and early college. Montana's two-year degree campuses – the community colleges, the colleges of technology, Montana State University-Northern and the University of Montana-Western, as well as tribal colleges choosing to participate – have been designated the lead campuses for dual enrollment. Each lead campus will work with high schools in its area to establish interlocal agreements for dual enrollment in order to provide dual enrollment opportunities for regional high school students; thus, the two-year campus functions as the "regional Hub" for dual enrollment opportunities. If the "hub" campus (a) does not offer a course that another campus does, or (b) does not offer the course through the more accessible models of online delivery or concurrent enrollment when another campus does, then the "hub"

campus will assist interested school district(s) in making connections with the offerings of other campuses; including, when necessary and appropriate, four-year campuses. Four year college and universities in the Montana University System will offer dual enrollment opportunities only when they are unavailable through the lead campuses. Other areas covered in the operational guidelines included: Curriculum for dual enrollment courses; assessment of learning; faculty; students' eligibility; academic and student services; administrative issues; and fiscal issues. The models of college-credit high school courses are: Advanced Placement; Career Technical STATEwide ARTiculation (C/T START); and the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme.

Mr. Eric Feaver expressed that this is a happy outcome from years of dispute in regard to dual enrollment and the surrounding issues. MEA-MFT will support these guidelines to the Board of Regents.

Item 5 GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORT - Dan Villa

Mr. Dan Villa presented the Governor's Office Report via teleconference. He reported that the Governor's Office has been focusing on the budget for the next biennium and what policy changes should occur. The focus continues to be on the three R's of Rigor, Retention, and Relevance. There is the fourth R of limited Resources while attempting to make substantive changes in policy. Governor Schweitzer continues to promote the \$5 million pledge in House Bill 2 for curriculum and physical facilities in high school districts across the state. Montana submitted its Early Learning Grant to the sum of \$500,000 per year for 3 years for the Best Beginnings STARS to Quality Program. It is a voluntary quality rating improvement system that aligns quality indicators with support and incentives for early childhood programs and early childhood professionals. Mr. Dan Villa was in Bozeman to assist in the integration of collaborating between K-12 and the university system concerning the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) curriculum of renewable energy. Companies are interested in relocating to Montana and partnering with Montana's schools to assist in creating a workforce. Montana's relative economic strength and stability has enabled Montana to be more competitive. In conclusion, Mr. Dan Villa invited the Board of Public Education to attend the "Governor's Forum on Adult Credentialing: Attracting and Retaining Adults with the Credentials to Propel Montana's Economy in the 21st Century on August 12, 2010 in Kalispell, Montana.

Item 6 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT - Tim Seery

Mr. Tim Seery attended a digital journalism workshop in Reno, Nevada. With the advent of social media, communication conveniences, and a changing journalistic marketplace a print publication will no longer be the sole product of high school journalism programs. Newsrooms must expand to use Twitter and Facebook to collect story ideas from the readership. When print coverage is not appropriate or effective for a given event, it can be covered via twitter updates, Facebook notices, or other forms of digital journalism. Many high schools across the United States are updating their newsrooms, their staffs, and their philosophies, so that they will be training students for a digital marketplace in the journalism industry. Montana is fortunate to have a strong tradition of high school journalism from the Polson *Salishian* and the Flathead *Arrow*, to the Great Falls High *Iniwa*, the Sentinel High *Konah*, and Capital High *Paw Print*. Despite the changes in journalism, Mr. Tim Seery stated that the newspaper is not dead; it is simply not the main product.

DISCUSSION

Item 7 SPOTLIGHT ON OPI MEASUREMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY DIVISION - Sue Mohr

An overview of reports and information was provided by the Measurement and Accountability Division. The Measurement and Accountability Division is responsible for the coordination of non-fiscal data collections to assure coordinated application of policy, appropriate interpretation of reporting requirements, comparability of data, and communication of data analysis to school districts, OPI management and staff, the legislature and the public. Some non-fiscal data include: Achievement in Montana (AIM) Statewide Student Information System; enrollment data; facts about Montana;

private/nonpublic schools; school district boundary maps; Montana's No Child Left Behind Report Card (NCLB); Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP); National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP); and standards for data management. Discussion ensued about teacher mobility. Ms. Sue Mohr reported that the school staffing project will help the Office of Public Instruction to determine why teachers move, where they go, and what they are doing once they leave a teaching position within the state.

Item 8 GRADUATION AND DROPOUT REPORT 2008-2009 - Andy Boehm

The Montana School Accreditation Standards (Administrative Rules of Montana 10.55.603) require schools to do follow-up studies of graduates and students no longer in attendance. The overview of this report provided information on students who graduated or dropped out of Montana public, state-funded and nonpublic, accredited schools during the 2008-09 school year. Mr. Andy Boehm reported that this is the second year of a fully functioning student information system, Achievement in Montana (AIM). According to the new data collection system dropouts (grades 7-12) decreased from 2,540 to 2,423 in the last year and dropouts (grades 9-12) decreased from 2,475 to 2,353 in the last year. This is a decrease from 5.2% to 5.1%. In 2008-2009, peak dropout rates were observed in the 12th grade. For American Indian Students peak dropout rates were observed in the 10th grade. Males drop out of school at a higher rate than females. The AYP Graduation Rate decreased from 82.6% to 80.7% in the last year. To make AYP a public high school must have a graduation rate of 80% or show improvement towards this goal. The AYP Graduation Rate for American Indian students went from 62.5% to 60.8% in the last year. Since the overall AYP graduation rate is required to be 80%, the American Indian rate is twenty percentage points from making AYP. In conclusion, fewer students are graduating from high school; student level data from schools and increased quality control measured by OPI, results in more accurate data; and much of this year's data is in flux from last year's baseline although there is improvement in the overall dropout numbers which decreased slightly from the year before. Data collected for subsequent years will determine needs and trends. Deputy Superintendent Dennis Parman stated that he is not surprised by this data, but acknowledged that the dropout rates are unacceptable. State Superintendent Denise Juneau is proposing a state plan based on Graduation Matters Missoula, which local Superintendent Alex Apostle started. It is a partnership among the mayor, local businesses and schools to emphasize the importance of high school graduation. More information will be coming soon. Further discussion ensued about breaking the data down further by high schools. Mr. Andy Boehm stated that this information was not provided due to security reasons, but the Board of Public Education is welcome to contact the Office of Public Instruction to obtain this data.

Item 10 ANNUAL SPECIAL EDUCATION REPORT - Tim Harris

The report covered the number of students with disabilities served through public education in Montana, the types of disabilities served, and the number of students per category. The report also compared the funding sources, trends of participation of the funding sources over a number of years, and concluded with a description of the 20 performance indicators the Office of Special Education Programs in the U.S. Department of Education requires the states to address each year. This data is compiled by the five Comprehensive System of Personnel Development Regions. Mr. Tim Harris reported that public schools must make available special education and related services to all IDEA-eligible (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) students with disabilities beginning at age three and through age 18. Services to students, ages 19, 20, and 21, are permissive. That means the decision to serve 19, 20, and 21 year old students is determined by the policies of the school district board of trustees, Montana Code Annotated (MCA), and Administrative Rules of Montana. Analysis of the October 5, 2009, Child Count data shows there was a decrease of 432 students from the previous year with the most significant decreases occurring in the speech-language impairment and learning disabilities categories. Analysis of the data also showed a significant decrease in the count of students reported in the disability category of emotional disturbance. Factors affecting the decrease include the implementation of positive behavioral supports in general education and the positive effects of implementation of over 100 Comprehensive School and Community Treatment Services (CSCT) programs in schools across the state. Students are not required to be eligible for special education services to receive CSCT services. Discussion continued about the collaborative efforts intended to expand Medicaid support of certain medical services provided

by schools, establish a program for administrative claiming, and reinstate a school-based mental health program known as Comprehensive School and Community Treatment (CSCT). Revenue to school districts increased markedly as a result of the multiagency collaborative. Districts only receive the federal share of the Medicaid payment. A certification of match process is used to pay the state share of the Medicaid payment. Therefore, all increases in revenue to districts have come without any increase in cost to the state's general fund.

1:30 PM Mr. John Edwards Returned

Item 9 ANNUAL GED REPORT - Margaret Bowles

The 2009 Montana General Education Development (GED) Statistical and Demographic Reports and the proposed GED Initiative were presented. The 2009 Montana GED Statistical and Demographic Reports were used to provide an overview of the GED testing program in Montana and to identify current trends occurring in the state. The yearly status report of GED included information on the proposed Youth Council GED Initiative. A history of the initiative, the current status, and the proposed next steps were covered. Ms. Margaret Bowles reported that there is a slight increase in the number of people who take the GED, but not at the rate of the number of dropouts. Since the number of dropouts is increasing there is a need to identify where they are going and why they are not flocking to the GED prep programs and testing centers to obtain credentials to assist them in post-secondary, the military, or getting a job. The Youth Council, an ad hoc committee from the State Workforce Investment Board, shared a vision to assist these at-risk youth by building a core team comprised of representatives from Adult Education, GED, Incarcerated Youth, Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Youth, and Job Corp to design a framework. This group began with some asset mapping and determined that the common thread was the need of education. The Shared Youth Vision for this core team is determined to find ways to increase the number of GED graduates. The first task was to collect compelling data. For instance, there is a \$5,500 earning differential in Montana between people obtaining a GED or high school diploma compared to a high school dropout. In 2009, the Montana's unemployment rate for high school dropouts was 12% compared to 6% for those who obtained a GED or high school diploma. This is an untapped labor pool that needs to be educated. Once the data was collected, the core team completed a survey of the GED graduates, asked different agencies to be partners who shared this vision, and develop an aggressive and dramatic outreach. The Youth Council called this vision the GED Initiative. The GED Initiative began with a social media campaign where GED graduates could post their stories on YouTube or Facebook and make a competition. The group wanted visuals to promote the social media campaign with items such as placemats, coasters, brochures, business cards etc... They went to a graphic artist to develop the visual packets and a logo, introduced the packet to the Youth Council, created an online survey to vote on the desired packet while collecting data of age, gender, and ethnicity. The winning social media campaign is "Get forGED". The target launch is scheduled for January 2011. There is a dramatic and aggressive outreach plan to bust the myth that it is a lesser credential.

Mr. Cal Gilbert recommended working with Headstart to determine the number of parents who do not have a GED or a high school diploma.

Item 11 COMMON CORE STANDARDS REPORT - Jean Howard and Kris Goyins

This presentation provided the Board of Public Education with information on the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for English/Language Arts and Mathematics. A panel of Montana educators addressed the CCSS as it relates to their positions within their K-12 district: Cliff Bara, Andrea Johnson, Kathy Pfaffinger, Brooks Phillips, Richard Seitz, and Rodd Zeiler. The panel discussed strengths of the CCSS, student knowledge and skills that are not included in the CCSS, and what would be needed for their district to implement the standards. The standards can be accessed online: <http://www.corestandards.org/>. A printed copy of the document was provided during the presentation. Ms. Nancy Coopersmith reported that a team is reviewing the alignment of the Nation Common Core Standards with the Montana State Standards. The alignment study should be complete this summer with a recommendation to be presented to the Board of Public Education in September 2010. Approximately

20 states have adopted them to date.

Ms. Kathy Pfaffinger reported that the language arts portion of the National Common Core Standards contain annotated explanations and include interdisciplinary subject areas. Ms. Pfaffinger added that she appreciates the scaffolding, the rigor, and believes she could use them effectively in her classroom. She is concerned that there is a limitation of narrative, poetry, and other creative types of writing. Ms. Pfaffinger stressed that there needs to be time for professional development.

Ms. Andrea Johnson reported that the revised math portion of the National Common Core Standards is in strong alignment with the Montana State Standards. Ms. Johnson added that there should be further alignment vertically between the grade levels because grade 8 becomes the culminating event. Ms. Johnson stressed that there needs to be professional development for teachers to properly assess these standards. In regard to the language arts portion of the National Common Core Standards, Ms. Johnson stated that there is a strong connection to other disciplinary areas, is assessment driven, and professional development needs to be provided for teachers.

Mr. Richard Seitz reported that he is excited about the National Common Core Standards because they provide high quality and high expectation standards. Mr. Seitz stressed the need for an assessment process to determine if students are able to learn this amount of material well. He believes that the Board of Public Education should adopt the National Common Core Standards. His only concern is that there needs to be time and money for professional development to ensure success.

Ms. Jerrie Boksich reported that the National Common Core Standards are broken down into further strands in language arts compared to Montana's State Standards. The standards are aligned vertically and are provided for each grade level. Ms. Boksich stated that they need to include Indian education, the writing standards are heavily non-fiction, poetry is not addressed as a form of writing, and time and money needs to be implemented for professional development.

Mr. Rodd Zeiler reported that the Montana State Standards in mathematics are in line with the National Common Core. The final version has depth and consistency, but it needs to address Indian Education for All. Mr. Zeiler questioned how professional development was going to be provided when some districts may not have a curriculum coordinator and how implementing the National Common Core Standards will affect local control.

Ms. Brooks Phillips was not able to attend, but submitted a statement that the National Common Core Standards are aligned with clear language and a grade by grade progression. Ms. Phillips believes that the only addition is to include Indian Education for All.

Mr. Dennis Parman stressed that if the Board of Public Education chooses to adopt the National Common Core Standards they must be adopted word for word, the calculation of the additional 15% needs to be clarified, assessment needs to be addressed, and professional development needs to be ensured.

Continued discussion ensued about the process of adopting these standards, implementation costs, 15% variable, assessment, professional development, instructional materials, proficiency levels, fine arts, developmental appropriateness, curriculum, graduation requirements, fiscal responsibilities, college preparation, college ready vs. career ready, Indian Education for All, formatting, and how the National Common Core Standards relate to SB152. In conclusion, Ms. Nancy Coopersmith requested that the Board of Public Education refer to the questions that were asked at the March 11-12, 2010 BPE meeting:

1. Which standards in Montana's current standards are not addressed in the common standards?
2. Would adoption by the Montana Board of Public Education of the common core standards better serve Montana students than the current Montana content standards and performance descriptors?
3. If it is decided to adopt the common core standards, what would be the adoption process and

timeline?

4. What funding would be needed to adopt and assess the common core standards?
5. What process would be needed to adopt and assess the additional standards not included in the common core?
6. What resources would be needed to provide professional development needed for Montana educators to implement the common core standards?

Item 12 FEDERAL UPDATE - Nancy Coopersmith

This report included an overview of the Montana application for the Race to the Top competitive grant process administered by the U.S. Department of Education. The application contains Montana's plan for the use of \$75 million if funded. The proposed Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) reports, required by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, were mailed to authorized representatives of all Montana schools and districts on June 18, 2010. The timeline for the AYP process and the process for appeals was discussed. Ms. Nancy Coopersmith reported that the proposed determinations were mailed out earlier than ever; the Leadership Squadron will meet July 23, 2010 to make policy decisions and recommendations to the State Superintendent; approximately 25 appeals have occurred; final determinations will be made July 28, 2010; and statewide media release is August 6, 2010. The Department of Education approved the accountability workbook, which is the application for funding. The Federal Government insisted that the State of Montana change the graduation goal from 80% to 85% which will effect the AYP results. The accountability workbook stated that a district needed to meet the 80% graduation rate or make progress toward. The Federal Government insisted that it be changed to each district makes a 2% flat improvement. Districts are upset because they did not know that changed goal. Also noted was that according to No Child Left Behind schools are to be at 100% proficient during the 2013-2014 school year. This is determined by the Annual Measurable Objectives that increase every three years. Ms. Nancy Coopersmith predicts that the State of Montana will find more schools not meeting AYP based on academic scores.

**Item 13 EDUCATOR PREPARATION REPORT
Linda Vrooman Peterson**

- a. **Follow-up Visit, Rocky Mountain College** - The Accreditation Review Team conducted a follow-up visit on April 6-7, 2010, of the Professional Education Program at Rocky Mountain College. Team members included: Nancy Coleman, Superintendent, Harlem Public Schools; Jerry Vandersloot, Principal Havre High School; and Jerry Guay, ABLE Program Director, Hardin Public Education (BPE) concluded these results of the follow-up visit. The team recommended to the State Superintendent full approval of the three new programs added to the Professional Education Unit curriculum: Master's in Educational Leadership, English Education Minor, and Reading Specialist K-12. The Exit Report, including the narrative summaries, was attached. Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson reported that all programs met the approval of the team and the State Superintendent recommends full approval. The Board of Public Education will consider action on July 16, 2010. Dr. Barbara Vail and Dr. Stevie Schmitz stated that Rocky Mountain College is committed to preparing highly qualified teachers, will make Indian Education for All more implicit in its programs, and take the recommendations seriously.
- b. **NCATE/Montana Accreditation Review, MSU-Billings** – In April 2010, the Office of Public Instruction conducted an Accreditation Review of the Professional Education Unit at Montana State University – Billings. This was a joint Montana/NCATE visit. The NCATE team consisted of two members plus the chair. The state team consisted of four members plus the chair. The review followed the established state protocol. The Montana on-site review specifically examined the teaching areas program standards as established by the Board of Public Education. It was the consensus of the state team that overall the unit has strong programs that meet the standards. The joint team examined the NCATE Unit Standards. Montana's PEPPS incorporate NCATE Unit Standards. The joint team found all unit standards were met for both initial and advanced programs. The final report will be reviewed by the NCATE Board of Examiners in October 2010. The attached report provided the BPE with the results of the review. This item will

be presented for action to the BPE in September 2010. Dr. Mary Susan Fishbaugh stated that she is proud of her unit and humbled by the praise received.

- c. **Follow-up Visit, Salish Kootenai College** - The Office of Public Instruction conducted a follow-up visit on June 1-3, 2010, of the Professional Education unit at the Salish Kootenai College in Pablo, Montana. The purpose of this June visit was to complete the review of SKC's assessment system and Elementary Education program data reflecting SKC's conceptual framework and candidate knowledge, skills and dispositions. At the previous regular accreditation review conducted April 10-12, 2007, all standards were met. Because the program was seeking initial accreditation the Elementary Education Program was recommended for provisional accreditation status until SKC put its planned assessment system in place and populated it with SKC data. In addition, the team conducted an on-site review of two new programs SKC proposes to add to the education curriculum: Broadfield Science Secondary teaching Major and an Area of Permissive Specialized Competency in Early Childhood. Team members included: Audrey Peterson, Team Chairperson; Peter Donovan; and Linda Vrooman Peterson. The report provided the results of the follow-up visit to the Board of Public Education. The team recommends to the State Superintendent full approval of the three programs Elementary Education, Broadfield Science, and APSC in Early Childhood. The Exit Report, including the narrative summaries was attached. Dr. Cindy O'Dell presented the Board of Public Education with SKC pens and concurred with the results.

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.

4:10 PM Meeting Closed

Item 14 MATERIAL AND NON-PERFORMANCE CASE #2010-01 (CLOSED) - Steve Meloy

4:20 PM Meeting Opened

Item 14 MATERIAL AND NON-PERFORMANCE CASE #2010-01 (CLOSED) - Steve Meloy

Ms. Sharon Carroll moved: to place a letter of reprimand in the file of the licensee in regard to BPE Case #2010-01. Mr. Bernie Olson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

July 16, 2010 – Friday

7:45 AM Meeting Reconvened in Closed Session

Item 23 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (CLOSED) - Patty Myers

Item 24 ESTABLISH EXECUTIVE STAFF SALARIES (CLOSED) - Patty Myers

8:40 AM Meeting Opened

Governor's Office Not Represented

Item 23 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (CLOSED) – Patty Myers

Mr. John Edwards moved: to renew the Executive Secretary's contract to a new term of three years beginning July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2013. Ms. Sharon Carroll seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Patty Myers noted that the evaluation was very positive and the Board of Public Education is pleased with Mr. Steve Meloy's performance.

Item 24 ESTABLISH EXECUTIVE STAFF SALARIES (CLOSED) – Patty Myers

Mr. John Edwards moved: to compensate the Executive Secretary at the same rate as the previous year. Ms. Sharon Carroll seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Patty Myers regrets that the Board of Public Education recommends no salary increase in order to fall in line with other state employees.

DISCUSSION

8:45 AM Mr. John Edwards Departed

Item 16 ASSESSMENT UPDATE - Judy Snow

Ms. Judy Snow reported that during the 2009-10 school year, the Office of Public Instruction and the Board of Public Education began an examination of online writing programs for formative assessment. Four online programs were examined by approximately 500 students in grades 5-9 and their teachers. The purpose of the pilot program was to determine essential attributes for an online writing program for formative assessment. Comments were presented from participating teachers and students in a memorandum from Ms. Judy Snow. The application to participate in phase 2 of the Pilot Online Formative Assessment Writing Program was included. The purpose of phase 2 of this pilot is to gain further experience with the recommended product to inform future decisions on what functions and features of online writing assessment products and services are most beneficial to Montana educators. Ms. Kathleen Dent and Ms. Jody Parsons participated in the writing projects and shared their experiences. Ms. Dent and Ms. Parsons supported the online writing program titled My Access from Vantage Learning.

9:05 AM Mr. John Edwards Returned

The July 2010 JUMP Newsletter reported the 2010-2011 testing window:

- October 18 – November 19, 2010 English Language Proficiency Test, Grades K-12
- January 20-21, 2011 OPI Assessment Conference, Billings
- January 25 – February 28, 2011 NAEP, Grades 4-8, Reading and Math
- February 9 – March 24, 2011 CRT-Alternative, Grades 3-8 and 10, Reading and Math; Grades 4,8, and 10, Science
- March 1 – March 24, 2011 CRT, Grades 3-8 and 10, Reading and Math; Grades 4, 8, and 10, Science

**Item 17 2010 MONTANA UNIVERSITY ASSESSMENT RESULTS AND TEN-YEAR TRENDS
Dr. Jan Clinard**

9:25 AM Mr. John Edwards Departed

Dr. Jan Clinard provided the following documents to the Board of Public Education: *Read to Understand the World... Write to Have the World Understand You; The Montana University System Writing Assessment; and the Writing Proficiency in the Montana University System's July 2010 Newsletter 33.* A PowerPoint was presented that contained some of the following assessment results and ten-year trends from the Montana University System's Writing Assessment:

- 7,581 students tested in 135 high schools in February
- 369 teachers, college instructors, ABE instructors, and pre-service teachers attended Writing

- Assessment Workshops at 8 regional sites in March
- 28 schools averaged 4.2 and above
- Scores reported to schools April 21, 2010, only 16 working days after last test was scored
- 81% of students have college plans
- 66% plan to attend public university
- Girls earn higher scores
- Percent of proficient essays increasing among Indian students

In conclusion, Dr. Jan Clinard expressed the purposes of the Montana University State Writing Assessment (MUSWA) to be:

- Define college readiness in writing
- Provide high school students with information about placement into college-level or developmental courses
- Provide teachers and administrators with feedback on curriculum and instruction
- Establish a forum for K-12/Higher Education collaboration
- Provide ongoing professional development in writing
- Give students & high schools an avenue for celebrating achievement in writing

9:35 AM Mr. John Edwards Returned

Item 18 CHAPTER 55 JOINT TASK FORCE PROGRESS UPDATE - Patty Myers and Dennis Parman

On Friday, June 18, 2010, the Board of Public Education (BPE) and the Office of Public Instruction (OPI) facilitated the second meeting of the Chapter 55 Joint Task Force. The agenda for the work session was attached. Here is the link to access the Chapter 55 Joint Task Force information: http://www.opi.mt.gov/Programs/SchoolPrograms/index.html#gpm1_3. The next Chapter 55 meeting is scheduled for July 19-20, 2010 at the Red Lion Colonial Hotel in Helena, MT. Ms. Kelly Glass recommended going to the Chapter 55 web page to make comments, collect information, and review work completed. Mr. Dennis Parman reported that subcommittees are being developed to review teacher and administrator evaluations and other in-depth topics. Everything is up for discussion because we are looking for a blend between a performance-based model and an input-based model.

Item 19 PROVISIONAL ACCREDITATION STATUS REPORT, VALLEY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL Linda Vrooman Peterson

The Office of Public Instruction (OPI) provided to the Board of Public Education (BPE) a report and recommendation for next steps for Valley Christian High School's progress to move from provisional accreditation to regular accreditation status. At the May 2010 BPE meeting the OPI reported Valley Christian High School agreed to align the school's curriculum to the state standards. The OPI received the Language Arts Curriculum from Superintendent Martineau of Valley Christian Schools. By August 20, 2010, the superintendent will provide to the OPI the remaining curricular documents for each program area as required by Administrative Rules of Montana 10.55.601 and 10.55.603. Following the review of these documents, the State Superintendent will provide recommendation to the BPE regarding Valley Christian High School's accreditation status.

ACTION

Item 21 EDUCATOR PREPARATION RECOMMENDATIONS – Linda Vrooman Peterson

a. RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF PROVISIONAL ACCREDITATION STATUS OF THE PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION UNIT – MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-NORTHERN

At the May 2010 Board of Public Education meeting, Dr. Joseph Callahan, Provost, Pamela Wilson, Field Placement Director, and Carol Reifschneider, Chairperson of the College of Education, Arts and Sciences, and Nursing, reported to the BPE to describe MSU-Northern's plan and progress on meeting the standards that are marked with "Met with Weakness" and "Not Met." The MSU-Northern plan was

attached. The State Superintendent recommended to the BPE provisional approval of the Professional Education Unit at MSU-Northern. The standards listed below were determined by the team as “Met with Weakness” and “Not Met.”

- 10.58.210 Conceptual Framework (Met with Weakness)
- 10.58.305 Assessment System and Unit Evaluation (Not Met)
- 10.58.308 Faculty Qualification (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 MSU-Northern’s progress and a follow-up visit will be scheduled within 18 months. Ms. Pamela Wilson, Ms. Carol Reifschneider, and Dr. Rosalyn Templeton presented oral reports to the Board of Public Education on behalf of Montana State University-Northern. Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson recommended approval of the provisional accreditation status for Professional Education Unit at Montana State University-Northern on behalf of State Superintendent Denise Juneau.

Ms. Sharon Carroll moved: to approve provisional accreditation status for the Professional Education Unit at Montana State University-Northern as recommended by the State Superintendent and the Office of Public Instruction will follow-up with an onsite review. Mr. Cal Gilbert seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

b. RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF FOLLOW-UP VISIT REPORT-ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGE

The State Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends full approval of the three new programs added to the Professional Education Unit curriculum: Master’s in Educational Leadership, English Education Minor, and Reading Specialist K-12. The exit report, including the narrative summaries, was included.

Ms. Sharon Carroll moved: full approval of the Master’s in Educational Leadership, English Education Minor, and Reading Specialist K-12 at Rocky Mountain College as recommended by the State Superintendent. Mr. Bernie Olson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

c. RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOW-UP VISIT REPORT SALISH-KOOTENAI COLLEGE

The State Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends full approval of the three programs of the Professional Education Unit at the Salish Kootenai College: Elementary Education, Broadfield Science, and APSC in Early Childhood.

Ms. Sharon Carroll moved: full approval of the Elementary Education, Broadfield Science, and Area of Permissive Specialized Competency in Early Childhood Education at Salish Kootenai College. Mr. John Edwards seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 24 ESTABLISH EXECUTIVE STAFF SALARIES (CLOSED) – Patty Myers

Mr. John Edwards moved: to compensate the Superintendent of the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind at the same rate as the previous year. Mr. Bernie Olson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Patty Myers regrets that the Board of Public Education recommends no salary increase in order to fall in line with other state employees.

INFORMATION

Item 22 MSDB COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT - Steve Gettel

The Montana School for the Deaf and Blind's Annual Report to the Board of Public Education provided a summary and review of the School's program indicators, financial status and status of legislative audits, status of the school improvement process including agency strategic plan, 5-year comprehensive educational and status of academic performance and accreditations, safety report, and status of facilities. Mr. Steve Gettel provided an update on the MAP assessment data that demonstrated individual growth targets met for students in the 4th and 7th grades however, individual targets for students in the 1st, 2nd, 9th and 10th grades were not met. Other areas addressed included: Human resources, professional development, MSDB Foundation updates, finance and facilities, school calendar of events, and student news. Mr. Steve Gettel thanked the Board of Public Education for involving him in the Board's strategic planning process. Ms. Sharon Carroll acknowledged Ms. Steve Gettel's sincere advocacy for the hearing and visually impaired students, but sensed his frustration with the Board of Public Education. Ms. Carroll stated that the Board genuinely wants to help, but does not have a clear solution. Mr. Steve Gettel stated that the Board of Public Education needs to write accreditation rules to ensure educators are properly trained to serve outreach students. In the meantime, an intermediate step is to provide training for educators who are working with the hearing and visually impaired students. A meeting will occur on July 16, 2010 to devise a plan with Tim Harris from the Office of Public Instruction, Peter Donovan from the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council, and Steve Gettel from the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind.

11:10 AM Ms. Sharon Carroll Departed

Item 20 ACCREDITATION REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS – Kelly Glass

This presentation provided to the Board of Public Education for consideration of Initial Alternative Standard and/or Five-Year Renewal Alternative Standard Requests recommended either for approval or for disapproval by State Superintendent Denise Juneau. The report was attached.

a. ALTERNATIVE TO STANDARD REQUESTS

The following initial alternative standard requests were received and evaluated in accordance with 10.55.604, ARM.

1. St Ignatius Middle School –The librarian also serves as the technology teacher for grades 3-4-5. While the tech lab is part of the library, the additional teaching assignment takes the librarian away from the library duties and from collaboration time with staff. The librarian also monitors two 3rd grade math labs times in the library. There is no formative or summative assessment developed or proposed to measure the effectiveness of the program. The State Superintendent recommended disapproval of the alternative standard request because the proposed alternative does not meet or exceeds the standard.
2. Bonner 7-8 School – Both the librarian and staff interviewed indicated the lack of collaboration time was a concern. The librarian indicated a lack of adequate planning time. There is no formative or summative assessment developed or proposed to measure the effectiveness of the program. The superintendent sent a letter to the Office of Public Instruction stating that by August 30, 2010 a paraprofessional will be hired to assist the librarian in meeting the intent of the Alternative Standard. The State Superintendent initially recommended disapproval of the alternative standard request because the proposed alternative does not meet or exceeds the standard, but the State Superintendent amended the recommendation to approval of the alternative standard request.
3. Darby 7-8 – Program delivery not evident for student 7-12. Librarian spends 60% of time preparing and delivering K-6 library skills. There is no evidence of Information Literacy curriculum/implementation of content standards. There is little evidence of collaboration with other teachers to plan instruction and assessment of students. Currently the librarian retrieves the books as needed by teachers. The 7-8 grade students use the library in the high school

building while the 7-8 grades are housed in the elementary building. There are no formative or summative assessments developed or proposed to measure the effectiveness of the program (circulation statistics, collection analysis, assessment data, needs assessment, and usage statistics). The State Superintendent recommended disapproval of the alternative standard request because the proposed alternative does not meet or exceeds the standard.

4. Forsyth Public Schools – (Renewal) – The library continues to function well for Forsyth 7-8 and Forsyth High School. Teachers rely on the skills of the librarian to complement their daily teaching and student learning. The library aide continues to assist in the daily operations of the library ensuring that the library is open during the school day. The librarian implemented the suggestions of the Library Media Specialist regarding the gathering of data, the use of a curriculum document and tracking library usage. The State Superintendent recommended approval of the alternative standard renewal request because the schools continue to meet or exceeds the standard.

Mr. John Edwards moved: to approve the State Superintendent's recommendations as amended for the Alternative Standard Requests. Mr. Bernie Olson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

b. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION OF PROVISIONAL ACCREDITATION FIRST YEAR-LONE PEAK HIGH SCHOOL

This presentation provided to the Board of Public Education a progress report and recommendations for Lone Peak High School located in Ophir/Big Sky that is currently in provisional accreditation status. During provisional status the Office of Public Instruction works with the school to insure they are continuing to meet the basic accreditation standards. Each year involves a visit to the school as well as on-going communication and technical assistance as may be needed. Based upon the yearly review the State Superintendent will recommend any needed corrective actions by the school and/or district. Schools are in provisional status for three years. After completion of the three-year Provisional Accreditation, the State Superintendent may recommend Regular Accreditation status to the BPE. The State Superintendent recommends provisional status without any recommendations for corrective action for Lone Peak High School.

Mr. John Edwards moved: to approve the State Superintendent's recommendation for continued provisional status for Lone Peak High School. Mr. Cal Gilbert seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

c. ADDENDUM FOR THE 2009-2010 MONTANA ACCREDITATION STATUS RECOMMENDATIONS

This presentation provided to the Board of Public Education for consideration an addendum to the 2009-10 accreditation determinations for all schools as recommended by State Superintendent Denise Juneau. These changes are due to errors or needed changes identified by the Office of Public Instruction after the accreditation determinations were acted on during the March 2010 BPE meeting and the districts were notified of those determinations. The report was included. Ms. Kelly Glass reported on Lodge Grass and Centerville School Districts. Both districts received notice of non-compliance from the EPA regarding asbestos removal. The OPI recommends that the accreditation status be moved from advice to deficiency status for Lodge Grass 7-8, Lodge Grass High School, Big Stone School, Centerville 7-8, and Centerville High School. Since this information was submitted both Centerville and Lodge Grass School Districts are taking steps to comply with the EPA. The OPI is waiting for final notification from EPA to determine if the requirements are met.

Grass Range High School was recommended to move from Advice to Regular with Deficiency. Grass Range High had a teacher in an internship program that was not noted accurately on the ADC that demonstrated a misassigned teacher.

Swan River, LaMotte, Rocky Boy, and Nashua School Districts were recommended to move from

Regular to Advice for failure to report the Five-Year Comprehensive Education Plan even with technical assistance support from the Office of Public Instruction.

Lambert High School was recommended to move from Regular with Deficiency to Regular because the Office of Public Instruction noted an error in review of determining the sufficient Principal FTE.

Mr. John Edwards moved: to approve the State Superintendent's recommendations to amend the 2009-2010 Accreditation Status recommendations. Mr. Cal Gilbert seconded.

Ms. Patty Myers questioned whether or not the schools are safe for students since they are not in compliance with the United States Environment Protection Agency. Ms. Kelly Glass assured the Board that the students in Centerville and Lodge Grass are safe with the steps that have been taken to comply with the standards. Discussion continued as to the reasons why school districts did not complete the Five-Year Comprehensive Education Plan.

Motion passed unanimously.

d. PROGRESS REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SCHOOLS IN AN INTENSIVE ASSISTANCE CYCLE DUE TO CONTINUING OR SERIOUS DEVIATIONS-WHITEFISH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

This presentation provided to the Board of Public Education a progress report and recommendations for schools that have been identified for the 2010 intensive assistance cycle due to continuing or serious deviations. A report was included in regard to Whitefish Public Schools. The School District was moved to intensive assistance due to the lack of FTE in the area of library and principal in Whitefish Central 5-6 and Central 7-8 and they failed to submit an acceptable corrective plan. After further review it was found that the administrative staffing had been added as planned. The superintendent failed to notify the Office of Public Instruction as to the coding and placement of the additional FTE in the ADC. To address the deviation with the library FTE in Whitefish Central 5-6 and Whitefish Central 7-8, the district by board action reorganized the two schools in to one school – Whitefish Middle School. They are in fact located in the same building and are essentially sharing a common program and middle school approach. Once that reorganization took place the current staffing for library FTE was adequate given the current enrollment. The State Superintendent recommends approval of the plan to resolve the issue and continue to monitor.

Mr. John Edwards moved: to approve the State Superintendent's recommendation to approve the Whitefish Public School's plan to correct its deviation for intensive assistance. Mr. Bernie Olson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Sue Buswell, President of the Montana Association of School Nurses, reiterated that this organization is working hard to present to the Board of Public Education with the standard that would create a school nurse ratio of 1:750 students in Montana. Ms. Buswell expressed her desire to present what is new to the Board of Public Education at a future meeting and to the Chapter 55 Task Force. There is new information in regard to obesity rates, increase in diabetes, and the increase in the special education population. Ms. Buswell would also like to include the results of the influenza epidemic and what was learned. Ms. Buswell has been working diligently on the healthy enhancement curriculum to appease everyone and meet the needs of the students.

PRELIMINARY AGENDA ITEMS – SEPTEMBER 16-17, 2010, Great Falls, MT

Set Annual Agenda Calendar
Election of Board Officers
Committee Appointments

Superintendent Goals
BPE Goal Review
Assessment Update
Federal Update
MACIE Update

BOARD OF EDUCATION IS SCHEDULED ON SEPTEMBER 23, 2010 AT THE MONTANA TECH OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA IN BUTTE, MT

Mr. Bernie Olson moved: to adjourn the Board of Public Education Meeting. Mr. Cal Gilbert seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

11:52 AM BPE Meeting Adjourned

The Montana Board of Public Education is a Renewal Unit Provider. Attending a Board of Public Education Meeting may qualify you to receive renewal units. One hour of contact time = 1 renewal unit up to 4 renewal units per day. Please complete the necessary information on the sign-in sheet if you are applying for renewal units.

APPROVED