

BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION **MEETING MINUTES**

November 3-4, 2011

**Montana State Capitol
Room 152
Helena MT**

November 3, 2011 - Thursday
8:30 AM

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Patty Myers called the meeting to order at 8:35 AM and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Kris Stockton took roll call; a quorum was noted. Ms. Patty Myers read the Statement of Public Participation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Myers asked that the September Minutes be pulled for two corrections to be made to the minutes per Mr. Cordier and Ms. Carroll. The corrections were noted and Ms. Stockton will correct them upon return to the office.

Ms. Sharon Carroll moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Ms. Lila Taylor seconded.
No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

ADOPT AGENDA

Mr. Bernie Olson moved: to approve the agenda as amended. Ms. John Edwards
seconded.
No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Those in attendance included the following Board members: Chair Ms. Patty Myers, Vice Chair Ms. Sharon Carroll, Mr. Bernie Olson, Ms. Lila Taylor, Mr. Doug Cordier, Mr. John Edwards, and Student Representative Ms. Holly Capp. Staff present included: Mr. Peter Donovan, Executive Secretary Board of Public Education/Administrative Officer, Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council; and Ms. Kris Stockton, Administrative Assistant, Board of Public Education. Ex-officio members present included: State Superintendent, Denise Juneau and Brandi Foster, Director of American Indian and Minority Achievement represented Commissioner Sheila Stearns. Visitors in attendance included: Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, Accreditation Division Administrator, OPI; Mr. Dennis Parman, Deputy Superintendent, OPI; Karen Kaufmann, School of Theatre & Dance – University of Montana; Nancy Coopersmith, Deputy Superintendent, OPI; Representative Jean Price, Education & Local Government Committee, Great Falls; Michael Hall, OPI; Barbara Vail, Rocky Mountain College; Jean Howard, OPI; Cynthia Green, OPI; Rob Miller, Legislative Fiscal Division; Nancy Hall, Governor's Office; Madalyn Quinlan, OPI; Teri Wing, OPI.

INFORMATION

Item 1

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT - Patty Myers

- August 31, 2011 – BPE Administrative Assistant Interviews

- Sept 8-9, 2011 – BPE Meeting
- Sept 12-14 – Chapter 55 Task Force Leadership Team
- Sept 12, 2011 – MSDB Foundation Meeting – phone
- Oct 6-7, 2011 – A Day With the Board of Public Education @ MSU-Bozeman
- Oct 11 – 13, 2011 Chapter 55 Task Force Leadership Team
- Oct 11, 2011 Meeting w/Superintendent Juneau re: Education Waivers
- Oct 13, 2011 – Meeting w/Nancy Hall regarding BPE Budget
- Oct 20, 2011 – Teacher of the Year Celebration
- Oct, 21, 2011 – MEA-MFT Conference Presentation
- Oct 27, 2011 – MSDB Board Meeting - Phone

BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION APPEARANCES

Sharon Carroll

- Sept 8-9, 2011 BPE Meeting
- Oct 6, 2011 – MACSS
- Oct 7, 2011 A Day With the Board of Public Education @ MSU-Bozeman
- Oct 20, 2011 Teacher of the Year Celebration
- Oct, 21, 2011 MEA-MFT Conference Presentation
- Oct 27, 2011 MSDB Board Meeting - Phone

Bernie Olson

- Sept 8-9, 2011 BPE Meeting
- Oct 27, 2011 – MSDB Board Meeting - Phone

Lila Taylor

- Sept 8-9, 2011 BPE Meeting
- Oct 27, 2011 – MSDB Board Meeting - Phone

Doug Cordier

- Sept 8-9, 2011 BPE Meeting

Erin Williams

- Sept 8-9, 2011 BPE Meeting

Ms. Myers reported that she has been working with Mr. Donovan on the staff changes in the Board of Public Education office now that only Mr. Donovan and Ms. Stockton are staffing the office. She also reported she has been busy working on the Chapter 55 Task Force and passed out the Board appearances calendar for updates.

8:45 Nancy Hall arrived

Ms. Myers gave an update on the “Day with the Board of Public Education” that she, Mr. Donovan, and Ms. Carroll spent on the campus at MSU Bozeman Oct 6-7, 2011. Oct 6th included a dinner at the home of Dr. Larry Baker where the group discussed current issues and visited with one another. Friday October 7th the group met at the School of Education where they met with faculty and 15 or so education students from the Computer and Agriculture Technology programs. Ms. Myers commented how much she enjoyed the students and how much they knew about Common Core and that they asked good questions relating to Common Core and the need for appropriate use of technology. From there the group moved to speaking with one of the technology instructors and discussed with the instructor the distance learning program and a new web page for distance students. The group had lunch with the Department of Education faculty and then met with Dr. Jane Downey and Dr. Joanne Erickson and discussed the Education Leadership program. Their day was finished at approximately 2:00. Ms. Myers

talked about how meeting and talking with the students was her favorite part of the trip and commented again on how informed they were. Ms. Myers also discussed several appearances she has made at the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind concerning some grievances filed against the school and that the first full Board meeting for the MSDB was held on October 27th.

Item 2 Executive Secretary/CSPAC Report – Peter Donovan

Mr. Donovan updated the Board on some recent CSPAC appearances including the September 16, 2011 appearance of 3 CSPAC members before the Interim Education and Local Government Committee (ELG) in compliance with recent legislation requiring all Advisory Councils to appear before the ELG and explain their role. Mr. Donovan noted that final recommendations from the ELG will not be made until all advisory councils have appeared. On September 30th, 2011 the Education Forum was held in Helena and was very well attended. Superintendent Juneau spoke at the Forum and Mr. Donovan noted there were many good presentations from the field of education including presentations from the Commissioner of Higher Education's office and teacher candidates from the University of Montana. Mr. Donovan reported that he served on the selection committee for the Teacher of the Year and that he attended the Teacher of the Year Celebration at the Hilton Garden Inn in Missoula in conjunction with the MEA-MFT Annual Conference. Mr. Donovan added that he, Ms. Myers, Ms. Carroll, and Ms. Capp also attended the conference. CSPAC held their joint meeting with the Council of Deans of Education Oct 27-28th, 2011 on the campus at MSU-Bozeman and that was very successful. The updates to the Montana Educator Code of Ethics were discussed and Mr. Donovan noted they will be adopted at the next CSPAC meeting in January 2012. Board member Williams has contacted Mr. Donovan regarding the education programs at Pine Hills Academy and Riverside Academy in reference to some concerns she has about their programs. Mr. Donovan noted this will be a future agenda item for the Board. Mr. Donovan updated the Board on an email he received from a former Student Rep on the Board and that she is now living in Cairo Egypt. Mr. Cordier asked about the recent meeting regarding fiscal implications of the Common Core with Mr. Rob Miller, Ms. Nancy Coopersmith, and Ms. Madalyn Quinlan. Mr. Donovan explained that the meeting was to discuss the fiscal impact of the new ARM rules with the Legislative Fiscal Division and the OPI. He indicated there will be more discussion to follow in Item 11. Ms. Carroll noted that the hearing for the new Common Core standards for Math and English were held on October 24th, 2011 and added the presentation at the MEA-MFT conference which was a combined presentation with the OPI, OCHE, and BPE had more attendees than in previous years. Mr. Donovan noted he counted 51 attendees at the presentation not including staff. Ms. Myers discussed the questions they received from teachers in the audience of "What have you folks done to make my classroom better?" Ms. Myers emphasized the need to make public what it is the Board does; there is a real need for better awareness. Ms. Carroll noted more Board appearances may help bring more awareness. Mr. Donovan added in closing that he would like to thank the OPI, especially Ms. Nancy Coopersmith and Dr. Linda Peterson, and Ms. Stockton, for everything they have done to assist the Board.

ASSESSMENT

9:17 Representative Jean Price arrived.

Item 3 REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AREA OF SPECIAL COMPETENCY IN DANCE – Dr. Karen Kaufmann, University of Montana School of Theatre and Dance

Mr. Donovan briefly updated the Board on the Areas of Special Competency – instructors must have 20 semester hours in 1 area approved by the Board, for example: Early Childhood Education, Gifted and Talented, Teacher Mentor. Dr. Karen Kaufmann of the University of Montana has requested approval for a new Area of Special Competency in Dance. Mr. Donovan then turned it over to Dr. Kaufmann. Dr. Kaufmann noted that there is a difference in opening a dance studio vs. teaching dance in a regular K-12 class setting. The proposal for an Area of Special Competency in Dance will be paired with a minor in Dance with a specialty in Education Minor, as approved by the Board last March. The Montana State Standards for Arts were approved in 1994 but without any teacher competency. Dr. Kaufmann described the fact that dance is a natural movement for young children and there is a need to incorporate dance into

learning. Movement activates the right brain, which is important in learning. Dance helps to activate the “whole” learning process. Today’s classrooms are not “dance friendly” classrooms; they are “seated learning” classrooms. Dr. Kaufmann pointed out that when students are able to learn with their entire body amazing things happen. Research shows that physically active people are better learners. Dance teaches students with different learning styles and helps with concentration and memory. One has to really concentrate and think to remember the dance steps and the process. Dance is an important element in the recall process. The practice and repetition helps with abstract thinking. Dance is social, active, and important in obesity prevention. Dance provides a balance for students these days who are constantly “plugged in”. Problem learners often have trouble sitting still in a normal classroom setting because they are “body learners” and today’s classroom is designed for “technical learners”. Dance is a kinesthetic learning process – like riding a bike, once you learn how, you never forget. Dr. Kaufmann discussed a pilot program she launched in the Arlee school district using creative movement to teach math. The program saw student improvement in the areas of comprehension, leadership, and in the participation of the students. The teachers in Arlee requested to use it in their classes. Dr. Kaufmann showed a list of Missoula schools that were also using the Dance program in the classroom and showed examples of how dance is being incorporated at all levels from elementary to high school. Dr. Kaufmann noted that it takes some courage for teachers to come forward to learn dance movements and incorporate them into their classroom. Assessments are currently being developed for learning. Dr. Kaufmann emphasized there are not drawbacks, no cost, and no force on the principal to hire a specific dance teacher, but that a teacher with the Special Competency would be considered a “highly qualified” teacher. 37 states have Dance teacher certifications and she showed a map of the different states with a variety of dance and theatre certifications. Studies have shown that dance/arts improve graduation rates, prepare students for employment, create new opportunities, and raises experiences for children. Dr. Kaufmann discussed the background work that has been done already with the Board, OPI, OCHE, and that CSPAC approved the proposal for Dance as an Area of Special Competency for K-12 certification at their July meeting. Ms. Carroll called for questions and pointed out again that student’s would have to obtain 20 credits in this area to receive the Area of Special Competency (ASPC). Superintendent Juneau asked OPI staff present if there was any way to track that student’s receiving this ASPC were actually using it in their school, and it was indicated it is difficult to track. Dr. Kaufmann added that she has data from the Arlee School project of student test scores before the project, during, and after. The question was asked of Dr. Kaufmann if these student’s are Education majors that would be receiving this ASPC and she indicated that they are. Ms. Carroll asked why all the data was only in Western Montana. Dr. Kaufmann answered that it is because UM is in Missoula and that is where the current data is pulled from, however she is working on plans and with schools to extend pilot programs to schools across the state. Superintendent Juneau asked Dr. Linda Peterson if the licensure system can track the area of competency. Dr. Peterson answered that the current system cannot, but that the new system scheduled to be in place this spring would make tracking easier. A discussion ensued amongst Board members on how tracking could be done.

Break from 9:48 – 10:06

Ms. Myers paused for a moment to introduce Representative Jean Price from Great Falls representing the Interim Education and Local Government Committee. Ms. Myers explained that she and Rep. Price are longtime friends and that Rep. Price is a former educator from Great Falls and a “friend” of education on the ELG Committee.

Item 4 State Superintendent Report – Ms. Denise Juneau

Ms. Juneau began by stating that the Nations Report Card just came out and that Montana scored high on the report, once again. She explained this is the only national test available to rate schools. The 8th grade reading scores in Montana shared the top score with 8 other states. Ms. Juneau continued her update by saying that in the 2011 Legislative session, Assistant Superintendent Julia Dilly made a budget request to pay for all high school juniors in the state to have the ACT test paid for to ensure 100% participation. Although the Legislature denied the request, the funding was written into the GEAR UP

Grant proposal and accepted. This year will be a pilot program with an ARM rule likely later this spring with implementation for fall 2012. There is some tension with the MUSWA program due to the fact that the test is the ACT Plus Writing test. Discussions are taking place to see how the two programs can work together. Superintendent Juneau discussed Graduation Matters Montana – all 7 AA districts have signed on, Broadwater High School has recently signed on, GEAR UP is now on board and Livingston launched their GMM on November 2, 2011. Nominations are being taken for the Superintendent's Student Advisory Board with 25 slots available. Superintendent Juneau has been traveling the state giving out the National Board checks to recipient teachers. Mr. Olson asked the Superintendent in regards to the ACT how many other states have 100% of their juniors taking the test for a comparison. A 100% comparison can only be done with other states that have 100% participation or the numbers are not the same. Superintendent Juneau indicated that is true and OPI knows initially state scores will drop, but good data can still be found and she is confident in time the scores will improve. She noted that Washington, Colorado, and Wyoming are some regional states that have 100% ACT participation for high school juniors. The question was asked if the MUSWA would be dropped if the ACT plus Writing is used 100% for all students. Superintendent Juneau answered that MUSWA discussions are in place currently to discuss the issue and that the Board of Regents will have the final say on the outcome. Ms. Carroll added that MUSWA is slightly different because the test is given in the classroom during the school week rather than on a weekend like the ACT is, however it was noted by the Superintendent that if the Board approves the ARM rule when presented, it would be written in rule that the ACT plus Writing test would be given during class time.

Item 5 Commissioner of Higher Education Report – Ms. Brandi Foster, Director of American Indian and Minority Achievement Grant

Ms. Brandi Foster from the Commissioner of Higher Education Office introduced herself as the new Director of American Indian and Minority Achievement and gave a brief background of herself. Ms. Foster expressed appreciation of the Superintendent's concern of the MUSWA and for opening discussions regarding MUSWA and ACT Plus Writing for student assessments. She indicated there are other collaborations with public education and recognizing the similarities between K-12 and 13-20 Higher Education. One of the ways Higher Education is reaching out to K-12 is through the Dual Credit program and Indian Education for All. Ms. Foster reported that GEAR UP received the \$20 million grant they applied for which will help fund the ACT plus Writing for all high school juniors. The College Now program is focusing on the 2 year schools and the Dual Credit program with the high schools and the teacher requirements needed to teach those Dual Credit courses. Ms. Foster briefly updated the Board on the success of the Transferability Initiative also helping to ensure student success. Ms. Taylor commented on how pleased she is with the success of the Transferability Initiative and the ongoing need for it to ensure student success. Mr. Edwards commented that one of his employees was recently telling him how pleased she was with the ability she had to transfer credits from MSU Billings online to UM online and how well it worked for her. A brief discussion continued on the Transferability Initiative and the need for it and its success. Ms. Foster added that it is necessary to ensure the success of 2 year schools in Montana for student success and how the Transfer Initiative plays into student success.

Ms. Myers made the announcement that came out Wednesday November 2, 2011 that Paul Tuss of Havre is replacing Regent Lynn Hamilton, also of Havre, on the Board of Regents.

Item 6 Governor's Office Report

No one from the Governor's Office was available to report

Item 7 Student Representative Report – Ms. Holly Capp

Ms. Capp gave the Board an update on some recent trips she has been on including attending the State Student Council in Glasgow October 23-25, 2011 where she spoke to the council about her role on the Board as the student representative. She discussed Graduation Matters Montana and gave some examples of student stories she heard. She discussed there is some interest from several students regarding her position on the Board as she will be graduating in June. Ms. Capp discussed the possibility

of a statewide news release regarding the vacancy opening to generate more interest. Ms. Capp discussed some Student Council Resolutions and the possibility of bringing those before the Board by the Student Rep. Ms. Capp also discussed the voter registration race to get students to register and to exercise their right to vote and to bring awareness to students regarding voting responsibility. Ms. Capp then discussed the new "Bully-Free Great Falls" which started in Great Falls several weeks ago. The group spoke with elementary students in Great Falls and will be holding a Bully Free Rally at Great Falls High discussing and bringing awareness about bullying. November 6-7th, 2011 Ms. Capp will be attending "Youth Days" sponsored by OPI. Ms. Capp indicated she is still speaking with the Student Rep from Massachusetts regarding the US Student Advisory Council. Bylaws have been established and committees approved; Ms. Capp will be serving on two of the committees. Ms. Capp also participated in the NASBE Conference call in September. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan spoke on the call and discussed NCLB, and President Obama's job act proposal. Ms. Capp will also be attending the Superintendent's Student Advisory Board meeting the week of November 7th, 2011 and will be presenting at the meeting as well.

DISCUSSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Item 8 Executive Committee Update – Ms. Patty Myers

Ms. Myers called on Ms. Nancy Hall from the Governor's Office to discuss the budget issues for the Board of Education. Ms. Hall discussed that the payout the Board had to cover for Mr. Meloy's pay out took a large chunk of revenue out of the budget for Fiscal Year 2012, and that the budget is extremely tight due to the payout. Ms. Hall is running weekly reports and updating Mr. Donovan and Ms. Stockton each week with those reports. Ms. Hall stated that money may need to be moved around between the three accounts the office has in order to make ends meet. The two vacant positions (Executive Secretary and CSPAC Administrative Assistant) will remain open and unfilled until after the end of the fiscal year as a cost saving measure.

Item 9 Federal Update – Ms. Nancy Coopersmith, OPI

Ms. Nancy Coopersmith reported that Montana has applied for the "Race to the Top" but that it is still being vetted, so the results will not be known for some time. ESEA Reauthorization is going on with tension between Congress, the Education Department and the President and since ESEA is 3 years late in reauthorization the law is out of touch. There has been a lot of reauthorization activity recently with Title I, Title II, Charter Schools, program consolidation, and yet nothing has been finalized. A draft version of the ESEA reauthorization was released but no action has been taken and the feeling is that no action will take place before the 2012 elections. On the Federal budget horizon, the budget must be finalized by October of every year, and 2 extensions have already been put in place. The 2nd extension ends November 18th. Cuts are expected from IDEA, Title I, Title II and from ESEA. 1.5% cut overall for those programs with an effective date of 2012. Ms. Coopersmith indicated there may not be any funding for Title III for 2012 which means the state would have to repay their allocation to the Federal government. Forward funding has been discussed but there has not been any agreement yet on the July 2012 funding.

ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE

Item 10 Update on Intensive Assistance Procedures – Ms. Teri Wing, OPI

Ms. Wing explained that the narrative text has been approved on the Intensive Assistance procedures. She passed out a diagram that gives a visual on what happens when a school is placed in Intensive Assistance procedures and called for any comments. Mr. Cordier noted a typo in the wording of the diagram. Ms. Myers asked if the wording could be changed from approve/disapprove to approval/disapproval. Ms. Taylor asked what happens to a school that is in Intensive Assistance, specifically Lodge Grass. Dr. Peterson replied by saying that currently Lodge Grass is not in Intensive

Assistance but is doing some restructuring due to not making their AYP goals. Dr. Peterson discussed how the changes to Chapter 55 will help schools that find themselves in a situation such as Lodge Grass and with the question of “now what?” A discussion then began on the clarification of Lodge Grass and Intensive Assistance and non performing schools. Superintendent Juneau made some clarifications and discussed that a school can meet accreditation standards and still not meet AYP. Ms. Carroll discussed some of the questions raised at the State Superintendent’s conference and Dr. Peterson clarified the Intensive Assistance procedures and how the OPI works with the schools closely in their accreditation reviews and that if there are recurring instances, the OPI meets with the school to help them meet their standards and to become successful.

Item 11 Report on the Implementation Plan for the Montana Common Core K-12 Content Standards in English Language Arts and Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Studies and Mathematics and Mathematical Practices – Ms. Nancy Coopersmith, OPI and Mr. Michael Hall, OPI

Mr. Hall briefly discussed the history in moving to the Common Core standards and that the decision was made for Montana to move from the Montana standards to the national Common Core standards. During these discussions the importance of including Montana Indian Education for All was discussed and the decision was made to include MIEA into the Common Core standards. A collaborative effort began between OPI, educators, and MIEA to develop language. Ms. Nancy Coopersmith discussed the Common Core Fact Sheet and that a leadership team at OPI is involved in the effort to bring teacher awareness of Common Core. Ms. Coopersmith discussed the three steps on the Fact Sheet: 1) Steps to Standards 2) Measuring Assessments and 3) Transition from MontCAS to SBAC Assessment. Mr. Hall then went on to briefly discuss the Math and English Standard, the changes, and the timeline for implementation. On November 7, 2011 a new web page will be launched by OPI specific to the Common Core Standards with different resources and reference materials in relation to the Common Core Standards. Mr. Hall briefly discussed the importance of the literacy standards through all subjects and content areas. Mr. Hall then went on to discuss outreach in relation to the Common Core Standards – Ms. Coopersmith visited the Montana PTA Conference in Great Falls September 17th to discuss Common Core, OPI will be at the Educators conference in Helena November 10-11th and on December 2-3rd will be holding a “train the trainers” meeting. Ms. Coopersmith then discussed the fiscal impact of the Common Core Standards and turned the discussion over to Mr. Donovan. Mr. Donovan explained the process of fiscal analysis when the Board is adopting a new law, and passed out and reviewed the matrix of responsibility between the Board, Education & Local Government Committee, OPI, and the Legislative Fiscal Division. Due to the delayed implementation of the Common Core Standards for Math and English there is still plenty of time to perform the necessary fiscal analysis. Ms. Coopersmith discussed the cost assumptions for English and Math separately. The new English Language Arts and Literacy standards are based on the assumptions that state funding remains the same. The Common Core standards are a change from grade interval standards to grade level standards. Ms. Carroll asked for clarification of regional funding availability and Ms. Coopersmith stated that both state and federal funding have availability for professional development through the new GEAR UP grant. The “Smarter Balance” consortium also offers some funding for professional development. Dr. Peterson added that Math Partnership alliances have provided funding for substitute teacher fees and funding from grants as well as state and federal monies. The math assumptions are the same as the current standards until #7 where the graduation requirements change from 2 years of required math to 3 years of required math to graduate. Some high schools will need to add staff to cover the 3rd year of math. Mr. Edwards asked the number of schools with only 2 years of math as their requirement and Ms. Coopersmith responded that the data is still being gathered. Ms. Carroll added that some small schools, particularly Class C schools, will need to address that issue of the 3rd year of math requirement. Superintendent Juneau added that both OPI and the Board will need to discuss requiring the 3rd year of math. Current standards do not require 3 years, but the Board could decide to make it a requirement. Mr. Cordier asked about the Montana Digital Academy providing the 3rd year of math and if that could be written into the new rule if the requirement were to be made. Ms. Carroll cautioned against letting the current standards erode. Mr. Edwards clarified that the discussion would have to be had to require the 3rd year, or leave the flexibility

there for schools to decide to require. Mr. Parman added that although the 3rd year of math could not be written into rule that it be done through the Digital Academy, but rule could be written requiring each student to have taken at least 1 online course in order to meet graduation requirements. Many schools are still not using the Digital Academy.

Break at noon

Meeting reconvened at 1:05

Item 12 Update on Standards Review Schedule and Recurring Review Cycle – Dr. Linda Peterson, OPI

Dr. Peterson reviewed the reasons for the Schedule and Recurring Review Cycle to be on a 5 year schedule including that it allows for more flexibility. Ms. Taylor expressed concern with the timeline especially in regards to the cycle of review in science that is currently 7 years old that schools now have to review every 5 years. She expressed concern that “recurring” doesn’t always get addressed. Dr. Peterson added that the Next Generation Science Standards for Common Core are currently underway and will be before the Board for review in early spring 2012. OPI is also working on Health Enhancement and Technological Studies for review as well. Ms. Taylor asked how long it had been since standards have been addressed and Dr. Peterson answered that the last review for science was in 2001. Mr. Edwards asked how the Board can ensure these standards are being reviewed on schedule with Board members constantly changing. Mr. Cordier asked if all subjects will have a Common Core. Dr. Peterson answered that the national movement addressed math, English, science, and social studies. A discussion then ensued regarding Common Core, the timeline for review and the national review cycle for Common Core.

LICENSURE COMMITTEE

Item 13 Request for New Program Broadfield Science, Rocky Mountain College – Dr. Linda Peterson, OPI

Dr. Peterson introduced Dr. Barbara Vail from Rocky Mountain College. Dr. Vail explained that per Chapter 58, the process to request new programs for private colleges must go through the Board of Public Education rather than the Board of Regents like the MUS schools are required to do. Dr. Vail made the request to the Board to offer a new program in the science department for Broadfield Science. New science faculty at Rocky Mountain College will be able to develop a rigorous program in Broadfield Science. Dr. Vail explained that the OPI has received the syllabus and resource information. OPI will review the program and bring a report to the Board for the January 2012 meeting with a recommendation for the Board to act upon. Mr. Cordier asked if any studies had been done with numbers. Dr. Vail responded that with NCLB and the highly qualified areas, the college dropped their Broadfield Science program because it was thought that it would not be needed. Now that Broadfield Science is considered to be a highly qualified field per NCLB, there is a need to bring the program back. Ms. Carroll noted that science is now a shortage area for some schools, so there is a need for Broadfield Science educators.

ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE

Item 14 Chapter 55 Joint Task Force Update – Mr. Dennis Parman, OPI

Mr. Parman passed out a Power Point presentation from the MCEL conference the previous week. Mr. Parman has been traveling around the state to regional conferences discussing Chapter 55 and gave some highlights from the October meeting. 1) Teacher/school leadership evaluation framework is being worked on currently by a committee. The goal is to make this a “what” process and not a “how” process. It will be based on InTasc standards and put into rule. The language is out and will go before the Task Force for review in December. 2) The Task Force moved through the 600’s and the 800’s and had consensus on half of the 600’s and a majority of the 800’s. Mr. Parman discussed that this has been a very arduous process to go through sentence by sentence, but so far a consensus has been reached on everything that has been reviewed to date. The Alternative to Standards Request Model is now

complete. The model was created with flexibility, per the request of Superintendent Juneau. ARM 10.55.604 is being re-written for Variance to Standards and the title of the rule will be rewritten as well. The Task Force will look at the forum to go with the new rule and a peer group is being formed for review, make a request for the Alternative to Standards, a recommendation will be made to the Superintendent, who will in turn make a recommendation to the Board. The goal of this process is to allow a school to develop an alternative request in order to meet the standards. Mr. Parman then discussed some examples of alternative requests made by schools. Mr. Parman discussed that with the model a school could be accredited but still not meeting performance standards. In this example an Alternative to Standards Request would be useful. By using the Alternative to Standards Request a school can ensure that other programs within the school remain intact. Mr. Parman noted that Montana continues to rank high with national accreditation and performance evaluations.

Item 21 MSDB Committee Meeting Report – Mr. Bernie Olson

Mr. Olsen gave an update to the Board on the October 27th, 2011 MSDB committee meeting attended via conference phone by Mr. Olsen, Ms. Carroll, and Ms. Taylor, and in person by Ms. Myers. The committee met with Steve Gettel and Bill Sykes, who also participated via conference call. Enrollment at the MSDB is down but it is expected that enrollment will increase now that the Great Falls Public School System will be sending its eligible students to attend classes at the MSDB rather than a GFPSS school. Approximately 30 students are currently undergoing IEP assessments to determine if they qualify to attend MSDB. The current vacancy in the schools Outreach position was discussed, as was the issue with Mr. Sykes contracting his services to the school remotely from Tennessee. A new law passed recently by the Legislature may determine that Mr. Sykes cannot continue to provide his services to MSDB. Mr. Olsen updated the Board that a recent age discrimination issue has arisen and is currently being investigated. The reading and math goals above 50% mark are being met. In the area of outreach the MSDB staff is working with parents to help them use technology to help better serve students.

November 4, 2011

8:00 A.M.

Chairperson Patty Myers called the meeting to order at 8:04.

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.

Jael Prazzo from Libby Public Schools was in the audience with her mother Joan Toole, a former School Board Chair from Red Lodge to witness the adoption of the Common Core Standards and thanked the OPI and the Board for their work on the Common Core Content Standards.

Item 15 Recommend Approval of Report Relating to the Public Hearing for the Montana Common Core K-12 Content Standards in English Language, Arts and Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Studies and Mathematics and Mathematical Practices – Dr. Linda Peterson, OPI

Mr. Donovan began by passing out the summary documents from the Hearing for the Common Core Math and English standards that was held on October 24, 2011. Mr. Donovan discussed the comments from Mr. Bayuk representing Montana Indian Education for All and the written testimony from Mr. Bruce Swanson regarding the math standards. Mr. Donovan noted that the comments submitted by Mr. Swanson were similar to comments he submitted in 2009 when new math standards were passed. Dr. Peterson briefly discussed the adoption process. Mr. Edwards call for a motion for English standards.

Ms. Patty Myers motioned to approve the Report Relating to the Public Hearing for the Montana Common Core K-12 Content Standards in English Language, Arts and

Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Studies. Mr. Bernie Olson seconded the motion.

Ms. Myers called for comments. No comments.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. John Edwards motioned to approve the Report Relating to the Public Hearing for the Montana Common Core K-12 Standards for Math and Mathematical Practices. Ms. Sharon Carroll seconded.

Ms. Myers called for comments. No comments.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 16 Notice of Public Adoption on Montana Common Core K-12 Content Standards in English Language Arts and Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects – Ms. Cynthia Green, OPI

Ms. Myers asked that Ms. Green introduce herself since she is new to the staff at OPI. Ms. Green did so and then went on to recommend to the Board the adoption of Montana Common Core K-12 Content Standards in English Language Arts and Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects. Ms. Myers called for a motion to approve.

Mr. John Edwards motioned to adopt the Montana Common Core K-12 Content Standards in English Language Arts and Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects. Mr. Doug Cordier seconded the motion.

Ms. Myers called for any discussion and Mr. Olson noted a difference in the numbers of the rules for the Common Core listed on the paper version than what was recited by Ms. Green. Dr. Peterson noted that she would verify which set of numbers were correct and work with OPI to ensure integrity. Superintendent Juneau advised it might be better to get a confirmation first before the Board adopts the new rules. Motion was deferred pending confirmation of the numbers.

Item 17 Notice of Adoption of Montana Common Core K-12 Content Standards in Mathematics and Mathematical Practices – Jean Howard, OPI

Ms. Howard noted her excitement and honor in recommending to the Board the adoption of the math standards. Ms. Howard then went on to recommend to the Board the adoption of the Montana Common Core K-12 Content Standards in Mathematics and Mathematical Practices. Superintendent Juneau noted there was a difference in the numbers as was the case in the English Standards and asked to defer motion of adoption until the numbers could be confirmed. Ms. Myers noted that this is historic because when Common Core first came out the Board at the time had noted that Montana would likely not be adopting the Common Core Standards.

Break at 8:24

Meeting called back to order at 8:37

Item 18 Recommend Approval of Alternative to Standards Request – Teri Wing, OPI

Ms. Wing discussed the new requests from schools and school districts for Alternative to Standards that the Board needs to approve. First request is from the Columbia Falls School District. They will have 2 FTE licensed school librarians and 1 FTE paraprofessional. The district has the rules and roles of the librarians and Para in place. They have program assessment and student assessment tools in place and a clear evaluation plan. Ms. Wing asks for approval of this request. The second request is from the West Valley School District in the Flathead – 2 applications. The first application is an alternative to standards request to 10.55.710 school counseling standard. The district has 1 FTE counselor and will use the services of the local A.W.A.R.E office for therapeutic and mental health services in addition to the

Flathead Valley Quick Response team services. One counselor will be on site at all times. The districts second application is to 10.55.709 Library and Media Services. The district has 1 full time librarian and 1 full time Para educator who will be on site in the library all day to provide student services. The librarian will then be able to provide classroom support and special services. The third Alternative to Standards Request is from the Sheridan K-8 School District. This is a new application is for 10.55.709 Library and Media Services. The district will be using the Montana Small Schools Alliance for their model. They have measurable objectives, mission statements and letters of agreement provided in their request. The fourth request is from Bernie Creek Elementary school – 2 requests, both are renewal applications. The 1st is to 10.55.709 Library and Media services and they are also using the Montana Small School Alliance Model. The students will have a monthly visit to the library on the reservation. The schools second request is to 10.55.710 School Counseling, this is also a renewal application. This application is also done using the Montana Small School Alliance Model and the school will use the services of a local, private counselor to provide services to the students.

Mr. John Edwards motioned to approve the Alternative to Standards Request. Ms. Lila Taylor seconded.

Mr. Cordier discussed he has worked with the Columbia Falls principal who has been very pleased with the work OPI has done to help them with their request. Ms. Taylor referenced the Berney Creek School and the Decker school and the collaborative efforts made between the schools.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 16 Notice of Public Adoption on Montana Common Core K-12 Content Standards in English Language Arts and Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects – Ms. Cynthia Green, OPI

The agenda returned to Item 16 after the numbering issue was corrected. Dr. Peterson noted that somehow the numbers on the Notice of Hearing had been changed but the numbers on the Notice of Adoption were correct. A motion was still on the floor for the adoption of the Common Core K-12 Content Standards in English Language Arts Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technology. Ms. Myers called for any discussion. No discussion. At 8:49 on Friday November 4, 2011 the vote to adopt the Common Core Content Standards for English was passed unanimously.

Item 17 Notice of Adoption of Montana Common Core K-12 Content Standards in Mathematics and Mathematical Practices – Jean Howard, OPI

The agenda returned to Item 17 after numbering issue was corrected.

Mr. John Edwards motioned to adopt the Montana Common Core K-12 Content Standards in Mathematics and Mathematical Practices. Ms. Sharon Carroll seconded the motion.

No discussion on the matter. At 8:52 on Friday November 4, 2011 the vote to adopt the Common Core Content Standards for Mathematics and Mathematical Practices was adopted unanimously. Superintendent Juneau asked the Board for a joint picture with the OPI and a picture was taken.

Item 19 Recommend Approval of Notice of Public Hearing and Timeline Relating to Student Records (ARM 10.55.909) – Madalyn Quinlan, OPI

Ms. Quinlan from OPI presented to the Board the recommendation of a statewide student id for K-12 students which is a change to ARM 10.55.909. The request is to approve the language and a public hearing of the rule. The student would be assigned a student id for both public and private schools at the point of their arrival at the school. The id would follow them through high school graduation and into the higher education (University System). The hearing will be held December 16, 2011 at 9:00 at OPI with a final recommendation to be brought before the Board at the January 2012 meeting. Upon approval by the Board, implementation would be effective in January or February 2012. Ms. Quinlan passed out to the Board members the fiscal implications as prepared by the OPI. The addition of a student id would only require 1 more element to the student record and districts already have an identifier on the student record, so there should be no fiscal impact to school districts. Ms. Quinlan asked that the Board approve the request for recommendation of the student record.

Mr. John Edwards motioned to approve Notice of Public Hearing and Timeline Relating to Student Records (ARM 10.55.909). Mr. Bernie Olson seconded the motion.

Discussion on the matter: Mr. Cordier asked in regards to storing of the students permanent record – will it be stored on paper or electronically. Ms. Quinlan noted that topic is currently with the Chapter 55 Task Force.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 20 Critical Quality Educator Shortage Areas – Madalyn Quinlan, OPI

Ms. Quinlan discussed the Critical Quality Educator Shortage Areas and the Loan Repayment Assistance program. The loan repayment program is administered by the Montana Guaranteed Student Loan Program. It is a 4 year award not to exceed \$3,000/year. The teacher must be employed at a public school in Montana, the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind, or a youth correctional facility. Ms. Quinlan explained that a report of the shortage areas and impacted schools needs to be approved by the Board to begin the yearly application process. Ms. Quinlan discussed the criteria a school needs to meet to be on the Shortage Area list: 1) rural isolation, 2) economic disadvantage, 3) student performance. Ms. Quinlan discussed the chart on page 3 of the handout which displays the rubric used for assigning points to each school. The more criteria a school meets, the more points they are awarded. Points are given on a range of 0-8. There are 576 schools on the list broken down to: 285 elementary schools, 155 middle schools, and 136 high schools. MSDB, Youth Correctional facilities, and Special Ed cooperatives have automatic assignments. Ms. Quinlan added that the report also contains the results of a school survey regarding schools difficulty in hiring teachers. Page 5 of the report indicates the areas with the highest hiring difficulties. She noted that special education is the highest area on the list. Mr. Edwards asked where the funding for the Loan Repayment comes from and Ms. Quinlan noted that it is a General Fund appropriation from the legislature. Ms. Taylor asked if there is any information to track if teachers stay at the school after their loans have been repaid, or if they leave. Ms. Quinlan noted that there is, and that she will get the information for Ms. Taylor. Ms. Carroll asked that in relation to Art, has it dropped off the list because it has been filled, or because the program has been dropped at the school? Ms. Carroll had the same question regarding the career and technical programs. Ms. Quinlan commented that those programs are not on the list because there are not any vacancies for those areas, which could back up Ms. Carrolls comment regarding the program being dropped. Ms. Carroll applauded the OPI on their work and research for the program. Ms. Myers asked how many students were in the Speech and Language program at the UM that could fill vacancies but no one had any numbers. Ms. Carroll noted that she had been in Missoula last spring for graduation and said there were a few graduates in that area.

Mr. John Edwards moved to approve the report on the Critical Quality Educator Shortage Areas. Ms. Taylor seconded the motion.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION

MSDB Liaison

Item 21 MSDB Committee Meeting Report – Mr. Bernie Olson

Moved to Thursday afternoon – see item above.

PRELIMINARY AGENDA ITEMS – JANUARY 2012 MEETING

Rocky Mountain College Broadfield Science Program
State Funded Youth Schools
Chapter 55
Career Technical Ed Update
Student Records ARM 10.55.909

Exiting Board Members – Last Meeting
Transportation Report
MACIE Update
Annual School Food Services Report
Assessment Update
Federal Update
Accreditation Report
5 YCEP Process Update
Educator Preparation Program Report
Annual Renewal Unit Providers List – consent agenda

Mr. Doug Cordier motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bernie Olson seconded the motion.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

9:25 AM 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.