

BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES

November 8-9th, 2012

**State Capitol, Room 152
Helena MT**

November 8th, 2012

8:30 AM

CALL TO ORDER – 8:32 AM

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was made.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda was approved as presented.

ADOPT AGENDA

Ms. Myers announced that the meeting on Friday will begin at 8:00 AM.

Item #21 has been withdrawn.

Ms. Sharon Carroll moved to adopt the agenda. Seconded by Mr. John Edwards

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously

Board members in attendance: Ms. Patty Myers – Chair, Ms. Sharon Carroll - Vice-Chair, Ms. Lila Taylor, Mr. Bernie Olson, Ms. Erin Williams, Mr. John Edwards, Ms. Charity Ratliff, Student Representative. Board Staff present were Mr. Peter Donovan, Executive Director; Ms. Kris Stockton, Administrative Assistant. Ex-Officio members present included Commissioner of Higher Education Clayton Christian. Guests present included Mr. Dennis Parman, OPI; Mr. Steve Meloy, MTSBA; Dr. Linda Peterson, OPI; Ms. Nancy Coopersmith, OPI; Ms. Susan Court, OPI; Ms. Donell Rosenthal, OPI; Mr. Ross Johnson, Legislative Audit Division; Ms. Margaret Bowles, OPI; Ms. Teri Wing, OPI; Ms. Judy Snow, OPI; Ms. Madalyn Quinlan, OPI.

Items listed in the order which they were presented.

INFORMATION

❖ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE –Patty Myers

Item 1 Chairperson’s Report - Patty Myers

• Election of Officers

The meeting was turned over to Executive Director Peter Donovan who conducted the election for the position of chairperson of the Board of Public Education.

Ms. Sharon Carroll moved to nominate Ms. Patty Myers as Chair of the Board of Public Education. The motion was seconded by Mr. John Edwards. Ms. Lila Taylor moved to pass the unanimous ballot.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously

Ms. Myers assumed the chairperson’s seat.

Ms. Erin Williams moved to nominate Ms. Sharon Carroll for Vice Chair of the Board of Public Education. The motion was seconded by Mr. John Edwards. Ms. Lila Taylor moved to pass the unanimous ballot.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously

- **Committee Assignments**

Mr. Bernie Olson moved to approve the new committee assignments to the Board of Public Education. Ms. Lila Taylor seconded the motion.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously. (See Appendix for Committee Assignments)

- ❖ **CSPAC LIASON – Sharon Carroll**

Item 2 Executive Director/CSPAC Officer Update – Pete Donovan

Mr. Donovan gave a brief update of the October CSPAC/Council of Dean's joint meeting in October. He discussed the Board's joint presentation with OPI and OCHE at the MEA-MFT conference, and provided a brief update of the Education Partners discussion with the Board in the afternoon. Mr. Donovan reviewed the recent BPE office move, and discussed his plans to attend the November 15-16th Board of Regents meeting.

ACTION

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Ms. Sharon Carroll moved to nominate Ms. JoDell Bieler to the Specialist position to the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council. Ms. Erin Williams seconded the motion.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS

Item 3 State Superintendent Report – Ms. Denise Juneau

Mr. Dennis Parman gave the Office of Public Instruction update on behalf of Superintendent Juneau. Mr. Parman reviewed for the Board the discussions he has had with schools across the state regarding the Chapter 55 Standards updates. He also discussed his work with Senator Baucus regarding the USDA standards for school nutrition requirements. Mr. Parman discussed Common Core implementation and testing, and OPI's K-20 partnership with the Commissioner's Office.

Item 4 Commissioner of Higher Education Report – Clayton Christian

Mr. Christian updated the Board on four new areas of focus in the Commissioner's Office: Performance Based Funding, P-20 Alignment, Strategic Program Alignment, and Educational Effectiveness and Efficiency.

Item 5 Governor's Office Report

No one from the Governor's Office was present.

Item 6 Student Representative Report – Ms. Charity Ratliff

Ms. Ratliff updated the Board on the State Student Council Convention. Items discussed and resolutions passed by the State Student Council included an Open Campus Lunch program, Increased Sexual Education in Schools, and increasing the Dropout age to 18. Ms. Ratliff also discussed her work with Graduation Matters at Hardin High School.

DISCUSSION

- ❖ **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE –Patty Myers**

Item 7 General Education Development (GED) Rule Changes - Margaret Bowles

Ms. Bowles summarized the changes in the Chapter 66 requirements surrounding the General Education Development (GED) test. The changes will include a new vendor, and more rigorous, computerized testing which will be in line with the Common Core standards. OPI will request the Board to approve the updated GED requirements in the spring of 2013.

Item 8 Youth Risk Behavior Survey Findings - Susan Court

Ms. Court updated the Board on the results of the 2011 Youth Risk Behavior Survey. Six different areas of interest are surveyed: tobacco use, alcohol abuse, unintentional injuries and violence, sexual behaviors, dietary behaviors, and physical behaviors. Ms. Court briefly discussed the results of all six areas. Ms. Court then reviewed the 2011 Youth Risk Behavior Survey for Special Needs students in Montana and the differences in results compared to students without special needs.

❖ **ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE (Items 9-12)**

Item 9 School Bus Standards Rule Changes - Donell Rosenthal

Ms. Rosenthal gave an update on the rule changes regarding pupil transportation in Montana to align Montana rules with the National Congress on School Transportation. Ms. Rosenthal made note that no changes were made to Montana's rules regarding seatbelts. Ms. Rosenthal stated Montana standards are always aligned with the National standards. Ms. Nancy Coopersmith reviewed the process for the timeline of adoption of the new standards.

Item 10 School District Transportation Audit - Ross Johnson, Legislative Audit Division

Mr. Ross Johnson from the Legislative Audit Division discussed the School District Transportation Audit he will be conducting. The Planning stage for the audit has been completed. Mr. Johnson stated a report is scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2013, although it is not expected there will be any recommendations to be brought before the Board for adoption.

Item 11 Update on Visits to Schools in Intensive Assistance Process - Teri Wing

Ms. Wing updated the Board on the schools that remain in Intensive Assistance and announced that she will recommend some schools to be taken off Intensive Assistance. Ms. Wing stated the Helena School District and Billings School District issues will be addressed at the January 2013 BPE meeting. The MSDB issues in teacher misassignment were discussed and Ms. Wing reviewed how the school is working to resolve those issues. *(See Appendix for List of Schools)*

Item 12 Update on the On-Site Accreditation Review of the Professional Education Unit at the University of Great Falls - Linda Peterson

Dr. Peterson discussed the review of the Professional Education Unit at the University of Great Falls which was completed in October. Dr. Peterson sent a report to the university to review for errors or omissions. The university has 30 days to respond to the recommendations from the report. OPI will present an update to the Board at the January Board meeting. Dr. Peterson also discussed the schedule for the seven year review of the Educator Preparation Programs in Montana.

❖ **MSDB LIAISON (Item 17)**

**Item 17 MSDB Update
Bernie Olson**

Mr. Olson updated the Board on the September and October MSDB conference calls. Ms. Donna Schmidt was hired October 19th as the new Business Administrator. One candidate has applied for the Outreach Director position. Other items discussed were building repairs needed on campus and MSDB talking points for the Education Partnership Discussion Thursday at the Board meeting. Ms. Nancy Hall clarified the funding of the MSDB compared to other state agencies and the teacher salary issues the school is experiencing.

❖ **ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE (Item 13)**

Item 13 Assessment Update - Judy Snow

Ms. Snow gave an update on the scores in Math, Reading, and Science from the Criterion Referenced Tests completed in the spring of 2012 by all Montana students' in grades 3-8 and grade 10.

2:00 PM

Item 14 Education Partners Discussion of 2013 Legislative Session Priorities - Pete Donovan

Present for the meeting: All Board members and staff, Mr. Dennis Parman, OPI; Commissioner of Higher Education Clayton Christian, Mr. Rob Miller, Legislative Fiscal Division; Mr. Lance Melton, MTSBA; Dr. Kirk Miller, SAM; Mr. Steve York, OPI; Mr. Bob Vogel, MTSBA; Mr. Steve Meloy, MTSBA; Mr. Kevin McCrae, OCHE; Mr. Dave Puyear, MREA; Mr. Marco Ferro, MEA-MFT, Ms. Nancy Hall, OBPP.

Each representative of the Education Partners shared with the group their strategies and priorities for the 2013 Legislative session. The group discussed the value of meeting on an ongoing basis.

FRIDAY November 9th, 2012

8:07 AM meeting called to order

ACTION

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

❖ **MACIE LIAISON – Item 15**

Item 15 MACIE Recommendations – Lynn Hinch

Ms. Myers updated the Board members on several changes being requested by MACIE for the MACIE By-laws. Ms. Myers asked why the Board needs to approve the MACIE By-laws. Ms. Coopersmith answered that since MACIE is a joint Advisory Council between the Board and OPI, historically OPI has recommended changes and Board has approved the changes.

Mr. Bernie Olson moved to approve the recommended changes to the MACIE By-laws. Ms. Sharon Carroll seconded the motion.

No discussion. Motion passed with Board members Edwards and Taylor not present. (See Appendix for MACIE By-Law changes)

❖ **ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE (Item 16)**

Item 16 Recommendation of Approval of Alternative to Standards Requests - Teri Wing

Ms. Wing reviewed the list of Alternative to Standards requests from schools, all of which follow the Small Schools Alliance model. The Superintendent requested the Board approve the requests.

Mr. Bernie Olson moved to approve the Recommendation of Alternative to Standards Requests. Ms. Lila Taylor seconded the motion.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously. (See Appendix for list of schools)

❖ **LICENSURE COMMITTEE (Items 18-22)**

Item 22 Discussion of Rocky Mountain College Administrator License - Dennis Parman

Mr. Parman discussed the denials of four Rocky Mountain College Administrator licenses and how OPI resolved the

denials. Mr. Parman explained to the Board that the license requests were initially denied due to some misunderstanding by OPI. Mr. Parman held discussions with Rocky Mountain College and came to the conclusion the applicants did meet the qualifications and approved the applicants' licenses.

Item 19 DENIAL HEARING OF ACADEMIC LICENSE BPE CASE #2012-04

The appellant requested the hearing be postponed until the March 2013 Board of Public Education meeting. Ms. Myers requested written notification of the change of hearing date from the Board to the appellant, OPI, and Agency Legal Services.

Item 20 DENIAL HEARING OF ACADEMIC LICENSE BPE CASE #2012-09

The Board discussed whether the hearing should be open or closed. Upon the advice of Mr. Clyde Peterson, Agency Legal Services, the matter did not contain any sensitive information, and the appellant waived her right to appear before the Board, it was determined the hearing should remain open. Members of the Board then reviewed the case. Mr. Chris Tweeten represented the Office of Public Instruction and Mr. Clyde Peterson from Agency Legal Services represented the Board of Public Education. Testimony was received from Ms. Elizabeth Keller, Licensure Specialist, Office of Public Instruction

Ms. Sharon Carroll moved to uphold the recommendation from the State Superintendent's Office to deny a second Class 5 Alternative License in BPE Case #2012-09. Mr. Bernie Olson seconded the motion.

No discussion. Motion passed with Board member Taylor dissenting.

Item 21 DENIAL HEARING OF ACADEMIC LICENSE BPE CASE #2012-05

Case resolved prior to meeting.

Item 18 Adopt the Critical Quality Educator Shortage Areas Report - Madalyn Quinlan

Ms. Quinlan presented the Critical Quality Educator Shortage Areas Report and requested its approval to allow the Quality Educator Loan Repayment Assistance Program to disburse the monies to the qualified teachers in the affected areas.

Ms. Sharon Carroll moved to adopt the Critical Quality Educator Shortage Area Report. Motion was seconded by Ms. Erin Williams.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – January 18th, 2013 Conference Call

Exiting Board Member – Last Meeting

Transportation Report

MACIE Update

Annual School Food Services Report

Assessment Update

Federal Update

Accreditation Report

Educator Preparation Program Report

Motion to adjourn the Board of Public Education meeting moved by Mr. Bernie Olson. Motion seconded by Ms. Erin Williams.

Meeting adjourned at 9:26 AM.

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 8 renewal units per day. Please complete the necessary information on the sign-in sheet if you are applying for renewal units.

APPENDIX:

Item 1:

New Committee Assignments are as follows:

STANDING COMMITTEES

Executive Committee

Patty Myers, Chair
Sharon Carroll, Vice Chair
Peter Donovan

Accreditation Committee

Bernie Olson, Chair
Erin Williams, Member
Lila Taylor, Member
Patty Myers, Ex-Officio Member

Licensure Committee

Sharon Carroll, Chair
Lila Taylor, Member
Patty Myers, Ex-Officio Member

MSDB Committee

Patty Myers, Chair
Bernie Olson, Member
Sharon Carroll, Member
Lila Taylor, Member

Legislative Committee

Doug Cordier, Member
Lila Taylor, Member
John Edwards, Member
Charity Ratliff, Member
Patty Myers, Ex-Officio Member

Assessment Committee

Sharon Carroll, Chair
Patty Myers, Ex-Officio Member

ADVISORY GROUP LIAISONS

Sharon Carroll, CSPAC
Doug Cordier, MACIE
Patty Myers, MSDB Foundation

Indian Education for All

Doug Cordier
Patty Myers, Ex-Officio Member

Distance Learning/Montana Digital Academy

Patty Myers, Chair

Education and Local Government

Interim K-12 Subcommittee

Patty Myers
Sharon Carroll
Peter Donovan

Item 11:

Schools/school districts currently in Intensive Assistance:

Billings Central High School

Butte School District – Margaret Leary School, Emerson School, Whittier School

Helena School District –Rossiter, Jim Darcy, Four Georgians, and Warren – all elementary schools

Montana School for the Deaf and Blind

West Valley Elementary School

Billings Public Schools – 11 elementary schools

Columbia Falls Schools – High School and 6th grade building

Fairview Schools – Fairview grades 7/8 and Fairview High School

Billings Independent School District

Northern Cheyenne Tribal Schools – elementary and high school
Scobey School District – elementary school
Whitefish School District – Whitefish 5th – 8th grade, Muldown Elementary
Lewistown School District – Garfield School, Lewis & Clark School and Lewistown 7/8th grades

Item 15:

MACIE By-Law changes:

BYLAWS OF MONTANA ADVISORY COUNCIL ON INDIAN EDUCATION

ARTICLE 1

Membership

The composition of the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education shall consist of members who are representatives of Indian Education in the State of Montana. The membership shall be selected in consultation with Indian tribes, Indian organizations, major education organizations in which Indians participate and schools where American Indian students and adults attend.

The Board of Public Education and the Superintendent of Public Instruction will jointly make appointments to the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education.

NOTE: Participation on Montana Advisory Council for Indian Education is voluntary and tribes and organizations invited to participate may decline.

Each of the eight Montana tribal councils shall be invited to select one representative to represent its tribe on this council. The Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education will seek participation by three urban Indian representatives from [the Indian Education departments of the Great Falls, Billings and Missoula school districts](#).

Other nominations will be sought from organizations that have been identified as playing a key role in the education of American Indians in Montana. These organizations are:

- Montana Education Association/Montana Federation of Teachers (MEA-MFT) American Indian Representative
- School Administrators of Montana (SAM)
- Indian Impact Schools of Montana (IISM) Board Representative
- Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA) Indian School Board Caucus Representative
- Montana Association for Bilingual Education (MABE) Board of Directors – [replaced with a Class 7 Representative](#)
- Montana Indian Education Association (MIEA) Board
- Montana Indian Education Association (MIEA) Parent of the Year - [eliminated](#)

Voting

The total voting membership will be eighteen [seventeen](#) and include:

- 8 – Tribal representatives from each Montana tribal council
- 3 – Urban Indian representatives
- 1 – Montana Education Association/Montana Federation of Teachers (MEA-MFT) American Indian Representative
- 1 – School Administrators of Montana (SAM)
- 1 – Indian Impact Schools of Montana (IISM) Board Representative
- 1 – Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA) Indian School Board Caucus Representative

- 1 – Montana Indian Education Association (MIEA) Board Member
- 1 – Montana Indian Education Association (MIEA) Parent of the Year
- 1 – Montana Association for Bilingual Education (MABE) Board of Directors [Class 7 Representative](#)

Ex-officio members(non-voting) to the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education shall be:

- Office of Public Instruction
- Board of Public Education
- Montana University System
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- [Tribal Head Start Representative](#)
- [Tribal College Representative](#)

Item 16: Approved Alternative to Standards Requests:

Dawson County: Deer Creek Elementary and Lindsay Elementary – School Counseling
Flathead County: Pleasant Valley Elementary – Library Media/School Counseling, West Glacier Elementary – School Counseling
Fallon County: Plevna K-12 – Library Media
Richland County: Rau Elementary K-8 – School Counseling
Stillwater County: Absarokee K-8 – Library Media