

BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES

January 19, 2018
Montana State Capitol Building
Room 455

Friday January 19, 2018
8:30 AM

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Carroll called the meeting to order 8:30 AM. The Board said the Pledge of Allegiance and Ms. Stockton took roll call. Mr. Donovan announced those present in the meeting room for the Board members who are participating via conference call. Chair Carroll read the Statement of Public Participation. The Chair welcomed guests.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was given.

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda was approved as presented.

ADOPT AGENDA

Mr. Jesse Barnhart moved to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Mary Jo Bremner seconded the motion.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

*****Items listed in the order in which they were presented*****

INFORMATION ITEMS

- ❖ **REPORTS – Sharon Carroll (Items 1-6)**
- Item 1 CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT**
Sharon Carroll

Chair Carroll asked Mr. Rob Stutz to update the Board on the effective date issue with the amendments to the Bus Standards. Mr. Stutz noted that public comment has been received from Montana Rural Education Association Director, Dennis Parman, stating that the current effective date after January 31, 2018 should be “effective January 31, 2018”. Because public comment does not end until 5:00pm today (January 19, 2018) a conference call meeting will need to be held to make that change.

- Item 2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**
Pete Donovan

Mr. Donovan updated the Board on some agenda items for the upcoming Education Interim Committee Meeting January 22-23, including an update from Mr. Donovan, a presentation from the Bridger Charter Academy in Bozeman, and a Gifted and Talented presentation. Mr. Donovan will also be on a panel to discuss Educator Preparation Programs serving special needs students. The meeting will be livestreamed if Board members would like to watch the meeting. Mr. Donovan complimented the Office

of Public Instruction on the Innovative Learning Conference held on December 1, 2017.

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.

Item 3 STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT State Superintendent Elsie Arntzen

Mr. Kyle Moen attended the meeting for Superintendent Arntzen who was called into a meeting with the Department of Education. Mr. Moen presented a License Surrender for Educator Leon Wilcox for 1 year upon the completion of the following conditions: Complete an Ethics course, complete counseling or therapy for 1 year with a letter of recommendation from the licensed counselor or therapist, provide proof of the above-mentioned items to OPI. Questions from the Board were fielded by Mr. Stutz and Mr. Moen. Questions were answered that the educator has already surrendered his license, he has been suspended and is not currently teaching. Chair Carroll asked that the Board be apprised of when the educator reapplies for licensure. Mr. Moen agreed that the OPI can do so if the educator reapplies for licensure. Mr. Moen noted that the OPI has not been notified of any legal action against the educator.

- **Request Approval of MACIE Appointment for Roxann Smith**

Ms. Mary Jo Bremner moved to approve the nomination of Ms. Roxanne Smith to the MACIE. Motion seconded by Ms. Tammy Lacey.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION

Item 4 COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION'S REPORT Angela McLean

Ms. Angela McLean congratulated Chair Carroll on the video done by AFT about the Carter County School system, and thanked Ms. Stockton and Mr. Donovan for all the work they do between Board meetings. Updates from the Commissioner's Office include a 6% growth in American Indian enrollment in Higher Education across the Montana University System, and an increase in student retention as well. Ms. McLean updated the Board on the Educator Recruitment and Retention Task Force work including: the data subcommittee submitting questions to NW Educational labs to better guide students into Educator Prep programs and best place them across the state; a report from the MSU EPP regarding their program; statewide issues in educator recruitment and retention; a workgroup convening to devise a mutually agreeable course for high school students that will transfer to college coursework; and a pilot program at UM Western regarding prior learning credit. Ms. Bremner asked to contact Ms. McLean to discuss first year teachers and issues/struggles that they have. Ms. DeMarco thanked Ms. McLean for her work with EDU 101 for high school students. Dr. Schottle also commented on the transferability work being done with EDU 101 and efforts towards getting the course transferable.

Item 5 GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORT Siri Smillie

No report.

Item 6 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT Molly DeMarco

Ms. DeMarco discussed her participation this year in the EDU 101 course and thanked the

Commissioner's Office and the Task Force for their work on this course. CMR Student Government met and discussed the school's results from a survey regarding student government and work they are doing regarding those areas. Ms. DeMarco updated the Board with district work on new schools with the bond passing. Ms. DeMarco discussed the nominations of the new student representative to the Board and the interviews held on March 18 and asked if a Board member would be able to attend that meeting. The meeting will be in Lewistown on March 18. Chair Carroll will contact Ms. DeMarco regarding the meeting.

Dr. Miller discussed programs at the School Administrators of Montana, and he will send the SAM Executive Summary to the Board office with updated information on Professional Learning requirements statewide and mentoring. Dr. Miller also discussed an award Governor Bullock recently received from National Coalition to help schools obtain broadband access via the Education Superhighway.

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.

❖ MSDB LIAISON - Mary Jo Bremner (Item 7)

Item 7 MSDB REPORT AND ACTION ON 2nd READING OF POLICIES AND OUT OF STATE TRAVEL REQUESTS: Donna Sorensen

Superintendent Sorensen updated the Board on happenings at the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind including student activities at Christmas, an update on pool maintenance, finances, and field trips the students are on. March 25th is the school Spring Formal Dinner and all BPE members are invited.

• APPROVE OUT OF STATE TRAVEL REQUESTS

Ms. Keith requested that those who are traveling to conferences be required to report back to the school and offer training they learned to other faculty and staff.

Ms. Mary Jo Bremner moved to approve student travel to the Academic Bowl in Irvine, California. Motion seconded by Mr. Jesse Barnhart.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Mary Jo Bremner moved to approve staff travel to the Early Learning Convention. Motion seconded by Dr. Darlene Schottle.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Mary Jo Bremner moved to approve staff travel to the Education of Blind and Visually Impaired Conference in Idaho. Motion seconded by Ms. Anne Keith.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

First reading of Policy 5110 – several questions of clarification. Ms. Sorensen will revise the draft and distribute to the MSDB Committee members.

- **REQUEST APPROVAL OF POLICY 3201 – PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF AFFECTION**

Board member comment from Mr. Barnhart regarding hugging at school for assemblies and award recognition. Discussion of possible rewording. Mr. Stutz noted that the explanation in the policy regarding “friendly touches for attention getting and greeting or parting are not considered PDA”, and Mr. Barnhart agreed that covered his concern.

Ms. Mary Jo Bremner moved to approve MSDB Policy 3201- Public Displays of Affection and MSDB Policy 5015- Breastfeeding in the Workplace. Motion seconded by Ms. Tammy Lacey.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

- **APPROVE POLICY 5015 – BREASTFEEDING IN THE WORKPLACE**
See motion above.

- **APPROVAL OF STAFF HIRES:**
Ms. Mary Jo Bremner moved to approve the hires of: Trudy Hall, Guidance Counselor; Don Paulus, Cook; Erik Middlewood, Cottage Life Attendent. Motion seconded by Dr. Darlene Schottle.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION

❖ **LICENSURE COMMITTEE – Tammy Lacey (Items 8-10)**

Item 8 ACCREDITATION SITE VISIT OF THE EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM PROVIDER (EPP) IN THE EDUCATION DIVISION AT SALISH KOOTENAI COLLEGE (SKC)
Dr. Linda Peterson

Dr. Peterson updated the Board on the recent Accreditation Site Visit at Salish Kootenai College. Dr. Peterson will present this item again at the March BPE meeting with Action requested scheduled for the May BPE meeting.

Item 9 TEACHER LICENSURE REPORT
Kris Thatcher

Ms. Thatcher presented the annual Licensure Report to the Board, reviewing numbers from 2017 vs 2016 for the Board in the different licensure areas.

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.

Item 10 REQUEST FOR CLASS 5 EXPIRATION DATE EXTENSION FOR JENNIFER BAKER
Kris Thatcher

Ms. Thatcher reviewed for the Board a request from the Superintendent for an extension to a Class 5 Date Extension for Ms. Jennifer Baker. Ms. Thatcher reviewed the circumstances for the educator’s request for the Board and that Ms. Baker has requested a 2-year extension to her Class 5 Provisional License due to exceptional circumstances beyond her control. Ms. Baker is currently enrolled in a

program with UM Western which she may be able to complete earlier than June 2020.

Ms. Tammy Lacey moved approve a 2-year extension of Jennifer Baker's Class 5 Provisional License from June 30, 2018 to June 30, 2020. Motion seconded by Ms. Mary Jo Bremner.

Questions from Mr. Stutz and Ms. Lacey regarding specifics of the request. Ms. Keith asked what she is currently teaching in Sydney, MT. She is teaching 4th grade.

No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION

❖ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Sharon Carroll (Items 11-14)

**Item 13 INITIAL REQUEST FOR A RULE CHANGE TO ARM 10.64.201 AND ARM 10.64.301, BUS STANDARDS
Kara Sperle**

Ms. Sperle presented an initial presentation to the Board of the revision of ARM Rule 10.64.201 and 10.64.301 Bus Standards per the passing of HB 355 in the 2017 Legislative session regarding 10 seat buses. Ms. Sperle updated the Board on the work done this past fall by the workgroup and explained the new language relating to this new bus type. Board members asked that the current proposed rule to be posted on the OPI website be noted as a "Draft" for clarification to the reader.

**Item 14 ANNUAL TRANSPORTATION REPORT
Kara Sperle**

Ms. Sperle referred the Board to the Transportation Report contained in the packet and asked for any questions. Ms. Sperle noted that she hears from districts regarding difficulty in recruiting and hiring qualified school bus drivers. Mr. Barnhart commented to that issue that recruitment is an issue in some Eastern Montana school districts.

**Item 11 NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING ON SUICIDE PREVENTION
Dr. Tim Tharp**

Dr. Tharp called in to the meeting from a conference in Indianapolis. Dr. Tharp reviewed the information contained in the packet and noted that the Economic Impact Study for the proposed ARM rule change to the Suicide Prevention rule is being prepared for an upcoming meeting of the committee. The next step will be to bring the study to the Superintendent for her recommendation. Mr. Barnhart brought some concerns from his Superintendent on the proposed rulemaking. Dr. Tharp fielded additional questions from the Board.

**Item 12 FEDERAL UPDATE ON ESSA
Susie Hedalen**

No report given.

❖ ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE – Anne Keith (Item 15)

**Item 15 ASSESSMENT UPDATE
Ashley McGrath**

Ms. McGrath gave the Assessment Update to the Board, specifically discussing the Science Assessments that will change from CRT Science Assessments to Assessments aligned with the new Science Standards. Ms. Keith asked for clarification of a 3-Dimensional Aligned Assessment and Ms. McGrath provided guidance.

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.

❖ MSDB LIAISON - Mary Jo Bremner (Item 16)

Item 16 MSDB SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACT RENEWAL Sharon Carroll

Ms. Mary Jo Bremner reviewed the Evaluation process that has already been completed.

Ms. Mary Jo Bremner moved to rehire the Superintendent of the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind for the year beginning 7-1-2018 through 6-30-2019. Motion seconded by Dr. Darlene Schottle.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS March 15-16, 2018

Assessment Update

Federal Update

Accreditation Report

Annual School Food Services Report

MACIE Update

Initial Presentation of MSDB School Calendar

Licensure Hearings

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment was heard.

ADJOURN

Mr. Jesse moved to adjourn at 11:24. Motion seconded by Ms. Anne Keith.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 11:24 AM.

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