

# CERTIFICATION STANDARDS & PRACTICES ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2018**

*Montana State Capitol Building, Room 102  
Helena, MT*

## **Starting at 9:00 A.M.**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Elder called the meeting to order at 9:10 AM. Ms. Stockton took roll call. Chair Elder welcomed guests and read the Statement of Public Participation.

Council members present included: Mr. Kelly Elder, Chair; Ms. Noreen Burris, Vice Chair; Dr. Rob Watson; Ms. Leanne Lorenz; Ms. Debbie Hendricks; Ms. Angel Turoski. Staff present included: Mr. Pete Donovan, Executive Director Board of Public Education and CSPAC; Mr. Kris Stockton, Administrative Assistant. Guests present included: Dr. Linda Peterson, OPI; Ms. Kristine Thatcher, OPI; Dr. Kirk Miller, School Administrators of Montana; Mr. Lance Melton, Montana School Boards Administration; Mr. TJ Eyer, OPI; Ms. Colet Bartow, OPI; Mr. Hollis Fudge, MT Association of Deaf; Mr. Ray Severie, Great Falls; Ms. Katrina Kennett, America Campaign; Mr. Devin Holmes, America Campaign/Teachers Teaching Tech; Ms. Colet Bartow, OPI; Ms. Diane Burke, Montana Quality Education Coalition.

### **AGENDA APPROVAL**

Mr. Elder noted that Item 7 will be heard in conjunction with Item 4.

*Dr. Watson moved to approve the agenda as presented moving Item 7 to be heard between Items 3 and 4. Ms. Debbie Hendricks seconded the motion.*

*No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.*

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Ms. Leanne Lorenz moved to approve the October 5, 2017 Meeting Minutes. Ms. Debbie Hendricks seconded the motion.*

*No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.*

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

#### **ITEM 1 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT – Mr. Kelly Elder**

Mr. Elder thanked the Council members, specifically Dr. Watson, for their work on the suggested ARM Rule changes to address Computer Coding. Mr. Elder noted that he was able to attend the National College Football Championship game with other Teachers of the Year, and that they were able to be on the field during the National Anthem.

#### **ITEM 2 BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION REPORT – Mr. Pete Donovan**

Mr. Donovan updated the Council with some data from the Licensure Report presented to the Board of Public Education at their January meeting, noting that new licenses have been given to teachers and administrators based upon changes to the Chapter 57 Licensure Rules that CSPAC worked on and the

BPE approved. Mr. Donovan also updated the Council on the upcoming changes to Bus Standards, and a rule change regarding Suicide Prevention in schools.

## **ACTION**

### **ITEM 3 PROPOSAL TO ADD AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE AS WORLD LANGUAGE ENDORSEMENT – Dr. Linda Peterson**

Dr. Peterson presented this item to the Council as a review from the October CSPAC meeting when the Council charged Dr. Peterson with providing information on how this process could begin. Dr. Peterson noted that the change would be made in Appendix B of the Chapter 55 Accreditation Standards ARM Rules. If approved today, CSPAC would forward this recommendation to the BPE. Dr. Peterson explained the difference between a Foreign Language and a World Language and how ASL fits into the definition of a Foreign Language. Dr. Peterson presented to the Council that the Office of Public Instruction recommends that ASL be added as a World Language to the list of Languages in Appendix B of the Accreditation Rules. Dr. Peterson fielded questions from the Council.

*Ms. Debbie Hendricks moved to suggest ASL as a World Language to the list of endorsements. Ms. Angel Turoski seconded the motion.*

*Public Comment from Mr. Ray Sevrie thanking Dr. Peterson and the Council*

*Comment from Dr. Watson supporting the endorsement and that students at Bozeman High School frequently ask for this course and that there is a need for interpreters. He intends to support the motion.*

*Ms. Noreen Burris noted that a Billings high school student has started a sign language club.*

*No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.*

## **DISCUSSION**

### **ITEM 7 COMPUTER SCIENCE INFORMATION – Dr. Linda Peterson**

Dr. Peterson presented the information to the Council along with Mr. TJ Eyer, Ms. Kristine Thatcher, Ms. Colet Bartow, all from OPI, and Dr. Tricia Seifert, MSU. Historically, Computer Science was under the Math content area and was more related to Computer Language. By this summer, three Educator Preparation Programs will offer Computer Science teaching options to students. Dr. Siefert presented the new Computer Science Education minor at MSU beginning Fall 2018. Dr. Siefert noted that the University of Montana also has Computer Science Education programs available. Ms. Kristine Thatcher discussed how current teachers can teach Computer Coding and the number of currently licensed teachers in Montana who could teach Computer Coding. Dr. Peterson fielded questions from Dr. Watson regarding course coding. Additional questions were asked by Council members regarding qualifications to teach coding. Ms. Colet Bartow discussed options for Educators to take courses through the Teacher Learning Hub to learn to teach Computer Coding. Ms. Tursoki voiced her concerns that without adding the Class 4A license, there would be a lack of consistency across what is being taught to students statewide. Clarification questions were asked of the panel by Council members. Comments and concerns were heard from Mr. Lance Melton, MTSBA, Dr. Katrina Kennett, Director of Research America Campaign, Mr. Devin Holmes, Director of American Campaign, and Dr. Kirk Miller, School Administrators of Montana.

## **ACTION**

### **ITEM 4      REQUEST TO ADD COMPUTER CODING AND TEACHER EDUCATION AS ENDORSEMENT AREA – Pete Donovan**

Mr. Donovan reviewed two conference calls in October and December regarding the Computer Coding item. Dr. Watson then discussed the 10,000 hours required in the Class 4A, and a discussion he had with Chair Carroll of the Board of Public Education and that these teachers for computer coding would need to have a Class 1 or Class 2 license and would not need the 10,000 hours. Dr. Watson discussed how the item got to this point and why the request is being made to put this in the Class 4A Endorsement area. Dr. Watson answered questions from the Council. Public Comment was heard from Devin Holmes, Director America Campaign; Mr. Eric Feaver, President, MEA-MFT, Mr. Lance Melton, Executive Director MT School Boards Association, Dr. Kirk Miller, Executive Director School Administrators of Montana, Ms. Diane Burke, Executive Director Montana Quality Education Coalition, Ms. Katrina Kennett, America Campaign, all in support of the proposal. Dr. Trica Siefert, MSU, spoke in opposition to the proposal.

*Ms. Debbie Hendricks moved to accept and recommend to the Board of Public Education to add Computer Coding and Teacher Education to the list of Class 4A endorsement areas. Motion seconded by Ms. Noreen Burris.*

*Comment from Ms. Burris supporting the recommendation.*

*No additional discussion. Motion passed unanimously.*

### **ITEM 5      CLASS 8 LICENSE APPLICATIONS – Kristine Thatcher**

Three Class 8 license applications were reviewed by the Council. All three applications were approved.

Also reviewed was a request from Flathead Valley Community College asking if an educator with a Chemistry endorsement could teach a Forensic Science course. OPI did not feel comfortable making the decision and offered to bring it to the Council for review. The Council requested that if an educator wants to make the request that they complete a Class 8 application and submit the application for the Council to review.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **ITEM 6      UPDATE ON SUICIDE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE TO NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING PROCESS – Dr. Linda Peterson**

Dr. Peterson reviewed the meetings in recent months of the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee discussing an ARM rule change for Suicide Prevention in schools. Dr. Peterson reviewed the history of this topic which initially stemmed from SB 381 in the 2015 Legislative session and which was amended in the 2017 Legislative session and brought to the Board of Public Education by Senator McClafferty. Dr. Peterson reviewed the proposed language and the timeline for the proposed rule change with the Council. Dr. Peterson fielded questions from the Council.

### **ITEM 8      ENSURING EQUITABLE ACCESS TO QUALITY TEACHERS: DEFINING TERMS-INEFFECTIVE, OUT-OF-FIELD, INEXPERIENCED – Dr. Linda Peterson**

Dr. Peterson presented this topic to the Council. Research is ongoing to collect data from all other 49 states and the District of Columbia to see how each state defines these terms. Data will be compiled, and

the process will begin to define these terms in Montana. The definitions will be presented to the Department of Education in December 2018.

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Update on Suicide Prevention  
Update on Ensuring Equitable Access  
Draft – Annual Report

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Eric Feaver commented on the definitions of “ineffective, Out of field, Inexperienced”, and that those terms should be carefully worded. Dr. Peterson noted that they are open to all suggestions and urged the public to present their comments to this process.

Chair Elder reminded the Council the next meeting is April 18.

### **ADJOURN**

**Meeting adjourned at 12:39 PM.**

*Agenda items are handled in the order listed on the approved agenda. Items may be rearranged unless listed “time certain”. Action may be taken by the Council on any item listed on the agenda. Public comment is welcome on all items but time limits on public comment may be set at the Chair’s discretion.*

*The Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council will make reasonable accommodations for known disabilities that may interfere with an individual’s ability to participate in the meeting. Individuals who require such accommodations should make requests to the Board of Public Education as soon as possible prior to the meeting start date. You may write to: Kris Stockton, PO Box 200601, Helena MT, 59620, email at: [kmstockton@mt.gov](mailto:kmstockton@mt.gov) or phone at 444-0302.*