

2017
Annual Report
of the
Montana Certification
Standards and Practices
Advisory Council



To The
Montana Board of
Public Education

Table of Contents

Mission Statement2

Professional Educators of Montana Code of Ethics3

Certification Advisory Council Membership4

CSPAC Goals and Strategies for 2017-20185-6

Highlights of 2017-2018 CSPAC Meetings7-14

Mission Statement

The mission of the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council is to study and to make recommendations to the Board of Public Education on certification issues concerning teachers, administrators and specialists; professional standards and ethical conduct; the status and efficacy of approved teacher education programs in Montana; and policies related to the denial, suspension and revocation of educator certification and the appeals process.

The Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council will submit a report to the Board of Public Education with recommendations for the above areas at least once annually.

Professional Educators of Montana Code of Ethics

Professional educators recognize and accept their responsibility to create learning environments to help all students reach their full potential. They understand the trust and confidence placed in them by students, families, colleagues, and the community. To achieve their professional purpose, educators strive to maintain the highest ethical standards. The Professional Educators of Montana Code of Ethics sets out these fundamental principles which guide their behavior.

Principle I. Commitment to Students and Families. The ethical educator:

- A. Makes the well-being of students the foundation of all decisions and actions.
- B. Promotes a spirit of inquiry, creativity, and high expectations.
- C. Assures just and equitable treatment of every student.
- D. Protects students when their learning or well-being is threatened by the unsafe, incompetent, unethical or illegal practice of any person.
- E. Keeps information confidential that has been obtained in the course of professional service, unless disclosure serves a compelling purpose in the best interest of students, or is required by law.
- F. Respects the roles, responsibilities and rights, of students, parents and guardians.
- G. Maintains appropriate educator-student relationship boundaries in all respects, including speech, print, and digital communications.

Principle II. Commitment to the Profession. The ethical educator:

- A. Fulfills professional obligations with diligence and integrity.
- B. Demonstrates continued professional growth, collaboration and accountability.
- C. Respects the roles, responsibilities, and rights of colleagues, support personnel, and supervisors.
- D. Contributes to the development of the profession's body of knowledge.
- E. Manages information, including data, with honesty.
- F. Teaches without distortion, bias, or prejudice.
- G. Represents professional qualifications accurately.

Principle III. Commitment to the Community. The ethical educator:

- A. Models the principles of citizenship in a democratic society.
- B. Understands and respects diversity.
- C. Protects the civil and human rights of students and colleagues.
- D. Assumes responsibility for personal actions.
- E. Demonstrates good stewardship of public resources.
- F. Exemplifies a positive, active role in school-community relations.
- G. Adheres to the terms of contracts, district policies and procedures, and relevant statutes and regulations.

Adopted by the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council July 13, 2016

Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council
Members List 2017-2018

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Term Expires

6/01/18	Kelly Elder Chair Teacher K-8 kelder@helenaschools.org	620 N Davis Helena MT 59601	W 324-2799 C 461-1995 F 324-2801
6/01/20	Noreen Burris Vice Chair K-12 Specialist nburris2721@hotmail.com	2721 Terrace Dr Billings, MT 59102	W 281-6802 H 248-5932 C 698-7632
6/01/18	Sabrina Steketee Trustee sabrina@gopantherz.com	PO Box 566 Boulder MT 59632	H 225-3428 W 616-396-7575
6/01/18	Debbie Hendricks Teacher 9-12 dahendricks@mcps.k12.mt.us	2610 Sky Dr Missoula, MT 59804	W 728-2400 x6641 C 240-6546
6/01/20	LeAnne Lorenz Teacher K-8 leanne.lorenz@bsd7.org	3880 Equestrian Ln. Bozeman, MT 59718	H 581-2845
06/01/19	Dr. Robert Watson Administrator Robert.watson@bsd7.org	213 Clifden Dr Bozeman MT 59718	H 570-4135 W 522-6001
06/01/20	Angel Turoski Post-Secondary angela.turoski@uprovidence.edu	1301 20 th St S Great Falls, MT 59401	H 455-9414 W 791-5347 F 791-5993

STAFF

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CSPAC Goals – 2017-2018

- 1) Study and make recommendations to the Board of Public Education on the status and efficacy of approved teacher educator programs in Montana.
 - a. Participate in CAEP/Montana accreditation reviews.
 - b. Professional Educator Preparation Program Standards update recommended to BPE by CSPAC on a 5-year review cycle
 - c. Continue to work with OPI to encourage the implementation of mentor programs across Montana to facilitate the induction of beginning teachers into the profession of teaching

- 2) Study and make recommendations to the Board of Public Education in the area of licensure renewal requirements and procedures.
 - a. Continued review of Chapter 57.
 - b. As funding permits, attend the following conferences: Western States Certification, National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification, and National Commission on Teaching and America's Future.
 - c. Meet annually with the Board of Public Education and with the Council of Deans of Postsecondary Education.

- 3) Study and make recommendations to the Board of Public Education on policies related to the denial, suspension, and revocation of teachers' licenses and the appeals process.
 - a. Attend NASDTEC Professional Practices Institute, as funding permits.
 - b. Work with OPI Licensure staff on updates of Administrative Rules.

- 4) Study and make recommendations to the Board of Public Education regarding establishing standards of professional practices and ethical conduct.
 - a. Work with OPI to develop a framework for professional development based on best practices.
 - b. As funding permits, attend NASDTEC Professional Practices Institute.
 - c. 5-year review of the Professional Educators of Montana Code of Ethics (To begin January 2021).
 - d. CSPAC will study the process utilized in Montana for reviewing cases of suspension, revocation and denial of educator licensure.

- 5) Study and make recommendations to the Board of Public Education on the status and efficacy of alternative and/or nontraditional teacher preparation opportunities.
 - a. Complete semi-annual reviews of Class 8 Dual Credit-Only Post Secondary Faculty License applications.
 - b. Gather information about diploma mills and find ways to inform teachers of this and other forms of fraud.

- c. Continue the awareness that issues such as distance learning, dual enrollment, alternative certification models, etc. are multi-faceted and inter-related concepts that cannot be viewed in isolation from one another.
- d. Continued involvement in the implementation of the Montana Content standards.

Other CSPAC Activities:

CSPAC to monitor any teacher licensure issues that may emerge from the implementation of distance learning programs (Montana Digital Academy).

CSPAC to participate in the School Staffing Project to develop a new state data system to track school staffing patterns in Montana.

Solicit input from the Board of Public Education and the Council of Deans regarding research priorities for CSPAC for 2017-2018.

Monitor addition of ASL as a World Language.

**Highlights of the July 12, 2017 CSPAC Meeting
Holiday Inn Express Conference Room
3170 N Sanders
Helena, MT**

On Wednesday July 12, 2017, the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council met at the Holiday Inn Express for their regularly scheduled summer meeting and the annual joint meeting with the Board of Public Education. The Certification Advisory Council, created by the 1987 Montana Legislature, is composed of seven members and meets quarterly. The CSPAC makes recommendations to the Board of Public Education concerning licensure issues, professional practices, and ethical conduct for educators in Montana.

Currently serving on the Council are: Chair, Mr. Kelly Elder, Teacher, Helena, Ms. Debbie Hendricks, 9-12 Teacher, Hellgate High School Missoula; Ms. Sabrina Steketee, Trustee, Boulder; Dr. Rob Watson, Bozeman Public Schools, Administrator; Ms. Leanne Yenny, K-8 Teacher, Bozeman; Ms. Noreen Burris, Specialist, Billings, Ms. Angel Turoski, representing the Council of Deans, from the University of Providence.

Meeting attendees included: Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, OPI; Ms. Kristine Thatcher, OPI; Dr. Tim Tharp, Deputy Superintendent, OPI; Mr. Hollis Fudge, Great Falls, Mr. Ray Severie, Great Falls, BPE Chair Sharon Carroll, Ms. Donna Sorensen, Superintendent of the MSDB. Also present were BPE Executive Director Mr. Pete Donovan, BPE Administrative Assistant Ms. Kris Stockton.

**CSPAC Meeting
July 12, 2017**

Executive Committee Report

Mr. Donovan opened nominations for CSPAC Chair. Mr. Kelly Elder was nominated Chair and Mr. Elder accepted the nomination. Mr. Donovan opened nominations for Vice Chair. Ms. Noreen Burris was nominated and accepted the nomination for Vice Chair. Committee Appointments were made, the 2017-2018 Calendar was set, CSPAC Goals were reviewed for the year, and the Annual Report was reviewed for presentation to the Board of Public Education.

Board of Public Education Report/Executive Director's Report

Mr. Donovan reviewed the 2016 Legislative Audit of the Board of Public Education which was completed, reviewed meetings and activities on his calendar since the last CSPAC meeting, announced the appointment of Mr. Scott Stearns to the Board of Public Education, and discussed Special Education funding as being reviewed by the Education Interim Committee.

Computer Science Endorsement Options

Dr. Rob Watson reviewed for the Council the possible options for a teaching endorsement in Computer Coding that he is pursuing. Dr. Watson, CSPAC members, and OPI staff reviewed and discussed how this arrangement could happen. Additional research will be done and presented to the Council at the October meeting.

Licensure for Teachers of the Deaf

A discussion was had to pursue the possibility of adding American Sign Language as a World Language teaching endorsement, as requested by Mr. Hollis Fudge and Mr. Ray Severie of Great Falls. This would allow high school students to take American Sign Language and for the course to count as a Foreign Language Credit. Options were discussed regarding the best way to make this happen, and Dr. Linda Peterson, OPI, suggested adding it to the list of endorsements contained in the Chapter 55 Appendix B. Action was taken on this item, and the Council moved to request a report from the OPI at the October CSPAC meeting.

Report on Accreditation Site Visits @MSU-Northern, MSU-Billings

Dr. Linda Peterson reviewed the on-site accreditation visits of the Educator Preparation Programs at MSU-Billings and MSU- Northern for the Council.

CLASS 8 License Applications

The Council reviewed 20 applications for Class 8 Licensure approving 16 applications, not approving 3 applications, and returning 1 application for additional information.

Future Agenda Items

Class 8 License applications

Action on Revised Goals

OPI Report on World Languages for ASL

Ongoing discussion on Computer Coding

**Highlights of the October 5, 2017 CSPAC Meeting
Reid Hall, Room 330
Montana State University
Bozeman, MT**

On Thursday October 5, 2017, the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council met at Reid Hall on the campus of Montana State University-Bozeman for their annual joint meeting and the annual joint meeting with the Council of Deans. The Certification Advisory Council, created by the 1987 Montana Legislature, is composed of seven members and meets quarterly. The CSPAC makes recommendations to the Board of Public Education concerning licensure issues, professional practices, and ethical conduct for educators in Montana.

Currently serving on the Council are: Chair, Mr. Kelly Elder, Teacher, Helena, Ms. Debbie Hendricks, 9-12 Teacher, Hellgate High School Missoula; Ms. Sabrina Steketee, Trustee, Boulder; Dr. Rob Watson, Bozeman Public Schools, Administrator; Ms. Leanne Lorenz, K-8 Teacher, Bozeman; Ms. Noreen Burris, Specialist, Billings, Ms. Angel Turoski, representing the Council of Deans, from the University of Providence.

Meeting attendees included: Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, OPI; Ms. Kristine Thatcher, OPI; Dr. Tim Tharp, Deputy Superintendent, OPI; Ms. Renee Erlandsen, OPI; Ms. Kristi Murphy, University of Montana. Also present were BPE Executive Director Mr. Pete Donovan, BPE Administrative Assistant Ms. Kris Stockton.

**CSPAC Meeting
October 5, 2017**

Executive Committee Report

Mr. Elder confirmed the Committee Assignments made at the July 2017 meeting, and the Council approved the 2017-2018 Goals as revised at the July 2017 meeting.

Board of Public Education Report/Executive Director's Report

Mr. Donovan updated the Council on happenings since the July meeting, and discussed the House Joint Resolution from 1995 which "encouraged" the Board of Public Education and the Board of Regents to add ASL as a World Language, though action was never taken by either board at that time. Mr. Donovan also discussed the possible budget cuts proposed by Governor Bullock, a new education program at Stone Child College, and a proposal for a new rule regarding Suicide Prevention, both items will be before the BPE at their November meeting. Mr. Donovan continues his participation in the Educator Recruitment and Retention Task Force through the Commissioner of Higher Education's Office.

Discussion of Potential Endorsement for Computer Coding

Dr. Watson noted this item will also be discussed further at the joint meeting with the Council of Dean's in the afternoon. Dr. Watson reviewed for the Council and guests the rationale behind this request and why it is important for students. Dr. Watson has discussed this issue with the education associations and they are aware the Council is reviewing this item.

Proposal for Class 4, Public Safety-Emergency & Fire Services Basic EMT Program

Dr. Tim Tharp, and Ms. Renee Erlandsen of OPI presented this request to the Council. Ms. Erlandsen reviewed the need to add this endorsement and that requests from the field are coming in to the OPI for this endorsement. Courses would be available for students to take and earn CTE credit. This item will be presented again for Action at the February 2018 CSPAC meeting.

Educator Preparation Program Update

Dr. Linda Peterson reviewed the following items which were presented to the Board of Public Education at their September meeting:

- BPE Grants Approval of MSU-N Regular Accreditation Status
- Proposed New Curricular Program-Elementary Ed/Special Ed at Carroll College
- Stone Child College Request for Provisional Accreditation for Bachelor of Science-Elementary Education for K-8 Endorsement

PRAXIS Working Committee 2017 Annual Report

Dr. Peterson reviewed the past year's work of the PRAXIS Working Committee to the Council

Class 8 License Applications

The Council reviewed 4 Class 8 applications, approving 3 applications and not approving 1 application

Future Agenda Items

Possible ARM Rule Change to Add ASL as a World Language

Class 8 License Applications

Class 4, Public Safety Programs

**Highlights of the February 7, 2018 CSPAC Meeting
Montana State Capitol Building, Room 102
Helena, MT**

On Wednesday, February 7, 2018, the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council met in room 102 of the Montana Capitol Building for their winter meeting. The Certification Advisory Council, created by the 1987 Montana Legislature, is composed of seven members and meets quarterly. The CSPAC makes recommendations to the Board of Public Education concerning licensure issues, professional practices, and ethical conduct for educators in Montana.

Currently serving on the Council are: Chair, Mr. Kelly Elder, Teacher, Helena, Ms. Debbie Hendricks, 9-12 Teacher, Hellgate High School Missoula; Ms. Sabrina Steketee, Trustee, Boulder; Dr. Rob Watson, Bozeman Public Schools, Administrator; Ms. Leanne Lorenz, K-8 Teacher, Bozeman; Vice Chair Ms. Noreen Burris, Specialist, Billings, Ms. Angel Turoski, representing the Council of Deans, from the University of Providence.

Meeting attendees included: Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, OPI; Ms. Kristine Thatcher, OPI; Dr. Kirk Miller, School Administrators of Montana; Mr. Lance Melton, Montana School Boards Association; Mr. TJ Eyer, OPI; Ms. Colet Bartow, OPI; Mr. Hollis Fudge, Great Falls; Mr. Ray Severie, Great Falls; Ms. Katrina Kennett, America Campaign; Mr. Devin Holmes, American Campaign/Teachers Teaching Tech; Ms. Diane Burke, Montana Quality Education Coalition; Dr. Tricia Siefert, MSU-Bozeman. Also present were BPE Executive Director Mr. Pete Donovan, BPE Administrative Assistant Ms. Kris Stockton.

**CSPAC Meeting
February 7, 2018**

Executive Committee Report

Mr. Elder thanked the Council, especially Dr. Watson, for their work on the proposed ARM rule change for Computer Coding and Teacher Education. Mr. Elder reviewed his recent trip to the National College Football Championship Game as part of his Teacher of the Year activities.

Board of Public Education Report/Executive Director's Report

Mr. Donovan updated the Council with data from the Annual Teacher Licensure Report as presented to the Board in January, and reviewed upcoming changes to the Bus Standards, and a new rule for Suicide Prevention.

Proposal to Add American Sign Language as a World Language Endorsement

Dr. Peterson presented this item to the Council which was carried over from the October CSPAC meeting in Bozeman. Dr. Peterson suggested the easiest route is to add American Sign Language as a World Language endorsement to Appendix B of Chapter 55. The Council agreed and voted unanimously to move this item to the Board of Public Education for approval.

Computer Science Information

Dr. Linda Peterson, Mr. TJ Eyer, Ms. Colet Bartow, Ms. Kristine Thatcher, and Dr. Tricia Siefert, MSU Bozeman presented to the Council a review of the history of Computer Science Education in schools, new and newly approved Computer Science Education programs at the University level, and the list of options available for teacher education candidates in Computer Science Education. The panel fielded questions from the Council. Additionally, comments were heard in support of Computer Science Education from Mr. Lance Melton, Montana School Boards Association, Dr. Kirk Miller, School Administrators of Montana; Dr. Katrina Kennett, Director of Research America Campaign, and Mr. Devin Holmes, Director of America Campaign

Request to Add Computer Coding and Teacher Education as Endorsement Area

Mr. Donovan reviewed the progress and work which has been done on this item since the Council last met in October 2017 regarding adding Computer Coding and Teacher Education as an endorsement area for CTE credit. After lengthy public comment from Mr. Melton, Dr. Miller, Dr. Kennett, Mr. Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT; Ms. Diane Burke, MQEC, and Mr. Devin Holmes in support of the proposal, and Dr. Tricia Siefert, MSU in opposition to the proposal, the Council voted unanimously to recommend the proposal to the Board of Public Education.

Class 8 License Applications

The Council reviewed three Class 8 applications, approving all three applications.

Update on Suicide Prevention and Response to Negotiated Rulemaking Process

Dr. Peterson reviewed for the Council the recent Negotiated Rulemaking process for the proposed ARM rule changes for Suicide Prevention, as requested by Senator Edie McClafferty. Dr. Peterson reviewed the proposed language and fielded questions from the Council members.

Ensuring Equitable Access to Quality Teachers; Defining Terms – *Ineffective, Out-of-Field, Inexperienced*

Dr. Peterson presented this item to the Council explaining that research is currently ongoing to determine how the other 49 states and District of Columbia define them. The data will be compiled, and terms defined and presented to the Department of Education in December 2018.

Future Agenda Items

Update on Suicide Prevention ARM rule change

Update on Ensuring Equitable Access

Draft – Annual Report

Class 8 Applications

Highlights of the April 18, 2018, 2018 CSPAC Meeting
Wingate Inn Conference Room
2007 N Oakes
Helena, MT

On Wednesday April 18, 2018, the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council met in the Big Sky conference room at the Wingate Inn for their spring meeting. The Certification Advisory Council, created by the 1987 Montana Legislature, is composed of seven members and meets quarterly. The CSPAC makes recommendations to the Board of Public Education concerning licensure issues, professional practices, and ethical conduct for educators in Montana.

Currently serving on the Council are: Chair, Mr. Kelly Elder, Teacher, Helena, Ms. Debbie Hendricks, 9-12 Teacher, Hellgate High School Missoula; Dr. Rob Watson, Bozeman Public Schools, Administrator; Ms. Leanne Lorenz, K-8 Teacher, Bozeman; Vice Chair Ms. Noreen Burris, Specialist, Billings, Ms. Angel Turoski, representing the Council of Deans, from the University of Providence.

Meeting attendees included: Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, OPI; Ms. Kristine Thatcher, OPI; Ms. Renee Erlandsen, OPI; Ms. Diana Fladmo, MEA-MFT; Mr. Nicholas Bellick, ETS. Also present were BPE Executive Director Mr. Pete Donovan, BPE Administrative Assistant Ms. Kris Stockton.

CSPAC Meeting
April 18, 2018

Executive Committee Report

The Council reviewed the Draft Annual Report making some minor revisions. The final report will be presented to the Board of Public Education in July.

Board of Public Education Report/Executive Director's Report

Mr. Donovan highlighted several items from the March BPE meeting for the Council, including the upcoming Public Hearing for the 10-passenger van as a bus type, per Legislation from the 2017 session, and the Negotiated Rulemaking process for Suicide Prevention. Mr. Donovan also noted that Chair Elder is requesting reappointment to the Council, but Ms. Hendricks and Ms. Steketee will not be requesting reappointment and their positions are currently open for applicants.

Implementation Plan for American Sign Language World Language Endorsement

Dr. Peterson, OPI, reviewed for the Council the implementation plan the OPI has created for ASL to be added as a World Language endorsement to the Chapter 55 Appendixes.

Draft Language for Class 4 Endorsements to Add Emergency & Fire Services Training to ARM 10.57.421

Ms. Renee Erlandsen, OPI, introduced the proposed language to the Council to add Emergency and Fire Services Training as an endorsement. Ms. Erlandsen noted there have been requests from the field to add these endorsements, and dual enrollment opportunities for these fields are also being explored. The Council will act to approve the language in July.

Approve Revisions to ARM 10.57.421(e)(i) and (ii), Teacher Education

Dr. Watson introduced a revision to the wording of the language the Council approved at the February meeting. The change was requested by the BPE at the March meeting when this item was presented to the board. The change involves removing the 80-hour requirement and adding 5 years of teaching experience for the Teacher Education piece. The Council approved the revisions.

Review of Class 8 License Applications

Kris Thatcher, OPI Licensure Manager presented the Council with seven applications for Class 8 Licensure. Upon reviewing the applications, the Council approved all seven applications.

Future Agenda Items

Review Mission and Goals

Action on Class 4 Emergency Services & Fire Services Training

Charter School Discussion ARM 10.55.604