

2018  
Annual Report  
of the  
Montana Certification  
Standards and Practices  
Advisory Council



To The  
Montana Board of  
Public Education

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## *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 <a href="mailto:kelder@helenaschools.org">kelder@helenaschools.org</a>	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 <a href="mailto:nburris2721@hotmail.com">nburris2721@hotmail.com</a>	2721 Terrace Dr Billings, MT 59102	W 281-6802 H 248-5932 C 698-7632
6/01/21	Ann Wake Trustee <a href="mailto:annioakley619@gmail.com">annioakley619@gmail.com</a>	12043 Pleasant Meadows Lolo, MT 59847	H 214-1390 C 214-1390
6/01/21	Tom Cabbage Teacher 9-12 <a href="mailto:tom_cabbage@gfps.k12.mt.us">tom_cabbage@gfps.k12.mt.us</a>	2814 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ave N Great Falls, MT 59401	W 268-6217 H 454-0242 F 268-6109
6/01/20	LeAnne Lorenz Teacher K-8 <a href="mailto:leanne.lorenz@bsd7.org">leanne.lorenz@bsd7.org</a>	3880 Equestrian Ln. Bozeman, MT 59718	H 581-2845
06/01/19	Dr. Robert Watson Administrator <a href="mailto:Robert.watson@bsd7.org">Robert.watson@bsd7.org</a>	213 Clifden Dr Bozeman MT 59718	H 570-4135 W 522-6001
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**STAFF**

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# **CSPAC Goals 2018-2019**

- 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.
  - 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 2018-2019.

Monitor addition of ASL as a World Language.

**Highlights of the July 11, 2018 CSPAC Meeting  
Montana State Capitol Building  
Room 172  
Helena, MT**

On Wednesday July 12, 2017, the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council met at the Montana State Capitol building 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, Vice Chair Ms. Noreen Burriss, Specialist, Billings, Mr. Tom Cabbage, Teacher, 9-12 Teacher, CM Russell High School, Great Falls; Ms. Ann Wake, Trustee, Missoula; Dr. Rob Watson, Bozeman Public Schools, Administrator; Ms. Leanne Lorenz, K-8 Teacher, Bozeman; 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, BPE Chair Sharon Carroll, Ms. Patty Muir, OPI; Ms. Renee Erlandsen, OPI, Ms. Diane Burke, Executive Director Montana Quality Education Coalition. Staff present were BPE Executive Director Mr. Pete Donovan, BPE Administrative Assistant Ms. Kris Stockton.

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**CSPAC Meeting  
July 11, 2018**

**Executive Committee Report**

New CPSAC members Tom Cabbage 9-12 teacher from Great Falls, and Ms. Ann Wake, Trustee, Missoula introduced themselves to the Council. Mr. Donovan opened the floor for Election of Officers. Mr. Kelly Elder was unanimously re-elected as Chair, and Ms. Noreen Burriss was unanimously re-elected as Vice Chair. The Council set their meeting calendar for the next year, reviewed the Council's goals, the CSPAC Annual Report, and prepared for the Joint Meeting with the Board of Public Education in the afternoon. Committee assignments were reviewed, and it was decided to set the appointments at the October meeting.

**Board of Public Education Report/Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Donovan reviewed the upcoming Board of Public Education meeting scheduled for the next day and discussed his attendance in June at the Education Commission of the States Conference in Washington DC.

**Charter School Program/Process**

Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson reviewed for the Council the Charter School process as outlined in Administrative Rules of Montana Title 10, Chapter 55, Accreditation Standards. Dr. Peterson discussed the history of the rule, and specifically discussed the Variances to Standards Rule in ARM 10.55.604. The Council discussed the rule, how schools apply, and possible revisions to the rule.

**Accreditation 101: Linking Student Achievement to Accreditation**

Ms. Muir, presented to the Council a review of the different elements contained within Accreditation including: The Continuous School Improvement Plan, Meeting Accreditation Standards, and Quality Assurance Check. Also reviewed was the Accreditation Status Reference Guide used by the OPI to assist in the Accreditation review and ensuring schools are meeting the standards.



**Approve Request to Amend ARM 10.57.421 Class 4 Endorsements by Adding EMT and Emergency Services to List of Class 4 Endorsable Areas**

Ms. Kris Thatcher of OPI reviewed for the Council the process the requested revisions has undergone to date, including the revisions made to the rule as suggested by the Council at the April 2018 meeting. Ms. Renee Erlandsen, OPI then reviewed the revisions and the proposed rule amendment for the Council. The Council approved the revisions and moved the proposed rule amendment to the Board of Public Education.

**CLASS 8 License Applications**

Ms. Kris Thatcher, OPI, presented the Council with four applications for Class 8 licenses. The council reviewed all four, approving 3, and not approving one.

**Future Agenda Items**

Committee Assignments

Review of By-Laws

Education Interim Committee Meeting Update

**Highlights of the October 2, 2018 CSPAC Meeting  
Carroll College  
DeSmet Room  
Helena, MT**

On Tuesday October 2, 2018, the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council met in the DeSmet Room on the Carroll College campus for their regularly scheduled fall meeting and the annual joint meeting with the Council of Deans of 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, Vice Chair Ms. Noreen Burris, Specialist, Billings, Mr. Tom Cabbage, Teacher, 9-12 Teacher, CM Russell High School, Great Falls; Ms. Ann Wake, Trustee, Missoula; Dr. Rob Watson, Bozeman Public Schools, Administrator; Ms. Leanne Lorenz, K-8 Teacher, Bozeman; 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. Tricia Siefert, MSU; Ms. Jule Walker, OPI; Mr. Nick Bellack, ETS. Staff present were BPE Executive Director Mr. Pete Donovan, BPE Administrative Assistant Ms. Kris Stockton.

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**CSPAC Meeting  
October 2, 2018**

**Executive Committee Report**

Committee Assignments were reviewed for the upcoming year, and the By-Laws were reviewed and approved as presented.

**Board of Public Education Report/Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Donovan introduced the new Deputy Superintendent for OPI, Ms. Jule Walker. Mr. Donovan then reviewed the September BPE meeting noting the selection of a new chair, Dr. Darlene Schottle, and new Vice-Chair, Ms. Tammy Lacey. Additional topics discussed were: MACIE meeting, Approval of the Notice of Public Hearing for EMT and Fire and Emergency Services for Class 4 licenses, and a presentation at the BPE meeting from the Digital Academy.

**Review of September Education Interim Committee Meeting**

Mr. Donovan reviewed for the Council the September meeting of the Education Interim Committee, where Gifted and Talented programs and funding were discussed.

**New Program Proposals – MSU Bozeman**

Dr. Tricia Siefert, MSU, discussed three new program proposals in the College of Education at MSU Bozeman: Master of Arts in Teaching, endorsement in Family and Consumer Science, Secondary Education in Computer Science grades 5-12.

**Update of Negotiated Rulemaking**

Dr. Linda Peterson, OPI, reviewed the Negotiated Rulemaking process underway at the OPI for Assessment, and for Hazard and Emergency Response Plans.

**CLASS 8 License Applications**

The Council reviewed five applications for Class 8 licenses and approved all five applications.

**Future Agenda Items**

Digital Academy Report

Legislative Update

Gifted and Talented Discussion

Update from Pete on MSU new programs

## **Highlights of the February 6, 2019 CSPAC Meeting Conference Call Meeting**

On Wednesday, February 6, 2019, the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council met via conference call for their regularly scheduled 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, Vice Chair Ms. Noreen Burris, Specialist, Billings, Mr. Tom Cabbage, Teacher, 9-12 Teacher, CM Russell High School, Great Falls; Ms. Ann Wake, Trustee, Missoula; Dr. Rob Watson, Bozeman Public Schools, Administrator; Ms. Leanne Lorenz, K-8 Teacher, Bozeman; 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. Jule Walker, OPI; Mr. Nick Bellack, ETS; Mr. Marco Ferro, MFPE. Staff present were BPE Executive Director Mr. Pete Donovan, BPE Administrative Assistant Ms. Kris Stockton.

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### **CSPAC Meeting February 6, 2019**

#### **Executive Committee Report**

Chair Elder gave the Executive Committee report noting that he attended the Joint Appropriation Committee hearing when the Board's budget was presented and testified in support of the budget.

#### **Board of Public Education Report/Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Donovan updated the Council on several bills the office is following and summarized the bills for the Council. Ms. Jule Walker, Deputy Superintendent, OPI, also summarized for the Council a few bills the OPI is following.

#### **Educator Licensure Report**

Ms. Kristine Thatcher, Educator Licensure Manager, OPI, presented the Educator Licensure Report to the Council. The report was presented to the Board of Public Education at their January meeting, and Ms. Thatcher noted that this is an annual report to the Board. Ms. Thatcher reviewed the report for the Council and answered members questions.

#### **Montana Digital Academy Report**

Mr. Currie was unable to attend the meeting and will present the Digital Academy Report to the Council at the April meeting.

#### **Comparison of the Advanced Program Standards: Montana PEPPS ARM 10.58.601-609 With the Revised Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) Standards**

Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, OPE presented the comparison of standards to the Council, noting that this item will also be presented to the Board of Public Education and will be back before the Council at the July meeting.

**Notice of the Negotiated Rulemaking for Nominations/Applications to Serve on the NR Committee to Amend ARM 10.55.606 Accreditation Process Pertaining to Student Performance Measures Used to Determine Accreditation Status**

Dr. Peterson reviewed the Notice of Negotiated Rulemaking and call for applicants to be on the committee for the Council. Dr. Peterson reviewed the process of putting the committee together, what they will be responsible for, and presented an approximate timeline for the process to revise the Accreditation standards. This item will also go before the Board.

**CLASS 8 License Applications**

The Council reviewed two applications for Class 8 licenses and approved both applications.

**Future Agenda Items**

Digital Academy Report

Legislative Update

Review DRAFT Annual Report

**Highlights of the April 17, 2019 CSPAC Meeting**  
**OPI Conference Room**  
**1300 11<sup>th</sup> AVE**  
**Helena, MT**

On Wednesday, April 17, 2019, the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council in the OPI Conference room for their regularly scheduled 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, Vice Chair Ms. Noreen Burris, Specialist, Billings, Mr. Tom Cabbage, Teacher, 9-12 Teacher, CM Russell High School, Great Falls; Ms. Ann Wake, Trustee, Missoula; Dr. Rob Watson, Bozeman Public Schools, Administrator; Ms. Leanne Lorenz, K-8 Teacher, Bozeman. The Dean’s representative position is vacant.

Meeting attendees included: Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, OPI; Ms. Kristine Thatcher, OPI; Ms. Jule Walker, OPI; Dr. Bob Currie, Montana Digital Academy. Staff present were BPE Executive Director Mr. Pete Donovan, BPE Administrative Assistant Ms. Kris Stockton.

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**CSPAC Meeting**  
**April 17, 2019**

**Executive Committee Report**

Chair Elder reviewed the draft of the CSPAC Annual Report which will be presented at the Joint Board of Public Education and CSPAC Meeting in July.

**Board of Public Education Report/Executive Director’s Report**

Mr. Donovan gave the Board of Public Education report noting available funding for attendance at the upcoming NASDTEC conference, proposed revisions to the Assessment Rule, and the upcoming Board meeting to be held at the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind in Great Falls.

**Legislative Update**

Mr. Donovan updated the Council on the progress of the 2019 Legislative session and discussed bills the office is following, specifically the Transformational Learning Bill, and the preschool bill that was tabled in committee.

**Montana Digital Academy Report**

Dr. Currie presented the Digital Academy report to the Council. Dr. Currie reviewed how the Academy was created, how it’s grown, services it provides, how it is staffed, then answered Council member questions.

**Proposed Revisions to ARM Title 10, Chapter 57, Educator Licensure**

Ms. Thatcher reviewed for the Council the impetus behind the proposed rule revisions to allow a one-year Class 5 license to educators who only need to take the PRAXIS test to obtain licensure. The Council approved the proposed revisions and moved the proposal to the Board of Public Education.

**CLASS 8 License Applications**

The Council reviewed one application for Class 8 licenses and approved the application.

**Future Agenda Items**

Joint Meeting with BPE

Annual Report Presentation

Review Goals and Mission

Committee Assignments