
2020
Annual Report
of the
Montana Certification
Standards and Practices
Advisory Council



To The
Montana Board of
Public Education

Table of Contents

<i>Mission Statement</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Professional Educators of Montana Code of Ethics</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Certification Advisory Council Membership</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>CSPAC Goals and Strategies for 2020-2021</i>	<i>5-6</i>
<i>Highlights of 2020-2021 CSPAC Meetings</i>	<i>7-13</i>

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 2020-2021

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Term Expires

<u>6/01/21</u>	Kelly Elder Chair Teacher K-8 kelder@helenaschools.org	620 N Davis Helena, MT 59601	W 324-2799 C 461-1995 F 324-2801
<u>06/01/21</u>	Ann Wake Vice Chair Trustee annieoakley619@gmail.com	12043 Pleasant Meadows Lolo, MT 59847	H 214-1390 C 214-1390
<u>06/01/21</u>	Tom Cabbage Teacher 9-12 tom_cabbage@gfps.k12.mt.us	2814 3 rd AVE N Great Falls, MT 59401	W 268-6217 H 454-0242 F 268-6109
<u>06/01/22</u>	Dr. Rob Watson Administrator rwatson@mcps.k12.mt.us	5034 Victor Ct Missoula, MT 59803	C 570-4135 W 728-2400 X1023
<u>06/01/23</u>	Teresa Marchant K-12 Specialist mrsMarchant@yahoo.com	1700 River View Dr Billings, MT 59105	C 697-5252
<u>06/01/23</u>	Dr. Trent Atkins Post-Secondary Trent.Atkins@umontana.edu	College of Education 32 Campus Dr Missoula, MT 59871	H 821-2183 W 243-4978
<u>06/01/23</u>	Barbara Brown Teacher K-8 bbrown@loloschools.org bib1267@msn.com	5135 Cattle Dr Missoula, MT 59808	H 531-6654 W 273-6686

STAFF DIRECTORY

McCall Flynn Executive Director mflynn@mt.gov	O 444-0300 C 691-0550
Kris Stockton Administrative Specialist kmstockton@mt.gov	O 444-0302
Julie Balsam Part time Administrative Assistant jbalsam@mt.gov	O 444-6576

Last Updated 03/02/2021

CSPAC Goals 2020-2021

- 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 reviews of Class 8 Dual Credit-Only Post-Secondary Faculty License applications at regularly scheduled meetings.
 - 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).

Solicit input from the Board of Public Education and the Council of Deans regarding research priorities for CSPAC for 2020-2021.

Highlights of the July 15, 2020 CSPAC Meeting Zoom Meeting

On Wednesday, July 15, 2020, the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council met via Zoom 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. Teresa Marchant, Specialist, Billings, Mr. Tom Cabbage, Teacher, 9-12 Teacher, CM Russell High School, Great Falls; Ms. Ann Wake, Trustee, Missoula; Dr. Rob Watson, Missoula Public Schools, Administrator; Ms. Barbara Brown, K-8 Teacher, Missoula, Dr. Trent Atkins, Post-Secondary, University of Montana, Missoula.

Meeting attendees included: Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, OPI; Ms. Kris Thatcher, OPI; Ms. Phoebe Williams, OPI; Mr. Dennis Parman, MREA; Ms. Sharyl Allen, OPI; Ms. Emily Dean, MTSBA. Staff present were BPE Executive Director Mr. Pete Donovan and BPE Administrative Assistant Ms. Kris Stockton.

CSPAC Meeting July 15, 2020

Executive Committee Report

Chair Elder welcomed new CSPAC members Ms. Barbara Brown and Ms. Teresa Marchant to the Council and asked them to introduce themselves. The Council held Election of Officers, re-electing Mr. Elder as Chair and Ms. Ann Wake as Vice Chair. The Council set and approved their yearly meeting calendar, reviewed, and revised the Mission and Goals of the Council and reviewed the Annual Report for the presentation to the Board of Public Education at the joint meeting in the afternoon.

Board of Public Education Report/Executive Director's Report

Mr. Donovan reviewed the agenda for the Board of Public Education meeting the following day.

ARM 10.58.604 Advanced Programs Defined: Working Draft and Timeline for Revision of Administrative Review of Chapter 58 Advanced Program Standards

Dr. Peterson reviewed the working draft and timeline for the ongoing revision of the Chapter 58 program standards.

PRAXIS Tests at Home – ETS Solution Response to COVID-19

Dr. Peterson discussed with the Council the response of PRAXIS to the COVID-19 pandemic and how the test is offered online, at home. Tests are proctored and more subject matter areas are being made available for at home testing. Security measures and test validity were also discussed.

CLASS 8 License Applications

No Class 8 License applications were received by the OPI for Council approval. Ms. Thatcher reviewed the Class 8 License application process and the Administrative Rules which provide for this license with the new Council members.

Future Agenda Items

Update on MSU Master of Arts in Teaching Program
Update on Chapter 58 Revisions
CSPAC By-Laws review
Mentorship of New Teachers presentation
Joint meeting with Council of Deans

Highlights of the October 8, 2020 CSPAC Meeting Zoom Meeting

On Thursday, October 8, 2020, the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council met via Zoom for their regularly scheduled fall 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. Teresa Marchant, Specialist, Billings, Mr. Tom Cabbage, Teacher, 9-12 Teacher, CM Russell High School, Great Falls; Ms. Ann Wake, Trustee, Missoula; Dr. Rob Watson, Missoula Public Schools, Administrator; Ms. Barbara Brown, K-8 Teacher, Missoula, Dr. Trent Atkins, Post-Secondary, University of Montana, Missoula.

Meeting attendees included: Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, OPI; Dr. Ann Ewbank, MSU; Dr. Ann Ellsworth, MSU; Ms. Malina Monaco, VP CAEP; Mr. Matt Vanover, CAEP Director of External Affairs; Mr. Nick Bellack, ETS; Dr. Julie Murgel, OPI. Staff present were BPE Executive Director Mr. Pete Donovan and BPE Administrative Assistant Ms. Kris Stockton.

CSPAC Meeting October 8, 2020

Executive Committee Report

The Council reviewed the By-Laws making no changes.

Board of Public Education Report/Executive Director's Report

Mr. Donovan updated the Council on several recent meetings and conferences he attended, including: ECS National State Boards of Directors Meeting; Education Interim Committee Meeting, MUS 2-Year Commission Meeting, and the MACIE Meeting.

MSU Master of Arts in Teaching Program Update

Dr. Ewbank and Dr. Ellsworth, MSU, updated the Council on the Master of Arts in Teaching Program at MSU, successes over the year, COVID-19 impact, upcoming graduation in Spring 2021 of the first class of students, and a new grant program available for teachers in the program.

Proposed Changes to the 2013 Revised CAEP Standards for Educator Preparation and its Impact on Montana's Chapter 58 Professional Educator Preparation Program Standards (PEPPS)

Dr. Peterson discussed the ongoing revisions to the CAEP Standards that will impact and require revisions to Montana's Chapter 58 Educator Preparation Program Standards.

PRAXIS Testing at Home

An additional update was given following the update at the July meeting regarding the PRAXIS at home test option due to COVID-19. Mr. Nick Bellack from ETS provided this information.

Montana Mentoring and Induction Project Webpage Highlights

Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson reviewed the Mentoring and Induction Project web page on the OPI website for the Council and reviewed the program.

Approve CLASS 8 License Applications

The Council reviewed four Class 8 License Applications and approved all four applications.

Future Agenda Items

Educator Preparation Program for Counselors

Master of Arts in Teaching

Highlights of the February 10, 2021 CSPAC Meeting Zoom Meeting

On Wednesday, February 10, 2021, the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council met via Zoom 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, Ms. Teresa Marchant, Specialist, Billings, Mr. Tom Cabbage, Teacher, 9-12 Teacher, CM Russell High School, Great Falls; Ms. Ann Wake, Trustee, Missoula; Dr. Rob Watson, Missoula Public Schools, Administrator; Ms. Barbara Brown, K-8 Teacher, Missoula, Dr. Trent Atkins, Post-Secondary, University of Montana, Missoula.

Meeting attendees included: Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, OPI; Dr. Julie Murgel, OPI; Ms. Tammy Lacey, BPE Vice-Chair; Ms. Tracy Moseman, OPI; Ms. Jessie Counts, OPI; Ms. Sharyl Allen, OPI; Ms. Evelyn Paz. Staff present were BPE Executive Director Ms. McCall Flynn and BPE Administrative Assistant Ms. Kris Stockton.

CSPAC Meeting February 10, 2021

Executive Committee Report

Chair Elder welcomed Ms. Flynn to her new position as Executive Director and to her first CSPAC meeting. Chair Elder discussed the Five-Year review cycle for the Educator Code of Ethics and asked for volunteers from the Council to review the Code. Dr. Rob Watson, Dr. Trent Atkins, and Mr. Tom Cabbage all volunteered.

Board of Public Education Report/Executive Director's Report

Ms. Flynn reviewed the Board's budget request before the Legislature and discussed bills the office is tracking in the 2021 Legislature.

OPI Legislative Update

Ms. Sharyl Allen, OPI, updated the Council on legislation the Office of Public Instruction is following.

Seal of Biliteracy: Request for Recognition

Ms. Lisa Werner reviewed the Seal of Biliteracy for the Council and that the group is seeking state recognition. The Council asked questions of Ms. Werner before sending the request to the Board of Public Education for consideration.

Update on Chapter 57 Work

Ms. Tracy Moseman, OPI, reviewed the timeline for the revisions to Chapter 57, Educator Licensure. Ms. Moseman noted that initial review has begun with a small work group, including Board of Public Education Vice-Chair Ms. Tammy Lacey. Council members asked questions of Ms. Moseman. This item will be back before the Council at the April meeting.

Update on Chapter 58 Work

Ms. Jessie Counts and Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson reviewed the work to date on the revisions to Chapter 58, Educator Preparation Program Standards, and answered Council member questions. More information on this process will come before the Council at the April meeting.

Approve CLASS 8 License Applications

The Council reviewed one Class 8 License Application. The Council requested additional information from the applicant which will be presented at the April CSPAC Meeting. Dr. Julie Murgel, OPI, will be gathering the information requested by the Council.

Future Agenda Items

Master of Arts in Teaching

Chapter 57 revisions

Chapter 58 revisions

Legislative update

Highlights of the April 14, 2021 CSPAC Meeting Virtual Zoom Meeting

On Wednesday, April 14, 2021, the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council met via Zoom Online meeting format 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 Ann Wake, Trustee, Missoula; Mr. Tom Cabbage, Teacher, 9-12 Teacher, CM Russell High School, Great Falls; Dr. Rob Watson, Administrator, Missoula Public Schools, Missoula; Ms. Barbara Brown, K-8 Teacher, Missoula; Dr. Trent Atkins, representing the Council of Deans, from the University of Montana, Missoula; Ms. Teresa Marchant, Specialist, Billings.

Meeting attendees included: Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, OPI; Dr. Julie Murgel, OPI; Dr. Ann Ewbank, MSU; Dr. Ann Ellsworth, MSU; Ms. Jamie O'Callaghan, MSU; Ms. Jessie Counts, OPI. Staff present were BPE Executive Director Ms. McCall Flynn, BPE Administrative Assistant Ms. Kris Stockton.

CSPAC Meeting April 14, 2021

Executive Committee Report

Chair Elder reviewed the draft Annual Report. No changes or revisions were made, and the Council moved to prepare the draft for presentation to the Board of Public Education in July. The Council reviewed the revisions and draft of the Code of Ethics. The revision will be added to the Draft Code of Ethics document for the Council to review at the July meeting.

Board of Public Education Report/Executive Director's Report

Ms. Flynn thanked Mr. Cabbage for his work on the Council and congratulated him on his new opportunity. Ms. Flynn reviewed legislative bills the Board is watching, the confirmation of three new Board members, and a new appointment to the Digital Academy.

Master of Arts in Teaching Program at MSU and PRAXIS

Dr. Ann Ewbank, Dr. Ann Ellsworth, and Ms. Jamie O'Callaghan updated the Council on how MSU uses the PRAXIS content knowledge in the Master of Teaching program, how candidates are reviewed, and how the process is working.

Traffic Education Licensing Potential Changes

Ms. Jessie Counts discussed for the Council that due to a shortage of Traffic Education instructors, the OPI is using an option that has been available in the past but never used where educators holding a Class 4B or 4C license can be Traffic Education instructors. Also discussed is a potential summer course for educators to take to become Traffic Education instructors.

Memo of Understanding – CAEP, OPI, Board of Public Education

Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson reviewed the current CAEP agreement in place and then discussed the Draft MOU the Office of Public Instruction is working on.

Approve Class 8 License Applications

Dr. Julie Murgel introduced Ms. Crystal Andrews as the new Licensure Manager at the OPI. The Council reviewed two Class 8 License Applications and approved both applications.

Future Agenda Items

Class 8 Applications

Joint meeting with BPE

Annual Report Presentation to BPE

Set Annual Meeting Calendar

Election of Officers

Review Mission and Goals

Update of Chapters 57 and 58

Action on Code of Ethics

Traffic Education Rules at Joint COD Meeting in October