

BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

July 17-19, 2024
Montana State Capitol Building, Room 152
Helena, MT

Wednesday, July 17, 2024
10:00 AM

CALL TO ORDER – 10:00:18

Chair Tharp called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. The Chair led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance, Ms. Stockton took Roll Call, and the Chair read the Statement of Public Participation and welcomed guests.

Board members present: Dr. Tim Tharp, Chair; Ms. Susie Hedalen, Vice Chair; Ms. Renee Rasmussen; Dr. Ron Slinger; Ms. Lisa Schmidt; Ms. Madalyn Quinlan. Ex Officio members: Mr. Dylan Klapmeier, Governor's Office; State Superintendent Elsie Arntzen, Office of Public Instruction (OPI). Staff present: Ms. McCall Flynn, Executive Director; Ms. Kris Stockton, Administrative Specialist; Ms. Julie Balsam, Accounting Technician. Guests: Mr. Matthew Bell, OPI; Mr. Brenton Craggs, Attorney, OPI; Ms. Aislinn Brown, Board Legal Counsel; Ms. Kim Popham, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE); MFPE Teacher Learning Fellows: Ms. Kalli Murphy, Billings; Ms. Emma Tolzien, Bozeman; Ms. Gia LaForge, Billings; Ms. Teresa Marchant, Billings; Mr. Jaret Stump, Kalispell; Ms. Olivia Bedford, Billings; Ms. Carla Lundgren, Billings; Ms. Shannon Vennes, Billings; Ms. Megan Shillinger, Billings; Mr. Anthony Lapke, Kalispell; Ms. Shelly Orourke, Great Falls; Ms. Brynn Cadigan, Kalispell; Ms. Hannah Telling, Butte; Ms. Liz Sacora, Kalispell; Superintendent Chad Johnson, Livingston Public Schools; Ms. Jordann Lankford Forster, Chair, Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education (MACIE); Dr. Julie Murgel, OPI; Assistant Superintendent Christy Mock-Stutz, OPI; Ms. Natalie Flores, Chippewa Cree Tribe; Ms. Nancy Hall, Office of Budget and Program Planning (OBPP).

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was made. MFPE Teacher Learning Fellows introduced themselves and described their capstone projects to the Board.

CONSENT AGENDA – 10:12:46

Board member Slinger moved to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented. Board member Quinlan made a correction to Item #3 regarding Purple Star Schools. Amended motion seconded by Board member Rasmussen.

No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

ADOPT AGENDA – 10:13:57

Board member Quinlan moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Board member Schmidt.

Board member Rasmussen expressed concerns with the length of the packet and the agenda.

Chair Tharp noted that due to privacy concerns, Item #7, Litigation Update, will be a closed session.

No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

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

STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION – Dr. Tim Tharp -10:15:20

The Board held a Strategic Planning session to review and discuss proposed revisions to the Strategic Plan and Bylaws. Board members reviewed Committee Assignments and stated which Committees they would prefer and where their expertise is most appropriate. The Board scheduled meeting dates for 2025, reviewed and reflected on Advisory Councils created over the past year, and discussed Legislative Implementation and how best to manage and track Board related bills for the 2025 Session.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON STRATEGIC PLANNING ITEMS

No public comment specific to the Strategic Planning Session.

Superintendent Johnson welcomed the Board to Livingston for the September meeting and reviewed a preliminary itinerary for the meeting.

❖ **REPORTS – Dr. Tim Tharp (Items 1-5)**

Item 1 CHAIRPERSON REPORT – 13:03:05

Dr. Tim Tharp

Chair Tharp reviewed meetings he has attended on behalf of the Board since the May 2024 Board meeting and discussed a goal setting group organized by Gary Lusin, Bozeman Public Schools Trustee. The Chair asked for representation from the Board to serve on the group, and Vice Chair Hedalen volunteered to participate.

Item 2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT – 13:07:56

McCall Flynn

Ms. McCall Flynn reviewed work the Board staff has completed since the May 2024 Board meeting and updated the Board on work related to the Public Charter School Program. Ms. Flynn reviewed work completed by the Public Charter School Performance Framework Workgroup and discussed the item on the agenda pertaining to the workgroup scheduled for the following day.

Item 3 STATE SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – 13:12:24

State Superintendent Elsie Arntzen

Superintendent Arntzen briefly discussed the English Language Arts Content Standards workgroup and preliminary work for the revisions to the English Language Arts Content Standards. The Superintendent reflected on an interview she had with Montana Public Radio regarding homelessness and funding available to schools for homeless students, and “Foraging the 406”, a nutrition grant to use Montana grown products for school nutrition programs. Superintendent Arntzen discussed a meeting with the Montana High School Association regarding aligning Title IX in Montana with Montana statute.

Assessment Update: Ms. Cedar Rose provided an update on the upcoming Assessment Cycle for the next school year noting the summative testing windows mirror the schedule from previous years. Ms. Rose discussed field support the OPI will be providing to schools for training on administering the assessments, and announced the MAST Road Show the OPI staff will be conducting to assist districts. Ms. Rose answered Board members’ questions.

MAST Update: Ms. Krystal Smith discussed ongoing work pertaining to the MAST Assessment and lessons learned. Ms. Smith reviewed testlet timing results for grade levels 3 through 8 before discussing stakeholder feedback regarding the MAST Assessment. Ms. Smith answered Board members’ questions.

Federal Update: Ms. Wendi Fawns reviewed the status of ESSER spending, and the amount of unspent money left noting the funds continue to be spent down. Ms. Fawns discussed ways in which districts have used the funding to assist student learning before answering Board members’ questions.

Data Modernization Update: Ms. Julia Caro updated the Board on the Power School implementation, and upcoming presentations and trainings for schools before answering Board members’ questions.

Content Standards Revisions Update: Ms. Marie Judisch reviewed the progress of the Content Standards Revisions and where each standard is in the revisions process. Ms. Rose discussed specifically the revisions to the English Language Arts Content Standards and how the workgroup has organized the review process before answering Board members' questions.

OPI Staffing Report: Superintendent Arntzen presented the OPI Staffing Report to the Board and gave updated numbers regarding open positions as of the current date and discussed a newly implemented hybrid program allowing employees to work a combination of remote and in office work. The Superintendent answered Board members' questions.

**Item 4 GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORT – 14:25:15
Dylan Klapmeier**

Mr. Dylan Klapmeier discussed meetings the Governor has held with student leaders to discuss how to better support Career and Technical Education, the Governor's kickoff at the Education Interim Committee, and the Constitutional Players meeting in June. Mr. Klapmeier discussed his attendance at the National Forum hosted by the Education Commission of the States and reviewed topics of breakout sessions. Mr. Klapmeier noted that the Governor has been elected to the Executive Committee of the National Governors Association, and that their priority for the year will be education.

❖ **LICENSURE COMMITTEE – Susie Hedalen (Items 6-9)**

**Item 6 ACTION TO ACCEPT AND PLACE ON FILE THE CLASS 7 LICENSURE CRITERIA FOR CHIPPEWA CREE TRIBE OF THE ROCKY BOY RESERVATION – 14:46:28
Matt Bell**

Mr. Matt Bell presented the Class 7 Criteria for Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy Reservation. Ms. Natalie Flores reviewed the criteria and answered Board members' questions.

Vice Chair Hedalen moved to accept and place on file the Class 7 licensure criteria for Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy Reservation. Motion seconded by Board member Slinger.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Item 7 LITIGATION UPDATE – 14:52:10
Aislinn Brown**

Ms. Aislinn Brown updated the Board on the litigation in the Yellow Kidney Case. Ms. Brown briefly reviewed the Empower Case, which is being litigated by the Attorney General's Office.

**Item 8 NOTICE OF THE SURRENDER OF BPE CASE #2024-07 – 14:56:43
Brenton Craggs**

Mr. Brenton Craggs presented an affidavit of surrender to the Board in BPE Case #2024-07.

Mr. Rick Wooton shared information pertaining to an appeal that was initially scheduled for the July Board meeting, and that it is on hold at this time while the educator works towards licensure via another pathway.

Chair Tharp closed the meeting at 3:02 PM for an additional Litigation Update.

Chair Tharp opened the meeting at 3:14 PM.

*****TIME CERTAIN AT 3:15PM*****

**Item 9 ACTION ON APPEAL HEARING OF BPE CASE #2024-04, OLIVER – 15:25:06
Aislinn Brown**

The appellant in BPE Case #2024-04 did not appear. After attempts to contact the educator, the Chair delayed the hearing to the September 2024 Board meeting.

The meeting recessed for the day at 3:30 PM.

Thursday, July 18, 2024
8:30 AM

CALL TO ORDER – 08:30:00

Chair Tharp called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM. The Chair led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance, Ms. Stockton took Roll Call, and the Chair read the Statement of Public Participation and welcomed guests.

Board members present: Dr. Tim Tharp, Chair; Ms. Susie Hedalen, Vice Chair; Ms. Renee Rasmussen; Dr. Ron Slinger; Ms. Lisa Schmidt; Ms. Madalyn Quinlan; Mr. Gavin Mow, Student Representative. Ex Officio members: Mr. Dylan Klapmeier, Governor's Office; Dr. Angela McLean, Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE). Staff present: Ms. McCall Flynn, Executive Director; Ms. Kris Stockton, Administrative Specialist; Ms. Julie Balsam, Accounting Technician. Guests: Mr. John Doran, Montana School Insurance Alliance; Ms. Mary Heller, OPI; Dr. Lauren Fern, Missoula College; Dr. Elizabeth Burroughs, Montana State University (MSU); Ms. Jordann Lankford Forster, Chair, MACIE; Mr. Ivan Small; Ms. Carrie Kouba, OPI; Ms. Crystal Hickman, OPI; Dr. Julie Murgel, OPI; Ms. Marie Judisch, OPI; Ms. Crystal Andrews, OPI; Dr. Daniel Sybrant, Cognia; Superintendent Tanya Funk, Saco School District; County Superintendent Pam Birkeland, Madison County Schools; Superintendent Wade Sundby, Cut Bank School District; Superintendent Elliot Crump, Shelby School District; Superintendent Dave Means, Whitefish School District; Superintendent Dan Rispens, East Helena Public Schools; Superintendent Nichole Pieper, Power School District; Ms. Kim Popham, MFPE; Mr. Larry Crowder, Montana Rural Education Association; Assistant Superintendent Christy Mock-Stutz, OPI;; Superintendent Chad Johnson, Livingston Public Schools; Ms. Kristi Steinberg, University of Montana (UM); Dr. Rob Watson, School Administrators of Montana; Ms. Kimberly Evans, OPI; Ms. Katrina Engledrum, OPI; Ms. Jenny Murnane Butcher, Montanans Organized for Education; Ms. Nancy Hall, OBPP.

❖ **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Dr. Tim Tharp (Items 10-12)**

Item 10 ACTION ON MEMBERSHIP TO THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE BOARDS OF EDUCATION (NASBE) – 08:32:10
McCall Flynn

Ms. McCall Flynn reviewed the discussion at the May 2024 Board meeting where the Board discussed professional development opportunities for Board members and the Executive Director, and the possibility of joining the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE). Ms. Flynn reviewed the opportunities available to the Board by joining NASBE, and Chair Tharp requested Vice Chair Hedalen and Board member Quinlan to review their experience at the NASBE conference. Ms. Flynn reviewed the cost of membership, how the cost is determined, and the benefits offered, then answered Board members' questions.

Board member Slinger moved to approve the Board of Public Education membership to the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE). Motion seconded by Board member Schmidt.

Board member Slinger noted the benefits and opportunities available to the Board by joining NASBE.

Chair Tharp agreed with Board member Slinger's comments.

Mr. Dylan Klapmeier noted that the cost is less than other professional organizations that other state officials are members of.

No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Board member Quinlan questioned when the membership is effective, and Director Flynn noted she will reach out to NASBE for that information.

Item 11 INFORMATION ON MONTANA SCHOOL INSURANCE ALLIANCE – 08:40:09

John Doran

Mr. John Doran presented information on the Montana School Insurance Alliance created per HB 332 in the 2023 Legislative Session. Mr. Doran explained the goals of the Alliance, the timeline for implementation per statute, members of the Alliance Board, and goals the Alliance has for implementation. Mr. Doran answered Board members' questions.

**Item 12 INFORMATION ON OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION REGIONAL CAREER COACHES – 09:03:28
Mary Heller**

Ms. Mary Heller reviewed work over the previous two years implementing the Office of Public Instruction Regional Career Coaches across the state including program development, professional development and training provided to school districts, student surveys conducted, and working with professional organizations who want to be involved in the program. Ms. Heller answered Board members' questions.

❖ **REPORTS – Dr. Tim Tharp (Item 13)**

**Item 13 COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION REPORT – 09:52:18
Dr. Angela McLean**

Dr. McLean remarked on the OPI Career Coaches Report and thanked Ms. Heller for her work partnering with the Montana University System (MUS). Dr. McLean updated the Board on the Montana's Future at Work program and the upcoming summit in the fall and discussed supporting students on the importance of completing the Free Application for Student Aid (FAFSA). Dr. McLean discussed efforts by the MUS to assist students in completing the FAFSA and thanked the Governor's Office for supporting Apply Montana. Dr. McLean then turned it over to Ms. Crystine Miller, Dr. Lauren Fern, and Dr. Elizabeth Burroughs to give a presentation on Math Readiness of students in the MUS. Following the presentation, Dr. McLean recommended that the Board consider adding a third year of math requirement for high school graduation. Chair Tharp recommended the Board Accreditation Committee meet to review the request.

❖ **MACIE LIAISON – Susie Hedalen (Items 14-15)**

**Item 14 MACIE REPORT – 10:28:03
Jordann Lankford Forster**

Ms. Jordann Lankford Forster reviewed the June 4, 2024 MACIE meeting and announced the next meeting will be held in August. Ms. Forster reviewed items the Council will cover at the August meeting and stated a draft meeting schedule for 2025 has been developed with three in person meetings scheduled. Ms. Forster requested the Board's approval of the newest nomination to MACIE.

Vice Chair Hedalen moved to approve the appointment of Rena Lambert as the Fort Peck Tribal Representative to MACIE. Motion seconded by Board member Rasmussen.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Item 15 AMERICAN INDIAN STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT PANEL AND DISCUSSION 10:31:05
Jordann Lankford Forster, Ivan Small, Carrie Kouba, Crystal Hickman**

Board members asked questions of the panel members regarding American Indian Student Achievement and ideas for how improvements can be made, where areas of success exist, and barriers students may encounter. Vice Chair Hedalen thanked the panel members for their participation and their work in public education. Board members requested that this discussion be brought to MACIE for further discussion and potential recommendations.

❖ **ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE – Madalyn Quinlan (Items 16-22)**

**Item 16 REVIEW OF SUPERINTENDENT'S PROPOSED REVISIONS TO ARM TITLE 10, CHAPTER 53, MATHEMATICS CONTENT STANDARDS – 11:29:30
Dr. Julie Murgel, Marie Judisch, Katrina Engeldrum**

Dr. Julie Murgel, Ms. Marie Judisch, and Ms. Katrina Engeldrum continued the review of the proposed revisions to the Math Content Standards from the May 2024 Board meeting. The group focused on the proposed revisions to

Grades 9-12, which have the most comprehensive revisions and answered Board members' questions regarding the proposed changes.

Samantha Leav, Director of Policy K-12 Education, Data Science 4 Everyone, gave public comment on the proposed revisions.

Item 17 REFLECTION AND REVIEW OF TITLE 10, CHAPTER 55, ACCREDITATION STANDARDS – 13:01:02
Crystal Andrews; Dr. Julie Murgel; Daniel Sybrant, Cognia; Superintendent Tanya Funk, Saco School District; County Superintendent Pam Birkeland, Madison County Schools; Superintendent Wade Sundby, Cut Bank School District

Ms. McCall Flynn opened the panel stating the purpose is to review the revisions to the Accreditation Standards from individuals in the field who were involved in the implementation of the revisions and how they are affecting Accreditation for schools. Members of the panel introduced themselves before Board members asked questions of the group. Panel members voiced concerns and frustrations with some of the revisions, while complimenting other revisions. OPI staff addressed concerns that were voiced by schools and offered support with the reporting process.

Item 18 ACTION ON THE ACCREDITATION STATUS OF ALL – 14:09:27
Crystal Andrews

Ms. Crystal Andrews presented the embargoed 2023-2024 Annual Montana Accreditation Report to the Board reviewing the annual accreditation process that took place, trainings offered to schools, and work done by schools and the OPI Accreditation team to complete the report. Ms. Andrews answered Board members' questions regarding the report.

Board member Quinlan moved to approve the 2023-2024 Annual Montana Accreditation Status of All Schools and to allow a period of time for schools to submit additional data ahead of the September meeting. Motion seconded by Board member Rasmussen.

No discussion. Motion passed with Chair Tharp and Vice Chair Hedalen abstaining.

Item 19 PANEL DISCUSSION AND FEEDBACK ON 2023-2024 ACCREDITATION PROCESS – 14:32:52
Superintendent Elliott Crump, Shelby School District; Superintendent Dave Means, Whitefish School District; Superintendent Dan Rispens, East Helena Public Schools; Superintendent Nichole Pieper, Power School District

Ms. McCall Flynn opened the panel stating the purpose is to offer feedback on the 2023-2024 Accreditation process, what worked, what challenges were experienced, and how to move forward to improve the process. Panelists introduced themselves to the Board before answering questions from the Board regarding the Accreditation process. Panelists described their experiences with the new process, expressed frustrations with the process, and offered possible improvements for the future.

Item 20 INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ON OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION THINK TANK'S RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE 2024-2025 ACCREDITATION PROCESS – 15:25:40
Dr. Julie Murgel, Crystal Andrews

Ms. Crystal Andrews reviewed recommendations from the Accreditation Think Tank for the 2024-2025 Accreditation Process including what a three-year cycle could look like, how to implement components of the Assurance Standards, and how to measure student performance. Ms. Andrews and Dr. Murgel answered Board members' questions.

Item 21 ACTION ON PROVISIONAL ACCREDITATION STATUS FOR NEW PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS - 16:03:58
Crystal Andrews

Ms. Crystal Andrews presented the 2024-2025 Provisional Accreditation Status for New Public Charter Schools. Upon approval by the Board, the charter schools will receive accreditation status without determination.

Board member Quinlan moved to approve the Superintendent's recommendation for provisional accreditation status without determination for the list of Public Charter Schools contained in the packet. Motion seconded by Vice Chair Hedalen.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 22

ACTION ON THE PROPOSED NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND TIMELINE PERTAINING TO RULEMAKING IN ARM TITLE 10, CHAPTER 54, WORLD LANGUAGE CONTENT STANDARDS, AND AUTHORIZE FILING OF THE NOTICE WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR PUBLICATION IN THE MONTANA ADMINISTRATIVE REGISTER – 16:07:51

Madalyn Quinlan

Board member Quinlan reviewed the Notice and Ms. Flynn noted that the public hearing will be held via Zoom before reviewing the timeline with approval scheduled at the January 2025 Board meeting. Ms. Flynn answered Board members' questions.

Board member Quinlan moved to approve the Proposed Notice of Public Hearing and Timeline pertaining to rulemaking in ARM Title 10, Chapter 54, World Language Content Standards and authorized filing of the Notice with the Secretary of State for publication in the Montana Administrative Register. Motion seconded by Board member Schmidt.

Board member Rasmussen asked if enough comment was received from the field regarding the proposed revisions and Dr. Murgel responded there was.

No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 5

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT – 16:14:35

Gavin Mow

Mr. Gavin Mow presented the Student Report to the Board and gave an update on the Student Survey he is working on. Mr. Mow answered Board members' questions

The meeting recessed for the day at 4:26 PM.

Friday, July 19, 2024

8:30 AM

CALL TO ORDER – 08:30:11

Chair Tharp called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM. The Chair led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance, Ms. Stockton took Roll Call, and the Chair read the Statement of Public Participation and welcomed guests.

Board members present: Dr. Tim Tharp, Chair; Ms. Susie Hedalen, Vice Chair; Ms. Renee Rasmussen; Dr. Ron Slinger; Ms. Lisa Schmidt; Ms. Madalyn Quinlan; Ms. Jane Hamman. Ex Officio members: Mr. Dylan Klapmeier, Governor's Office. Staff present: Ms. McCall Flynn, Executive Director; Ms. Kris Stockton, Administrative Specialist; Ms. Julie Balsam, Accounting Technician. Guests: Ms. Trish Schreiber, Chair, Community Choice Schools Commission; Assistant Superintendent Christy Mock Stutz, OPI; Dr. Jeril Hehn, Director of Advanced Academics, Billings Public Schools; Superintendent Dan Rispens, East Helena Public Schools, Barbara Frank, Academic and Community Services Director, Missoula County Public Schools, Superintendent Erik Wilkerson, Jefferson High School; Ms. Shannon Boswell, OPI; Ms. Michelle Price, OPI; Superintendent Paul Furthmyre, Montana School for the Deaf and Blind (MSDB); Ms. Kim Popham, MFPE; Ms. Jordann Lankford Forster, MACIE; Ms. Nancy Hall, OBPP; Ms. Kristi Steinberg, UM; Ms. Jenny Murnane Butcher, MOFE; Dr. Tricia Seifert, MSU; Rebecca Turk, MSU; Dr. Lauren Davis, MSU; Dr. Beth Durodoye, Montana State University Northern (MSUN); Dr. Sarah Pennington, MSU.

Ms. Kim Popham thanked the Board for welcoming the teachers who came to the meeting on Wednesday and for giving them time on the agenda to speak.

❖ CHARTER COMMITTEE – Madalyn Quinlan (Items 23-26)

**Item 23 UPDATE ON COMMUNITY CHOICE SCHOOL COMMISSION – 08:34:04
Trish Schreiber**

Ms. Trish Schreiber updated the Board on work the Commission has completed since her report at the May 2024 Board meeting including preparing for authorizing Choice Schools, renewal and non-renewal processes, and application documents. Ms. Schreiber described upcoming work the Commission will be completing in preparation for implementation of the Community Choice Schools Act. Ms. Schreiber updated the Board on work the Fundraising Committee has completed including working to secure additional grants.

**Item 24 ACTION ON PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK WORK GROUP'S RECOMMENDATIONS ON PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK METRICS AND CRITERIA – 08:38:58
Christy Mock-Stutz, OPI; Dr. Jeril Hehn, Director of Advanced Academics, Billings Public Schools; Superintendent Dan Rispens, East Helena Public Schools; Barbara Frank, Academic and Community Services Director, Missoula County Public Schools; Superintendent Erik Wilkerson, Jefferson High School**

Ms. McCall Flynn pointed the Board to the documents in the packet pertaining to the work of the panel, explained the documents and work the panel completed per requirements in statute, the timeline for implementation. Members of the panel introduced themselves and answered Board members' questions regarding the performance framework, how framework implementation will happen at the local school district level, alignment with the state accreditation standards, and successes of the process. Board members congratulated the Workgroup on the efficient completion of the documents and asked how the Board can help charter schools with the implementation process.

Board member Quinlan moved to approve the Public Charter School Performance Framework Work Group's recommendations on the Public Charter School Performance Framework Metrics and Criteria. Motion seconded by Board member Slinger.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Item 25 ACTION TO DELAY THE OPENING OF JEFFERSON ACADEMY PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL FOR ONE-YEAR AND REVISION OF THE CHARTER CONTRACT –
09:45:28**

Madalyn Quinlan; Superintendent Erik Wilkerson, Jefferson High School

Ms. Flynn reviewed the request from Jefferson Academy to delay the opening of their public charter school for one year. Superintendent Wilkerson noted that hiring qualified individuals and lower than expected enrollment is the reason for the request to delay opening.

Board member Quinlan moved to approve delaying the opening of Jefferson Academy Public Charter School for one year and revision of the charter contract. Motion seconded by Board member Rasmussen.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Item 26 ACTION ON AMENDMENTS TO PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACTS –
09:48:52**

Madalyn Quinlan

Ms. McCall Flynn reviewed the proposed amendments to the Public Charter School Contracts and explained reasons for the proposed amendments. Board member Quinlan offered additional explanations for some of the proposed amendments pertaining to financial reporting.

Board member Quinlan moved to approve the proposed amendments to the Public Charter School contracts. Motion seconded Board member Slinger.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

❖ ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE – Renee Rasmussen (Item 27)

Item 27

**ACTION ON THE NOTICE OF ADOPTION PERTAINING TO THE AMENDMENT OF ARM, TITLE 10, CHAPTER 56, ASSESSMENT STANDARDS, AND AUTHORIZE FILING OF THE NOTICE WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE FOR PUBLICATION IN THE MONTANA ADMINISTRATIVE REGISTER – 09:59:22
Renee Rasmussen**

Board member Rasmussen reviewed the Notice of Adoption for the Assessment Standards, and Ms. Flynn noted that no comments were received during the public comment period.

Board member Rasmussen moved to approve the Notice of Adoption pertaining to the amendment of ARM Title 10, Chapter 56, Assessment Standards, and authorized filing of the notice with the Secretary of State for publication in the Montana Administrative Register. Motion seconded by Board member Schmidt.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

❖ LICENSURE COMMITTEE – Susie Hedalen (Items 28-31)

Item 28

**INFORMATION ON ADDED ENDORSEMENTS UNDER CLASS 4 CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION LICENSURE – 10:15:19
Crystal Andrews, Shannon Boswell**

Ms. Crystal Andrews and Ms. Shannon Boswell updated the Board on the creation of new endorsement areas, some of which are new endorsement areas and some of which are previous endorsement areas. Ms. Andrews and Ms. Boswell answered Board members' questions regarding creating pathways to the endorsement areas for educators.

Item 29

**INFORMATION ON THE RECOMMENDATION FOR INITIAL APPROVAL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA REQUEST TO IMPLEMENT HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION ENDORSEMENT AND SECONDARY EDUCATION – 10:26:41
Crystal Andrews**

Ms. Crystal Andrews reviewed the request from UM to implement Health and Physical Education endorsements. Ms. Kristi Steinberg presented information on the request to bring back the Health and Physical Education program and to create a new pathway for Secondary Education Licensure for existing educators which would lead to an optional master's degree. Ms. Steinberg answered Board members' questions.

Item 31

**INFORMATION ON THE SITE VISIT AND STATE EXIT REPORT OF MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY NORTHERN EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDER IN THE COLLEGE OF ARTS, SCIENCES, AND EDUCATION – 10:35:32
Crystal Andrews, Dr. Julie Murgel**

Ms. Crystal Andrews and Dr. Julie Murgel reviewed the State Exit Report for MSUN for the Board. Dr. Murgel shared that extensive changes in leadership have occurred at MSUN and noted that is reflected in the exit report, as well as ways in which MSUN has or has not addressed the areas of concern relating to the changes. Dr. Beth Durodoye discussed the review and the exit report with the Board. Board members commended MSUN on their work and asked questions regarding the review.

Item 30

**INFORMATION ON THE VIRTUAL JOINT SITE VISIT AND STATE EXIT REPORT OF MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION – 10:49:19
Crystal Andrews, Dr. Julie Murgel**

Ms. Crystal Andrews reviewed the joint accreditation site review between OPI and the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) at MSU. Dr. Murgel noted that CAEP noted the effectiveness of the integration of Indian Education for All in the educator programs at MSU and complimented their work surrounding proficiency-based learning and mentorship and induction. Dr. Tricia Seifert commented on the review process and the value found in the review. Dr. Sarah Pennington and Ms. Rebecca Turk also made comments regarding the review of the education programs at MSU. The group answered Board members' questions.

❖ MSDB LIAISON – Renee Rasmussen (Item 32)

Item 32

**MSDB REPORT – 13:00:28
Paul Furthmyre**

Superintendent Furthmyre shared a letter he sent to Representative Bedey, Chair of the Education Interim Budget Committee, pertaining to a staffing project at the MSDB, in hopes to reflect the true number of Full Time Equivalent positions more accurately at the school. Superintendent Furthmyre requested Board approval of the action items in the packet.

Board member Rassmussen moved to approve the MSDB personnel items as listed in the agenda packet. Motion seconded by Board member Quinlan.
No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Board member Rassmussen moved to approve the MSDB Out of State Travel requests as listed in the agenda packet. Motion seconded by Board member Slinger.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Board member Rassmussen moved to approve the GFHS/MSDB MHSA Cooperative Dance Team Agreement. Motion seconded by Board member Schmidt.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Board member Rassmussen moved to approve the final reading of MSDB Policies 8425, 8425P, 8450, 8450F1, F2, F3, 1000 Series, 2000 Series, and 4,000 Series as listed in the agenda packet. Motion seconded by Board member Quinlan.

Superintendent Furthmyre answered Chair Tharp's questions regarding the Automatic Emergency Defibrillator policy.

No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Furthmyre updated the Board on Legislative priorities for the 2025 Legislative Session and his work with the Legislature during the interim to prepare for the upcoming session, budgetary requests he has submitted for the Governor's 2027 Budget, and the long-range building plan requests. Superintendent Furthmyre answered Board members' questions.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS September 12-13, 2024 Livingston, MT

- Election of Board Officers
- Approve Strategic Planning Items – C
- MACIE Update
- MACIE Renewal (Even Years)
- Montana Digital Academy Update
- Annual HiSET Report
- Annual Special Education Report
- Assessment Update
- Accreditation Update
- MAST Update
- Federal Update
- Content Standards Revision Update
- Data Modernization Update

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was made.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 1:52 PM.

The Montana Board of Public Education is a Professional Development Unit Provider. Attending a Board of Public Education Meeting either in person or via Zoom may qualify you to receive professional development units. Please complete the necessary information on the sign-in sheet if you are applying for professional development units.

Agenda items are handled in the order listed on the approved agenda. Items may be rearranged unless listed “time certain”. Public comment is welcome on all items listed as “Action” and as noted at the beginning and end of each meeting.

The Board of Public Education 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 or phone at 406-444-0302.