BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

July 12-14, 2023 Montana State Capitol Building, Room 152 Helena, MT

<u>Wednesday, July 12, 2023</u> <u>1:00 PM</u>

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Quinlan called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM and led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Kris Stockton took Roll Call. The Chair read the Statement of Public Participation and welcomed guests, inviting guests to introduce themselves to the Board.

Board members present: Ms. Madalyn Quinlan, Chair; Ms. Susie Hedalen, Vice Chair; Ms. Renee Rassmussen; Dr. Ron Slinger; Ms. Anne Keith; Ms. Jane Hamman; Dr. Tim Tharp; Mr. Gavin Mow, Student Representative. Ex Officio Members: Superintendent Elsie Arntzen, Office of Public Instruction (OPI); Dr. Angela McLean, Office of Commissioner of Higher Education; Mr. Dylan Klapmeier, Governor's Office. Staff: Ms. McCall Flynn, Executive Director; Ms. Kris Stockton, Administrative Specialist; Ms. Julie Balsam, Accounting Technician. Guests: Ms. Krystal Smith, OPI; Ms. Ashley Eden, New Meridian; Mr. Chris Gentile, New Meridian; Superintendent Chad Johnson, Livingston Public Schools; Mr. Larry Crowder, Executive Director Montana Rural Education Association (MREA); Ms. Moffie Funk, Montanans Organized for Education (MOFE); Ms. Jenny Murnane-Butcher, Deputy Director, MOFE; Mr. Jay Phillips, OPI; Ms. Amanda Curtis, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE); Mr. Jeff Havens; Mr. Erik Burke, MFPE; Ms. Jordan Krause, MFPE.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Superintendent Chad Johnson, Livingston Public Schools, gave public comments pertaining to HB 352, Early Literacy, and offered any assistance necessary to implement the bill requirements.

Ms. Amanda Curtis, President, MFPE thanked the Board for their work.

CONSENT AGENDA

<u>Ms. Jane Hamman moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.</u> Motion seconded by Dr. Ron Slinger.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

ADOPT AGENDA

<u>Ms. Renee Rasmussen moved to approve the agenda as presented.</u> Motion seconded by Ms. Jane Hamman.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION – Madalyn Quinlan REVIEW STRATEGIC PLAN

Ms. Flynn reviewed the proposed revisions to the Strategic Plan for the Board. Chair Quinlan discussed the revisions and answered Board member questions pertaining to the proposed revisions. Board members discussed the Montana School Safety Advisory Committee and Board participation.

REVIEW BYLAWS

Ms. Flynn reviewed a draft version of the Bylaws and explained to the Board the reasons for the proposed revisions. Board members discussed the proposed revisions.

REVIEW COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Ms. Flynn reviewed the current committee assignments, as appointed by Chair Quinlan, and Board members discussed the makeup of the committee assignment. Ms. Flynn commented that the current structure will be revised to better represent the Board committees, Board liaisons, and Board appointments to other committees and councils.

SET ANNUAL AGENDA CALENDAR AND MEETING CALENDAR 2024

Ms. Flynn reviewed the proposed meeting calendar schedule for the next year and stated reasons for proposed changes. Chair Quinlan asked Board members to discuss what proposed dates work best for them, and that the calendar will be acted upon via the Consent Agenda at the September meeting. Ms. Flynn discussed the Annual Agenda Calendar, recurring items listed on the calendar, required reports to the Board, and where those items are placed throughout the year. Ms. Jane Hamman noted there are required annual reports to the Board for the Community Choice Schools and recommended those be included in the meeting calendar.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON LEGISLATIVE IMPLEMENTATION FROM BOARD COMMITTEES

Board members reviewed and discussed recommendations from Board committees on the implementation of bills passed during the 2023 Legislative Session that pertain to the Board, specifically HB 352 Early Literacy, HB 549 Establishing Public Charter Schools, HB 562 Authorizing Community Choice Schools, and SB 373 Provide for Alternative Teacher Credentialing. Board members generally agreed upon next steps and directed Board staff to start working on the new requirements.

DISCUSS MACIE BUDGET

Superintendent Arntzen and Mr. Jay Phillips, CFO for OPI, discussed the MACIE budget with the Board and the costs of meetings throughout the year. The Superintendent noted that there is no line item specific to MACIE in the OPI budget. Chair Quinlan asked the Superintendent what has changed that the OPI is unable to fund MACIE out of the multi-million-dollar annual budget OPI receives to conduct state business. The Superintendent stated that OPI is holding strict accountability to taxpayers and is seeking a partnership with the Board to offset costs. Vice Chair Hedalen stated that both she and Ms. Flynn work with the MACIE chair to work on agendas and administrative duties and that a collaborative partnership already exists. Ms. Flynn discussed the administrative duties Board staff performs supporting MACIE, in addition to work done by Vice Chair Hedalen.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON LEGISLATIVE IMPLEMENTATION FROM BOARD COMMITTEES

Discussion continued after the MACIE Budget discussion regarding the implementation of bills passed during the 2023 Legislative session. A discussion was held regarding whether it may be necessary to form ad hoc committees to work on implementing the charter school bills. Chair Quinlan has agreed to appoint members to a Board Charter School Committee.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON STRATEGIC PLANNING ITEMS

Ms. Murnane-Butcher, MOFE, gave public comment regarding implementing the bills, creating ad hoc committees to ensure public participation, and asked that when implementing HB 352 and the Home-based program to include parents and educators for assistance.

Ms. Curtis, MFPE, echoed Ms. Murnane-Butcher's remarks.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Madalyn Quinlan (Item 1)

Item 1 PRESENTATATION OF CSPAC ANNUAL REPORT McCall Flynn

Ms. Flynn presented the CSPAC Annual Report to the Board, reviewing the past year of CSPAC meetings, work CSPAC did over the year, and recommendations CSPAC made to the Board. Chair Quinlan asked Ms. Flynn to review the duties of CSPAC that were outlined in statute, and to discuss how Class 8 License applications will be handled moving forward, which previously were reviewed and recommended for licensure by CSPAC.

✤ ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE – Anne Keith (Item 2)

Item 2MONTANA ALTERNATIVE STUDENT TESTING Q&A SESSION
New Meridian, Krystal Smith

Ms. Smith, Education Innovation Director at OPI, opened the item with Ms. Ashley Eden and Mr. Chris Gentile of New Meridian. The group reviewed the Montana Alternative Student Testing (MAST) pilot program and answered Board member questions.

4:30 PM ROBOTICS PRESENTATION AND DEMONSTRATION 4133 Fusion Robotics Team

Students from the Helena Fusion Robotics Team, who recently competed and won the World Championship in Texas, introduced themselves to the Board and presented the robot they designed and developed.

Meeting adjourned at 4:38PM.

<u>Thursday, July 13, 2023</u> <u>8:30 AM</u>

CALL TO ORDER

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

Board members present: Ms. Madalyn Quinlan, Chair; Ms. Susie Hedalen, Vice Chair; Ms. Renee Rassmussen; Dr. Ron Slinger; Ms. Jane Hamman; Dr. Tim Tharp; Mr. Gavin Mow, Student Representative. Ex Officio Members: Superintendent Elsie Arntzen, OPI; Dr. Angela McLean, Office of Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE); Mr. Dylan Klapmeier, Governor's Office. Staff: Ms. McCall Flynn, Executive Director; Ms. Kris Stockton, Administrative Specialist; Ms. Julie Balsam, Accounting Technician. Guests: Superintendent Paul Furthmyre, Montana School for the Deaf and the Blind (MSDB); Mr. Rob Stutz, Chief Legal Counsel, OPI; Mr. Chad Vanisko, Board Legal Counsel, Agency Legal Services; Ms. Amanda Curtis, MFPE; Ms. Wendi Fawns, OPI; Dr. Dan Lee, University of Montana (UM); Mr. Larry Crowder, MREA; Superintendent Chad Johnson, Livingston Public Schools; Ms. Marie Judisch, OPI; Mr. Chris Sinrud, OPI; Ms. Cedar Rose, OPI; Ms. Anna Hoerner, OPI; Mr. Jay Phillips, OPI; Deputy Superintendent Sharyl Allen, OPI; Ms. Jordan Krause, MFPE; Mr. Jeff Havens.

MSDB LIAISON – Renee Rasmussen (Item 3)

Item 3

MSDB REPORT Paul Furthmyre

Superintendent Furthmyre presented the MSDB report to the Board discussing pay increases for paraprofessionals, Pay Plan 61 employees, Human Resource hirings and resignations, and the AER Accreditation Self Study before asking for Board approval of the action items.

<u>Ms. Renee Rasmussen moved to approve the MSDB Personnel Action items as listed in</u> <u>the packet.</u> Motion seconded by Ms. Jane Hamman.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Renee Rasmussen moved to approve the MSDB Out of State Travel requests as listed in the packet. Motion seconded by Dr. Ron Slinger.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

<u>Ms. Renee Rasmussen moved to approve the MHSA Dues and Insurance for MSDB.</u> Motion seconded by Vice Chair Susie Hedalen.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

<u>Ms. Renee Rasmussen moved to approve the 2nd reading of the AER Accreditation Self-</u> <u>Study.</u> Motion seconded by Dr. Tim Tharp.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

<u>Ms. Renee Rasmussen moved to approve the statutory raises per HB 13 for Pay Plan 61</u> <u>MSDB Employees.</u> Motion seconded by Ms. Jane Hamman.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS – Madalyn Quinlan (Items 4-9)

Item 4 CHAIRPERSON REPORT Madalyn Quinlan

Chair Quinlan opened her report by welcoming new Student Representative Gavin Mow to the Board, thanking Board member Rasmussen for attending the MSDB graduation and handing out diplomas to the students. Chair Quinlan also discussed her attendance at the MSU Proficiency Based Education Summer Symposium, Vice Chair Hedalen's appointment to the Education and Workforce Data Governing Board, and Ms. Anne Keith's work on the Teacher of the Year Committee. Chair Quinlan ended her report by thanking the students from Helena Fusion Robotics for their presentation and demonstration of their robot the previous day.

Item 5 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT McCall Flynn

Ms. Flynn updated Board members on work done by Board committees to begin implementation of legislation passed during the 2023 session that pertains to the Board, discussed the new Board budget that is now only General Fund, and thanked members for their work.

Item 6STATE SUPERINTENDENT REPORTState Superintendent Elsie Arntzen

Superintendent Arntzen presented her report to the Board discussing ESSER funding, Teacher Residency Program, meetings and conferences she has attended, OPI Staffing, Data Modernization, and Content Standards revisions. The Superintendent discussed the new direct certification process for students receiving free and reduced lunch, which removes the forms to apply for the program that families previously had to complete and gave an update on bills passed during the Legislative session that pertain to OPI. The Superintendent concluded her report by discussing a recent OPI Family Day held for employees and families. Ms. Cedar Rose presented the Assessment Report to the Board discussing completed and upcoming projects, completion rates for ACT with Writing, Smarter Balanced, Math and English Language Arts (ELA) Summative Assessments, and Science Summative Assessments. Ms. Wendi Fawns gave an update on the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Act funds for the Board. Mr. Chris Sinrud gave an update on the Data Modernization Project, noting that the OPI website contains updated information on the project. Mr. Sinrud answered Board member questions. Ms. Marie Judisch presented an update on the ongoing Content Standards revisions ELA, World Languages, and Math. Ms. Judisch answered Board member questions. Superintendent Arntzen noted that due to legislative changes the Health Standards may need to be reopened, in addition to the Assessment rules. Board members asked additional questions related to the ESSER funds. Dr. McLean discussed work being done at the Higher Education level to assist students with their math needs to be successful in post-secondary education and offered a presentation on the project at a future Board meeting. The Superintendent answered questions related to the GEMS system and COVID-19 learning loss.

Item 7 COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION REPORT Dr. Angela McLean Dr.

Dr. McLean noted she is on the Teacher of the Year Selection committee and looks forward to working with Board member Keith in the selection process. Dr. McLean commended OPI on the work with the Data Modernization project and thanked the Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) accredited Educator Preparation Programs (EPP) for the ongoing conversation regarding national accreditation. Dr. McLean updated the Board on College Application Week, which will be held October 2-14, 2023, Montana's Future at Work CTE summit in September and provided an update on the Educator Recruitment and Retention program and Teacher Residency program. Dr. McLean answered Board member questions. A discussion surrounding the Educator Recruitment and Retention program and Teacher Residency program and Teacher Residency program.

Item 8

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORT Dylan Klapmeier

Mr. Klapmeier gave an update from the Governor's Office to the Board. Mr. Klapmeier discussed the benefits of the Board Strategic Planning meeting the day before, then discussed legislation passed during the 2023 session pertaining to K-12 education, including Early Literacy, Montana Digital Academy, Charter School bills, education related funding, and noted the work done during the interim between education partners that resulted in legislative success during the session. Ms. Jane Hamman thanked Mr. Klapmeier and the Governor's Office for their collaboration during the session.

Item 9 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT Gavin Mow

Mr. Mow introduced himself to the Board, noting this is his first meeting on the Board, then gave the Board his report. Mr. Mow thanked OPI for their work on the MAST Pilot program, noting that he reached out to students who reported positive feedback related to the program. Mr. Mow noted he is working on gathering a student panel to present to the Board at the September meeting in Miles City and discussed planning for the State Student Council fall conference and extended an invitation to Board members to attend the conference. Mr. Mow discussed his travels around the state to engage students in the State Student Council, and his attendance at the Helena Board of Trustees meetings learning about local education issues. Mr. Mow also noted his communication with Student representatives around the nation to discuss student issues. Mr. Mow answered Board member questions.

MACIE LIAISON – Susie Hedalen (Item 10)

Item 10

Jordann Lankford Forster

MACIE REPORT

Vice Chair Hedalen presented the MACIE report for the Board on behalf of Ms. Lankford Forster. Vice Chair Hedalen updated the Board on the recent MACIE meeting and answered Board member questions.

LICENSURE COMMITTEE – Susie Hedalen (Items 11-14)

Item 11ACTION ON INITIAL REVIEW OF BPE CASE #2023-02, CLIFF
Rob Stutz, OPI Chief Legal Counsel

Vice Chair Hedalen opened the item and turned it over to Mr. Stutz, OPI Chief Legal Counsel. Mr. Stutz reviewed the Superintendent's request for revocation and asked the Board to approve moving the matter to a hearing. Chair Quinlan asked Mr. Stutz for a brief overview of the case for the Board.

Vice Chair Susie Hedalen moved to forward the Initial Review of BPE Case #2023-02, Cliff, to a contested case hearing. Motion seconded by Dr. Ron Slinger.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 12ACTION ON INITIAL REVIEW OF BPE CASE #2022-19, CALDERONE
Rob Stutz, OPI Chief Legal Counsel

Vice Chair Hedalen opened the item and turned it over to Mr. Stutz, OPI Chief Legal Counsel. Mr. Stutz reviewed the Superintendent's request for revocation and gave a brief overview of the matter before asking the Board to approve moving the matter to a hearing. Mr. Stutz answered Board member questions.

Vice Chair Susie Hedalen moved to forward the Initial Review of BPE Case #2022-19, Calderone to a contested case hearing. Motion seconded by Dr. Tim Tharp.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 13ACTION ON HEARING OF BPE CASE #2022-18, GRAYBILL
Chad Vanisko, Board Legal Counsel

Mr. Vanisko, Board Legal Counsel, opened the case and reviewed the matter for the Board in which the Superintendent is requesting revocation of the educator's license for immoral conduct related to the

teaching profession. Mr. Vanisko noted that Mr. Graybill has not participated in this case and asked if anyone in the audience was in attendance on behalf of Mr. Graybill. No one in the audience noted that they were participating on behalf of Mr. Graybill. Mr. Vanisko called Mr. Stutz to present the case, on behalf of OPI, to the Board. Mr. Stutz presented the facts of the case to the Board. Mr. Stutz entered into the record the original list of Exhibits and Witnesses and distributed copies for the Board. The Board voted unanimously to accept the exhibits as evidence. Mr. Stutz reviewed the sworn written statement of Mr. Cattell regarding the sending of inappropriate text messages to a student at Lustre Christian High School. Mr. Cattell was the administrator at the time of the incident. Mr. Cattell and the Lustre Christian High School Board of Trustees acted immediately upon notification of the incident and terminated Mr. Graybill. Mr. Stutz highlighted sections of the exhibits and specific text messages sent to the student to prove the case that the educator took part in acts which broke ARM 10.57.601A – Immoral Conduct Related to the Teaching Profession. Mr. Stutz requested that the Board revoke the license based upon the evidence.

<u>Vice Chair Susie Hedalen moved to approve the request from Superintendent Arntzen</u> to revoke the Class 2 Educator License in BPE Case #2022-18, Graybill. Motion seconded by Ms. Renee Rasmussen.

Vice Chair Hedalen asked if suspended or revoked licenses are entered into the National Database. Mr. Stutz answered that is correct.

No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 14ACTION ON HEARING OF BPE CASE #2023-01, CASE
Chad Vanisko, Board Legal Counsel

Mr. Vanisko asked if anyone in the audience was in attendance on behalf of Mr. Case. Mr. Case's attorney, Mr. Christopher Betchie, was present. Mr. Vanisko reviewed the reasons for the Superintendent's request for revocation of Mr. Case's Montana Class 2 Educator License. Mr. Stutz stated that there is a Motion to Continue the matter pending an appeal of Mr. Case's criminal case before the Montana Supreme Court. Procedural questions were clarified for the Board prior to deciding on the matter of the Motion to Continue. Board members asked questions of Mr. Stutz and Mr. Vanisko to clarify the matter before the Board. Dr. Tharp stated that due to the conviction and time frame for appeal at hand, the Board should continue to move forward with the hearing and the request from the Superintendent to revoke Mr. Case's Montana Class 2 Educator License. Board members and Counsel discussed an amendment to the Motion to Continue to add a Suspension pending the outcome of the criminal trial.

Mr. Betchie moved that the Board approve an amended Motion to Continue pending the criminal matter and to suspend Mr. Case's license pending conclusion of the criminal matter.

Mr. Stutz noted that pending the Board's approval of the motion, this is a voluntary suspension from Mr. Case, as represented by his attorney. Mr. Betchie clarified that the suspension is not a Summary Suspension because that would involve a danger to the public, which this case does not because Mr. Case is currently incarcerated. The Board voted on the Motion to Continue.

Motion failed 3-3 with Quinlan, Slinger, Hamman voting in favor. Hedalen, Tharp, Rasmussen voting against.

After the Motion to Continue failed, a hearing took place in the matter of the Superintendent's request to revoke the Montana Educator Class 2 Educator License of Mr. Case. Mr. Stutz presented the facts of the

criminal investigation to the Board. Mr. Stutz pointed out that the facts of the case meet the requirements of §20-4-110(1)(e), MCA. Mr. Betchie defended Mr. Case and argued that his conviction is invalid due to law enforcement entering his home without a warrant and violating his constitutional rights. Mr. Stutz moved to enter exhibits into evidence. OPI - A, Statement from Ric Cattell, and OPI - B, Verdict Form, and Judgement and Order of Conviction. The Board voted unanimously to accept the exhibits as evidence. A discussion ensued about continuing to move forward and whether Mr. Case and his attorney had been properly noticed. Dr. Tharp noted that letters have been sent going back months and that the Board has confirmation that Mr. Case has received the notices sent by the Board. Mr. Betchie asked for a break to attempt to contact Mr. Case to ask if he would like to participate in the proceedings. Mr. Betchie returned and stated that Mr. Case is unable to participate in the proceedings today and inquired if the Board is willing to renew the motion to continue. Mr. Stutz stated that OPI would oppose taking the motion to continue back under reconsideration and noted past practice of the Board. Mr. Vanisko responded that he understands OPI's position but that the Board does have latitude to reconsider. Chair Quinlan stated she would like to continue the hearing and then give each Board member the opportunity to discuss but is concerned there is a motion on the floor that needs to be addressed. Mr. Vanisko noted that the motion can be delayed until the hearing is over then taken up again for consideration. Mr. Stutz and Mr. Betchie gave closing arguments to the Board. Chair Quinlan asked each Board member to discuss their thoughts. Mr. Vanisko clarified the Board's options: revocation or suspension. Mr. Betchie clarified his motion to continue and to accept a voluntary suspension from Mr. Case pending the outcome of appeal. Chair Quinlan clarified the potential options: accepting the motion to continue with a voluntary suspension, or to revoke. Ms. Rasmussen questioned if the decision could be to suspend pending the outcome of the appeal, and if the conviction is upheld the license would be revoked. Mr. Vanisko stated that might be possible through a settlement between the parties. Board members each stated their support or not of the motion on the floor to continue with voluntary suspension. Mr. Betchie restated the motion:

We request the board continue proceedings on this matter until the outcome of the appeal to the Montana Supreme Court. During that time Mr. Case will voluntarily suspend his license so that he cannot teach. Pending the outcome of the appeal we would defer to the Board for necessary action. No arguments of timeliness will be brought up and Mr. Case will not seek employment in any kind of educational occupation.

Vice Chair Hedalen questioned whether the case would be brought back to the Board once the appeal is concluded and Mr. Stutz noted that it may be, pending the outcome of the appeal. Mr. Vanisko suggested that once the appeal is concluded that Mr. Case notify the Board and OPI of the outcome.

Motion passed 4-2 with members Tharp and Rasmussen dissenting.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Quinlan called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM and led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Chair read the Statement of Public Participation and Ms. Kris Stockton took Roll Call. The Chair welcomed guests and asked them to introduce themselves.

Board members present: Ms. Madalyn Quinlan, Chair; Ms. Susie Hedalen, Vice Chair; Ms. Renee Rassmussen; Dr. Ron Slinger; Ms. Jane Hamman; Dr. Tim Tharp; Mr. Gavin Mow, Student Representative. Ex Officio Members: Dr. Angela McLean, OCHE; Mr. Dylan Klapmeier, Governor's Office. Staff: Ms. McCall Flynn, Executive Director; Ms. Kris Stockton, Administrative Specialist; Ms. Julie Balsam, Accounting Technician. Guests: Dr. Estee Aiken, UM Western; Ms. Kristi Steinberg, UM; Dr. Julie Murgel, OPI; Dr. Laura Strauss, UM Western; Ms. Ellery Bressler, OPI; Dr. Dan Lee, UM; Dr. Sarah Pennington, Montana State University (MSU); Mr. John Melick, MSU; Mr. Larry Crowder, MREA; Ms. Crystal Andrews, OPI; Superintendent Elliot Crump, Shelby Public Schools; Superintendent Tobin Novasio, Hardin Public Schools; Superintendent Thom Peck, Lewiston Public Schools; Ms. Jennifer Burns, MSU-Billings; Ms. Amanda Curtis, MFPE; Superintendent Chad Johnson, Livingston Public Schools; Ms. Anna Hoerner, OPI; Deputy Superintendent Sharyl Allen, OPI.

LICENSURE COMMITTEE (cont.) – Susie Hedalen (Items 15-18)

Item 15

ACTION ON THE STATE EXIT REPORT AND REGULAR ACCREDITATION STATUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA-WESTERN EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDER Dr. Julie Murgel

Dr. Murgel welcomed Dr. Strauss and Dr. Aiken from UM Western to the table for the item. Dr. Murgel reviewed the UM Western State Exit report for the Board and the process for the Virtual State Joint Site Visit between OPI and CAEP. Dr. Murgel discussed the review process, and highlighted specific areas that stood out to the review team that UM Western does well, and areas cited with notation. Dr. Murgel explained that if approved by the Board the program is accredited through 2029. Dr. Laura Strauss and Dr. Estee Aiken thanked the Board and noted they are available for any questions the Board may have. Members of the group answered Board member questions.

<u>Vice Chair Susie Hedalen moved to approve the State Exit Report and Regular</u> <u>Accreditation Status for the University of Montana Western Educator Preparation</u> <u>Program.</u> Motion seconded by Ms. Renee Rasmussen.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 16REFLECTION AND REVIEW OF TITLE 10, CHAPTER 57 –
EDUCATOR LICENSURE STANDARDS
Crystal Andrews; Superintendent Elliot Crump, Shelby; Superintendent
Thom Peck, Lewistown; Superintendent Tobin Novasio, Hardin (formerly
Lockwood); John Melick, Director of Field Placement and Licensure, MSU;
Jennifer Burns, Licensure Specialist, MSU-Billings

Vice Chair Hedalen introduced all participants in the panel for the Board, and Ms. Flynn reviewed the purpose of the panel. Board members asked questions of the group and participants weighed in with answers and input for the Board regarding the revisions to Chapter 57, Educator Licensure, that the Board adopted in 2022.

Item 17 DISCUSSION ON POTENTIAL REVISIONS TO TITLE 10, CHAPTER 57 EDUCATOR LICENSURE STANDARDS Crystal Andrews

Ms. Andrews discussed several areas of Chapter 57 which may need to be reviewed listing specific areas that the OPI Educator Licensure team is seeing with applications such as: out of state applicants who hold a Lifetime License in another state; out of state applicants with a Middle Grades license with a Content Specific endorsement; areas that may need some clean up language; extension to the 3-year time limit on

Class 5 Educator Licenses; Class 5 Educator License for Counselors, specific to the four course deficiency language; how to handle the Class 8 Educator Licenses now that CSPAC has been dissolved; pathway for licensure for Career Coaches per HB 458; and alternative teaching credential per legislation. Ms. Andrews answered Board member questions and discussed next steps for reopening Chapter 57. Ms. Flynn stated that at the September meeting the Board will discuss which items they are interested in updating in Chapter 57, then OPI could create a draft document and the Board can begin the MAPA process.

Item 18DISCUSSION ON EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM
ACCREDITATION
Dr. Julie Murgel, Dr. Dan Lee, Dean of the Phyllis J. Washington College of
Education, UM; Kristi Steinberg, Director of Accreditation, UM; Dr. Laura
Straus, Professor and Accreditation Lead, UM Western

Vice Chair Hedalen opened the item by introducing the panel participants for the Board and thanked the participants for being at the meeting. Ms. Flynn reviewed the discussion held at the May meeting regarding national accrediting bodies. Dr. Lee, UM, made opening remarks on behalf of the EPPs who are accredited by CAEP. Board members asked questions of the panel members regarding the joint site review process, how the process works, benefits to the EPP for having the joint site review, and implications of what could happen if there is not an agreement in place. Panel members reviewed what is contained in a site visit and the work that is done by the EPP and the joint accreditation team.

✤ ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE – Dr. Tim Tharp (Items 19-21)

Item 19 ACTION ON ACCREDITATION CORRECTIVE ACTION PLANS Ellery Bresler

Ms. Bresler presented the Corrective Action Plans to the Board and summarized the plans for the Board. Dr. Tharp noted that these plans fall under the old Chapter 55 rules, not the newly adopted rules, and that while there are many corrective plans, they are minor issues. Ms. Bresler answered Board member questions.

<u>Dr. Tim Tharp moved to approve the 2022-2023 Corrective Action Plans as presented.</u> Motion seconded by Ms. Jane Hamman.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 20UPDATE ON 2023-2024 ACCREDITATION PROCESS
Dr. Julie Murgel, Crystal Andrews

Ms. Andrews reviewed the new process for Accreditation for the 2023-2024 school year per the new Accreditation Standards effective July 1, 2023.

Item 21 ACTION ON VARIANCE TO STANDARDS BOARD APPOINTMENTS Crystal Andrews

Ms. Andrews presented six new recommendations to fill open positions on the Variance to Standards Board. Ms. Andrews reviewed the open positions and the recommendations from the Superintendent to fulfill the openings.

> Dr. Tim Tharp moved to approve State Superintendent Arntzen's recommendation for the six appointments to the Variance to Standards Board. Motion seconded by Ms. Renee Rasmussen. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Flynn reviewed the future agenda items listed below for the Board, reminding members that the September meeting will be in Miles City.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS - September 14-15, 2023, Miles City, MT

Election of Board Officers Approve Yearly Board Meeting Calendar – C Approve Annual Agenda Calendar – C MACIE Update Montana Digital Academy Update Assessment Update Federal Update Annual HiSET Report Annual Special Education Report Update on Praxis Test Review

PUBLIC COMMENT

Superintendent Chad Johnson, Livingston Public Schools, thanked the Board for their work and invited the Board to hold their September 2024 meeting in Livingston.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 11:26 AM.

The Montana Board of Public Education is a Professional Development Unit Provider. Attending a Board of Public Education Meeting 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: <u>kmstockton@mt.gov</u> or phone at 406-444-0302.