

**BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

**September 12 & 13, 2002**  
**Montana State University-Bozeman**  
**Strand Union Building**  
**Room 275-276**  
**Bozeman, MT**

Chairperson Dr. Kirk Miller called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 12, 2002.

Board members present were: Kirk Miller, Storrs Bishop, John Fuller, Randy Morris, Joyce Silverthorne, Patty Myers, Derek Duncan, Student Representative, and Linda McCulloch, Superintendent of Office of Public Instruction. Diane Fladmo was absent for both days and Joyce Silverthorne was absent on September 13, 2002. Staff present were: Steve Meloy, Executive Secretary, Peter Donovan, CSPAC Administrative Officer, and Suzan Hopkins, BPE Administrative Assistant.

The following people were registered on the meeting roster: Linda Peterson, Office of Public Instruction; Deena Alley, University of Montana-Western; Bob Clemens, Montana State University-Bozeman; Spencer Sartorius, Office of Public Instruction; Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT; Ian Godwin, Montana State University-Bozeman; Elmer Baldrige, Gallatin County Superintendent of Schools; Wilhelmina Wright, Milken National Teacher Award; Dean Larry Baker, Montana State University-Bozeman; Joe Fedock, Montana State University-Bozeman; Rick Howard, Montana State University-Bozeman; Representative Norma Bixby, MACIE; Jan Lombardi, Office of Public Instruction; Joanne Erickson, Montana State University-Bozeman; Nancy Coopersmith, Office of Public Instruction; Joe Lamson, Office of Public Instruction; Kris Goss, Governor's Office; Judy Snow, Office of Public Instruction; and Rick Chiotti, Office of Public Instruction.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Miller led the board and members of the audience in the pledge of allegiance. Ms. Hopkins conducted the Roll Call. Dr. Miller read the Statement of Public Participation. Dr. Miller welcomed everyone to the meeting. He also noted some changes to the agenda, which included the cancellation of Item 17, Case #2-2002. Subsequently, this moved up Items 18-23.

**MOTION: Mr. Bishop moved to adopt the revised agenda for the September 12 & 13, 2002 meeting. Ms. Silverthorne seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.**

## CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Miller presented the consent agenda, which included financial reports as well as the minutes from the July 2002 meeting. Mr. Meloy presented a revision to the July minutes from Mr. Feaver, requesting clarification of Mr. Morris' motion in regards to the cooperative athletic sponsorship agreement with Great Falls Central Catholic High School. As the motion is written, it doesn't clarify that it is in regards to MSDB. Mr. Meloy recommended that the minutes be amended to make this language more clear.

**MOTION: Mr. Morris moved to approve the consent agenda, with the removal of the July minutes. Mr. Bishop seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.**

**MOTION: Ms. Myers moved to amend the July minutes as indicated. Ms. Silverthorne seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.**

Mr. Meloy briefly reviewed the correspondence in the board members packets.

### **Item 1 Chairperson's Report**

Dr. Kirk Miller gave a chronological summary of events that had transpired since the last board meeting. Some of the items highlighted in his report were:

- Met with Ms. Fladmo, Mr. Meloy, and Mr. Donovan to discuss a possible working relationship with Public Relations consultant, Roger Merrill, in establishing a communications plan for the board.
- Attended the Chairs Leadership Conference for State Board Chairs and Presidents of the State School Board Associations in Salt Lake City. Represented Montana with Tonja Bloom.
- Reviewed the document, "No Child Left Behind: Issues for Policymakers", which was presented by Mike Resnick, Associate Executive Director of NSBA.
- Reiterated to the board that it is imperative that we have a partner in establishing the link to SEPN (State Education Policy Network). This would allow them to come in and do a policy audit of Montana to look at our administrative rules and regulations to determine how well Montana aligns with the new regulations for No Child Left Behind.
- Referred to the State Board Chairs' Session handout, which he felt was extremely valuable. This session outlined issues confronting states such as No Child Left Behind, vouchers, E-Learning and technology, governance, licensure, and finance. Dr. Miller pointed out some of the programs that NASBE supports such as SAELP, SEPN, and the Healthy Schools Network.

## **Item 2 Executive Secretary Report**

Mr. Meloy gave a brief overview of his report. Some of the issues highlighted were:

- Passed out his report on Goals and Objectives, which is basically an internal document, distributed to board members.
- Was interviewed by NASBE consultant regarding their Healthy Schools project
- Testified to the House Appropriations Committee on K-12 cuts as well as the Senate Finance and Claims
- Worked with NASBE to secure additional funding for “teen pregnancy” grant
- Worked with Bill Cooper to revise the Annual Agenda Calendar for 02/03
- Worked with OPI and Bob Brown to explore timber trust money for MSDB
- Worked with Budget office on final adjustments to the base for next budget
- Continued work with Joanne Erickson on planning for the September 24 forum
- Attended an OPI workshop on ESEA issues in Helena

## **Item 3 CSPAC Report**

Mr. Donovan presented an overview of the Chapter 57 process and where they are on the timeline with regards to the Teacher Certification Rules. The board has noticed the Rule for Hearing. Mr. Donovan also thanked OPI, specifically Ms. Bev Marlow and Mr. Jeff Weldon of the Certification Staff for their technical support and assistance with the Chapter 57 process. Mr. Donovan reiterated that the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council would like some specific direction from the board with regards to the E-Learning initiative and ESEA.

## **Item 4 State Superintendent Report**

Linda McCulloch gave an overview of her report. The topics that she highlighted to the board included:

- ❖ Yellow School Bus Tours will continue this fall. They have three tours scheduled for October and December 2002.
  - ✓ October 21-25 Lame Deer, Broadus, Miles City, and Roundup
  - ✓ October 28-29 Valier and Browning
  - ✓ December 5-6 Stevensville and Hamilton
- ❖ K-12 Public School Funding Study: Education and Local Government Committee sent its report on HB 625 to Governor Martz on August 1, 2002.
- ❖ Legislative Forum and Public Hearing on American Indian High School Dropouts: MWIEA, MACIE, and Montana-Wyoming Tribal

Leader's Council are sponsoring a Legislative Forum on November 7-8, 2002 in Helena. A public hearing, free to the community, will be held on American Indian High School Dropouts on the evening of November 7 at the Jorgenson's Motel in Helena.

- ❖ Directory of Montana Schools: 2002-2003 Directory has been completed and sent to the printer, and should be completed by mid-October.
- ❖ Professional Development for Mentors: An all day workshop on mentoring skills titled, "Mentoring New Teachers-More Than Being a Warm Body", will be held on Thursday, October 17, 2002.
- ❖ Title I Fall Conference: Scheduled for September 18-20 has been postponed.
- ❖ READ Montana! Summit: Held in Great Falls at the Heritage Inn on July 24, 2002. Focused on early, family and adult literacy issues. Over 370 Montana educators participated.
- ❖ Superintendent McCulloch also submitted funding requests to the Office of Budget Program Planning for consideration in the Governor's budget for the 2005 biennium.

#### **Item 5 Commissioner of Higher Education Report**

In the absence of Commissioner Crofts, Mr. Meloy presented to the board a report from Mr. Croft's office. He passed out copies of the *Student Mathematics Proficiency Manual*, which was developed by the Mathematics Proficiency Steering Committee and designed by OCHE and OPI staff under the direction of Dr. Jan Clinard. Copies of this document will be sent out to Montana's high school mathematics departments, along with copies of the leaflet *Looking Ahead to College Mathematics*, which are being sent to high school counselors. Another issue discussed by Mr. Meloy, as he presented this report on behalf of Dr. Crofts, was the Montana University System budget reductions from its FY 2003 budget. Budget reductions for the university system totaled \$12.4 million (or 8.4 % of the total amount of State support for FY 2003). The last topic that Mr. Meloy presented was the accountability agreement with the Interim Subcommittee on post secondary education. The Montana University System, after years of effort, has finally reached an agreement with a Legislative Committee on policy goals for MUS and two accountability measures to evaluate the success in meeting each of these goals.

#### **Item 7 Student Representative Report**

Student representative, Derek Duncan, began his presentation by discussing his involvement with the MASC (Montana Association of Student Councils) Executive Board. He will be attending the MASC Convention, giving a speech and facilitating a workshop. He is a member of the Steering Committee for the Governor's summit on Tobacco Prevention. He is also helping the executive board with the Freedom's Answer project, in order to get the highest voter turnout in a non-presidential election. Derek presented the preliminary draft of the Student Opinion survey to the board and discussed

methods of conducting the survey. He will be working with Superintendent Linda McCulloch and the Office of Public Instruction to put the survey on their website.

### **Item 8 NASBE Study Group on E-Learning**

Ms. Joyce Silverthorne presented an update on the study group. They have not met and she apologized for being behind in her responsibilities. She brought up the accreditation rule that has recently come to light regarding distance learning (10.55.907). A meeting time was set for September 24, 2002 at 3:30 after the SAELP meeting in Bozeman.

### **Item 9 MACIE**

Representative Norma Bixby presented to the board an update on MACIE. They have had three meetings over the past year. The areas that the meetings have focused on are the PPST and what will replace it, MCA 20-1-501, and the revised constitution, by-laws and new/renewed appointments. They also held a retreat in November at Swan Lake, which was facilitated by Representative Juneau. The topics discussed were MACIE's goals, bylaws, ITBS assessment results and implementation of 20-1-501. She also presented an invitation to the Public Hearing on American Indian High School Dropouts, to be held on November 7, 2002 at 6:30 p.m. at the Jorgenson's Motel in Helena. Representative Norma Bixby has been re-elected as the Chair of MACIE, the Vice Chair is Sandra Murray, and the Secretary is Louise Stump. There will be an official MACIE list serve, which will post minutes or any official business of MACIE.

### **Item 6 Governor's Office Report**

Lieutenant Governor Karl Ohs spoke to the board on behalf of Governor Martz, who sent her regards. He stated that the Office of the Governor has been working on issues surrounding K-12 Public Education, which he reported on. Several meetings have been attended by the Governor's Office involving education. Those meetings include Superintendent's Reading Summit, the School Funding Adequacy Study Presentation, and every Ed Forum meeting. They have also met with various members of the education community; MEA-MFT, Montana School Boards Association, School Administrators, Montana Quality Education Coalition, and the Montana Rural Education Association. These meetings have been beneficial as they take the next step towards the upcoming legislative session. This next step includes HB 625 Public School Funding Advisory Council Recommendations. They will be presenting their response to the committee's recommendation to the Interim Education and Local Government Committee. The office has also been active in planning the State Action for Education Leadership Project Roundtable scheduled for September 24 and the Pathways Roundtable scheduled for October. Governor Martz plans to attend these meeting.

### **Item 10 No Child Left Behind Advisory Committee**

Dr. Miller gave a brief preamble of the implementation of No Child Left Behind at the state level and how the Board of Public Education might be of assistance. Dr. Miller has corresponded with Superintendent Linda McCulloch about how this advisory committee would assist in defining the issues and provide direction in the execution of the No Child Left Behind Act. Dr. Miller suggested that the purpose of this committee would be to notify the education community of what is currently going on with No Child Left Behind, what the field needs to know about it, and supply a medium with which they can respond.

### **Item 11 Five-Year Strategic Plan/Update**

Mr. Meloy presented an outline (in Ms. Fladmo's absence) of the progress made on the five-year strategic plan. He passed out the Draft Goals for the Five-Year Strategic Plan, a result of the work done at the retreat held on July 17, 2002. Mr. Meloy will coordinate with the interested parties who volunteered at the retreat to work on each of the goals and proceed toward a final plan. The second handout was the two-year plan, of which we are in the second year. The two-year plan expires June 30, 2003 and then on July 1, 2003, the five-year plan will begin. The last handout was the PowerPoint presentation that Mr. Vega had shown at the retreat. This handout discusses the goals and objectives, shortcomings of the board in meeting these goals and objectives, and challenges to be expected in attempting to meet them.

### **Item 12 State Assessment**

Ms. Judy Snow distributed to the board the final report on an analysis of Montana Native American students on the 2001 Iowa Tests. The report had been researched and compiled under the direction of Dr. Stephen Dunbar. She also presented the disaggregated state results for the 2002 Iowa Tests. These results demonstrated that Montana students established high achievement, scoring above the national norm group in all grades and subjects. Ms. Snow introduced Mr. Joe Lamson, who explained how the press coverage of the test results would occur.

### **Item 13 Professional Educator Preparation Program Reviews Calendar**

Dr. Peterson presented to the board the calendar of reviews scheduled for the 2002-2003 school year. The board amended the Professional Educator Preparation Program Standards and Procedures Manual in July 2002. These amended standards are in effect from 2002 to 2005. The eight teacher education programs are expected to meet these standards and conduct on-site reviews of their programs. The reviews scheduled are as follows: October 27-30, 2002, MSU-Northern, Joint Review NCATE-BPE, February 23-26, 2003, Carroll College, BPE Review, and Fall 2002, Rocky Mountain College, Follow-up BPE Review.

#### **Item 14 Professional Educator Preparation Program Reviews-Fee Structure**

Dr. Peterson presented to the board the shortfall of the payment made to the Office of Public Instruction for the teacher education review process and proposes a change to that fee structure for the next review cycle. Currently, each institution makes payment to OPI for the review process based on a flat fee of \$500, plus \$50 for each program to be reviewed. This present fee structure does not cover the “real” costs of the off-site and on-site state reviews of Montana educator preparation programs. In 2001 and 2002, the Office of Public Instruction collected \$4,350 from the institutions and expended \$9,249. This difference constitutes a shortfall of \$4,899. Dr. Peterson presented some issues to consider which included:

- Modification of fee structure-each institution is responsible for the cost of the off-site program review, on-site review, and any follow-up visit.
- OPI continues to support training for potential state review team members
- OPI continues to support joint training for BPE/NCATE for on-site reviews

#### **Item 15 Request for Provisional Program Approvals**

Dr. Peterson presented to the board two requests for provisional program approval. The two programs for review are Montana State University-Northern, Master’s of Science in Education-Education Leadership Program, and the University of Great Falls, Library Media Services. These two requests bring forth an outlying issue, whereby the Standards for Approval addresses the requests for approval of experimental or innovative programs, not the more traditional programs as presented in this report. Prior to the beginning of the next process, the OPI recommends that ARM 10.58.802 be reviewed. The Office of Public Instruction will be bringing this item to the board at their next meeting in November with recommendations.

#### **Item 16 Chapter 57-Proposed Notice for Adoption-Rule Changes**

Mr. Donovan presented to the board the BPE/CSPAC Chapter 57 Report and Proposed Rule Adoption Timeline, dated July 30, 2002. A copy of the rule notice was sent to the board members via email. He invited Mr. Jeff Weldon and Ms. Bev Marlow to assist with the discussion of the changes. Mr. Weldon was instrumental in working on the fingerprinting issue as well as consolidating the last three chapters. Ms. Marlow was responsible for developing the timeline.

**MOTION: Ms. Myers moved to authorize publication of the notice of proposed amendment on those cited rules in Chapters 55 and Chapter 57. The motion was seconded by Ms. Silverthorne and unanimously carried.**

#### **Item 17 Proposed Board Action on OPI Recommendation Regarding Case #2-2002**

This item was vacated.

### **Item 18 Montana BPE Participation in the State Education Policy Network (SEPN) Project**

Mr. Meloy presented a brief overview of the State Education Policy Network, stating that it is supported by the United States Department of Education, is made up of NASBE, National Conference of State Legislators, National Governor's Association, the ECS, CCSO, and ELC (Education Leaders Council). The objectives of SEPN include developing a series of technical assistant materials and activities to support education, key education leaders and their colleagues within the state of Montana. The board has started a process to become one of the recipients of the technical assistance for ESEA, based on Dr. Miller's directive. Mr. Meloy stated that, within ten days, the board would be notified of what they will need to do and what the project will entail.

### **Item 19 Board Member Appearances**

Ms. Patty Myers reminded the board members about filling out their board member appearances sheet, which will now be included in their agenda packets before bringing them to the board meeting. Mr. Fuller visited Chief Dull Knife College and Lama Deer High School on June 17-18, 2002, representing the board. Ms. Myers also presented the email received from Ms. Susan Bailey-Anderson with regards to the board becoming a stakeholder for MBI (Montana Behavioral Initiative). The mission of the MBI is to assist educators, parents and other community members in developing attitudes, skills, and systems necessary to ensure that each student, regardless of ability or disability, leaves public education and enters the community with social and academic competence.

**MOTION: Ms. Myers moved to have the Montana Board of Public Education become a stakeholder in the Montana Behavioral Initiative. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bishop and unanimously carried.**

### **Item 20 BPE Communications Plan**

Ms. Myers had nothing to report on this item. Mr. Meloy stated that, as directed by Dr. Miller, there is a need to put into action a communications plan and mentioned that the development of the strategic plan and the upcoming work with the Governor's Office will assist with the implementation of a communications plan. Dr. Miller stated the Executive Committee, along with Mr. Donovan, had met with a Public Relations specialist, who had developed a public relations campaign based upon his background and knowledge of what was currently happening in Montana.

### **Item 21 Special Session Report**

Mr. Meloy presented an overview of the special session. He referred to Superintendent McCulloch's August 12 memo. She talked about funding for K-12 public schools, including countywide schools, was reduced by the special session by 5.96 million. Reductions were in the school flex fund money, statewide student assessment,

technology acquisition monies, HB 124 block grant to schools, and HB 124 block grants county school funds. Mr. Meloy reviewed the list of funding sources in Ms. McCulloch's memo, and stated the reductions for each source, with a total reduction of \$5,958,959. Mr. Meloy also discussed briefly the board's attempt to get the 10% restored to their budget.

### **Item 22 Proposed Legislation for 2003 Session**

Mr. Meloy discussed the concept of amending 20-4-109 to mitigate the recent cuts to board operations caused by the current problems with the state's general fund. The general fund is currently projected to be short \$250 million just to keep current programs in place for the next biennium. This amendment does not preclude CSPAC's use of this money for research projects nor does it exclude the council's authority. It allows the board to utilize monies from this account on a case-by-case basis if needs arise. The proposed amendment states, "\$2.00 to the board of public education to be used *by the board or* the certification standards and practices advisory council for research in accordance with the duties of the council provided for in 20-4-133." After much discussion and comment, it was agreed upon to inquire from an auditor whether or not we could continue using the Research Fund as we have been in the past or should we seek legislative action.

The second legislative proposal discussed by Mr. Meloy was the concept of seeking legislation to create additional flexibility for schools in meeting its accreditation on professional development. This bill will be carried by MSBA if the board doesn't carry it. This proposed bill would be a savings to the general fund as it allows professional development days during days that are already funded; doesn't reduce the aggregate hours that the teachers are in the classroom teaching. It allows the districts the flexibility to possibly reduce a specific day by an hour or two to allow professional development to occur during that time.

### **Item 23 BPE Legislative Strategy for 2003 Session**

Mr. Meloy presented five strategies for the 2003 Legislative Session. They included: meet with the Governor's Office on a regular basis, schedule meeting with key leadership officials, draft a letter on what NASBE means to the board, cultivate a network with Legislative Committee, and brainstorm ideas for legislation with the Ed Forum.

**\*Dr. Miller announced to the audience that the board, on Thursday, September 12, 2002, moved several items forward on the agenda. A notice of this fact was posted, and the media was contacted. He asked the audience if anyone had any comment on the items that were discussed on Thursday.**

### **Item 24 Uniform Grading Policy**

Mr. Bishop presented the Uniform Grading Policy, which was brought forth by the outgoing Student Representative, Josh Ewing, at his last meeting. Mr. Bishop summarized the policy and then opened it up for discussion to the board. Mr. Fuller

opposed this policy and, after discussion, it was decided that this issue should not be moved to an action item.

### **Item 25 Status Report on Deferrals and Alternative Standards**

Mr. Al McMilin, Accreditation Specialist, Office of Public Instruction and Dr. Linda Peterson brought to the board a status report in the form of a PowerPoint presentation reviewing a 3-year accreditation history, which included notices of deferrals, alternative standard requests, and regular, advice, and deficiency accreditation percentages.

### **Item 26 Alternative Standards Requests**

Mr. Al McMilin and Dr. Linda Peterson presented to the board seven alternative requests, representing four schools and four districts for two-year approval. One school's request, representing one district is pending further research. One school's request, representing one district is recommended for denial.

**MOTION: Mr. Bishop moved to approve five of the alternative standards requests, postpone action on one, and deny the seventh one. This motion was seconded by Ms. Myers and unanimously carried.**

### **Item 27 Advice & Deficiency Improvement Plans Report**

Mr. McMilin presented an overview of the advice and deficiency improvement plans report which states that when a school is sited with a second year advice status or with a deficiency with assistance status, the local school board must adopt and submit a school improvement plan to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction by August 1. This plan must show a systematic procedure for the correction of the deviation. Mr. McMilin provided to the board for consideration the district improvement plans recommended for approval by State Superintendent, Linda McCulloch. He passed out to the board members a final status report, which included a plan of correction for school year 2001-2002 for those schools listed as either deficiency (45 schools) or advice (84 schools).

**MOTION: Mr. Bishop moved to accept the final status report on accreditation for deficiency and advice for 127 schools. This motion was seconded by Ms. Myers and unanimously carried.**

**MOTION: Mr. Bishop moved to approve alternative standards request for two Teton County Schools. The motion was seconded by Ms. Myers and unanimously carried.**

### **Item 28 Libby Public School Accreditation Status Update**

Mr. McMilin and Dr. Peterson offered to the board for approval the Advice Accreditation status for Libby Public Schools (which was postponed at the May 2002 board meeting), giving the district an opportunity to appear before the Board (which was accomplished in July) to discuss the district's non-response to the multiple occurrences of several deviations in both professional staff positions and programs. At the July meeting, Superintendent Maki agreed to work with the Accreditation Division of the Office of Public Instruction to address each accreditation deviation by developing a corrective plan of action or by requesting an alternative standard. Mr. McMilin and Dr. Peterson appeared before the board to present such a plan. An extensive report, addressing each deviation, and the corresponding corrective action, was included in the board members' packets.

**MOTION: Mr. Bishop moved to accept the status update by Libby Public Schools as presented and to accept the recommendation of OPI to have them remain on Advice status. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fuller and unanimously carried.**

### **Item 29 Coordinated School Health**

Mr. Chiotti presented a concise overview of the purpose of the infrastructure cooperative agreement OPI has with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Division of Adolescent and School Health (CDC/DASH). This presentation addressed how implementing the work plan described in the cooperative agreement has led to formalizing the Joint Committee for Healthy Kids, creating a Montana Healthy Schools Network, and establishing a process for seeking policy level actions regarding school health issues. The presentation also outlined how the Board of Public Education may be involved in future requests for action based on work done by the Joint Committee for Healthy Kids and the Healthy Schools Network.

**MOTION: Mr. Morris moved for the Board to extend our memorandum of understanding (or agreement) with the Healthy Schools Network. This motion was seconded by Mr. Bishop and unanimously carried.**

### **Item 30 BPE Meeting Calendar 2002-2003**

Mr. Meloy presented a draft of the Board of Public Education's meeting calendar for 2002-2003. It was decided that the May 15 & 16, 2003 meeting be held at the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind in Great Falls instead of Helena. It was pointed out that the dates for the November 2002 meeting were incorrect. They should be the 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> rather than the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. It was decided that the joint CSPAC/Board meeting be held on March 14. It was also decided that at the July 2003 meeting, the 16<sup>th</sup> would be set-aside for the board's annual retreat date.

**MOTION: Ms. Myers moved to approve the 2002-2003 meeting schedule as revised. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fuller and unanimously carried.**

### **Item 31 Annual Agenda Calendar 2002-2003**

Mr. Meloy presented the draft Annual Agenda Calendar for 2002-2003, which was collaborated on by Mr. Bill Cooper, OPI. Ms. Myers pointed out that the CSPAC/BPE Joint meeting be moved from July to March, and the Student Representative's last meeting is July 16-18 and not May 15-16. It was also recommended to further amend the calendar to reflect the CSPAC Committee assignments to be held in May.

**MOTION: Mr. Fuller moved to accept the Annual Agenda Calendar for 2002-2003 as modified. The motion was seconded by Ms. Myers and unanimously carried.**

### **Item 32 BPE Committee Assignments 2002-2003**

Dr. Miller presented to the board the Committee Assignments for 2002-2003. It was agreed upon that the language for the Joint Committees of the Board of Public Education and the Board of Regents is acceptable and will be submitted to the Board of Regents. It was further agreed upon to eliminate #6 (K-16 Committee) from the Committee Descriptions. It was further noted that parentheses should be added after Mr. Morris' name as a chair of the MSDB Committee that would indicate he is the foundation representative, year 2.

**MOTION: Mr. Fuller moved to approve the Committee Assignments for 2002-2003. The motion was seconded by Ms. Myers and unanimously carried.**

**MOTION: Mr. Fuller moved to approve the draft language to be forwarded to the Board of Regents for Montana Board of Education Committee Descriptions and Assignments as outlined. The motion was seconded by Ms. Myers and unanimously carried.**

**MOTION: Mr. Fuller moved to approve the Board of Public Education Committee Descriptions as outlined. The motion was seconded by Ms. Myers and unanimously carried.**

### **Item 33 MSDB Committee Meeting/Report**

Mr. Steve Gettel and Mr. Bill Sykes presented an overview of the events that have transpired at the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind since the last board meeting. Those events included the following:

1. Student Enrollment/Evaluation-on campus total is up to 69, which is comprised of 46 deaf students, and 23 visually impaired, and residential enrollment is up to 38. The off campus total is 259, which is made up of 90 deaf students, and 169 visually impaired.

2. Personnel Actions-agency is exempt from Executive Order 15-02 Hiring Freeze-effective 8/22/02.
3. Human Resources Competency Project-October 8-10 Labor Management Committee Training for four member teams from MEA-MFT, UFCW and Administration.
4. Policies/Procedures-Draft policy proposals-Action item postponed until November.
5. 2003 Legislative Session-Update on Proposals
  - Statutory language changes-approved by Education and Local Government Interim Committee 7/11/02
    - ✓ Exempting MSDB from 17-7-40, MCA
    - ✓ Changing the title of the school to “State Supported Special School”, 20-8-101, MCA
    - ✓ Including in the Objects and Purpose of MSDB “a system of tracking intervention services, 20-8-102, MCA
    - ✓ Revising the reference to collection of a fee for assistance to public schools, 20-8-102, MCA
  - Statutory language change-withdrawn for consideration by the Education and Local Government Interim Committee
    - ✓ Revising 53-19-401, 402, 403 and 404, MCA to strengthen language that supports the educational initiative for early intervention and identify MSDB’s role in supporting the activities of the UNHS program.
  - Program expansion-
    - ✓ Outreach \$277,693/4.70 FTE – Pending 7/19/02
    - ✓ Transition \$166,244/3.65 FTE – Pending 7/19/02
    - ✓ Professional Development \$26,000 – Pending 7/19/02
    - ✓ Adjustment for Utilities \$24,495 – Disapproved 7/19/02
    - ✓ Adjustment to Repair/Maintenance \$12,307 - Pending 7/19/02
6. Program Accreditation-Update on Activities-Application fees have been paid and correspondence has been made to each of the following organizations requesting consideration for program review during the 02-03 SY with on-site visits to be conducted jointly in the fall of 03; National Accreditation Council for Agencies Serving the Blind and Visually Handicapped, Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf, Inc., and Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges.
7. Professional Development Activities-Summer workshops-Big Sky Interpreter Conference and Montana Registry of Interpreters Annual Meeting, Great Falls. Mr. Gettel gave a review of various orientation activities that have been conducted at the school. Some fall activities coming up include Signing Exact English Workshop, Great Falls, on September 28-29, and Northern Rockies AER

Conference hosted by Montana, West Yellowstone for selected staff from the Department for the Visually Impaired on October 16-18.

8. School Calendar-Mr. Gettel gave an overview of numerous activities on the school calendar including:
  - July 24-27 Big Sky Interpreter Workshop
  - August 10-11 FRCC Interpreter Workshop
  - August 20-27 MSDB Staff Orientation
  - August 27 Students Return
  - August 28 First Day of School
  - September 1 Labor Day
  - September 20 Travel Weekend
  - October 16 Travel Weekend-Teachers' Convention
  - November 1 End of first quarter
9. Conferences, Meetings and Contacts-some of them listed included:
  - July 22-Education Forum, MSU-COT-Great Falls
  - August 13-Career Competencies Project training, Helena
  - September 5-North Central Administrators meeting, Great Falls
  - September 13-BOPE meeting, Bozeman
  - October 4-SFASU Task Force meeting, Helena
  - October 16-MSDB Presentation at MCEL, Billings
  - November 6-MSDB Committee of the BOPE meeting, Great Falls
10. Budget and Finance-Update on Budget, Proposed FY 04-05 Budget-Plans for implementation of budget reductions for FY 03
11. Plant and Facilities-Update of current projects-long range building projects, A&E priorities for 05 biennium
12. Student News and School Events-Labor Day activities will include mini golf, a BBQ and an afternoon at the Great Falls Waterpark Remembrance Program for the victims of the 9/11 terrorists attacks-September 11 at MSDB.

**Preliminary Agenda Items**

- *Future directions for NRT*-Dr. Miller recommended to the board that the task force that continues to proceed with the new criterion referenced test, Measured Progress, will be the same task force that existed under Ms. Fladmo's leadership.
- *Report on progress that has been made by the task force on Measured Progress*-this item will be placed on the agenda for the November 2002 board meeting and will be reported on by Ms. Fladmo.

Meeting adjourned at 12:41 p.m.

