

BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES

January 9 & 10, 2003

Montana Higher Education Complex
Meeting Room
2500 Broadway
Helena, MT 59620

Chairperson Dr. Kirk Miller called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, January 9, 2003.

Board members present were: Kirk Miller, Chair; Diane Fladmo, Vice Chair; Randy Morris, Storrs Bishop, John Fuller, Patty Myers, Joyce Silverthorne, and Derek Duncan, Student Representative. Ex Officio members present were Richard Crofts, Commissioner of Higher Education, and Linda McCulloch, Superintendent of the Office of Public Instruction (OPI). Staff present was: Steve Meloy, Executive Secretary; Peter Donovan, CSPAC Administrative Officer; and Suzan Hopkins, BPE Administrative Assistant. The following people were registered on the meeting roster: Spencer Sartorius, (OPI); Nancy Coopersmith, (OPI); Margaret Bowles, (OPI); Linda Brandon Kyos, (OPI); Tyson Roth, (OPI); Jeff Weldon, (OPI); Linda Vrooman-Peterson, (OPI); Judy Snow, (OPI); Madalyn Quinlan, (OPI); Al McMillin, (OPI); Lynn Hinch, (OPI); Lori Falcon, (OPI); Bev Marlow, (OPI); Rick Chiotti, (OPI); Bill Hallinan, (OPI); Everall Fox, (OPI); Darrell Rud, School Administrators of Montana; Kris Goss, Governor's Office; Larry Baker, MSU-Bozeman; Jon Runnalls, Montana Teacher of the Year (Helena); Ray Peck, Havre; Lance Melton, Montana School Boards Association; Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT; Amy Carlson, Office of Budget Program and Planning; Mark Bruno, Office of Budget Program and Planning; Darlene Sellers, MSU-Northern; Bob Barnes, Park City School; Ann Goldhahre, MSU-Northern; Jan Thomson, MSU-Northern; George Camp, University of Montana-Missoula; Claudette Morton, Montana Small Schools Alliance; Deb Kottel, University of Great Falls; Joe Fontana, University of Great Falls; Robert LeLieuvre, University of Great Falls; Norma Bixby, MACIE; Victoria Withrow, Montana Association of School Psychologists (MASP); Robert Murray, MISBC-MTSBA; and Dr. Cheri Jimeno, University of Montana-Western. Governor Judy Martz made an appearance on Friday, January 10, 2003 at the Board of Education meeting to recognize outgoing Commissioner Richard Crofts and Regent Margie Thompson.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Fuller led the board in the pledge of allegiance, Ms. Hopkins conducted the roll call, and Dr. Miller read the Statement of Public Participation. Dr. Miller also welcomed all visitors and presenters to the meeting. He also noted that, during the Board of Public Education meeting on Thursday, January 9, 2003, the Board of Education will meet from 2:00-4:00 p.m. At 4:15 p.m. the Board of Public Education, will meet with the Governor and her cabinet to discuss a variety of issues. On January 10, 2003, from 8:00-10:00, the Board will meet with the Joint Appropriation Education Subcommittee at the Capitol in Room 102. Dr. Miller requested to move Item 32 up on Friday's agenda to approximately 10:30 a.m. due to time constraints.

MOTION: Ms. Fladmo moved to accept the agenda as submitted for the January 9 & 10, 2003 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fuller and unanimously carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Miller turned the meeting over to Mr. Bishop, Chairperson of the Finance Committee for any comments or questions regarding the finance portion of the consent agenda. Mr. Bishop stated that the board is 34% expended.

MOTION: Mr. Bishop moved to accept the consent agenda as submitted. The motion was seconded by Ms. Silverthorne and unanimously carries.

** Note- Items are reported in the order in which they were addressed during the meeting.**

Item 1 Chairperson's Report

Dr. Miller introduced several items that would all be discussed further during this current meeting; Communication Plan, Position Paper, Board of Education Committee Descriptions, Board of Education Agenda, and Legislative Strategies. Additional noteworthy items in Dr. Miller's report include:

- December 9, 2002-met with Superintendent McCulloch and Madalyn Quinlan to discuss pertinent test issues as well as progress on No Child Left Behind and the NCLB Advisory Panel.
- December 17, 2002-attended Ed Forum meeting. There was heavy discussion regarding legislation, and Steve Gettel presented budget information and a request for legislative support for School for the Deaf and Blind issues.
- December 17, 2002-met with Lieutenant Governor Ohs and Kris Goss to discuss BPE Position Statement on Education Funding. The Lt. Governor agreed to discuss this concept with the Governor with a recommendation for action to be planned early in the session.
- December 19, 2002-spoke with Mike Dennison of the Great Falls Tribune on behalf of the board regarding a series of articles the Tribune is writing on school funding and the upcoming legislative session.

Dr. Miller formally announced the re-appointment of Mr. Bishop to the Board of Public Education, effective February 1, 2003. Mr. Bishop gave a brief speech thanking the board for their support.

Item 2 Executive Secretary Report

Mr. Meloy presented his report to the board, noting some of the significant issues listed below:

- ✓ Toured schools in the Bitterroot with Superintendent McCulloch and staff on the Yellow Bus Tour, expressed how rewarding it was for him to actually get to meet students, superintendents, and staff.
- ✓ Worked with Roger Merrill on communication plan.
- ✓ Coordinated a meeting on ESEA Advisory panel.
- ✓ Invited Senator Keenan to meet with the full board on January 9, 2003.
- ✓ Presented letter of appreciation to Joanne Erickson for her SAELP work.
- ✓ Met with Dr. Miller and Lieutenant Governor Ohs regarding BPE position paper.
- ✓ Met with Jack Copps for MQEC for an update on their litigation.

Mr. Meloy then introduced Roger Merrill to update the board on the status of the Communication Plan. Mr. Meloy, stated that the message of the plan (Keep the Promise) is currently being utilized by the board with regards to the theme of the position paper, the strategic plan, and during conversations with various educational groups.

Mr. Merrill proceeded to present a more subdued, professional, conservative approach to the plan. The proposed plan is more focused but fundamentally grounded in a basic concept. He urged the board to express their opinions with regards to his proposal. Two of the concepts that he presented were, "Quality in Public Education is More Than a Bright Idea", and "You are

the Public in Montana Public Education". These items are designed to clarify the role of the Board of Public Education in the state of Montana, and to deliver an inspirational message to the state.

MOTION: Ms. Fladmo moved to authorize Mr. Meloy to work with Mr. Merrill to finalize Phase 1 of the Communication Plan. Ms. Silverthorne seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carries.

Item 3 CSPAC Report

Peter Donovan presented highlights of his report. Upcoming meetings include: the first meeting of the CSPAC Assessment Advisory Group on January 8, 2003, Western States Certification Conference (San Antonio) from January 13-16, Council of Deans to meet at Western (January 29) in conjunction with CSPAC, CSPAC Meeting (January 30), and a joint meeting with the Board of Public Education on March 13. 2002 CSPAC Annual Report will be brought to the joint meeting. Mr. Donovan shared with the board his recent appointment to the Professional Preparation and Continuing Development committee for the Western Region.

Item 4 Chapter 57 Update

Margaret Bowles presented to the board an update of the implementation of the new license rules, including a description of the first month in applying the rules, the new licensure application, and fingerprinting and field communication. Ms. Bowles related that this is an enormous step forward to ensure safety in Montana's classrooms (fingerprinting). She also explained the Montana Educator Licensure Application, which will eventually be available online. Mr. Jeff Weldon related a few statements regarding the fingerprinting issue and urged the board to draft a letter to Attorney General McGrath at Department of Justice to thank them for working with OPI.

Item 5 State Superintendent Report

Linda McCulloch presented highlights of activities she has participated in since the board last met. One of the items she wished to share with the board and also one she was exceptionally proud of was the fact that eight teachers have achieved National Board Certification, which is a Montana record for one year! Other matters included in Ms. McCulloch's report were:

NOVEMBER

- Participated in Education Forum meeting in November
- Attended Board of Regents meeting
- Attended Board of Public Education Meeting (November)
- Visited Capital High School and Helena High School with Congressman Denny Rehberg

DECEMBER

- Attended OPI's video conference on the five-year Comprehensive Education Plan (December)
- Visited Hamilton, Stevensville and Lone Rock schools with OPI staff on her "Yellow School Bus Tour"
- Met regularly with staff in preparation for the 2003 legislative session
- Participated in a meeting concerning Chapter 57 rules

Item 7 Governor's Office Report

Lieutenant Governor Karl Ohs and Kris Goss presented the Governor's Office report, which included the formal public announcement of the re-appointment of Storrs Bishop to the Board of Public Education. He passed on to the board the announcement of the Governor's education package for the 58th session of the legislature, which included the following items:

- A. Averaging enrollments for all school districts except those that see greater than a

- 6% increase in enrollment
- B. The new teacher student loan repayment program to be administered by the Montana Guaranteed Student Loan Program
- C. Revisions to the transportation funding mechanism
- D. Flexibility for districts to increase opportunities for professional development
- E. The concept of school district employee health insurance reform

Lieutenant Governor Ohs also mentioned that the Governor's Office, like the Board of Public Education, has been monitoring the progress of the new ESEA, and that the No Child Left Behind act empowers state governors in the implementation process. Another topic of interest introduced by Mr. Ohs concerned the threat of limiting funds for the Rural Education Achievement Programs. In order to address this issue, Governor Martz has sent a letter to Montana's congressional delegation urging their support of these programs in the coming congress. The Governor's Office also participated in the Montana Rural Education Association's annexation task force in November. They also have continued their participation in the SAELP consortium, which looks to work with the economic development community on behalf of school leadership issues.

Item 8 Student Representative Report

Derek Duncan presented to the board a copy of his report, which included attending the CSPAC Assessment Advisory Group, Governor's Summit on Tobacco Prevention, National Association of Student Representatives, and his draft of a five-month strategic plan.

Item 9 Jon Runnals-2003 Montana Teacher of the Year

Mr. Runnals, who is a science teacher from Helena Middle School, with 25 years of experience reported on the "State of the State" of education from the teacher's perspective. He spoke to us, outlining his perspective of what is "Seasonable, Reasonable, and Treasonable" about public education in the United States today.

Item 10 Traffic Education Program Status Update

David Huff, Director, Traffic Education Unit, OPI, presented his report on the status of the Traffic Education Program. He also highlighted items from the *Statewide Summary of Montana's 2001-2002 Traffic Education Program*. The changes made to the Office of Public Instruction rules for Traffic Education made in 2002 were summarized. The resulting pilot program with Missoula Public Schools and Valley Christian High School, whereby the latter school offers a satellite driver education program under the authority of Missoula Public Schools, was explained. Lastly, the joint project of the Department of Justice and the OPI on *An Adapted/Illustrated Version of the Montana Driver's Manual for Obtaining a License to Drive* was discussed.

Item 11 Annual Transportation Report

Maxine Mougeot, Pupil Transportation Director, OPI, presented information about the 2002 Pupil Transportation Data, Lap/Shoulder belt issues, OPI position paper on Lap/Shoulder belts, and Driver Training Updates regarding attitudes and issues. Ms. Mougeot also gave the board an update on how the driver training is progressing, with countywide trainings being offered. The purpose of the discussion of the Lap/Shoulder belt issue is to assist the Board of Public Education in understanding the controversy and reasons the OPI is against putting restraints in school buses.

Item 12 NASBE Study Group on E- Learning

Joyce Silverthorne had nothing new to present at this meeting, but reported that the study group will follow-up with researching how the rule (10.55.907), which is already in place, is being implemented.

Item 13 NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND Update

Nancy Coopersmith, Assistant Superintendent, OPI, and Bill Hallinan, Chief of the Systems Development Bureau, OPI, presented a synopsis of materials released by the U.S. Department of Education in the last two months, including the final regulations concerning accountability and adequate yearly progress released December 2, 2002. In addition, past and future activities of the Office of Public Instruction were presented. Timelines for the submission of the next installments of the state's consolidated application to the department were provided.

Item 17 Board of Education Revised Committee Descriptions and Board of Public Education Revised Committee Assignments

Dr. Miller reported to the board that he and Chair of the Regents, Richard Roehm, talked on the phone about the charge to the committees of the Board of Education. The Regents have agreed that the committee descriptions are acceptable. The Budget Committee and Policy and Evaluation Committee will be under the charge of the Regents for chairmanship. The Indian Education for All and K-20 Committee will be under the Board of Public Education for chairmanship. The chairs and vice chairs of the committees are as follows: Joyce Silverthorne, Chair of the Indian Education for All Committee, Diane Fladmo, Chair of the K-20 Committee, Storrs Bishop, Vice Chair of the Budget Committee, and Joyce Silverthorne, Vice Chair of the Policy and Evaluation Committee. These committees will meet, summarize progress, and distribute to the rest of the Board members prior to the next July meeting.

****** 2:00-4:00 p.m.-Board of Public Education recessed to convene with the Board of Regents as the Board of Education –Room 142- Higher Education Complex******

******4:15 p.m.-Board of Public Education met with the Governor and her cabinet***

******8:00-10:00 a.m.-Friday, January 10, 2003-Board met with Appropriation Subcommittee on Education, Room 102, Capitol******

Item 6 Commissioner of Higher Education Report

Dr. Dick Crofts presented the Montana Board of Regents' Accountability Report. This report was compiled under the auspices of the Joint Subcommittee on Postsecondary Education Policy and Budget with representatives of the Montana Legislature, the Board of Regents and the Executive Branch. This group sought to address issues related to the accountability of public postsecondary institutions in Montana. As a result of their work, the Joint Subcommittee identified statewide public postsecondary education policy goals and accountability measures for the Montana University System. This was followed by a formal agreement between the Joint Subcommittee on Postsecondary Education Policy and Budget and the Montana University System. This agreement provides that:

- The Montana University System shall prepare an Accountability Report presenting appropriate and current data for each accountability measure in an easy-to-read format.
- The Accountability Report shall be presented to the House and Senate Education Committee and the Joint Appropriations Education Subcommittee by the 10th legislative day of the 58th Legislature.
- The Accountability Report shall be posted to the Board of Regents website and the Joint Subcommittee on Postsecondary Education Policy and Budget website, and
- The Montana University System shall prepare an annual update to the Accountability Report and post the Report on the Board of Regents website by January 1 each year.

Item 16 Five-Year Strategic Plan Update

Diane Fladmo reviewed the updated draft of the Montana Board of Public Education's Action Plan. Ms. Fladmo had a suggestion to the board to rework the language under the heading "2003-2008 Strategies". She will be working with Mr. Meloy on this rewrite and will report back to the board at the July meeting.

Item 18 Assessment Update

Judy Snow presented data from the MontCAS, Phase 2, Spring 2003 Pilot Test Registration. Some of the information presented included:

- 410 schools volunteered to participate in the pilot test program
- 39,568 students registered for the reading pilot test
- 1,957 teachers registered to administer the reading pilot test
- 38,742 students registered for the mathematics pilot test
- 1,959 teachers registered to administer the mathematics pilot test

Ms. Snow also presented the JUMP Newsletter for December 2002 from OPI, which referenced the MontCAS, Phase 1, Norm-Referenced Tests, presented facts about statewide testing in Montana required by state or federal law, and provided a table outlining testing times for Spring 2003.

Item 19 Update on CSPAC Assessment Study Group

Diane Fladmo thanked many participants for the planning and implementation of the CSPAC Assessment Study Group, which met on Wednesday, January 8, 2003, facilitated by Bob Runkel. Ms. Fladmo clarified the disparity of the roles of the different groups regarding assessment. The CSPAC Study Group is a time-limited group bringing together people with expertise in the area both from inside and outside of Montana to help set some direction regarding assessment. The object of this group will address the needs of a comprehensive assessment system in Montana. This group will bring a recommendation, via a white paper to the board and to the Office of Public Instruction for their consideration. The next meeting of the Assessment Study Group is March 24, 2003. The CSPAC Assessment Study group differs from the Assessment Advisory Group, led by Judy Snow, as the latter will be ongoing and will tackle assessment issues as they arise, and will continue to give guidance on how to handle assessment matters.

Item 32 Appointments to MACIE

Ms. Silverthorne introduced Norma Bixby, Chairperson for MACIE, who presented the slate of nominated representatives for approval by the superintendent of public instruction and the Board of Public Education. MACIE will be meeting on January 18, 2003 at the Office of Public Instruction in their conference room.

MOTION: Ms. Silverthorne moved to approve the list submitted for MACIE membership. The motion was seconded by Storrs Bishop and unanimously carries.

Item 20 Comprehensive Education Plan Update

Al McMiliin, Accreditation Specialist, OPI and Dr. Linda Peterson, Accreditation Division Administrator, OPI, introduced Bob Barnes, Park City Superintendent and Claudette Morton, Executive Director, Montana Small Schools Alliance. Both Ms. Morton and Mr. Barnes are regional facilitators for the Office of Public Instruction in assisting schools in completing their five-year comprehensive education plan. This presentation enabled the board to hear a few Montana educators describe the challenges and insights of their work. Dr. Peterson also mentioned the "Guidelines for Accreditation Review and Assistance Process Supporting the Five-Year Comprehensive Education Plan Development", which was reviewed further by Mr. McMiliin. Mr. Barnes related some of the challenges he has experienced in being a facilitator. Most of the experiences have been positive and rewarding. Out of the 24 schools he was

assigned, 22 of them will have the five-year education plan completed by May 1. He commended the board for requiring the plan. His recommendation to the board was, "Don't consider watering down the standards, and always ask for more". Ms. Morton, facilitator for 90 of the smaller school districts in Montana, which was a very diverse group, related to the board that she has had enormous cooperation from the schools and overall it has been a positive experience. It is difficult for these smaller schools to look at data as data; they tend to look at it on a more personal note. All of the schools view the five-year plan as a lot of work. Mr. McMilin spoke to the board regarding the Guidelines, which reflect the final modifications to allow a district to be able to fine-tune their plans.

Item 21 Accreditation Electronic Screenings Update

Al McMilin, along with Karen Case, Accreditation Assistant, OPI, presented an overview of the Annual Data Collection process, which electronically gathers critical data, including accreditation information from Montana schools. This presentation addressed changes to the accreditation process from the ease, speed and accuracy of electronic submission, to using the electronic database in the screening process for determining accreditation status. 81 percent of the 877 schools submitted the ADC (Annual Data Collection) electronically and 19 percent submitted by paper. Also, out of 56 counties, 22 (39%) were electronically submitted, 4 (8%) were paper, and 29 (53 %) were a mixture of paper and electronic submittal.

Item 27 Accreditation Recommendation of Alternative Standards

Al McMilin presented three Alternative Standard Requests for two-year approval; Gallatin County, Malmborg Elementary School, Library Services, 10.55.709, Cottonwood Elementary School, Library Services, 10.55.709 and Guidance Services, 10.55.710, and Springhill Elementary School, Guidance Services, 10.55.710.

MOTION: Mr. Bishop moved to accept OPI's recommendation for two-year approval of the three alternative standard requests. The motion was seconded by John Fuller and unanimously carried.

Item 28: Request for Program Approvals: University of Great Falls: Master's of Science Degree for School Psychology

Dr. Linda Peterson introduced Deb Kotel, Dean of Graduate Studies, UGF, and Dr. Robert LeLieuvre, Professor of Psychology, UGF, who presented an overview of the Master of Science Degree Program. Ms. Kotel reviewed the supplemental material, which states that this program aspires and will work to meet requirements as promulgated by the National Association of School Psychologist (NASP). Dr. LeLieuvre gave a description of how he envisioned the program evolving over a period of time. He visualized a basic program that would be in full compliance with Montana Standards, and then to utilize a period of a number of years to refine learning objectives, add or delete courses as necessary, and look at the possibility of an addition of course credits in order to ultimately seek the national professional approval.

Ms. Victoria Withrow, President, Montana Association of School Psychologists (MASP) and Dr. George Camp, University of Montana, offered comments on the program.

MOTION: Ms. Myers moved to approve the request for provisional program approval of the Master of Science degree for School Psychology at the University of Great Falls. Mr. Fuller seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.

Item 29 Request for Program Approvals: University of Great Falls: Library Media Services Program

Dr. Joe Fontana, Professor, UGF, presented the information regarding the Library Media Services Program. This presentation is in response to a request for additional information concerning the proposal to add a minor in library media services to the teacher education

program at the University of Great Falls. This program, which consists of twenty-two credits, will include a six-credit internship.

MOTION: Ms. Myers moved to approve the request for provisional program approval of the minor in Library/Media Services, located at University of Great Falls. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fuller and unanimously carried.

Item 30 Request for Program Approvals: Montana State University-Northern, Education Leadership Program

Dr. Darlene Sellers, Dean of Education, MSU-Northern presented information regarding the Class 3 Administrative Endorsement for K-12 Principals. The major impetus for this application is to assist teachers who live and work in the rural school districts and districts that serve Native American populations in North Central Montana to be eligible for the Class 3 license for K-12 school principals. Particularly critical is the need to recruit Native American educators to administrative leadership as principals in K-12 schools.

MOTION: Ms. Myers moved to approve the request for provisional program approval of a Class 3 Administrative Endorsement for K-12 Principal program, located at MSU-Northern. Ms. Silverthorne seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.

Item 31 Chapter 57 Cleanup & Chapter 55 Program Foundation Standards Notice of Proposed Rule Change

Margaret Bowles, Educator Licensure Program Manager, OPI and Rick Chiotti, Division Administrator, Health Enhancement and Safety, OPI presented the proposed rule notice which included an amendment of ARM 10.55.1003 and amendments to Chapter 57 which are necessary to correct errors, provide clarification and consistency in the rules, and to further the intent of the Chapter 57 committee and the Board of Public Education in adopting the recent changes to the educator licensure rules.

MOTION: Ms. Silverthorne moved to notice for hearing the publication of the proposed rule notice and to authorize staff to prepare and publish a notice adopting the amendments if there are no negative comments received at the hearing. Ms. Myers seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.

Item 22 Consideration of Student Representative 2-Year Term

Mr. Duncan, Student Representative presented his thoughts on why the term for this position should be extended to two years. He presented pros and cons to his position. Some of the advantages to a two-year term were the fact that the student can become more acclimated to the position, is better able to make logically based decisions, and it allows student representatives to participate during the legislative session. On the other hand, a two-year term would limit the number of students that could be involved. Mr. Duncan also brought up the concept to have the position changed from a non-voting to a voting position. After concerns over privacy and disciplinary issues were addressed, this idea was dismissed.

Item 23 Board Member Appearances

The following board members reported on their activities since the last board meeting in November.

Patty Myers

12/02/02-MSDB Committee
12/15/02-MSDB Christmas Dinner
12/18/03-MSDB Christmas Program

Derek Duncan

01/08/03-CSPAC Assessment Advisory Group

Joyce Silverthorne

11/22/02-11/24/02-NCSS-20-1-501

01/08/03-CSPAC Assessment Meeting

01/11/03-Meet with MWIEA board-NAS endorsement

01/22/03-AYP meeting-OPI

01/30/03-(Proposed)-CSPAC-NAS endorsement

Item 24 Proposed Amendment for Broadened Use of Special Revenue

Mr. Meloy presented an update on the concept he had brought to the board at the November meeting regarding the proposed amendment for broadened use of special revenue. This amendment broadens the Board of Public Education's, as well as CSPAC's ability to utilize research money. It leaves the decision up to the discretion of the chairs of both committees as to how the money should be spent. It also provides more flexibility for both the board and CSPAC to use monies from the research fund.

Item 25 Other K-12 Legislation

Mr. Meloy presented information on legislation that the Office of Public Instruction is submitting. Superintendent McCulloch had previously spoken with regards to these items, in greater detail.

Item 26 BPE Legislative Protocol

Mr. Meloy submitted a brief summation of legislative protocol that he recommended to be followed during the 58th legislative session.

Item 14 MWIEA Dropout Hearing Report

Representative Carol Juneau presented a brief summary of the Dropout Hearing, which was held at the Jorgenson's Inn on November 7, 2002. There is a summary of the oral testimony, a summary of the written testimony and several recommendations. She communicated to the board that approximately 125 people attended the hearing, with about 35 people providing oral testimony. She expressed to the board that there is a strong need to look at creative strategies to provide solutions to the dropout issue. Representative Juneau provided a copy of the report to Chairman Miller, to be copied and distributed to all board members by Ms. Hopkins. The Montana/Wyoming Indian Education Conference will be held from March 29-April 1, 2003.

Item 15 MWIEA Legislative Forum Agenda

Representative Juneau gave a summation of topics that were discussed at the Legislative Forum, including K-12 education, higher education, and economic development. Included in this report were a number of issues that were discussed, recommendations by the various groups and MWIEA's recommendations. This forum was organized to provide an opportunity for MWIEA and MACIE to obtain information on issues and recommendations on topics affecting the living conditions of Montana Indians, with education being the primary focus.

Item 33 Appointments to CSPAC

Mr. Donovan submitted for approval of the board, the only applicant for the CSPAC position, Melodee Smith-Burreson. This individual was a finalist for Teacher of the Year in 2002, and was highly recommended by Representative Holly Raser. This position, which is an elementary position, and will expire in June 2003, was filled to replace Margaret Bowles. Mr. Donovan will draft a letter of commendation to Ms. Bowles from CSPAC.

MOTION: Ms. Myers moved to appoint Melodee Smith-Burreson to the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bishop and unanimously carried.

Item 34 MSDB Committee Meeting/Report

Steve Gettel, Bill Sykes, and Chris Gutschenritter, School Psychologist (since 1985), presented an update of occurrences, meetings, etc. that have transpired since the last board meeting.

1. Spotlight on Programs-Referral, Evaluation and Admissions-Chris Gutschenritter gave an overview on referrals, evaluations, and admissions. There is a 4-6 week period for evaluation, next they meet with family, student, etc., share information and discuss placement (needs, grade level). 2002-approx.30-32 evaluations were done.
2. Student Enrollment/Evaluation-On campus total-71, residential-38; Deaf-46, Visually impaired-23; Transition students-2; Off campus total-273, Deaf-76, Visually impaired-187, Parent Advisor Program-10; Student evaluations-Hearing Impaired Dept.-8, Visually Impaired Dept.-3
3. Personnel Actions-New hires-Teacher Assistant-Laureen Baack, effective 11/18/02, Life Guard-Julia Kelly, effective 12/03/02, Vacancies-Student Services and LPN.
4. Interest Based Problem Solving-Update on Activities-meetings November 14th and January 27. Letter of intent from UFCW to open negotiations on a new contract (current contracts with UFCW and MEA-MFT expire June 30, 2003).
5. Policies/Procedures-

MOTION: Mr. Morris moved to approve the revisions to the school policies. Motion was seconded by Ms. Silverthorne and unanimously carried.

6. 2003 Legislative Session- Mr. Gettel reviewed the update on proposals. HB 60 is expected to receive a "Do Pass" recommendation from the committee. SB 41 to change the designation of MSDB from an independent institution to a state-supported special school was given a "Do Pass" recommendation from the committee. SB 43 to change the fee for services collected by MSDB from a mandatory fee to an optional fee received a "Do Pass" recommendation from the committee.
7. Program Accreditation-Update on activities-Five-Year Comprehensive Education Plan
8. Professional Development Activities-Management team meetings, "Childcare Worker Certification Training", "Implementing Educational Services for Students with Visual Impairments: What Every Stakeholder Should Know" (January 23 and 24), Braille classes to be offered this semester for college credit.
9. MSDB Foundation Activities-Grants: Library project completion, grant project proposals, infirmary remodel, vocational classroom remodel, wall coverings and furniture for Bitterroot, Aspen, Yellowstone and Glacier, Campus-wide Safety/Security System, Summer Extension Programs.
10. Conferences, Meetings and Contacts-highlights include:
 - November 19-MTAP Demonstration and Reception, MSU-COT, Great Falls
 - December 17-Ed Forum, Helena
 - January 2-MSDB Foundation Finance and Executive Committee meetings
 - January 9-Hearing on MSDB Budget, Education Appropriations Subcommittee, Helena
 - January 15-16-Capitol rally with MTAP, MAD and MSDB
 - March 3-5-MCASE, Bozeman
11. Budget and Finance-Update on Budget, Proposed FY 04-05 Budget-Mr. Sykes presented an overview of budget proposals for the FY 04-05 from the

Appropriation Subcommittee as presented on January 6, 2003.

12. Plant and Facilities-Update of current projects-carpet and interior model-long range building, projects for grant consideration SY 02-03-Infirmery Remodel, Vocational Classroom Remodel, and Summer Extension programs.

13. School Calendar-Activities include:

- January 22-End of second quarter
- January 11-Homecoming with GFCHS
- February 14-17-Travel Weekend
- February 27-March 2-Gallaudet High School Academic Bowl, Colorado Springs
- February 28-MSDB Homecoming
- March 10-First day for Track
- March 14-17-Travel Weekend

14. Student News and School Events-one of the students is currently being recruited by Carroll College, December's Schulte's Student of the Week was Ken Smith, Open House at MSDB Library on December 13th, annual Christmas program, "Tis the Season", was held on December 19th, 21 middle and high school students made the first quarter roll with 5 achieving high honors, and 7 students will receive their TELL (Traffic Education Learner Licenses) at the end of the semester.

PRELIMINARY AGENDA ITEMS – March 13 & 14, 2003

- ✓ Legislative update
- ✓ Student Representative position (2 year term)
- ✓ Position Paper (next step)

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

The Board of Public Education will make reasonable accommodations for known disabilities that may interfere with an individual's ability to participate. Persons requiring such accommodations should make their request to the Board of Public Education as soon as possible before the meeting to allow adequate time for special arrangements. You may call or write to: The Board of Public Education, 2500 Broadway, Helena, MT 59620-0601 (406) 444-6576.