

BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES

February 17-18, 2011

HAMPTON INN
Montana Room
725 Carter Drive
Helena, MT

February 17-18, 2011 - Thursday
8:30 AM

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Patty Myers called the meeting to order at 8:34 AM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Tim Seery. Ms. Lila Taylor and Mr. Doug Cordier were introduced and welcomed. Mr. Bernie Olson was not in attendance due to a friend's funeral. Ms. Carol Will took roll call; a quorum was noted. Ms. Britannia Leys, Assistant to the State Director from Senator Max Baucus, was introduced.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Patty Myers pulled the correspondence and financials from the consent agenda. The minutes from the December 2-3, 2010 were approved as presented.

Ms. Patty Myers specifically requested that the January 14, 2011 letter to Roy Hollandsworth, Chair of the Joint Subcommittee on Education be discussed during the legislative update in the Executive Secretary's report.

Ms. Patty Myers noted the correspondence in regard to the NASBE dues and requested that the Board of Public Education discuss them during the Executive Secretary's report along with the financials.

ADOPT AGENDA

Ms. Patty Myers reported that Mr. Steve Gettel will not present the MSDB report on February 18, 2011 and it will be presented by Ms. Patty Myers prior to the licensure hearings on the same day.

Mr. John Edwards moved: to approve the agenda as amended. Ms. Sharon Carroll seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Bernie Olson was not present for the vote.

Those in attendance included the following Board members: Chair Ms. Patty Myers, Vice Chair Ms. Sharon Carroll, Mr. John Edwards, Ms. Erin Williams, Ms. Lila Taylor, Mr. Doug Cordier, and Student Representative Mr. Tim Seery. Staff present included: Mr. Steve Meloy, Executive Secretary, Board of Public Education; Mr. Peter Donovan, Administrative Officer, Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council; and Ms. Carol Will, Administrative Assistant, Board of Public Education. Ex-officio members present included: State Superintendent, Denise Juneau; Mr. John Cech, Deputy Commissioner for Two-Year and Community College Education, represented Commissioner Sheila Stearns; and there was no representative for Governor Brian Schweitzer. Visitors in attendance included: Ms. Nancy Coopersmith, Assistant Superintendent, OPI; Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, Accreditation Division Administrator, OPI; Ms. Norma Bixby, MACIE; Ms. Beck McLaughlin, Montana Arts Council; Dr. Jayne Downey, Montana State University-Bozeman; Dr. Larry Baker, Montana State University-Bozeman; Dr. Lynette Zuroff, Director of Teacher Education & Professor, Carroll College; Ms. Ann Gilkey, Chief Legal Counsel, OPI; Ms. Linda Brandon-Kjos, Legal Services Administrative Officer, OPI; Ms. Judy Snow, Assessment Specialist, OPI; Ms. Pam Collins, Assistant Attorney General, Agency Legal Services Bureau; Ms. Sarah Cline, Rural Dynamics; Mr. Steve Cape, Rural Dynamics; Ms. Kris Goyins,

Communication Arts Curriculum Specialist; Ms. Kelly Glass, Accreditation Accountability Specialist, OPI; Ms. Debra Silk, Attorney, MTSBA; Mr. Mark Faroni, Principal, Dixon Public Schools; Mr. Greg Landon, Chair, Dixon Board of Trustees; Ms. Rebecca Burg, Teacher; Mr. JC Weingartner, Attorney, MEA-MFT; Miss Fiona Williams; and Ms. Patsy O'Keefe.

INFORMATION

Item 1 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT - Patty Myers

- December 10, 2010 Chapter 55 Leadership Meeting Conference Call
- January 3, 2011 Sarah Cline of Rural Dynamics RE: Financial Literacy Great Falls, MT
- January 6, 2011 BOE Shared Policy Goals-Joint Subcommittee on Education-Helena, MT
- January 7, 2011 BPE Budget Presentation-Joint Subcommittee on Education-Helena, MT
- January 17, 2011 MSDB Foundation Meeting-Great Falls, MT
- January 25, 2011 Scheduling Conference Call-Case #2010-05
- January 27, 2011 Elementary & Middle School Administrators Meeting-Great Falls, MT
- February 8, 2011 MSDB Committee Meeting Conference Call
- February 16, 2011 State of Education-Helena, MT
- February 16, 2011 Chapter 55 Planning Meeting-Helena, MT

BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION APPEARANCES

Sharon Carroll

- January 25, 2011 Scheduling Conference Call-Case #2010-05
- February 16, 2011 State of Education-Helena, MT
- February 16, 2011 Assessment Meeting-Helena, MT
- February 16, 2011 Chapter 55 Planning Meeting-Helena, MT

Bernie Olson

- February 8, 2011 MSDB Committee Meeting Conference Call

John Edwards

- January 20, 2011 Assessment Conference-Billings, MT

Doug Cordier

- February 16, 2011 State of Education-Helena, MT
- February 16, 2011 Assessment Meeting-Helena, MT

Tim Seery

- February 16, 2011 State of Education-Helena, MT

Ms. Patty Myers welcomed Erin Williams' daughter Fiona and her mother-in-law Patsy O'Keefe.

Item 2 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT - Steve Meloy

Mr. Steve Meloy reported that he is registered to lobby on behalf of the Board of Public Education. The BPE's agency continues to follow the direction of the Governor and the Budget Director. Since 2001 the Legislative Fiscal Division raised the issue regarding teacher fees. In the 2013 Biennium LFD Budget Analysis presented the following options:

- Introduce legislation to increase the fees for teacher and specialist certificates and adjust the allocation to deposit the additional revenue in the research fund for operations of the Board
- Reduce expenditures of the Board by \$15,000 per year, the amount necessary to maintain the current ratio of General Fund support

- Appropriate additional General Fund to the Board for operations

The LFD continues to note that the revenues to the Research Fund, which are used to support a portion of the expenses of the Board as well as the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council (CSPAC), are not sufficient to fund ongoing operations and will be depleted if the current rate of revenue and spending continues by FY 2014. Therefore, the issue for the legislature is whether to increase fees, reduce expenditures, or increase the current general fund. In 2005, the Board of Public Education was allowed to use the Research Fund to offset the operational costs of CSPAC and the BPE. The cash balance in the Research Fund was high and the General Fund had a reprieve of \$15,000 per year to reduce the cash balance in the Research Fund. Now the Board of Public Education is requesting a fund switch of \$15,000 per fiscal year. The January 14, 2011 letter that Ms. Patty Myers wrote to Representative Roy Hollandsworth, on behalf of the Board, stated this issue and stressed that the General Fund has a responsibility to fund the Board of Public Education's constitutional responsibilities. Mr. Steve Meloy reported that during the Education Appropriations Subcommittee hearing he was directly asked by a republican member about the licensing fees in Montana. The Education Appropriations Subcommittee passed an increase to the licensure fees from \$6 to \$10. The Board of Public Education does not support the licensure fee increase, but would like to be at the table in the event that the increase becomes law. The Education Appropriations Subcommittee passed the increase from \$6 to \$10, and the BPE believes this is too much of an increase. The recommendation from the Board of Public Education, if this moves forward and if the fund switch is not approved, is to raise the fees from \$6 to \$8. The additional \$2 would be placed in the Advisory Council Fund and an appropriation increase in the same fund would offset the expenditures to the Research Fund for CSPAC's operating costs. Mr. Steve Meloy also reported that MCA 17-2-108 requires, with limited exceptions, an office or entity of the executive, legislative or judicial branch of state government to apply expenditures against appropriated non-General Fund money whenever possible before using General Fund appropriations. Mr. Steve Meloy believes that the Board of Public Education should be exempt from MCA 17-2-108. State Superintendent Denise Juneau reported that Representative Roy Hollandsworth plans to move forward with the teacher licensure increase and will work with Mr. Meloy on the language. Superintendent Juneau also cautioned that opening the statute often leads to many more amendments. Mr. Meloy is reluctant to have the Board of Public Education make a decision until the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council makes a recommendation since it is their program funding. Discussion ensued about teachers across the state contacting Ms. Patty Myers; a companion bill; fees set in statute; other boards set fees in rule; opening statute for further amendments; a BPE member thought that MEA-MFT may like the BPE to control licensure fees; and the Governor's intent not to sign the bill. A decision was tabled until Friday, February 18, 2011 in regard to the Board of Public Education considering a public statement. Ms. Patty Myers expressed her concern about writing the letter to Representative Hollandsworth on behalf of the Board of Public Education without having a statement from the Board.

Mr. Steve Meloy also reported that the BPE was exempt from the 5% overall reduction according to MCA 17-7-111, but the Education Appropriations Subcommittee voted to reverse the exemption and apply the 5% cut to the BPE and the CSPAC. Mr. Meloy also stated that the fund switch may remain to be a challenge because it is requesting to increase the General Fund appropriation. State Superintendent Denise Juneau stated that she is pleased that the OPI and the BPE agreed to sign the Shared Policy Goals and anticipates the opportunity to move forward to the House Appropriations Committee.

Mr. Steve Meloy distributed a list of bills to watch and provided an update. Ms. Patty Myers noted that the Office of Public Instruction will come before the BPE with a recommendation in regard to the Common Core Standards at its May meeting.

Ms. Carol Will reported that the BPE paid \$11,216 for half of the 2011 dues for the National Association of State Boards of Education. The remaining ½ is scheduled to be paid on July 1, 2011 from the FY2012 appropriation. Ms. Patty Myers said that the BPE would not submit any further payment for NASBE until the BPE discusses this further at its May meeting and once the legislature completes its work. Mr. Steve Meloy stated that it would be a savings for the fiscal year, but that the legislature may cut it from the

BPE's appropriation in future sessions. Discussion ensued about the following: span of time between BPE meetings since one was cut in FY2011; line items on the budget; attending national meetings; new member institute; and the Jones-Tamm Lecture Series.

Public Comment

Ms. Sarah Cline and Mr. Steve Cape from Rural Dynamics Incorporated (RDI) addressed the Board in regard to the work that they do with youth in Montana to assist them in obtaining financial independence.

RDI has been providing free financial consultations across Montana since 1968. While still providing credit counseling, debt management plans, and financial education services, the organization has expanded partnerships and programs to offer free tax preparation services; Individual Development Account (IDA), matched savings for school or homeownership, programs; policy advocacy work; Bridge to Benefits, on-line and anonymous work support screening tool; and other strategies to help move families to financial security. Mr. Steve Cape recommended that high school students take ½ credit in financial training and planning as a high school graduation requirement as Chapter 55 is being revised. Mr. Cape continued to report that students who are better trained in finances are better stewards and will make the communities in which they live more economically competitive. Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson reported that the Office of Public Instruction has been engaged with RDI and other organizations in the preparation of revising the Social Studies Standards in which personal finances would exist. The Social Studies Standards are scheduled to begin in 2012 with an expected adoption date of 2013. Dr. Peterson also pointed out that Chapter 55 identifies the number of high school credits for graduation, but does not designate required courses.

Item 4 STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - State Superintendent Denise Juneau

State Superintendent Denise Juneau reported that the Governor's proposed budget died, but there are some different school funding bills that are being prepared in an attempt to equalize county taxes. Section E closed on February 16, 2011 in the Joint Education Appropriations Subcommittee and everything shifted to the House Appropriations Committee. Currently K-12 education is about \$48 million below the Governor's proposed budget. There were reductions in adult education and the double federal funding match; gifted and talented funding; career and technical education; and instate treatment for children who are served at Shodair Children's Hospital. The sum of these reductions along with matching funds equate to about \$8 million. State Superintendent Denise Juneau stressed that there was no action to the Office of Public Instruction's K-12 budget except cuts and she reiterated how difficult it is to re-establish the funding for these programs. The Office of Public Instruction is concerned about reducing its staff by approximately 30 people with the reductions that exist at this time. There have been proposed bills to do away with the Office of Public Instruction, cut the OPI in half, and reduce the education level of the State Superintendent. The new legislators see the large appropriations allocated to the Office of Public Instruction, but do not realize what a small portion of that funding is used to operate the Office of Public Instruction. Most of the appropriation is allocated to schools. The legislature is required to notice hearings 72 hours in advance, but it is not happening. State Superintendent Denise Juneau stressed that the education community needs to get fired up and get involved because there is an attack on public education. Discussion ensued about the following: Economic development following talent; concerns for adult education and GED programs; knowledge and experience in the senate; bullying; the legislature is not the only rule making body; and the need to work together.

MACIE NOMINATION (ACTION)

State Superintendent Denise Juneau approved and recommended Bertha Other Bull for the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education (MACIE) that was nominated by the Commissioner of Higher Education to represent the Montana University System. The Board of Public Education accepted the nomination without objection.

11:00 AM State Superintendent Denise Juneau departed

Item 5 COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION'S REPORT - Commissioner Sheila Stearns

Mr. John Cech, Deputy Commissioner for Two-Year and Community College Education, reported that he began in this position on January 1, 2011. Previously he served as the Dean and Campus CEO of the MSU Billings College of Technology for 9 years and before that he was the Dean of Rocky Mountain College for 12 years. As the Deputy Commissioner for Two-Year and Community College Education, he chairs the Two-year Council that was created by the Board of Regents to build two-year partnerships and coordination of curriculum with two-year colleges. The major focus of the Two-year Council is to work on grants, build engagements with businesses and secondary schools through career and educational pathways, and work closely with the seven sovereign tribes in Montana. Montana's two-year colleges are about providing the following: Affordable access to both traditional and non-traditional students; university transfer opportunities, pathways for high school students through dual enrollment, and opportunities for students to go directly to the workplace. Two-year colleges are critical to the economic infrastructure of Montana. Mr. Cech is also the State Director for the Carl D. Perkins Funds which are close to \$6 million. A large portion of these funds go to K-12 schools and the post-secondary level to provide monies to support career pathways through the Big Sky Pathways Initiative. The funds also support student completion and retention initiatives, equipment purchases, and building partnerships.

Mr. John Cech continued to provide the following highlights from the Colleges of Technology and Community Colleges in regard to their responsiveness due to the economic down turn: Missoula COT enrolled 70 dislocated workers who lost their jobs from Stimson Lumber and enrolled 80 additional dislocated workers who lost their jobs from Smurfitt-Stone Container Corporation and helping others who were laid off from Macy's and Montana Rail Link; MSU Billings COT was there in Big Timber when the Stillwater Mining Company laid off 350 people to retrain; MSU Great Falls COT is working to develop a statewide sustainable energy wind project; Flathead Valley experienced the greatest economic shift and Flathead Valley Community College enrolled 421 displaced workers in 2010; and Miles Community College is being proactive to bring North Dakota students to Montana and support the development in Otter Creek if that happens. Mr. John Cech reviewed the growth within the last nine years by a headcount of over 128% that occurred in the two-year sector with the 5 Colleges of Technology. Three community colleges grew about 21%. The Missoula COT has grown by 109% and there is a bonding bill that would allow for a new building instead of students continuing to meet in double-wide trailers. The Billings COT grew by approximately 91%, Great Falls COT grew by approximately 72%, Helena COT grew by approximately 43%, and Flathead Valley Community College grew by approximately 75%. The growth reported encompasses traditional and non-traditional students. The four-year universities only experienced an 8% growth in non-traditional students. The community colleges are reaching out to the adults, which is why the adult basic education funding and the GED funding are so important. About 96.1% of the graduates are placed in the field and about 94% are placed in Montana because the two-year colleges have a direct connection to the local communities.

Mr. John Cech also reported that Commission Sheila Stearns is working hard on the transferability initiative. This initiative is making sure that credits taken at any of the colleges are transferable through a process of common course numbering. Other topics addressed were: National recognition by the Lumina Foundation through an initiative called College Now; reviewed the 6 key strategies of College Now; and the streamline version of the MUS Core called Course Choices that Count.

The Course Choices That Count (CTC) Pathway Certificate for the Montana University System Transferable Core guides students to take courses that simultaneously satisfy the course requirements within the six "MUS Core" categories and meet specific requirements in nearly 30 majors, thus helping prospective transfer students make choices that count as the appropriate general education foundation for their chosen major. Students who have completed the CTC Pathway Certificate are assured that all the credits taken from this pathway count for major-specific general education requirements at the receiving campus and that the certificate as a whole counts as the equivalent of completing the receiving campus' own approved general education program (<http://mus.edu/transfer/genedbycampus.asp>).

However, additional lower-division general education courses may be required in subsequent years of study to meet requirements in some majors.

Item 3 CSPAC REPORT - Peter Donovan

Mr. Peter Donovan reported that the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council (CSPAC) will be meeting in Helena on March 3, 2011. One focus of the CSPAC meeting is to continue working on a comprehensive update of the Educators of Montana Code of Ethics. A different meeting is scheduled to address providing adequate training for Braille instructors and sign-language interpreters on February 23, 2011 with the Office of Public Instruction and others who participated in the writing of the new standard adopted by the Board of Public Education. The highlights from CSPAC's January 13, 2011 meeting were reviewed. On June 5-8, 2011, Sharon Carroll, Sharon Applegate, and Peter Donovan will attend the NASDTEC Conference in Sacramento, CA. Discussion ensued about the minimum requirements established for the standards of Braille instructors and sign-language interpreters.

Item 6 GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORT - Dan Villa

No report presented.

Item 7 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT - Tim Seery

Mr. Tim Seery reported that he was honored to attend the State of Education. He applied to some of the following universities: Yale, Dartmouth, Harvard, Duke, and William & Mary to name a few. Mr. Seery has been accepted by a few, but he is waiting to determine all options before making a final decision. Ms. Patty Myers passed around the CM Russell High School newspaper's December 16, 2010 edition of the *Stampede*.

During the May BPE meeting Mr. Tim Seery will introduce his successor to the Board. The Montana Association of Student Councils will make their decision at the end of March or early April. Mr. Seery hopes that someone from the Board of Public Education will participate in the interviews for the new student representative. Ms. Patty Myers said she will notify those in the Billings area as to when these interviews will occur.

Mr. Tim Seery provided an overview of how the music program begins in Great Falls at the elementary level with students selecting instruments after receiving a presentation and becoming mesmerized with them. Often schools will take the hatchet to music programs when funding becomes tight, thinking it is a frivolous area, when in fact the statistics prove that students who study music, compared to those who do not, achieve higher SAT scores. Mr. Seery continued to describe the All-State and All-Northwest Music Competition that is held each year in Bellevue, Washington where students have the opportunity to perform under the direction of world-renowned musicians. Many professional musicians credit this group experience as crucial in their decision to choose music as a career. Thousands of others whose career paths took them in other directions have great memories of participating in this inspiring and motivating musical experience and claim that it was a life-changing experience for them. In conclusion, Mr. Tim Seery reported his involvement with playing cello in the Great Falls Symphony Orchestra and the Great Falls Youth Orchestra.

12:00 PM Mr. John Cech departed

DISCUSSION

Item 8 MACIE REPORT - Norma Bixby

Ms. Norma Bixby provided a summary of the January 28, 2011, MACIE meeting. The MACIE agenda items included: Legislative Update, GEAR UP Report, Schools of Promise and School Improvement Grant Updates, OPI Indian Education Division Report and the American Indian Legal Awareness Program.

Ms. Norma Bixby reported that Mr. Dennis Parman provided an update to MACIE on the Digital Academy. Discussion ensued about the possibility of providing Native American Language and Culture to the Montana Digital Academy course offerings; providing school districts more opportunities to ensure students are successful in the MT Digital Academy; and the importance of letting the legislature know how significant the MT Digital Academy is to students. Mr. Doug Cordier is an enrolled member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation and will be the MACIE Liaison from the Board of Public Education. The Montana Indian Education Association Annual Indian Education Conference is April 7-10, 2011 in Great Falls.

Item 9 CHAPTER 55 TASK FORCE PROGRESS UPDATE - Patty Myers and Dennis Parman

Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson presented the overview of the Chapter 55 Joint Task Force of the Board of Public Education and the Office of Public Instruction that met on December 13-14, 2010. The expected outcomes for the December meeting were to:

1. Complete Chapter 55 draft rule language recommendations for consideration by constituents;
2. Identify key components and related data elements, appropriate to Montana, of a “blended” Performance Based Accreditation (PBA) model (innovative practice to encourage flexibility while ensuring education quality and accountability);
3. Establish working groups and conveners to provide communication between work sessions;
4. Establish next meeting dates.

The December 13-14, 2010 meeting materials were included. The December agenda and meeting accomplishments were posted on the Chapter 55 Joint Task Force web page:

http://www.opi.mt.gov/Programs/SchoolPrograms/index.html#gpm1_3. The next meeting date for the Chapter 55 Joint Task Force is May 16-17, 2011. Discussion ensued that the Board of Public Education’s main responsibilities are to accredit schools and license teachers and it has been 10 years since Chapter 55 has been revised. Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson explained that those on the task force had a great disparity between those who know Chapter 55 well compared to those who do not. There has been extensive effort to bring everyone to the same knowledge level and build a professional learning community. The task force intends to bring a draft to the Board of Public Education in the fall of 2011.

1:30 PM Mr. John Edwards departed

Item 10 COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS - Nancy Coopersmith and Kristine Goyins

Information was presented concerning activities, planned and future, concerning the Common Core State Standards Initiative. In addition, an overview of the report, the Common Core State Standards and the Montana Standards Analysis Report was highlighted. The Office of Public Instruction contracted with two out-of-state content experts to create an alignment of the Montana grade level Essential Learning Expectations (ELE) in Communication Arts and Mathematics with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS).

Mr. Gary Graves, a private consultant from Oregon, completed the communication arts analysis. His overall findings state that: “the Common Core is stronger and potentially more useful to Montana educators and students and I recommend that Montana adopt the Common Core Standards. Two primary reasons support my belief:

- The Common Core offers an obvious and very systematic progression of student performances in the English Language Arts going from simple cognitive demands in primary grades to increasingly higher order thinking requirements in the secondary grades.
- The Common Core appendices also offer a very helpful collection of specific examples of appropriate grade-level texts and models of performance to guide teachers as they implement the standards in their classrooms.

I believe the Montana ELE are stronger in some areas than the Common Core, i.e., an emphasis throughout on student choice and self-exploration, and the consistent promotion of cultural awareness and understanding through the English Language Arts. Incorporating some of Montana’s diversity

language into the national standards will add to the quality of the Common Core for use in Montana's schools."

Dr. Eric Milou, a professor at Rowan University in New Jersey, completed the mathematics alignment. His overall findings state that: "the Common Core standards are more specific than Montana ELE; have little to no algebraic expectations in grades K-3; and push fractions/decimal work into earlier grades than Montana. The Common Core and Montana have geometry expectations at very different grade levels. Probability expectations are delayed in the Common Core. However, by grade 8, the expectations of Montana and the Common Core are about equivalent but they arrive there via two different paths. The high school expectations of the Common Core are more rigorous and more detailed than Montana's ELE."

1:50 PM Mr. John Edwards returned and Ms. Lila Taylor departed

A group of K-20 Communication Arts and Mathematics educators from across the state completed an alignment of the Common Core State Standards with the Montana Essential Learning Expectations using the Achieve Gap Analysis Tool. The teams agreed that the Common Core State Standards are what students need to know and be able to do. After listing the advantages and disadvantages regarding the CCSS, the team found the differences create a critical need for additional culturally relevant standards, professional development, and well-planned implementation.

The Common Core Comparison Tool was created by Achieve; the data are the result of judgments made by the members of the state analysis team. Achieve is an independent, bipartisan, non-profit education reform organization. The Achieve Gap Analysis report highlights key findings from the comparison. The Communication Arts findings resulted in 81 percent of the CCSS match the Montana ELE. The Mathematics findings resulted in 90 percent of the CCSS match the Montana ELE with the exclusion of high school science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM) "+" standards. With the inclusion of the high school science technology, engineering mathematics (STEM) "+" standards, the results were 81 percent of the CCSS matched the Montana ELE.

Another form of comparison was the use of the Survey of Enacted Curriculum (SEC). Content maps created through the SEC show a comparison between Montana's Content Standards and the Common Core State Standards. The SEC maps are created to illustrate the content of the standards based on the knowledge and skills within the standards document and the cognitive demand to which the students must apply the knowledge and skills. Montana's grade four, grade eight, and upon graduation benchmark maps are set alongside the Common Core State Standards at grade four, grade eight, and grades 9-12 for ease of comparison. The SEC contour maps give a visual of the similarities and differences in content and range of cognitive demand levels. These maps, along with graphs and tables, were included as part of the report.

Discussion ensued about the following: Indian Education for All is not included in the Common Core State Standards as written; may lead to a common national assessment; different paths coming to the same end at the 8th grade is ok if that is the only time students are tested; the CCSS look like curriculum at first blush, but they are definitely standards; the CCSS are more rigorous than Montana's; what would happen to Montana National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) scores over time if Montana did not implement the CCSS; and the OPI recommended going to its website, take the survey, and read the Common Core State Standards.

Item 11 EDUCATOR LICENSE REVOCATION AND SURRENDER - Ann Gilkey

Review of statutes, Administrative Rules of Montana and procedures for revocation and surrender of educator licenses. Ms. Ann Gilkey provided the Board of Public Education with a copy of ARM 10.57.601-609 along with MCA 20-4-110.

2:40 PM Ms. Lila Taylor returned

Ms. Ann Gilkey began with MCA 20-4-110(2) quoting that “the board may initiate proceedings under this section if a request for the suspension or revocation of the teacher, administrator, or specialist certificate of any person is made to it by: (a) the trustees of a district as to a teacher, administrator, or specialist employed by that school or school district within the 12 months immediately preceding receipt of the request by the board of public education; or (b) the superintendent of public instruction.” Ms. Gilkey continued with (3)(a) that states, “If the employment relationship between a school district and a teacher, administrator, or specialist is terminated or not renewed or if a teacher, administrator, or specialist resigns to prevent termination or nonrenewal because the trustees have reason to believe that the teacher, administrator, or specialist engaged in conduct described in subsection (1)(e) or (1)(f), the trustees shall make a written report to the superintendent of public instruction describing the circumstances of the termination, nonrenewal, or resignation.” She pointed out that the school district is responsible to report these incidents to the Office of Public Instruction. This prohibits school districts from “passing the trash” or cutting deals with other school districts to remove these teachers from their particular school district. The Office of Public Instruction conducts an investigation. Ms. Gilkey continued to review MCA 20-4-110 (4), (5), and (6). She pointed out the exception to the rule found in MCA 20-4-110(6) that states, “After a hearing, the board may place a written reprimand in the person’s certification file or may suspend or revoke the person’s teacher, administrator, or specialist certificate, except that in the case of a first violation under subsection (1)(g), the maximum penalty is a 2-year suspension of the person’s certificate.” The reaction seems to be a less onerous action of this Board, but the statute trumps the rule. She continued to point out in MCA 20-4-110(6) that “The board may, upon a request by a school district, inform the school district that a person’s certification file includes a letter of reprimand, but the board may not provide a copy of the letter without first determining that the public’s right to know outweighs the person’s right to privacy.” Ms. Gilkey thought it was interesting that there were restrictions placed on the public’s right to know. Mr. John Edwards asked if the public has access to teacher’s files. Ms. Gilkey’s reply was no, but the Board of Public Education may, upon a request by a school district, inform the school district that a person’s certification file includes a letter of reprimand. Ms. Gilkey continued to state that she thought it was odd that a school district would not be automatically informed if there was a letter of reprimand in a teacher’s file.

Ms. Ann Gilkey continued reviewing the educator licensure disciplinary procedures found in ARM 10.57.601 – 609. Ms. Gilkey pointed out that there is an absence of a timeline in ARM 10.57.605 in regard to the surrender of a teacher, specialist or administrator license. In ARM 10.57.605(4) it states, “Surrender of a license may prejudice the ability of teacher, specialist or administrator to successfully seek relicensure in Montana in the same or any other educational endorsement.” This indicated to Ms. Gilkey that maybe surrenders are not meant to be permanent in all instances. Another rule addressed specifically was ARM 10.57.608(1) that states, “The Board of Public Education shall not consider an appeal from a denial by the Superintendent of Public Instruction based on 20-4-104, MCA, if the appellant has made an appeal to the Board from the denial of a teacher, specialist, or administrator license within three years prior to the application which is at issue, and that appeal was denied by the Board following a hearing, unless the appellant can show substantial changes in circumstances relating to the appellant’s eligibility for a license.” Therefore a surrender, which is not a case heard on appeal, can apply for a license without any time constraints. Ms. Gilkey asked the Board of Public Education if they would like to consider timeframes in regard to suspensions, revocations, and denials. She suggested that the BPE could establish timeframes without amending the rule, but she felt that it should be made clearer and recommended revising the rule to prevent being challenged. The rule does not say that you cannot revoke a license permanently. A case was shared in regard to the Office of Public Instruction sending a letter that is requesting a “permanent surrender” which has never been done before. Discussion ensued about permanent revocations and surrenders, legal standing from the BPE, challenging the Board’s authority, and the ability to take away the right of someone to earn a living in the event that they have been successfully rehabilitated. Ms. Gilkey replied that Title 39 from the Department of Labor does not apply to teacher licensure.

The question was raised whether the BPE should do away with surrenders and hear all cases. Discussion ensued that surrenders are good in most instances if timelines were attached; reduces publicity; lack of documentation on behalf of the BPE; three surrenders since 2009 could have been heard as revocation hearings before the BPE; obtaining the Attorney General's opinion; responsibility of school districts to report according to MCA 20-4-114; the BPE feels like a third party in a surrender; extending the consideration of an appeal from a denial to 5 years; reporting to NASDTEC; posting legal actions on the OPI website; BPE erred to the right of privacy; hiring procedures; and the request from the Board of Public to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction to recommend a revised rule to address the raised concerns.

ACTION

PUBLIC COMMENT

The public will be afforded the opportunity to comment before the Board on every action item on the agenda prior to final Board action.

3:30 PM Closed Meeting

Item 12 ACTION REGARDING BPE DENIAL CASE #2009-05 (CLOSED) - Steve Meloy and Pam Collins

3:56 PM Opened Meeting

Ms. Sharon Carroll moved: to uphold the State Superintendent of Public Instruction's recommendation to deny issuance of a teacher license in case #2009-05. Ms. Erin Williams seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Bernie Olson was not present for the vote.

Item 13 2010-2011 FINAL ACCREDITATION RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ALL SCHOOLS - Kelly Glass

This presentation provided to the Board of Public Education for consideration the final 2010-2011 accreditation determinations for all schools as recommended by State Superintendent Denise Juneau. The following documents are attached in support of this item: Annual Montana Accreditation Report, presentation PowerPoint handout, Annual Accreditation Process Calendar, and Montana's Regional Service Areas map. Ms. Kelly Glass reviewed the Montana Accreditation History for All Schools that included public, state funded and non-public schools. The following chart shows the student enrollment accreditation status for all schools as of January 31, 2011.

	Regular	Regular w/ Deviations	Advice	Deficiency
Total Count of Schools (841)	557	153	63	68
Category Count % of Total	66%	18%	8%	5%
Total Enrollment (141,854)	75,712	34,021	9,656	22,465
Category Enrollment % of Total	53%	24%	7%	16%

Ms. Kelly Glass reviewed the following school districts specifically: Bozeman Public Schools; Browning Public Schools; and Malta Public Schools. Overall there are 36 schools that were in Advice or Deficiency

in 2009-2010 and continue to be for the 2010-2011 school year and there are 99 schools that were in Advice or Deficiency in 2009-2010 that are no longer in Advice or Deficiency for 2010-2011. For the 2010-2011 school year 26 schools have non-licensed teachers; 31 schools have non-licensed, non-duplicated teachers; and 25 schools have teachers that continue to be non-licensed from 2009-2010. According to the Deviation Summary by Accreditation Status, Ms. Kelly Glass pointed out that the highest deviation issue is misassigned teachers and the second highest deviation issue is class size. Ms. Kelly Glass also reported that there was a decrease in administrative deficiencies and non-licensed teachers. Questions were generated throughout the report.

Mr. John Edwards moved: to approve the 2010-2011 Annual Montana Accreditation Report as recommended by the State Superintendent. Ms. Lila Taylor seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Bernie Olson was not present for the vote.

Item 14 ALTERNATIVE TO STANDARDS REQUESTS - Kelly Glass

This presentation provided to the Board of Public Education the report of Initial Alternative to Standards requests. State Superintendent Denise Juneau recommends approval of the report as presented. The report was included with 3 initial alternative standard requests representing 3 districts and 4 schools that were received and evaluated in accordance with ARM 10.55.604. Dawson County will be using the Montana Small Schools Alliance (MSSA) model for the alternative standards for ARM 10.55.710 in regard to school counseling. The proposal meets or exceeds the current standard. Gallatin County was evaluated for an alternative standard for ARM 10.55.709 in regard to library media services and the State Superintendent recommended disapproval of the alternative standard request because it does not meet or exceed the standard. Yellowstone County was evaluated for an alternative standard for ARM 10.55.705.1(b)(ii) in regard to the assignment of school administrators/principals and the State Superintendent recommended disapproval of the alternative standard request because it does not meet or exceed the standard.

Mr. John Edwards moved: to approve the Report of Initial Alternative to Standards requests as recommended by the State Superintendent. Mr. Doug Cordier seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Bernie Olson was not present for the vote.

**Friday, February 18, 2011
8:35 AM Meeting Reconvened**

Board Discussion

Ms. Patty Myers requested direction from the Board of Public Education to provide Mr. Steve Meloy with guidance in addressing the proposed teacher licensure increase by the legislature. Ms. Patty Myers stated that raising the cost of teacher licensure at this point in time is not appropriate because their salaries are being frozen and benefits are being reduced. Discussion ensued about the difference between a fee and a tax. A tax is an amount of money levied by a government on its citizens and used to run the government. A fee is a payment for professional services. If raising teacher licensure supports the BPE then it is a tax, but if it is used to support CSPAC's operation then it is a fee. Mr. Meloy stated that he believes the Board of Public Education should not support a teacher licensure increase, but if the legislature continues down that path the BPE recommends a \$2 increase to the Advisory Council Fund for CSPAC and increasing the appropriation to cover CSPAC's operating expenses. Ms. Patty Myers directed Mr. Steve Meloy to always respond directly to any legislator's question. Further discussion occurred in regard to the fact that the increase seems reasonable and that the licensure fees are ridiculously low, but it was agreed that now is not that time to support raising them. Mr. Meloy stressed that if something isn't done to reduce the stress on the Research Fund, it will be depleted in 2014.

The next item of Board discussion centered on the NASBE dues. Ms. Carol Will reported that the NASBE dues are incorporated into our budget, but not specifically under a line item. The Board of Public Education has currently paid \$11,216 for half of the NASBE 2011 dues. The remaining half is scheduled

to be paid July 1, 2011 which will be under FY 2012 expenses. The appropriation that has been used for NASBE dues can be used for other administrative expenditures if the Board desires. The Board of Public Education will need to show the legislature how that money was used if it isn't used to pay NASBE dues in FY 12 and FY 13. Discussion ensued about Mr. Steve Meloy's roll as the National Council of State Boards of Education Executives (NCSBEE) President. Mr. Meloy, along with other NCSBEE members, made suggestions through a letter to make the affiliation better with NASBE and did not receive any response at this time. Mr. Meloy also stated that the resource briefs are excellent and that the Montana Board of Public Education has not aggressively taken advantage of the New Board Member Institute. Ms. Sharon Carroll stated that attending the New Board Member Institute was invaluable. The Board of Public Education agreed to table this discussion until the May meeting.

Item 15 REPORT ON CORRECTIVE PLANS SUBMITTED BY SCHOOLS RECEIVING ADVICE OR DEFICIENCY ACCREDITATION STATUS FOR 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR - Kelly Glass

It is the intent to provide to the Board of Public Education a final report on the improvement plans required of schools that received either Advice or Deficiency accreditation status for the 2009-2010 school year. This final report verifies the current status of those plans following a review of the 2010 Annual Data Collection electronic preliminary accreditation reports for each of those schools. The report also included comments and recommendations for certain school corrective plans that the State Superintendent has determined to be incomplete, or not adequate to address the deviations that led to the Advice or Deficiency status determination.

Ms. Kelly Glass reviewed the color key on the Summary of Improvement Plans Submitted by Schools Receiving Advice or Deficiency Status for 2009-2010. Ms. Glass reviewed some of the following schools:

- Daniels County, Scobey Elementary: OPI will request an additional plan by the May 2011 BPE meeting. Recommend Step 1 of Intensive Assistance at the May 2011 BPE meeting. It is the 3rd occurrence of the use of a non-licensed teacher.
- Fergus County, Lewistown Elementary: Does not provide a half-time licensed librarian for a student population of 126-250 students. Current enrollment is 218 students. It is the fourth occurrence. The district intends to add a .5 FTE librarian for the 2010-2011 school year. The district will add remaining .5 FTE librarian by the 2012-2013 school year. The OPI recommended approval of the revised corrective plan. Further recommend that along with the approval notice the district would also be informed that failure to follow through on the plan will result in the district returning directly to Step 2 of the Accreditation Response Options for Continuing or Serious Deviations. The OPI is requesting an improvement plan for the 2011-2012 school year for the May 2011 BPE meeting.
- Fergus County, Grass Range Public School
- Fergus County, Winifred Public Schools
- Flathead County, Big Fork Public Schools
- Flathead County, West Valley Public School

Mr. John Edwards requested more information on teaching internships. Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson reported that teaching internships are designed to support the shortage areas in a school district, an agreement is sent to the OPI, approved by the BPE, and then the district is not cited for being out of compliance.

- Flathead County, Columbia Falls Public Schools, Canyon Elementary: Teacher is not endorsed in Library. It is the second occurrence. The teacher will enroll in the internship program for the 2010-2011 school year. The OPI recommended disapproval of plan because the teacher was not enrolled in the internship program for this school year. The OPI will request an additional plan by the May 2011 BPE meeting.
- Flathead County, Columbia Falls Public Schools, Columbia Falls High School: Teacher was unlicensed in this school year. 1.5 FTE library services required for an enrollment of 782 students. It is the second occurrence. In 2009-2010 Columbia Falls High School acknowledged that teacher was issued a license on 2/1/2010. The district cut the library position due to a

budget shortfall and does not plan to replace the library FTE. The OPI recommended approval of plan of teacher licensure, but disapproval of the plan regarding 10.55.709.1 lack of FTE for library. The OPI will request an additional plan for the May 2011 BPE meeting.

Mr. Doug Cordier requested additional information in regard to the next steps for the Columbia Falls Public School. Ms. Kelly Glass reported that the school district will receive a letter explaining why the plan was denied, request additional information, and request a plan the district proposes to correct the deficiency. If a plan cannot be agreed on, then the Intensive Assistance Cycle will be started and could ultimately lead to loss of funding and non-accreditation. Ms. Glass continued to inform Mr. Cordier that these are the minimum standards and stating a lack of funding is not an acceptable response.

- Flathead County, Whitefish Central 5-6 and Whitefish Central 7-8: Recommended to move to Step 1 of the Response Options for Continuing or Serious Deviations.

Discussion ensued about what it means to be in Step 1 of the Response Options for Continuing or Serious Deviations and Ms. Kelly Glass referred to the flow chart found in item 17.

- Gallatin County, Heck/Quaw Elementary: Alternative standard was received but is recommended for disapproval. Will request an additional plan by the May 2011 BPE meeting.
- Gallatin County, Pass Creek Elementary: No alternative standard was received.

Discussion ensued about what alternative standards look like for schools in the Small School Alliance.

- Hill County, Havre High School: Note the correction in regard to the Office of Public Instruction recommends disapproval of 10.55.709 plan instead of 10.55.708 plan. The plan was not accomplished and will request an additional plan by the May 2011 BPE meeting.
- Judith Basin County, Hobson 7-8: Unable to find a certified art teacher, will employ a misassigned teacher and continue to search for a certified teacher. District states they now have a teacher completing her student teaching under the misassigned teacher and will complete in the fall of 2010. OPI recommends disapproval of the plan.

Discussion ensued that an elementary teacher is qualified to teach art kindergarten through grade 8.

Finding a certified art teacher should not be that complicated.

- Lewis and Clark County, Helena Public Schools: Some schools were recommended for approval and others were not. Ms. Kelly Glass reviewed a number of Helena Public Schools.
- Madison County, Harrison High School: Teacher is teaching Earth Science and Physics and is endorsed in Biology and Chemistry. Second occurrence. Recommend disapproval of plan.
- Phillips County, Dodson Public Schools: Superintendent states that the school has advertised the School Counseling position and continues to struggle with obtaining a certified counselor. Recommend disapproval of plan.
- Sanders County, Plains High School: Teacher is completing course work for Spanish certification and will hopefully be placed in the internship program.

Discussion ensued about internship programs and how they are supervised.

- Yellowstone County, Independent Elementary: The school does not employ a principal who is devoted to full time supervision and administration. Recommend Step 1 of Intensive Assistance.
- Private School, Montana School for the Deaf and Blind: One elementary teacher without a special education degree began a program of study in the area of deaf education at Idaho State in 2008 and in July 2010 will have completed requirements to apply for and receive a special education endorsement. One high school teacher has 14 years of experience teaching blind children. School feels that she is an exceptional teacher and obtaining a special education degree will do little if anything to improve her skill set and knowledge to serve blind children. Two of the teachers completed the Stephen F Austin State University visual impairment program but did not apply for certification in Texas preventing them from being recommended for licensure in Montana. The OPI recommended disapproval of corrective plan.
- Private Schools, Northern Cheyenne Tribal Schools: Lost a majority of funding because reports were not submitted to the BIA; reports were not submitted in time to the Office of Public Instruction; instructors are not properly licensed; basic instructional programs are not met; and teachers are misassigned. A new superintendent has been hired and he requested that the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Schools be placed on intensive assistance to receive support from the OPI. The Accreditation Division staff will continue to work with the Northern Cheyenne Tribal

Schools and schedule a visit at the district and report back at the May BPE meeting. The schools that are being recommended into intensive assistance are: Northern Cheyenne Tribal Elementary; Northern Cheyenne Tribal High School; Highland School; McKinley School; Poly Drive School; Rose Park School; Washington School; Newman School; Boulder School; Meadowlark School;

Bitterroot School; Arrowhead School; Castle Rock 7-8; Lewis & Clark 7-8; Riverside 7-8; and Will James 7-8.

Mr. John Edwards moved: to approve the Report on Improvement Plans Submitted by Schools Receiving Advice or Deficiency Accreditation Status for the 2009-2010 School year as recommended by the State Superintendent. Ms. Sharon Carroll seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Bernie Olson was not present and Mr. Doug Cordier recused himself from the vote.

Item 16 PROGRESS REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SCHOOLS IN AN INTENSIVE ASSISTANCE CYCLE DUE TO CONTINUING OR SERIOUS DEVIATIONS - Kelly Glass

This presentation provided the Board of Public Education a progress report and recommendations regarding schools that have been in an intensive assistance cycle either in 2008-2009 or 2009-2010 due to continuing or serious deviations. The schools have all developed improvement plans approved by the BPE to address the deviations. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction provides annual recommendations to the BPE for accreditation status determinations for all Montana accredited schools. Over the past two years the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Office of Public Instruction accreditation staff worked with the BPE to develop and implement a process that will address these serious and continuing deviations fairly, consistently and with intention toward continuous education improvement. The "Accreditation Response Options for Continuing or Serious Deviations" was included in the report under item 17. The following schools are being recommended and will continue to be monitored by the OPI:

- Lewistown Public Schools: As indicated in the March 2010 Improvement Plan for the Lewistown Public Schools, .5 FTE Library Media Specialist was added to the Highland Park School for the 2010-2011 school year. An updated plan will be requested from the district to address the additional deviations in Library Media for the May 2011 BPE meeting.
- West Valley School District: An on-site visit was completed in December with the superintendent and the board chair. The deviations were reviewed in detail. Further clarification was sent to the district one week following the on-site visit. An improvement plan was received by the Office of Public Instruction in January 2011. It outlines distinct strategies for correcting the deviations. The district will submit two alternative standards, guidance and library media that focus on program delivery. All deviations will be corrected by the 2011-2012 school year.
- Billings Public Schools: The superintendent has made a recommendation to the school board to hire the additional librarians and counselors for the 2011-2012 school year to comply with the accreditation standards. The board meeting was scheduled for January 28, 2011. One more on-site visit will be completed in March 2011 and a final plan is due to the OPI by April 2011.

Mr. John Edwards moved: to approve the progress report and recommendations for schools in intensive assistance cycle due to continuing or serious deviations as recommended by the State Superintendent. Ms. Erin Williams seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Bernie Olson was not present for the vote.

Item 17 REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SCHOOLS IDENTIFIED FOR THE 2011 INTENSIVE ASSISTANCE CYCLE DUE TO CONTINUING OR SERIOUS DEVIATIONS Kelly Glass

This presentation provided to the Board of Public Education recommendations for schools that have been identified for the 2011 intensive assistance cycle due to continuing or serious deviations. This

identification places them on Step 1 of the Accreditation Response Options for Continuing or Serious Deviations. Ms. Kelly Glass distributed a memorandum dated February 18, 2011 to State Superintendent Denise Juneau. The memorandum contained the following schools that were recommended for Intensive Assistance:

- Non-licensed teacher, 2nd occurrence (Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 10.55.605.5)
 - * Scobey School
 - * Fairview High School
 - * Fairview 7-8
- Administrative FTE, (Appendix E Deficiency Status 7-4 or more occurrences)
 - * Independent School District – 4th occurrence
 - * LA Muldown, Whitefish, 8th occurrence
- School has not submitted required reports (Appendix E Deficiency Status 14-1 or more occurrences)
 - * Helena Public Schools (Annual Progress Reports, CSI Plan) – Ms. Kelly Glass also noted that the Helena Public Schools have not completed their Title I Reports in which they receive 1.9 million dollars and are not compliant in their reporting. Deputy Superintendent Dennis Parman continues to work with the Helena Public Schools. The Office of Public Instruction has actually volunteered to enter the necessary information for the school district.
 - * Northern Cheyenne Tribal Schools (Annual Progress Reports, CSI Plan, Improvement Plans)
- Class Size (Appendix E Deficiency Status 16-5 or more occurrences)
 - * Butte Public Schools – Emerson, Margaret Leary, and Whittier
 - * Helena Public Schools – Rossiter, Jim Darcy, Four Georgians, Warren
- Library FTE (10.55.709) (Appendix E Deficiency Status 16-5 or more occurrences)
 - * Whitefish 5-8, Whitefish, 5 occurrences

Step 1 of the Response Options for Continuing or Serious Deviations states: “After the Superintendent has recommended and the Board has approved placing the school in the intensive assistance process, the OPI representatives will conduct an on-site visit and as part of the visit, conduct a conference with the chairperson of the local board of trustees and the district administrator to review the history of the school’s issues and the steps that make up the intensive assistance process. If the OPI determines that it is necessary or appropriate, the OPI representatives will also make arrangements to attend a meeting of the local board of trustees and address the situation with the trustees directly.”

Mr. John Edwards moved: to approve the report and recommendations for schools identified for the 2011 Intensive Assistance Cycle Due to Continuing or Serious Deviations as recommended by the State Superintendent. Ms. Lila Taylor seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Bernie Olson was not present for the vote.

Item 18 RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF FOCUSED REVIEW EXIT REPORT OF MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-BOZEMAN - Drs. Larry Baker, Jayne Downey, Lynette Zuroff, and Linda Vrooman Peterson

On January 17-19, 2011, a five-member team conducted a focused review of the Professional Education Unit of the College of Education, Health and Human Development at Montana State University in Bozeman. Dr. Lynette Zuroff, Director of Teacher Education at Carroll College in Helena, served as chairperson of the focused review. During the review, the team examined the evidence provided by the Professional Education Unit to validate the progress in meeting the six specific standards identified as Met with Weakness during the November 2009 focused review. Based on the January review, the team found all six standards to be met. The attached exit report and narrative provided to the Board of Public Education contain the results of the review. Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson reviewed why the Board of Public Education accredits post secondary institutions. Dr. Lynette Zuroff reviewed the validating

statements, sources of evidence, and evaluation for the six specific standards that were identified as Met with Weakness. The six standards were: ARM 10.58.210 Conceptual Framework; ARM 10.58.305 Assessment System and Unit Evaluation; ARM 10.58.306 Field Experiences and Clinical Practices; ARM 10.58.309 Unit Governance Resources; ARM 10.58.501 General Requirements (1)(j) and (l); and ARM 10.58.527 Areas of Permissive Specialized Competency – Early Childhood. Dr. Jayne Downey expressed her gratitude for the accreditation team for the dedication, commitment, and professionalism. She affirmed that the faculty and staff and Montana State University-Bozeman are committed to the improvements and will ensure that data is at the heart of decisions being made for program improvement. Dr. Larry Baker expressed MSU-Bozeman's dedication to provide the best possible education for the people they serve.

Ms. Sharon Carroll moved: to approve the Focused Review Exit Report of the Professional Education Unit of the College of Education, Health and Human Development at Montana State University in Bozeman as recommended by the State Superintendent.

Ms. Lila Taylor seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Bernie Olson was not present for the vote.

Item 19 RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF REGULAR ACCREDITATION STATUS OF MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-BOZEMAN - Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson

On January 17-19, 2011, a focused review team examined the evidence provided by the Professional Education Unit at Montana State University-Bozeman. Based on this review, the team validated the unit's evidence concluding that the following six standards were met:

- ARM 10.58.210 Conceptual Framework
- ARM 10.58.305 Assessment System and Unit Evaluation
- ARM 10.58.306 Field Experiences and Clinical Practices
- ARM 10.58.309 Unit Governance and Resources
- ARM 10.58.501 General Requirements (1) (j) & (l)
- ARM 10.58.527 Area of Permissive Specialized Competency – Early Childhood

Therefore, the team recommended to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Board of Public Education approval of regular accreditation status of the Professional Education Unit. Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson explained that once the exit report is approved then the request is to approve regular accreditation status.

Ms. Sharon Carroll moved: to approve the regular accreditation status of the Professional Education Unit of the College of Education, Health and Human Development at Montana State University in Bozeman as recommended by the State Superintendent. **Ms. Lila Taylor seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Bernie Olson was not present for the vote.**

Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson reported that the next review will begin in 2015.

DISCUSSION

Item 22 MSDB COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT - Steve Gettel

Ms. Patty Myers presented the MSDB Committee Meeting Report on behalf of Steve Gettel. Ms. Myers reported that MSDB does have a misassigned high school teacher without a special education endorsement. The high school teacher has taught for 14 years with blind children and MSDB feels that she is an exceptional teacher and that obtaining a special education degree will do little if anything to improve her skill set and knowledge to serve blind children. Ms. Patty Myers stated that the high school teacher is close to retirement and will not go back to school to obtain the necessary credentials. Misassigned teachers in the school system are not acceptable, but Ms. Patty Myers believes that no harm is being done in regard to the education of the students at MSDB. Discussion ensued about the following: students continuing as transition students after graduation; students traveling home for more

than one trip a month; description of the campus; beginning of the MSDB Foundation; mainstreaming of students into the public schools; Expressions of Silence; update on school improvement; and Mr. Steve Gettel's evaluation. Ms. Patty Myers explained that Mr. Steve Gettel's evaluation will remain the same for this year, but the new performance appraisal will be the new evaluation for him beginning July 1, 2011 once approved by the Board. Ms. Myers expressed that she would like to do a similar evaluation for Mr. Steve Meloy as well.

12:15 PM Closed Session

Item 21 DENIAL HEARING BPE CASE #2010-08 (CLOSED) - Steve Meloy and Pam Collins

Item 20 MATERIAL AND NON-PERFORMANCE HEARING BPE CASE #2010-07 (CLOSED)
Steve Meloy and Pam Collins

2:32 PM Opened Session

Item 21 DENIAL HEARING BPE CASE #2010-08 (CLOSED) – Steve Meloy and Pam Collins

Ms. Sharon Carroll moved: to accept the State Superintendent's recommendation to deny the Montana license in regard to BPE Case #2010-08. Mr. Doug Cordier seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Bernie Olson was not present for the vote.

Item 20 MATERIAL AND NON-PERFORMANCE HEARING BPE CASE #2010-07 (CLOSED)
Steve Meloy and Pam Collins

The Board of Public Education took no action in regard to BPE Case #2010-07.

PRELIMINARY AGENDA ITEMS – May 12-13, 2011, Great Falls, MT

Annual School Food Services Report
Assessment Update
Federal Update
CSPAC Appointments
BASE Aid Payment Schedule
Alternative Standards Request & Renewals
MACIE Update
Educator Preparation Program Report
Accreditation Report
Executive Secretary Performance Evaluation & Contract Extension
MSDB Superintendent Performance Evaluation & Contract Extension
Establish Executive Staff Salaries
Revocation Case #2010-05
Provisional Superintendents and Principals

Ms. Sharon Carroll moved: to adjourn. Ms. Erin Williams seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Bernie Olson was not present for the vote.

2:40 PM Meeting Adjourned

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