

Chair Carroll reviewed her recent activities including her attendance at the State of Education Address on February 2nd, 2015. Ms. Carroll discussed the possibility of moving the May meeting to the following week of May 14-15th. The Board decided to keep the meeting May 7th.

- **Committee Assignments**

The Board discussed new committee assignments – new assignments will be in the Consent Agenda for the May Board meeting.

Item 2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT
Pete Donovan

- **Update on 2015 Legislature**

Mr. Donovan announced to the Board that Ms. Genii Skoog will be getting married and moving to Great Falls and has accepted a position at the Great Falls Public Schools District Office. Mr. Donovan thanked Chair Carroll for the time she gives to the Board as Chair. Mr. Donovan thanked Ms. Schottle and Ms. Bremner for coming to Helena for the hearing to approve their Board appointments. Mr. Donovan reviewed bills which are going through the Legislature including HB 377 to repeal the Montana Content Standards, SB 124 to require Boards to publish and post audio/video minutes to their websites, HB 275 to have the Board of Public Education members elected rather than appointed by the Governor, and HB 501 which would prohibit OPI from gathering data on assessment, and HB 596 creating public charter schools which would create a committee to which the Board would need to provide administrative support. Mr. Donovan also discussed bills which were introduced but were tabled.

Item 3 STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
State Superintendent Denise Juneau

Superintendent Juneau thanked the Board for their service and discussed Legislative issues before OPI including HB 27 regarding school funding, HB 2 which is the state budget bill. Superintendent Juneau discussed areas in the OPI budget which were cut, including Early Edge, Special Education inflationary increases, and mental health wrap-around services. The Superintendent also discussed HB 377 to repeal the Montana Content Standards to 2009 standards and create new standards and HB 501 regarding data collection which has passed the House and will be heard before Senate Judiciary. Also discussed is the charter school bill, HB 596. Chair Carroll thanked Superintendent Juneau for all her hard work.

Item 4 COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION'S REPORT
Commissioner Clayton Christian

Dr. Neil Mosey, Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs for the Commissioner of Higher Education updated the Board on legislative bill tracking at the Commissioner's Office and bills they are watching particularly concealed carry on campus. Dr. Moisey discussed a report from the Higher Education Consortium that the P-3 courses for Educator Preparation programs will be ready for the upcoming school year. Also discussed was the upcoming Math Educators Consortium meeting May 1-2nd.

Item 5 GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORT
Shannon O'Brien

Dr. O'Brien thanked the Board for their service and welcomed new member Ms. Schottle. Dr. O'Brien updated the Board on legislative activity ongoing at the Governor's office and the Governor's efforts to prioritize public education. Dr. O'Brien also discussed the ACT awards, recognizing workforce/military experience/knowledge for credits, and an update on Jobs for Montana's Graduates program. Dr. O'Brien discussed a couple of bills the Governor's office is watching including the infrastructure bill which would provide funding for schools for infrastructure.

Item 6

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Greta Gustafson

Ms. Gustafson updated the Board on her recent activities including preparing for their prom, which will be held next week. Also discussed was a fundraiser in her community for Make a Wish Foundation which has raised over \$1600 for a community member, upcoming ACT test, and the Associated State Student Council meeting later in March. High School rodeo season begins with the first rodeo of the season in Helena next week. Ms. Gustafson also reviewed the Graduation Matters kick off in her community, and hopefully a school trip to the Legislature during the next session. Chair Carroll commented that she received communication from the Executive Director of the Montana Association of Student Councils and she recommended Ms. Gustafson remain on the Board of Public Education for 1 more year. Ms. Bremner discussed a recent trip of Browning High School seniors to visit the Legislature.

ACTION

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

❖ **MSDB LIAISON - Lila Taylor (Item 7)**

Item 7

MSDB REPORT

Lila Taylor

Mr. Bob Vogel from the Montana School Boards Association discussed with the Board how school boards work with other schools and the Boards role as the school board for the MSDB, the main duty of hiring and maintaining the Superintendent, and dealing with suspension and expulsion of students.

Ms. Sorensen gave the Board an update on happenings at the school, including the recovery progress of their IT Manager, how Ms. Sorensen is preparing for her evaluation and seeking input from the staff and activities at the school. Also discussed was enrollment at the school and open positions due to retirement.

Ms. Donna Schmidt discussed safety and facilities at the school including the remodel in the Geyser Cottage that needed repairs due to water damage, a recent break in at the school, the updating of the policy on emergencies and what to do in the days after an emergency, repainting in the pool and ceiling of the building and upcoming window replacement. Ms. Sorensen also discussed concerns over covering payouts for the upcoming 6 retirements.

A brief review of the Legislative process was given.

- **Discussion of MSDB Meeting Schedule**
- **Approve Significant Writing Policy**

Ms. Lila Taylor moved to approve the second reading of the Significant Writing Policy. Seconded by Ms. Mary Jo Bremner

Discussion by Ms. Bremner. Motion passed unanimously.

- **Approve MSDB School Calendar**

Ms. Lila Taylor moved to approve the MSDB 2015-16 School Calendar. Motion seconded by Mr. John Edwards.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

- **MHSA/MSDB Volleyball Agreement**

Ms. Lila Taylor moved to approve the cooperative agreement with MHSA/MSDB for volleyball. Motion seconded by Ms. Schottle.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION

❖ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Sharon Carroll (Items 8-9)

Item 8 FEDERAL UPDATE Nancy Coopersmith

Ms. Nancy Coopersmith updated the Board on the Reauthorization of the ESEA (No Child Left Behind Act) which could be heard on the House floor in the next 2 weeks. OPI has devised an internal team to review the program and suggest changes that should be made. Ms. Coopersmith stated that the Superintendent gave the group a guiding principles plan in which the Board is named as a stakeholder. Ms. Coopersmith fielded questions from the Board.

Item 9 SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMS ANNUAL REPORT Christine Emerson

Ms. Emerson highlighted some items from the report for the Board. Items highlighted included the school breakfast program, and that Montana is the leading state in participation of the Community Eligibility Provision program. Ms. Emerson reviewed participation in school breakfast and lunches in the 2013-14 school year, participation in the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable program, Summer Food Service Program, Montana Team Nutrition Program grant administered by MSU-Bozeman, and the OPI Cooperative Purchase Program.

ACTION

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

❖ LICENSURE COMMITTEE – John Edwards (Item 15)

Item 15 BPE HEARING CASE #2014-06 Kirsten Madsen – Agency Legal Services

Mr. John Edwards moved to accept the appellant's Exhibits 1-48. Motion seconded by Ms. Lila Taylor.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. John Edwards moved to accept the appellant's Exhibits. Motion seconded by Ms. Lila Taylor.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. John Edwards moved to accept OPI Exhibit 100. Motion seconded by Ms. Schottle.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. John Edwards moved to postpone decision until May 7-8th 2015 BPE meeting in order to review all Exhibits and make a decision. Motion seconded by Ms. Lila Taylor.

Ms. Carroll announced that no new documents may be submitted at this time.

Motion passed unanimously.

❖ **LICENSURE COMMITTEE – John Edwards (Item 11)**

**Item 11 REPORT ON SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS TO REVISIONS TO ARM TITLE 10, CHAPTER 57 EDUCATOR LICENSURE
Ann Gilkey**

Ms. Gilkey presented to the Board the revisions to Chapter 57 Educator Licensure rules. Ms. Gilkey discussed that the revisions are mostly “clean up” language and that the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council has reviewed the changes and requested other changes. Ms. Lila Taylor voiced her disapproval at needing additional changes to rules that were just approved in November 2014.

Mr. John Edwards moved to adopt the timeline for Chapter 57 Rule amendment. Ms. Mary Jo Bremner seconded the motion.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

❖ **ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE – Erin Williams (Items 12-13)**

**Item 12 REPORT ON SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS TO REVISIONS TO ARM TITLE 10, CHAPTER 63 PRESCHOOL STANDARDS
Dennis Parman**

Ms. Ann Gilkey presented this item to the Board in place of Mr. Parman. Ms. Gilkey explained the minimum hours for half time instruction in the original rule were incorrect. 720 hours is for K-12 for full time instruction so rule should be changed to 540 hours.

Ms. Erin Williams moved to approve the timeline for the amendments to Chapter 63. Motion seconded by Ms. Darlene Schottle.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

❖ **LICENSURE COMMITTEE – John Edwards (Item 14)**

**Item 14 BPE HEARING CASE #2014-04
Ms. Kirsten Madsen**

The Board reviewed the file. Ms. Madsen reviewed the licensure rule for issuing a letter of reprimand.

Mr. John Edwards moved to deny the request for a letter of reprimand and dismiss BPE Case#2014-104. Motion seconded by Ms. Erin Williams.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

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APPROVED