

**CERTIFICATION STANDARDS & PRACTICES**  
**ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

THURSDAY, JULY 23, 2009

*MEA-MFT Conference Room  
1232 E Sixth Ave  
Helena, MT 59601*

**CALL TO ORDER**

CSPAC Chair, Dr. Douglas Reisig, called the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council meeting to order on Thursday, July 24, 2009 at 8:30 A.M. CSPAC council members present were: Chair, Dr. Douglas Reisig, School Administrator, Missoula; Ms. Patty Muir, K-12 Specialist, Laurel; Ms. Judie Woodhouse, Teacher, Polson; Dr. Mary Susan Fishbaugh, Dean of Education, Montana State University-Billings; and Ms. Sharon Applegate, Teacher, Kalispell; Mr. Jon Runnalls, Teacher, Helena. Ms. Tonia Bloom, Trustee, Hamilton, was absent from the meeting. Staff members present were: Mr. Peter Donovan, Administrative Officer for CSPAC; Mr. Steve Meloy, Executive Secretary for the Board of Public Education; and Ms. Anneliese Warhank, CSPAC Administrative Assistant. The following people signed the meeting roster: Ms. Elizabeth Keller, OPI; Mr. Mike Miller, U of M Western; Mr. Marco Ferro, MEA-MFT; Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, OPI; Ms. Nancy Coopersmith, OPI; Mr. Dennis Parman, OPI; Ms. Deena Miller, Write/Right 2 Read Program; Mr. Dan Villa, Governor's Office; Dr. Sheila Sterns, OCHE; and Dr. Mary Moe, OCHE.

Dr. Reisig thanked Mr. Ferro for allowing CSPAC the use of their conference room for the meeting and read the Statement of Public Participation.

*Ms. Judie Woodhouse moved: **to approve the agenda.** This was seconded by Ms. Patty Muir. Motion was unanimously approved.*

*Motion: Ms. Patty Muir moved: **to approve the March 11-12, 2009 CSPAC Joint BPE meeting minutes.** This was seconded by Ms. Judie Woodhouse. Motion was unanimously approved.*

Mr. Donovan went over the correspondence which included a letter from the Board of Public Education's Chairwoman, Ms. Patty Myers, thanking Dr. Reisig for the presentation he made at the March 12, 2009 CSPAC Joint BPE meeting; a news article announcing Ms. Woodhouse as the Class A Drama Coach of the Year; and a news article about the Hellgate Elementary School District, the district Dr. Reisig is the superintendent of, amongst other items.

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**\*Items are in the order they were discussed at the meeting.**

## ITEM 1 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT – Dr. Douglas Reisig

Election of officers:

*Ms. Judie Woodhouse moved: **to elect Dr. Doug Reisig for chairperson of CSPAC.** This was seconded by Ms. Patty Muir and Dr. Mary Susan Fishbaugh.*

Public Comment: Commissioner Sterns stated that the public would most likely approve of this motion.

*Motion was unanimously approved.*

*Motion: Ms. Patty Muir moved: **to elect Ms. Judie Woodhouse for vice-chairperson of CSPAC.** This was seconded by Mr. Jon Runnalls. Motion was unanimously approved.*

Committee Appointments: Ms. Muir was placed on the Montana Commission on Teaching Committee. Mr. Runnalls took the vacant spot on the Licensure and Endorsement Committee. All other Council members remained on the committees they previously sat on.

Set Calendar: The tentative dates decided are:

- Thursday-Friday, October 8-9, 2009 in Missoula
- Wednesday-Thursday, January 13-14, 2010 in Helena
- Wednesday-Thursday, March 10-11, 2010 in Helena with Board of Public Education
- Wednesday-Thursday, July 21-22, 2010 in Helena

The CSPAC Goals for the 2009-2010 year were reviewed next. The Council acknowledged they had concluded their work with BPE to develop an area of Permissive Special Competency for Teacher Mentors, but are still working with OPI to develop better mentor programs across the state. The group agreed they would like to focus more attention on developing a framework with OPI for professional development based on best practices. The Council also expressed interest in hearing from Ms. Joyce Silverthorne, the P-20 Policy Advisor at OPI, on her ongoing efforts with P-20. On July 22, 2009 the Council reviewed a new batch of applications for the Class 8 Educator License. Ms. Keller came to speak about the proposed language to modify the Class 8 to allow for educators whose area of study does not tie into any existing academic areas in the K-12 environment the opportunity to be licensed. The Council took a vote on the proposed language.

*Mr. Jon Runnalls moved: **to approve the intent to adjust the Class 8 Dual Credit Only Post Secondary Faculty License.** Ms. Judie Woodhouse seconded. Motion was unanimously passed.*

The Council then discussed the Sign Language Interpreter Standards. The Board of Public Education moved to adopt the notice of public hearing for the standards. The hearing has been set for September 3, 2009. It was added that although a few details concerning how people will meet the standards need to be worked out, there is an overall feeling that the standards are necessary.

**ITEM 2 BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION REPORT – Mr. Steve Meloy**

Mr. Meloy spoke to the Council about the various projects he has participated in over the past few months which included: the Learning First Alliance; the cleaning up of language in Chapter 57; and rewriting the legal roadmap with OPI. The Board met on July 15, 2009 for its annual Strategic Planning Meeting. One result of the meeting was the agreement that the Board needs to work towards steps to allow for better communication between school superintendents, school board trustees, and the Board. Mr. Meloy mentioned MEA-MFT has requested the Board more actively support NCATE as the accrediting body for the state's schools of teacher preparation. The Virtual Academy Governing Board application process has been extended due to the lack of diversity amongst the applicant pool. Mr. Meloy spoke briefly about the National Standards Common Core State Standards Initiative.

**ITEM 3 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT – Mr. Pete Donovan**

Mr. Donovan covered the meetings he has attended since the last CSPAC meeting. He spoke about the NASDTEC Professional Practices Institute and Ms. Keller's appointment as chair of the Interstate Agreement Committee. The Board has requested the Council look into the shortage of instructors of Braille and sign language interpreters in the state and possibly looking into how we can lessen the shortage. Dr. Reisig suggested increasing compensation could be an option they could consider. It was suggested the Licensure Committee take a closer look at this situation. The Board also asked the Council to consider looking into an Area of Specialized Permissive Competency for instructors of Braille and/or sign language interpreters.

**ITEM 4 INTRODUCTION OF DAN VILLA, GOVERNOR'S EDUCATION POLICY ADVISOR – Mr. Pete Donovan**

Mr. Villa came to speak to the Council as the newly appointed Education Policy Advisor to Governor Schweitzer. Mr. Villa spoke to the Council about various issues including the Montana University System's request for a tuition increase, the debate around the necessity of NCATE as an accrediting body to the state teacher preparation programs, and "Turn Around Schools". Mr. Villa stressed the importance that school districts effectively budget their mill levy funds to ensure teachers are adequately compensated for their efforts.

**ITEM 5 MONTANA COMMISSION ON TEACHING COMMITTEE – Ms. Judie Woodhouse**

Ms. Woodhouse spoke about Ms. Nikki Sandve from OPI, and her work on the mentoring survey. The mentoring surveys Ms. Sandve developed will be distributed at the beginning of the school year in August. Ms. Woodhouse said a few workshops have already been held or are scheduled across the state to help teachers with mentoring. The implementation of mentoring programs in schools is supported by the Board; still it is felt the language needs to be more specific in outlining what is required.

**ITEM 6 PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION AND CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT – Dr. Mary Susan Fishbaugh and Ms. Tonia Bloom**

Ms. Deena Miller from the Write/Right 2 Read Program came to speak about the program and her desire to develop a professional certification/endorsement through the series of classes. The program currently consists of workshops that aim to make more sense of the English language. She explained that word development is a complex process in the English language, but there is a method to the scheme. Ms. Miller stated she would like to see a professional certification in the structure of the English language. The Council, as well as members of the audience, offered Ms. Miller many suggestions as to how and who she should talk to for looking into developing this program at the collegiate level.

**ITEM 7 LICENSURE AND ENDORSEMENT REPORT- Ms. Sharon Applegate and Ms. Patty Muir**

Ms. Elizabeth Keller came to give an update on the Chapter 57 revisions. She would like to meet with the Council in the future to go over the NASDTEC Interstate Agreement. The agreement is looking for states to adopt Jurisdiction Specific Requirements so universities can help students in teacher prep programs take the courses needed to instruct in a certain state. Ms. Woodhouse asked about the Montana Virtual Academy. Mr. Ferro stepped forward to talk about the recent developments, the financial setbacks, and the history of the Academy and MSELC. Mr. Parman added he sat on the MSELC Board and outlined the plans for MSELC course offerings beginning in March of 2010.

**ITEM 8 OPI UPDATE – Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, OPI**

Ms. Nancy Coopersmith came from OPI to speak to the Council about the Common Core State Standards Initiative. The initiative is looking at setting standards for math and English language arts. ACHIEVE, ACT and the College Board are behind the development of the standards. One document they are producing contains expectations for high school graduates to prepare them for the working world or college preparation. The second lists the K-12 standards in math and English language arts. One push for common core standards is the belief they will help today's children compete in the global market. Superintendent Juneau feels the state needs to be involved in the development

process. If adopted, states will need to adhere to 85%, the other 15% can be set by the state. Ms. Coopersmith pointed out the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as authorized by the No Child Left Behind Act, states the Federal Government will not develop or require standards or curriculum of any state. But with the reauthorization of ESEA this may change. The implications for these standards are for curriculum developments, professional development, and assessment. The Federal Government supports this project, but is it not being developed by the Feds.

Dr. Peterson then came to the Council to speak about the NCATE/Montana Partnership. Montana aligns most of its protocol with NCATE's. NCATE and TEAC have worked hard to develop a program that will unite them as one accrediting body, with two different pathways. Dr. Fishbaugh added NCATE recently has lost membership due to the rigidity of their review and requirements; this has caused many institutions to use TEAC instead. Both entities are trying to alter their weaker aspects. TEAC is becoming more standards based, whereas NCATE is trying to be more streamlined and allow the institution to point out where they are going rather than directing them where to go. NCATE accreditation process is going through a redesign to look for a more cost effective accredited process. Next she spoke about INTASC the Interstate New Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium. Montana has become a member of this group and has incorporated them into ARM 501 rules. INTASC is revising their pedagogical standards and Montana will participate in an upcoming meeting regarding these revisions. Finally she spoke about the Indian Education for All K-12 and Postsecondary Collaborative. Indian Ed for All and Accreditation staff at OPI have worked with post-secondary groups to help develop common content for Indian Ed for All that educators need to have when they complete a teacher prep program. An Integration of Indian Education for All in Preservice Preparation meeting was held on May 28, 2009. The group spoke about their concerns, hopes, and education prospects. They combined all their thoughts in a Wordel to distinguish the biggest topics covered at the meeting. Dr. Peterson stated the group involved with the integration process would like to speak with CSPAC more about their plans.

## **ITEM 9 PLAN FOR FUTURE CONFERENCES**

The two upcoming conferences covering topics CSPAC is interested in are the: NASDTEC Professional Practices Institute on October 14-16, 2009 in Albuquerque, NM; and the Western States Certification Conference on January 6-7, 2010 in San Diego, CA. Dr. Reisig is a confirmed speaker at the WSCC.

## **ITEM 10 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

The Council will review the CSPAC By-laws at the upcoming meeting. The Council will also have its annual joint meeting with the Montana Council of Deans of Education at the next meeting.

**ITEM 11 PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

Dr. Douglas Reisig adjourned the meeting at 12:36 P.M.

The Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council 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 write or call: CSPAC, PO Box 200601, 46 North Last Chance Gulch, Helena, MT 59620-0601, (406) 444-6576.

APPROVED