

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

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27, 2012

Room 335
Montana State Capital
Helena, MT 59601

CALL TO ORDER

CSPAC Chair, Ms. Sharon Applegate, called the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council meeting to order on Friday, January 20, 2012 at 8:33 A.M. CSPAC Council Members present were: Chair, Ms. Sharon Applegate, Teacher, Kalispell; Vice Chair, Mr. Jon Runnalls, Teacher, East Helena; Ms. Patty Muir, K-12 Specialist, Laurel; Ms. Tammy Lacey, School Administrator, Great Falls; Dr. Cindy O'Dell, Post Secondary Ed, Salish-Kootenai College; and Ms. Janice Bishop, Teacher, Missoula. Staff members present were: Mr. Peter Donovan, Administrative Officer for CSPAC/Executive Secretary BPE; and Ms. Kris Stockton, BPE Administrative Assistant. The following people signed the meeting roster: Ms. Elizabeth Keller, OPI; Ms. Nancy Coopersmith, OPI; Mr. Dennis Parman, OPI, Dr. Sylvia Moore, OCHE.

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

*Mr. Jon Runnalls moved: **to approve the October 27-28, 2011 CSPAC meeting minutes.** This was seconded by Ms. Tammy Lacey. Motion was approved unanimously.*

There were no correspondence or articles for this meeting, but Mr. Donovan noted that he had received requests from both UM and MSU to receive copies of the new Code of Ethics when it is approved. Mr. Runnalls asked if there had been any comments made regarding the new COE and Mr. Donovan noted there had not been any comments.

INFORMATION ITEMS

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

ITEM 1 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT – Ms. Sharon Applegate and Mr. Jon Runnalls

Mr. Runnalls brought up the recent report about Montana receiving an “F” on a national report card. Mr. Donovan noted that no state received an “A”. Mr. Dennis Parman, Assistant Superintendent from OPI took the podium to address Mr. Runnall’s concerns and Ms. Muir commented that the report comes on top of a legislative year and that it is bad press for the state. Ms. Bishop asked if a copy of the full report is available to teachers so that they can discuss it with parents who bring it to the teacher as a concern. Mr. Parman explained that for the 2011 report, the OPI provided no information because the OPI does not agree with the National Council on Teacher Quality (NCTQ) program and that NCTQ is trying to get Montana to join their group. Mr. Parman explained this is a policy driven council and Mr. Parman noted that

Montana is trying to steer toward looking at student outcomes such as NEAP to measure success. When student outcomes are looked at, the lowest national ranking Montana has is 6th. Montana students do well because of great teachers, and the success of the Teacher Prep Programs in Montana post secondary institutions. Mr. Parman noted that Montana teachers are highly recruited nationally. He added that the states that do well on the NCTQ report are not local control states like Montana. In addition, new evaluation standards for teachers of “what” are being done, but the “how” has not because of the local control in Montana. Mr. Runnalls asked who funds the NCTQ and Ms. Coopersmith said she thought they received federal funds. Ms. Bishop asked what information school boards get, and Mr. Parman noted that no official reports have been received yet. Ms. Lacey looked up NCTQ online and noted that they are privately funded.

ITEM 2 BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION REPORT – Mr. Pete Donovan

See Item 3 below.

ITEM 3 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER’S REPORT – Mr. Peter Donovan

Items 2 and 3 were combined and reported by Mr. Donovan. Mr. Donovan reported that the Board of Public Education held their last meeting the previous week on January 20, 2012 and that the meeting had been held as a conference call due to the winter storm which prevented folks from traveling. Mr. Donovan noted there will be an upcoming hearing on the Area of Special Permissive Competency in Dance and the revisions to the Educator Licensure and Discipline Rules. The Board of Public Education will be undergoing their Legislative Fiscal Audit in March and that February 1st will be the Entrance Meeting. The Education & Local Government Committee meeting was held January 23rd and 24th in Helena. K-12 topics were discussed during the meeting on the 24th, OPI’s new GEMS system was presented, Deans Baker and Evans from MSU and UM discussed teacher prep programs, recruitment, and retention. The cost projections for the Common Core Standards were presented to the ELG Committee. Those costs will go before the Board in March, but were found to be “not substantial”. The Chapter 55 Task Force will meet January 30-31st and Mr. Donovan thanked Mr. Parman for all his work on the Chapter 55 Task Force. Mr. Runnalls asked about the Digital Academy meeting and Mr. Donovan noted the rapid growth of the Digital Academy in the last year. Mr. Parman added the Academy is trying to establish benchmarks. They have seen a 5500/year enrollment count which is a huge increase from last year and that there have been no troubles filling classes yet. In addition, the Dual Enrollment classes are up from 9 classes to 60 classes and 120 classes are anticipated for the next year. All teachers are properly licensed and endorsed. Original credit classes make up approximately 55% of the classes compared to 45% for credit recovery classes. Mr. Parman noted that the academy has been so successful they may not be able to meet the needs of all students and will fall short of funding trying to do so. Funding for the next biennium is being worked on. A request from high schools has been made to make 1 online course a graduation requirement, but the academy cannot support that at this time due to capacity concerns.

ITEM 4 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMON CORE STANDARDS FOR MATH AND ENGLISH – Asst. Superintendent Nancy Coopersmith, OPI

Nancy Coopersmith from OPI discussed the implementation of the Common Core Standards for Math and English adopted at the November 2011 Board of Public Education meeting. Implementation is delayed until July 2013. Ms. Coopersmith discussed how the Smarter

Balanced Assessment consortium requires implementation of the standards by 2014 in order to assess the new standards, but that is incumbent upon Federal Reauthorization. In Montana, assessment is funded using Federal dollars, not state dollars. Ms. Coopersmith announced that OPI has a committee that meets weekly from all areas of OPI to discuss Common Core implementation and outreach. Ms. Coopersmith called for questions and Ms. Applegate noted that recent training at her school discussed the Common Core and it was well received. Ms. Coopersmith also discussed the movement on the national level for science standards and more recently, social studies, and added that curriculum in all areas needs to be reviewed. Ms. Lacey asked about the financial impact study done by the LFA and Ms. Coopersmith briefly discussed the study. Mr. Runnalls asked about using federal funds for assessment and what happens if those funds don't come through. Ms. Coopersmith noted 2 items: 1) \$3.6 million is received each year for NCLB testing and 2) assessment covers many areas, so funds are available. Dr. Sylvia Moore from OCHE noted that OCHE is watching the standards and the impact of higher ed and college prep requirements regarding the 3rd year of math now required by the new math standards. OCHE is watching to see if there will be an impact on reducing remedial math courses upon college entrance. Dr. Moore added that OCHE has made the commitment to the Superintendent to look at this as a K-20 issue, especially regarding teacher prep programs. Ms. Coopersmith added that the partnership with OCHE is an important factor in implementing the Common Core standards.

ITEM 5 REVIEW OF CLASS 8 LICENSE APPLICATIONS – Elizabeth Keller, OPI

Ms. Elizabeth Keller from Licensure and Certification at OPI brought four Class 8 licenses for review by CSPAC. All four applicants were reviewed with one being of concern due to the fact that the applicant needed more incorporation of Indian Ed For All in their curriculum. A discussion then ensued regarding IEFA in regard to Class 8 licenses, Class 8 licenses in general, OCHE's commitment to Class 8, the image of the Class 8 license, and the need for student's to have dual credit opportunities. The four applications were approved, with the one applicant with the IEFA concern approved with 2 dissenting votes.

ITEM 6 TEACHER EDUCATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INDIAN EDUCATION FOR ALL ACT – Dr. Cindy O'Dell, Salish Kootenai College

Dr. Cindy O'Dell from Salish Kootenai College, and council member presented on the Implementation of Indian Ed For All. She discussed IEFA is addressed in 10.58.501 as a requirement for all teacher prep programs. Dr. O'Dell had requested all the campuses to provide information on IEFA in their teacher prep programs but only University of Montana responded. Dr. O'Dell discussed the IEFA program at SKC in their teacher prep program covering Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary ed programs. Examples were given of student work, program changes, and events on campus. Dr. O'Dell discussed the Kellog grant received by SKC which allowed the school to send a group of teacher candidates to the MIEA conference. Mr. Donovan commented on his involvement reviewing the teacher prep programs in Montana and that although all the campuses are doing IEFA, the SKC program has IEFA imbedded in the entire program and that it is a great example for others. Dr. O'Dell added that she would provide her Power Point presentation to the group via email. Dr. O'Dell fielded questions from the group regarding the teacher prep program at SKC before concluding her presentation.

ITEM 7 COMMITTEE REPORTS – BREAKOUT SESSION

The council broke out into their committee groups and were charged with the task of discussing the InTasc and ISLLC Standards, as well as the Marzano research. Information was provided by Ms. Applegate. The committees then came back together as a group to discuss. The first topic discussed was Marzano. The group discussed evaluations, is it state or local, Chapter 55, etc, how to do the evaluations and retain them. A discussion ensued regarding funding, educational funding cuts, legislation, and politics. Ms. Bishop asked Mr. Donovan if the Montana Commission on Teaching report from 1999 was the most recent. Mr. Donovan responded that it is. The program was taken over by CSPAC after Governor Racicot left office, but the commission is not active due to no funding. Dr. O'Dell discussed her appointment to the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee which meets in DC. Although 10 issues are at hand to be reviewed, she noted that most of the topics revolve around the Teach Grants and Title II. Dr. O'Dell will send information regarding this committee to the group.

ACTION

ITEM 8 ADOPTION OF THE PROFESSIONAL EDUCATORS OF MONTANA CODE OF ETHICS

The most recent draft of the Code of Ethics was reviewed once more by the committee.

Motion made by Jon Runnalls to approve the adoption of the new Professional Educators of Montana Code of Ethics. Janice Bishop seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

A discussion then ensued amongst the group regarding the printing of the new Code of Ethics. Mr. Donovan provided information that in the past the printing of the code was paid for by CSPAC when a new applicant was awarded their teacher license. However, due to the current fiscal issues of the Board and CSPAC, Mr. Donovan said CSPAC will not be able to cover those costs this year. Ms. Bishop asked if the process could be moved to an “on line” process when the applicant applies or applies for renewal. Ms. Keller noted that with the implementation of the new GEMS system at OPI it could be set up so that the applicant would have to click on “accept” for the Code when applying. Ms. Applegate asked if the Code could be sent out via a mass email through a distribution list. Mr. Parman said he would check with the Superintendent and see about sending out a link to the COE on the Board website or OPI website. Ms. Bishop asked if it could be put into the CSPAC By-Laws that the Code must be reviewed on a scheduled timeline. Ms. Lacey asked if there is a need to review the need to print the Code at all anymore, and it was decided to review that again after the end of the fiscal year.

ITEM 9 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Montana Commission on Teaching
- Prepare By-Law revisions on timeline for reviewing Code of Ethics
- Update on the STEM Initiative - OPI
- Graduation Matters Montana and related topics
- Out of state teacher candidates: recruitment and licensing
- Update from Cindy on Neg Reg Committee

ITEM 10 PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no public comment.

Ms. Sharon Applegate 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 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