

BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES

January 8 – 9, 2009

FRONT STREET LEARNING CENTER
815 Front Street
Helena, MT

January 8, 2009 - Thursday
1:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Patty Myers called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. due to the fact that the Board of Public Education's agenda is full and the Board of Education concluded before the scheduled time. Dr. Kirk Miller led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Carol Will took roll call; a quorum was noted. Ms. Patty Myers extended a special welcome to State Superintendent Denise Juneau; announced the attendance of Honorable Bob Brown at 4:30 p.m. for the Confucius Institute Report; welcomed guests to Dr. Kirk Miller's farewell at Miller's Crossing; reminded Board and guests of the Board of Education meeting at the Capitol on Friday, January 9, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. with the Joint Appropriation Subcommittee on Education; announced MSDB Report will be given by Ms. Patty Myers and will include an action item; and noted that Brockton and Frazer Public Schools will meet with the Board via conference calls for Items 28 and 29 respectively.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Storrs Bishop noted that the Board of Public Education's budget is within the elapsed time to date.

Items Pulled from Consent Agenda if Requested

MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to accept the consent agenda. Dr. Kirk Miller seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Those in attendance at the meeting included the following Board members: Chair Ms. Patty Myers, Vice Chair Ms. Angela McLean, Ms. Sharon Carroll, Dr. Kirk Miller, Mr. Storrs Bishop, Mr. Cal Gilbert, Mr. Bernie Olson, and Student Representative Ms. Katie Wood. Staff present at the meeting 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; and Dr. Sylvia Moore and Dr. Mary Sheehy Moe represented Commissioner Sheila Stearns. Visitors in attendance included: Ms. Nancy Coopersmith, Assistant Superintendent, OPI; Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, Accreditation Division Administrator, OPI; Mr. Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT; Mr. Dale Kimmet, Accreditation Specialist, OPI; Mr. Al McMiliin, Educator Quality Program Specialist, OPI; Mr. Marco Ferro, MEA-MFT; Ms. Kim Warrick, Middle School/At-Risk Specialist, OPI; Mr. Darrell Rud, SAM; Ms. Madalyn Quinlan, Chief of Staff, OPI; Dr. Bruce Messinger, Superintendent of Helena School District; Mr. Bob Runkel, Acting Deputy Superintendent, OPI; Ms. Judy Snow, State Assessment Director, OPI; Ms. Thea Van Nice, Executive Assistant, OPI; Ms. Beck McLaughlin, Montana Arts Council; Mr. Rick Duncan, Superintendent, Powell County High School; Ms. Mandy Smoker Broaddus, Indian Student Achievement Specialist, OPI; Mr. Bob Vogel, MTSBA; Mr. Chad Johnson, SCMASS/Fromberg Public School; Ms. Norma Bixby, MACIE; Ms. Maxine Mougeot, State Director/Fiscal Officer of Transportation, OPI; Dr. Barbara Vail, Directory of Education and Associate Academic Vice President, Rocky Mountain College; Ms. Joyce Silverthorne, P-20 Policy Advisor, OPI; Ms. Mary Bryson, Montana City School; Mr. Robert

Allen, Executive Director, Montana Nurses Association; Mr. Tony Kloker, Montana City School; Ms. Kathy Boutilier, Montana Association of School Nurses; Ms. Debora Sargent, Montana Association of School Nurses; Mr. Joe Furshong, Student Services Center Administrator, Helena Public Schools; Ms. Kendra Selser, Montana Association of School Nurses; Dr. Jo Swain, Assistant Professor, Elementary Education, Rocky Mountain College, Ms. Linda Kaiser, Public Relations/Communications, OPI; Ms. Anna Green, Governor's Office; Ms. Sue Buswell, Montana Association of School Nurses; Ms. Kathy Kidder, Montana City School; Mr. Don Johnson, Superintendent, Frazer Public Schools via conference phone; and Ms. Rita Talks Different, Chair, Board of Trustees, Frazer Public Schools via conference phone.

Items are presented in the order in which they appeared.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Item 1 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT - Patty Myers

- November 16, 2008 MSDB Thanksgiving Dinner, Great Falls, MT
- December 16, 2008 MSDB Committee Meeting Conference Call
- December 18, 2008 MSDB Christmas Program, Great Falls, MT
- January 2, 2009 Executive Committee Conference Call

Ms. Patty Myers noted that she will fill the role as Chair of the Government Affairs Committee until the new appointee of the Board of Public Education has been identified. Then the committee assignments will be reviewed. She stated that Item 24, BPE Strategic Planning 2008-2013, will be postponed until the March 12-13, 2009 Board of Public Education meeting to review the language of the mission and goals. The Legislative Committee needs to be in constant communication with the Board prior to testimony presented on behalf of the Board.

BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION APPEARANCES

Ms. Angela McLean

- November 14, 2008 Accreditation Database Conference Call
- January 2, 2009 Executive Committee Conference Call

Dr. Kirk Miller

- November 18, 2008 Class 8 Meeting, Bozeman, MT
- December 10, 2008 Class 8 Implementation Advisory Meeting

Mr. Storrs Bishop

- January 6, 2009 Accreditation Conference Call

Ms. Sharon Carroll

- November 24, 2008 Assessment Task Force Conference Call
- December 16, 2008 Assessment Task Force Conference Call

Mr. Bernie Olson

- November 21, 2008 Board of Regents Meeting, Missoula, MT
- December 6, 2008 MSDB Foundation Conference Call
- December 9, 2008 K-College Workgroup Meeting, Helena, MT

Item 2 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT - Steve Meloy

- November 7, 2008 Auditor's Meeting, Helena, MT
- November 12, 2008 New Deputy Commissioners' Reception, Helena, MT
- November 14, 2008 Accreditation Database Conference Call
- November 17, 2008 Meeting Concerning Counselors, Helena, MT

- November 19, 2008 Accreditation Database Meeting, Helena, MT
- November 21, 2008 Board of Regents Meeting, Missoula, MT
- December 3, 2008 Meeting with Sue Buswell, Helena, MT
- December 9, 2008 Mini Ed Forum Meeting, Helena, MT
- December 9, 2008 K-College Workgroup Meeting, Helena, MT
- December 10, 2008 Class 8 Implementation Advisory Meeting
- December 16, 2008 MSDB Committee Meeting Conference Call
- December 17, 2008 Legislative Fiscal Division Budget Meeting, Helena, MT
- December 17, 2008 Governor's Office Budget Meeting, Helena, MT
- December 30, 2008 Legislative Auditor Meeting/Dual Enrollment, Helena, MT
- January 2, 2009 Executive Committee Meeting Conference Call
- January 5, 2009 Inauguration Ceremonies, Helena, MT
- January 6, 2009 Mini Ed Forum Meeting, Helena, MT
- January 6, 2009 Accreditation Committee Conference Call

- Mr. Steve Meloy highlighted that the Board has provided copies of rule adoption or amendment notices to the Legislative Fiscal Division to review for fiscal impact to schools according to SB152. Now the 2009 Legislature is reviewing SB67 sponsored by Senator Laible to prohibit the Board of Public Education from implementing any rule, policy, or standard that will have a substantial financial impact on a school district until the legislature appropriated money to fund. This bill and others were addressed under the legislative update.
- Mr. Steve Meloy attempted to encapsulate the work of the Board and its partners from the July 2008 Strategic Planning Session. He appreciated comments and feedback on the mission and goals that have been submitted for review.
- Discussion ensued around the unified budget that was approved by the Board of Education on January 8, 2009 as well as the fiscal and labor impact on the Board of Public Education and the Office of Public Instruction due to license revocations.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none. 1:30 p.m.

LEARNING FIRST ALLIANCE

- November 26, 2008 Learning First Alliance Sub-Group Meeting, Helena, MT
- December 9, 2008 Learning First Alliance Meeting, Helena, MT

The Board of Public Education has been represented at the table for many of the Learning First Alliance meetings. A draft vision and goals have been completed. Mr. Steve Meloy and Mr. Peter Donovan will continue to participate if this is in the best interest of the Board. The Board's educational partners have done an excellent job putting this alliance together and Mr. Steve Meloy would like to continue to support the forming of a Montana Alliance and provide a voice at the table on behalf of the Board. It was noted that MTSBA is now present at the table, but MEA-MFT remains absent.

Item 3 CSPAC REPORT - Peter Donovan

- MT
- November 14, 2008 Interpreter's Standards Meeting, Helena, MT
 - November 17, 2008 Governor's Award for Excellence Ceremony, Helena,
 - November 17, 2008 Meeting Concerning Counselors, Helena, MT
 - November 18, 2008 Class 8 Meeting, Bozeman, MT
 - November 26, 2008 Learning First Alliance Sub-Group Meeting, Helena, MT
 - December 5, 2008 Paraprofessional Consortium, Helena, MT
 - December 9, 2008 Mini Ed Forum Meeting, Helena, MT
 - December 9, 2008 Class 8 Meeting, Helena, MT
 - December 10, 2008 Class 8 Implementation Advisory Meeting, Helena, MT

- December 16, 2008 Chapter 57 Class 3 Meeting, Helena, MT
- December 30, 2008 Legislative auditor Meeting/Dual Enrollment, Helena, MT
- January 5, 2009 Inauguration Ceremonies, Helena, MT
- January 6, 2009 Mini Ed Forum Meeting, Helena, MT

- Mr. Peter Donovan addressed that CSPAC will add two 1-day meetings to its calendar to review the completed Class 8 applications. CSPAC will receive a comprehensive overview of the Review Panel process during its January CSPAC meeting courtesy of Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, Ms. Elizabeth Keller, and Mr. Peter Donovan. The Class 8 application is available on the Office of Public instruction website and a link is available on the Board of Public Education's website.
- Highlights were provided from the November 14, 2008 Sign Language Interpreters Standards Workgroup Meeting. The next meeting is scheduled on January 14, 2009.

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

State Superintendent Denise Juneau expressed her dedication to building a partnership with the Board of Public Education. She has been in office for four days: Day 1 – Swearing in and OPI reception; Day 2 – Met the legislative team; Day 3 – Attended the Board of Regents meeting; Day 4 – Attended Board of Education and Board of Public Education; and Day 5 – Looks forward to moving into her office. She then introduced her personal staff: Mr. Bob Runkel, Acting Deputy Superintendent who is currently serving for Mr. Dennis Parman who will join the Office of Public Instruction in July 2009; Ms. Madalyn Quinlan, Chief of Staff; Ms. Ann Gilkey, Chief Legal Counsel; Ms. Linda Kaiser, Director of Communications; Mr. Pete Carparelli, High School Initiative Director; Ms. Judy Snow, State Assessment Director; Ms. Joyce Silverthorne, P-20 Policy Advisor; Ms. Thea Van Nice, Executive Assistant; Ms. Faith Moldan, Office Manager; and Ms. Nancy Coopersmith, Assistant Superintendent. In conclusion, State Superintendent Denise Juneau recommended that the Board of Public Education rotate a different division from the Office of Public Instruction on its agenda instead of focusing only on Indian Education for All.

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

Dr. Sylvia Moore presented on behalf of Commissioner Sheila Stearns. During her tenure Dr. Moore expressed her excitement in the educational partnerships that she observes. She is grateful to those who have worked on the Class 8 license and the challenges they have faced in this process. Dr. Sylvia Moore stated her openness to build relationships with the Board of Public Education and respond to issues that are pertinent to K-12 and beyond.

Item 6 GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORT - Jan Lombardi

No report.

Item 7 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT - Katie Wood

Ms. Katie Wood provided a copy of the 2008 Montana Association of Student Council (MASC) Survey results. Some questions specifically reviewed:

- What class school do you attend?
- Do you think that your school spends enough time studying Native American culture and history?
- How would you rate the education you have received thus far? Do you feel that education has adequately prepared you for your postsecondary education or work after high school?

Ms. Katie Wood wished more students had responded to the survey. Discussion ensued on the importance of this survey and how to convey its significance to the schools. Ms. Katie Wood will be attending Carroll College in the fall of 2009.

Item 8 INDIAN EDUCATION REPORT - Mandy Smoker Broaddus

This presentation provided a comprehensive picture of the achievement gap in Montana, as it specifically relates to American Indian students, through various data sources. It included information on the Office

of Public Instruction initiatives, collaboration, and pilot projects. A PowerPoint was presented titled *The Achievement Gap in Montana: American Indian Student Achievement State-Wide Data*. Ms. Mandy Smoker Broaddus expressed her heartfelt experience of knowing that her students collectively were not achieving up to their potential. Some specific facts identified were:

- On average, American Indian students drop out of grades 7/8 at a rate more than 6⁽⁹⁾ times that of white students and out of high school at a rate of 2^(2.5) times that of white students.
- Bozeman has the highest reading proficiency rates among the urban districts at any one grade level – 91% in 5th grade.
- American Indian students in grades 3,4,5, and 10 all saw declines in math proficiencies from the 2006-2007 Criterion Referenced Test (CRT).
- With the exception of schools on the Flathead Reservation, Box Elder has seen the steadiest and highest gains in both reading and math over three years among schools with 50-100% American Indian populations.

The type of data that was covered included: Enrollment data, Criterion Referenced Test, Reading First data, Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), dropout rates, completion rates, Advanced Placement data, and Youth Risk Behavior Survey Data (YRBS). Discussion ensued about the academic performances between schools on reservations compared to urban districts according to the CRT; why East Glacier noted a significant increase in their Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) assessments; Reading First schools; impact of the AIM reporting system in tracking dropout rates; number of American Indian students taking and passing Advanced Placement (AP) exams; OPI Achievement Gap Initiatives; preparing pre-service educators in best practices to assist in closing the achievement gap; stimulus money; integrating Talent Search and Gear Up in data collection through the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education; and the stability of leadership. In conclusion, Ms. Mandy Smoker Broaddus displayed throughout the board room the Honor Your Self Posters that honor young American Indians as role models.

Item 9 MACIE ANNUAL REPORT - Norma Bixby

Annual report was presented. Current MACIE members and representation were presented and noted that Ft. Peck Tribes, Montana Association of Bilingual Education, Montana School Boards Association, and Indian Impact Aid Schools of Montana are currently vacant. MACIE met January in Helena, April in Missoula, and September in Polson. Agendas were included. The Indian Education For All Best Practices Conference is February 17-18, 2009 in Helena, Montana. MACIE members attended the meeting of the Board of Education September 10, 2008 in Pablo, Montana where the tribal history projects were presented. MACIE will continue to provide support for the development of the accompanying curriculum guide. State Superintendent Denise Juneau stated that the materials from the tribal history projects will be disseminated through school librarians and on the OPI website. Discussion ensued about how MACIE was formed and whether the council needs to be reauthorized. State Superintendent Denise Juneau concluded that at the April 12-13, 1984 Board of Public Education Meeting, "Tom Thompson moved, Ted Hazelbaker seconded, that the Board of Public Education communicate with the Superintendent of Public Instruction to establish the Indian Education Advisory Council referred to in the policy statement. Motion carried." Mr. Cal Gilbert acknowledged Ms. Norma Bixby's passion for MACIE and the education of all students.

Item 10 KINDERGARTEN TO COLLEGE WORKGROUP REPORT - Bernie Olson

Mr. Bernie Olson reported that the Kindergarten to College Workgroup met on December 9, 2008 in Helena, Montana. The following presentations occurred: Follow-up on the Governor's Homework Assignments; Education Connectivity Taskforce, Dick Clark, State Chief Information Officer; OPI's Campaign to Inform High School Students and Parents about College Readiness, Bud Williams, Deputy Superintendent; MCIS/MCRN, Shaunda Hildebrand; and Big Sky Pathways, T.J. Eyer, OPI and Brad Eldredge, OCHE. Discussion ensued on the technology not progressing as fast as it should to promote distance learning opportunities, the need to use Advanced Placement programs better for students, information sharing to make students aware of course offerings, e-learning, and closing the achievement gap of American Indian students. Dr. Kirk Miller stated that he will connect with Mr. Terry Beaubois, MSU

Creative Research Lab, on the use of the College Access Challenge Grant to explore how iTunesU and iTunes K-12 as presented at the Board of Education meeting on January 8, 2009.

Item 11 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - Steve Meloy

Executive Secretary Steve Meloy presented the following bills of interest:

- SB 67 Require funding before school rules with fiscal impact implemented
- SB 80 Elect Board of Regents
- SB 81 Elect Board of Public Education
- SJ 4 Study option for improving administrative efficiencies in school system
- HJ 6 Urge development of K-12 education shared policy goals
- SJ 8 Urge development of K-20 education shared policy goals

The Board agreed to maintain open chains of communication with Mr. Steve Meloy and Mr. Bernie Olson to ensure that the views of the Board are properly conveyed to the legislature. After deliberating the bills the Board moved unanimously to oppose SB 67, SB 80, and SB 81. In regard to SJ 8 and HJ 6 the Board agreed by consensus to act as a proponent to the resolutions, but not to the prescriptive language that contains the language of the goals and measures. The Board recommended that Mr. Steve Meloy represent SJ 4 as an informational witness to encourage the legislature to review the work of the renewal commission and consolidate the research that was conducted over the past three interims in regard to the Position on Public School Funding and Structure. Discussion ensued around the unified budget that was approved at the Board of Education Meeting on January 8, 2009.

Item 12 CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE - Honorable Bob Brown

The Honorable Bob Brown stated that the system of Confucius Institutes (CI) was created by the Chinese Ministry of Education to foster greater understanding of Chinese language and culture worldwide. Confucius Institutes are viewed by some critics as a vehicle for Chinese “soft power,” but the University of Montana did not accept funding until it was convinced that the Chinese exert no control over the programs conducted by individual institutes. The Mansfield Center has put up ample matching funds because the institutes’ goals are consistent with the Center’s outreach mission. Each CI is run in conjunction with a Chinese partner, which provides 1-3 professors. Some points that the Honorable Bob Brown presented were:

- Opportunity to expand teaching on China fulfils a need, as China’s importance is growing
- Not just China’s strength but its problems dictate the need for greater “educated” engagement by the U.S.
- Montana students who know the language and culture of >20% of the global population will have a huge advantage in the job market
- University of Montana can facilitate a process to bring highly trained Chinese instructors to work full-time in individual districts, and handle visa, logistics, and orientation. China pays teacher salary. District’s obligation is limited to providing housing, health insurance, limited transportation with a total cost of approximately \$10,000 per year

Dr. Kirk Miller was presented with pottery by the Board of Public Education as a departing gift.

January 9, 2009 – Friday
TIME CERTAIN 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. CAPITOL Room 472

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Item 13 BOARD OF EDUCATION UNIFIED BUDGET DISCUSSION WITH THE JOINT APPROPRIATION SUBCOMMITTEE ON EDUCATION - Board of Education

Those in attendance at the meeting included the following Joint Appropriation Subcommittee Members: Chairman Representative Dan Villa, Vice Chair Senator Debby Barrett, Representative Bill Glaser, Senator Bob Hawks, Representative Roy Hollandsworth, Senator Jim Peterson, and Representative

Cheryl Steenson. Board of Public Education Members included: Chair Ms. Patty Myers, Vice Chair Ms. Angela McLean, Dr. Kirk Miller, Mr. Storrs Bishop, Mr. Bernie Olson, Ms. Sharon Carroll, Student Representative Ms. Katie Wood, and Executive Secretary Mr. Steve Meloy. Board of Regent Members included: Student Regent Mr. Mitch Jessen and Commissioner Sheila Stearns. Staff present included: State Superintendent Denise Juneau; Ms. Jan Lombardi, Governor's Education Policy Advisor; Ms. Pam Joehler, LFD; Ms. Kris Wilkinson, LFD; Ms. Suzan Scott, OBPP; Ms. Nancy Hall, OBPP; and Ms. Shirley Chovanak, Secretary.

Commissioner Sheila Stearns summarized the goals of the Montana University System: Affordable/accessible, economic workforce community development, and efficiency/effectiveness. Ms. Patty Myers summarized the goals of the Board of Public Education: Evaluate accreditation standards, promote quality teaching and administration, promote data-driven research, and embrace educational reform. Mr. Steve Meloy recommended that the Joint Appropriation Subcommittee on Education review the work of the renewal commission and consolidate the research that was conducted over the past three interims in regard to the Position on Public School Funding and Structure. State Superintendent Denise Juneau presented her goals for the Office of Public Instruction: Support schools to achieve standards; data-driven decision making; celebrating successes/embracing challenges; professional development; assessment; and accountability. Many examples were shared by all in regard to the collaboration between the educational partners. Chairman Representative Dan Villa questioned how the funds can best be used to further the existing efficiencies? Dr. Kirk Miller and Mr. Steve Meloy expressed the need to capture and maintain effective programs and do not create another interim but revitalize the work of the past three interims from November 2002 – December 2005. Other topics discussed included: instructional development, accountability, curriculum specialists, critical teacher shortages, highly qualified educators, at-risk students, and the Board of Education's unified budget.

BPE Meeting Reconvened at 10:35 a.m.

Dr. Mary Sheehy Moe represented Commissioner Sheila Stearns

Item 14 MT CIRCLE OF AMERICAN MASTERS POSTERS - Beck McLaughlin, Education & Web Services Director, MT Arts Council

Ms. Beck McLaughlin presented four posters to the Board of Public Education that were funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, and feature artwork by four artists who are in Montana's Circle of American Masters in the folk and traditional arts. The back of each poster has a photo of the artist, his or her biography and a visual arts lesson plan that relates to the artist's work. Four of the first artists accepted into the program are represented on the posters include: Ms. Jackie Larson Bread, beadwork artist; Mr. Edward Caffrey, bladesmith; Mr. Richard Charlson, wood artist; and Mr. Al Chandler Goodstrike, traditional hide preparation, construction and decoration.

Item 15 COLLEGE READINESS REPORT AND MUSWA INVITATION - Dr. Jan Clinard, Director of Academic Initiatives, OCHE

This report provided a brief summary of the results from the Montana's Class of 2008 who took at least one College Entrance Exam: the ACT, the SAT, and/or the Montana University System Writing Assessment (MUSWA). It also summarized the results from other College Board tests, including Advanced Placement, PSAT, and Subject Area Exams. Over 60% of Montana's Class of 2008, consisting of 11,202 students took an entrance exam. Entrance exams are only part of the admissions requirements for Montana's four-year universities. The full array of admissions requirements include:

Regents' College Preparatory Curriculum

- 4 years English
- 3 years math
- 2 years lab sciences
- 3 years social studies

Composite/Overall College Entrance Exam Scores:

- 20 (MSU-N & UM-W) or 22 on ACT
- 1440 (MSU-N & UM-W) or 1540 on SAT; or 2.5 GPA; or upper half of class

Math Proficiency or Rigorous Core for Full Admission/College-level Placement

- 22 on ACT or 520 on SAT

Writing Proficiency for Full Admission/College-Level Placement

- 7 on ACT essay or 18 on ACT Combined Writing
- 7 on SAT essay or 440 on SAT Writing Section
- 3.5 on MUSWA

Dr. Jan Clinard shared charts and statistics via a PowerPoint and a handout. In conclusion, she extended a welcoming invitation to the Board to either observe or participate in the Montana University Writing Assessment Workshops as a rewarding opportunity for professional development.

Dr. Mary Sheehy Moe departed at 11:30 a.m.

Item 16 TRANSPORTATION ANNUAL REPORT - Maxine Mougeot

The presentation included information regarding the continued growth of the school bus driver training program, the progress of the web-based transportation program and information about the new federal rule regarding lap/shoulder belts in school buses. The Board was updated with limited statistics, current issues facing the transportation community and current success of the transportation program. New construction and operational standards are currently being written by the Office of Public Instruction and will be presented to the Board of Public Education at a later date. Ms. Maxine Mougeot stated that transportation data changes very little from one year to the next. Some specific topics discussed included: School bus driver training program, web-based on-line transportation program, and lap/shoulder belts. Some key elements of the new rule concerning lap/shoulder belts include:

- All school buses – All seat bottom cushions that are designed to flip up or be removable must have a self-latching mechanism by October 21, 2009
- School buses with a GVWR of 10,000 pounds or less must have lap-shoulder belt restrains for all seating positions by October 21, 2011
- All new small buses manufactured on or after effective date – all seats must be constructed with seat back height at a minimum of 24" above the Seating Reference Point (actually 28" when measured from the top of the seat bottom). This is equivalent to the high back seats currently required by some states
- Voluntarily-installed seat belts in large school buses must meet the performance standards and other requirements specified by this final rule for any new buses manufactured on or after October 21, 2011

Discussion continued about whether or not to retro-fit the buses. The following reasons were provided as to why not to retro-fit:

- Seats are spaced too close together (danger is to children that are the right height to hit their heads on the seat in front, causing neck injuries)
- Lap only belts are dangerous for small children due to their forming body structure causing hip, back and internal injuries
- Seat anchorage is not strong enough to hold the weight of children that would be attached to the seats
- Seat bottoms lack construction strength to have belts attached
- Loss of bus capacity – only 2 small children to a seat rather than 3
- Less expensive non-retractable belts are difficult to clean and maintain

Ms. Maxine Mougeot stated she will bring the standards before the Board of Public Education for her

recommendation that will be presented in March 2009.

Item 17 SCHOOL NURSING SERVICES IN MONTANA - Sue Buswell, RN, MS, NCSN

President of the Montana Association of School Nurses, Ms. Sue Buswell distributed a significant packet of support letters in regard to having a fulltime registered, professional nurse on the school staff per every 750 students. Ms. Sue Buswell stated that at the present time, Montana maintains a school nurse to student ratio of 1:1500, and ranked #34 of 50 states in provision of school nursing services. Increasing numbers of students enter school with acute and chronic health conditions that require management during the school day. The school nurse insures the optimum health and well-being of all students and school staff by offering direct health care, providing health education, promoting a healthy school environment, and serving as a liaison between school personnel, families, health care providers, and the community. Research indicates that schools employing school nurses have fewer student absences, decreased drop-out rates, and higher test scores. Documents that were provided include: 1) *Healthy Children Learn Better! School Nurses Make a Difference*; 2) letter from Ms. Sue Buswell, RN, MS, NCSN; 3) *The Impact of School Nursing on School Performance: A Research Synthesis*; 4) *National Association of School Nurses(NASN): Issue Brief*; 5) *NASN: Position Statement*; 6) *Role of the School Nurse in Providing School Health Services*; 7) *Creating Asthma Friendly Schools in Montana*; 8) *Educational and Community –Based Programs*; 9) *The Number of Students Sent Home by School Nurses Compared to Unlicensed Personnel*; and 10) Montana Department of Labor and Industry Business Standards Division: *Montana State Board of Nursing LPN in School Nursing Position*. Ms. Sue Buswell presented a PowerPoint titled *Every Child in Montana Deserves a School Nurse: One Full Time Registered, Professional School Nurse for Every 750 Students in 2009*. Mr. Robert Allen, Executive Director, Montana Nurses Association; Ms. Kathy Boutilier, Montana Association of School Nurses; and Ms. Debora Sargent, Montana Association of School Nurses testified in support. MEA-MFT supports the Montana Association of School Nurses' proposal that the ratio of registered, professional school nurses to students be 1 to 750. Discussion ensued of the cost that would be incurred by school districts to meet this standard and whether or not the work should be done by the Board of Public Education or the legislature. Ms. Sue Buswell will make an attempt to get this data to the Board by March 2009.

Item 18 REQUEST FOR NEW PROGRAMS – ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGE PROPOSES ADDING PROGRAMS FOR ENDORSEMENTS IN ENGLISH EDUCATION MINOR AND A READING MINOR - Dr. Barbara Vail and Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson

The Office of Public Instruction provided to the Board of Public Education for discussion the materials relating to the proposal from Rocky Mountain College to add an English Education Minor and a Reading K-12 Minor to its education curriculum. Barbara J. Vail, Ph.D., Director of Education and Associate Academic Vice President at Rocky Mountain College will present the descriptions of the proposed programs including the requirements for each program and a completed institutional report relating to the specific standards of Chapter 58 – Professional Educator Preparation Program Standards: ARM 10.58.509 English; ARM 10.58.521 Reading Specialist; and ARM 10.58.802 Standards for Approval. Report materials include: Proposed English Education Minor Requirements; Proposed Reading Minor Requirements; and Rocky Mountain College Reading Minor. Dr. Joyce Swain and Dr. Barbara Vail provided rationale for both minors, reviewed requirements, and course descriptions. Ms. Patty Myers asked about the common course numbering and Dr. Barbara Vail stated that is a very large hill to climb, but would consider the concept.

Ms. Joyce Silverthorne represented State Superintendent Denise Juneau at 1:20 p.m.

Item 19 REQUEST FOR NEW PROGRAMS – MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-BILLINGS PROPOSED ADDING PROGRAMS FOR ENDORSEMENTS IN BROADFIELD SCIENCE, POLITICAL SCIENCE, PERMISSIVE COMPETENCIES FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD AND EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY - Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson

The Office of Public Instruction introduced to the Board of Public Education a proposal from the Montana State University – Billings (MSU-B) to add the following programs to its education curriculum: Broadfield

Science Teaching Major; Political Science Teaching Major; Early Childhood Special Permissive Competency; and Educational Technology Special Competency. The Office of Public Instruction received a formal request for these new programs by letter on November 26, 2008, from Bonnie Jones Graham, M.Ed., Director of Licensure Standards and Clinical Practice at MSU-B.

At the Board of Public Education meeting in March 2009, Dr. Graham will present the descriptions of the proposed programs including the requirements for each program, course syllabi, and the completed institutional report relating to the specific standards of Chapter 58 – Professional Educator Preparation Program Standards: ARM 10.58.522 Broadfield Science Teaching Major; ARM 10.58.523 Political Science Teaching Major; ARM 10.58.527 Early Childhood Special Permissive Competency; ARM 10.58.527 Educational Technology Special Competency; and ARM 10.58.802 Standards for Approval. The Board of Public Education will address this item further at its March 2009 meeting.

Item 20 CHAPTER 57 REVISIONS - Peter Donovan and Kim Warrick

At the November BPE meeting, Kim Warrick and Peter Donovan provided to the Board of Public Education Chapter 57 amendments as recommended by the Chapter 57 Revision Team. The Chapter 57 Revision Team facilitated by the Office of Public Instruction and the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council, included representatives from Montana education stakeholders.

During the presentation at the November BPE meeting, the presenters reported that the Subcommittee on Class 3 School Administrator Licensure had not reached full consensus on the draft rules relating to licensure for school administrators. At the request of the BPE, the presenters agreed to ask the Subcommittee on Class 3 School Administrative Licensure to reconvene to see if consensus could be achieved on amended administrative rules to be present to the BPE in January 2009. The Subcommittee on Class 3 School Administrator Licensure met on December 16, 2008 and reached consensus on the amended administrative rules for Class 3 Administrative Licensure (enclosed in agenda packet). The Chapter 57 Revision Team requests the Board of Public Education to incorporate amendments to Class 3 School Administrator licensure into the Notice of Public Hearing and timeline relating to ARM 10.57.102 through 10.57.611 on Chapter 57 Educator Licensure.

The correct version was distributed to the Board. The change to Class 3 Administrative License – Superintendent Endorsement in ARM 10.57.414 (1) (vii) and (b) would issue the applicant a standard Class 3 license and the applicant would have to complete 6 credits during the 1st term of the 5-year renewal cycle instead of issuing a class 5 non-renewable alternative route license. The change to Class 3 Administrative License – Elementary Principal Endorsement in ARM 10.57.415 (1) (iii) would remove the requirement of the Montana school finance course. This is duplicated in the Class 3 Administrative License – Secondary Principal Endorsement in ARM 10.57.416 (1) (iii). All the other language remained the same. Discussion ensued about the difficulty in obtaining the Montana school finance and Montana school law coursework in three years versus five years, the importance of one course versus the other, recruitment of superintendents and principals in small schools, and the value of the Board of Public Education's licensing procedures.

Item 21 NCLB UPDATE - Nancy Coopersmith

Following an April 2007 on-site review of the Office of Public Instruction NCLB Title II, Part A program by the U.S. Department of Education (USED), the Office of Public Instruction addressed the findings of the federal review. As part of federal requirements concerning teacher qualifications, the OPI staff published and disseminated to Montana schools the Montana NCLB HQT Data Collection Manual for the 2008-09 School Year. The presentation included the process described in the manual as well as next steps to meet the compliance requirements of the USED.

There are three major findings that must be addressed by the Office of Public Instruction in order to maintain compliance with NCLB, and therefore, remain eligible to receive NCLB funding. Since the USED disagreed with definitions and the implementation of requirements, the Office of Public Instruction

must revise the data collection process for the 2008-2009 school year. In order to do that, OPI must gather information concerning Montana teachers. The information to be gathered includes the following:

1. Core academic classes taught by Special Education teachers;
2. Core academic classes taught by teachers (grades 9-12) without a college major in the subjects they teach; and
3. Elementary teachers (grades K-8) who had a Class 5 Alternative License.

In future years the information will be collected electronically in the Annual Data Collection.

Item 22 CLASS 8 IMPLEMENTATION REPORT - Peter Donovan and Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson

This presentation provided the Board of Public Education the dissemination plan and timeline for implementing Class 8 Dual Credit-Only Postsecondary Faculty License. On Wednesday, December 10, 2008 the Class 8 Implementation Advisory Committee, chaired by the Office of Public Instruction Deputy Superintendent Bud Williams, approved this Class 8 implementation recommendation to the Board.

The purpose of the Class 8 Implementation Advisory Committee included providing advice to the Office of Public Instruction on the process for implementing and administering the Class 8 Dual Credit-Only Postsecondary Faculty License; ensuring postsecondary instructors of dual-credit courses meet the provisions of ARM 10.57.437, No Child Left Behind, and MCA 20-4-101 Teacher Certification; and providing Montana's K-12 students more opportunity to access dual-credit courses.

A sample completed Class 8 application was provided for review. There was in-depth discussion about the pedagogy that would be evidenced in ARM 10.58.501 in a small portfolio that would provide assurances and validation of meeting or exceeding this standard. It was noted that all additional evidence must be available from either the Chief Academic Officer or the applicant upon request by the Office of Public Instruction and subject to an on-site review. Failure to produce the requested evidence within 30 days of receipt of the request may result in revocation or suspension of the Class 8 License.

2:15 p.m. State Superintendent Denise Juneau returned to the meeting

Mr. Pete Donovan explained to the Board that the review team will begin prior to the March 2009 Certification Standards Practices Advisory Council (CSPAC) meeting. Training will be conducted by Mr. Pete Donovan, Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, and Ms. Elizabeth Keller. The recommendation for licensure will come from the review panel and the Dean representative of CSPAC will make the final recommendation. The Class 8 application that is currently being used does not reflect the changes from Chapter 57 yet because Chapter 57 has not been adopted to date. Once Chapter 57 is adopted, the changes will be reflected in the Class 8 application.

2:30 p.m. Mr. Bernie Olson departed

Item 23 ASSESSMENT UPDATE - Judy Snow

Reports

1. CRT and CRT – Alternate Contract Award
2. Assessment Conference will be January 29-30, 2009 at the Crowne Plaza in Billings, MT. The conference will have sessions on assessment topics and training for the 1009 MontCAS test administration.
3. December JUMP Newsletter included the 2008-2009 MontCAS testing window:

October 20 – November 21, 2008	English Language Proficiency (ELP) Grades K-12
January 22 – March 6, 2009	NAEP, Grades 4 and 8, Reading, Math, and Science
February 10 – March 25, 2009	CRT – Alternate, Grades 3-8 and 10, Reading and Math; Grades 4,8, and 10, Science

March 2 – March 25, 2009	CRT, Grades 3-8 and 10, Reading and Math; Grades 4,8, and 10, Science
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4. Update on the assessment task force meetings and recommendations on:
 - a. High school grade for CRT and CRT-Alternate; and
 - b. Projects to increase awareness and skills in formative assessment.

The updates on three of the projects resulting from the charge of the Assessment Task Force:

 - **Skill analysis of seven years of the Norm-Reference Test (Iowa Tests) results.** The analysis has been completed and presented to the Board of Public Education at its November 2008 meeting. The PowerPoint slides and the written report are posted on the OPI website.
 - **Creating interest and awareness in formative assessment.** The 2008 and 2009 Assessment Conference feature keynote speakers and breakout sessions on formative assessment. In addition, each system received a copy of a book authored by the 2008 keynote speaker, *Transformative Assessment* by W. Jim Popham.
 - **Survey of Montana educators to identify needs for state and local assessment.** Following focus groups at the 2008 assessment conference and other meetings of educators, a questionnaire was developed. The survey was posted online in September. The results of the survey were presented to the Board of Public Education at the November 2008 meeting. The PowerPoint slides and the written report are posted online on the OPI website.

ACTION ITEMS

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.

Item 24 BPE STRATEGIC PLANNING 2008-2013 - Steve Meloy

This item was postponed until the March 2009 meeting.

Item 25 REQUEST FOR NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING – CHAPTER 57 - Peter Donovan and Kim Warrick

At the November 2008 Board of Public Education meeting, Kim Warrick and Peter Donovan provided to the Board Chapter 57 amendments as recommended by the Chapter 57 Revision Team. The Chapter 57 Revision Team facilitated by the Office of Public Instruction and the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council, included representatives from Montana education stakeholders.

This presentation provided to the Board of Public Education the Notice of Public Hearing and timeline relating to ARM 10.57.102 through 10.57.611 Chapter 57 Educator Licensure.

MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to approve the Notice of Public Hearing and timeline relating to Chapter 57 Educator Licensure in ARM 10.57.102 through 10.57.611 as presented. Dr. Kirk Miller seconded.

The proposed amendments to the Class 3 School Administrator Licensure that was presented as Item 20 met some opposition in regard to the number of years that should be necessary to obtain the necessary Montana school finance and Montana school law coursework, whether one course is more valuable than the other or the necessity, and the value of the Board of Public Education's licensing procedures. The Board discussed the hearing procedures and how amendments to the notice occur in the process.

Motion passed 4-2. Mr. Bernie Olson was absent from the vote.

Item 26 ALTERNATIVE TO STANDARD REQUESTS - Dale Kimmet

This presentation provided to the Board of Public Education for consideration of Initial Alternative Standard and/or Five-Year Renewal Alternative Standard Requests recommended either for approval or for disapproval by State Superintendent Denise Juneau. The report is included in the agenda packet. A review was provided of the Montana Small Schools Alliance (MSSA) Plan for Alternative Standard Collaboration.

Initial Alternative Standard Applications

There were four districts and eleven schools evaluated in accordance with ARM 10.55.604 for initial alternative standards.

• **Rosebud County**

- Forsyth School District
 - Forsyth 7-8 – 10.55.709 Library Media Services
 - Forsyth 9-12 – 10.55.709 Library Media Services

MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to accept the State Superintendent’s recommendation to approve the alternative standard request for Forsyth School District. Dr. Kirk Miller seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Bernie Olson was absent from the vote.

- Colstrip School District
 - Pine Butte Elementary K-5 – 10.55.709 Library Media Services
 - Frank Brattin Middle School 6-8 - 10.55.709 Library Media Services
 - Colstrip High School 9-12- 10.55.709 Library Media Services

There is a library in each of the three schools in the district, but only 2.0 FTE librarians. The State Superintendent recommended disapproval of the alternative standard request. The Colstrip School District does not meet or exceed the current standard.

MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to accept the State Superintendent’s recommendation for disapproval of the alternative standard request of Colstrip School District. Ms. Sharon Carroll seconded.

Discussion ensued about school districts not meeting the standards. The question was raised if it is the result of the rules not being contemporary? The Board of Public Education noted that it should be mindful to revise the rules without sacrificing the quality of education if the rule is not contemporary. There needs to be some flexibility. Ms. Angela McLean noted the need to drill deeper into the data. Dr. Kirk Miller stated that the data can’t be drilled into if it isn’t there. He went on to state that school districts are looking at the relief of pressure valves. Schools cannot meet the standards if the resources are not available. Ms. Patty Myers wondered if the right questions are being asked.

Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Bernie Olson was absent from the vote.

• **Jefferson County**

- Montana City School District
 - Montana City Elementary K-5 - 10.55.709 Library Media Services
 - Montana City Middle School - 10.55.709 Library Media Services

Currently the library staff consists of a 1.0 FTE librarian and a 0.5 FTE paraprofessional. Through collaboration with other staff, weekly library lessons, extended library programs of Battle of the Books and the Accelerated Reader program, and collaboration with the teacher of the gifted and talented program (Quest) the district believes the library media standards are being met. Due to insufficient FTE the library/media skills curriculum is not being full taught to each

grade level according to the standard. The State Superintendent recommended disapproval of the alternative standard request. The Montana City School District does not meet or exceed the current standard.

MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to accept the State Superintendent's recommendation for disapproval of the alternative standard request of Montana City School District. Dr. Kirk Miller seconded.

Mr. Tony Kloker, Superintendent of Montana City Schools appealed the recommendation stating the intent of rule 10.55.604 is to allow locally initiated proposals that better reflect the unique individuality of each district as well as foster innovative approaches to solving educational problems. Montana City School seeks an alternative standard solely on the number of FTE's required, not on the instructional services the students receive. Mr. Kloker provided the Board of Public Education with a list of concerns in response to the information that was provided in the memorandum provided to the Board by the Office of Public Instruction. In addition he provided a document that states the curriculum is being fully taught. "The library program is evaluated through the following multiple measures: classroom based assessments, teacher observations, parent surveys, rubrics, number of books being circulated, AR tests, CRT, MAP assessment, SAGES, student ability to demonstrate competence in the scavenger hunt activities in 4th & 8th grade, supervision through our administration, etc." This recommendation has caused great stress on the staff because they believe that they are doing more today to address this alternative standard than when they actually met it. Ms. Mary Bryson the chair of the School Board of Trustees and Ms. Kathy Kidder the librarian stressed their concerns with the State Superintendent's recommendation.

The Board of Public Education had a heartfelt discussion with OPI and Montana City Schools. The discussion included: choices of schools to meet standards or not, belief in innovation, holding true to the standards, asking the right questions, drilling down the data, and evaluating standards.

Motion passed 5-1. Mr. Bernie Olson was absent from the vote.

- **Fergus County**
 - Lewistown Public School District
 - Highland Park Elementary PK-2 - 10.55.709 Library Media Services
 - Garfield Elementary 3-4 - 10.55.709 Library Media Services
 - Lewis & Clark Elementary 5-6 - 10.55.709 Library Media Services
 - Lewistown Jr. High 7-8 - 10.55.709 Library Media Services

The Lewistown School District employs a 1.0 FTE librarian for the four schools. The required amount of FTE for the four schools is 2.5. Even though the Para educators are licensed and endorsed librarians, they are employed as paraprofessionals and not librarians. The proposal does not meet or exceed the current standard.

MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to accept the State Superintendent's recommendation for disapproval of the alternative standard request of Lewistown Public School District. Ms. Sharon Carroll seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Bernie Olson was absent from the vote.

Renewal Alternative Standard Applications

There was one district and one school that have been received and evaluated in accordance with ARM 10.55.604.

- **Pondera County**
 - Dupuyer Elementary
 - Dupuyer School PK-8 – 10.57.709 Library Media Services

MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to accept the State Superintendent's recommendation for approval of the renewal of the alternative standard request of Dupuyer Elementary for Library Media Services. Ms. Sharon Carroll seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Bernie Olson was absent from the vote.

- Dupuyear Elementary
- Dupuyear School PK-8 – 10.55.710 School Counseling Services

MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to accept the State Superintendent's recommendation for approval of the renewal of the alternative standard request of Dupuyer Elementary for School Counseling Services. Mr. Cal Gilbert seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Bernie Olson was absent from the vote.

Mr. Dale Kimmet presented a slide show of some of the schools that were visited.

Item 27 REPORT ON 2007-2008 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS - Dale Kimmet

It is the intent to provide the Board of Public Education with a final report on the improvement plans required of schools that received either Advice or Deficiency accreditation status for the school year 2007-2008 and improvement plans required for all schools with misassigned teachers for the school year 2007-2008. This final report verifies the current status of those plans following a review of the 2008 Annual Data Collection electronic preliminary accreditation reports for each of those schools. The report also included comments and recommendations for certain school improvement 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 or not adequate to address the misassignments. Attached to this document find a memo re: Questions on technology Requirements for Public School Classrooms. This memo will be referenced when discussing the Harlowton School Improvement Plan. Brockton Public Schools and Frazer Public Schools were pulled from this report since they were being addressed separately as agenda Item 28 and Item 29 respectively. Pryor 7-8 and Plenty Coups High School in Bighorn County; Lewistown Elementary Schools in Fergus County; Lambert 7-8 and Lambert High School in Richland County; and Plentywood 7-8 and Plentywood High School in Sheridan County are in need of an on-site visit due to missing corrective plans, unlicensed teachers, or continuous serious deviations.

MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to accept the State Superintendent's recommendation to approve the 2007-2008 Improvement Plans submitted by schools receiving advice or deficiency status with the exception of Brockton Public Schools and Frazer Public Schools. Dr. Kirk Miller seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Bernie Olson was absent from the vote.

Item 28 BROCKTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS - Steve Meloy and Sammy Nygard, Chairperson

The current Chairperson of Brockton Public Schools is Mr. Rodney Burshia and Mr. Richard Whitesell is the Superintendent. On December 17, 2008 the Board of Public Education directed the Chairperson and the Superintendent to appear at the Board of Public Education meeting on January 9, 2009 to hear directly why Brockton Public Schools have been in noncompliance for the past 7 years. Mr. Richard Whitesell submitted a letter dated January 5, 2009 to Ms. Patty Myers addressing the issues of non-compliance and requested a postponement from the proposed meeting date due to weather and road conditions. Arrangements were made to have him participate via a conference call on January 9, 2009. Mr. Richard Whitesell did not answer the phone when the Board of Public Education called him at 5:05 p.m. The Board proceeded with the item and used Mr. Richard Whitesell's letter as his presence.

Mr. Al McMilin explained to the Board of Public Education as to why the decision was made to complete a full audit of the Brockton School District in regard to the Annual Data Collection (ADC). The Office of Public Instruction determined that the ADC was accurate, but complaints continued to occur about issues

that were allegedly occurring in the district. The previous superintendent left in the spring and the Office of Public Instruction are complimentary of the direction the school district has been moving, but the issue of non-licensed teachers needs to be addressed. Mr. Richard Whitesell tried to use the emergency authorization process again, but it may only be used once. Mr. Al McMilin stated that a plan of action needs to be established and implemented. Discussion ensued that the Board of Public Education is in the business of accrediting schools versus pulling it, but would do so if a definite plan isn't implemented.

MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved that by February 20, 2009 the Brockton School District working with the Accreditation Division of the Office of Public Instruction must develop a definite plan that would stop the use of the non-licensed teacher(s). This plan must address the letter and intent of both accreditation rule (ARM 10.55.707) and state statute (20.4.101). The Board of Public Education will then review the plan and the State Superintendent's recommendation to approve or disapprove the plan at the March meeting. The district is advised that if such a plan is not forthcoming or if it is not recommended for approval by the State Superintendent, that such a circumstance could have a direct and adverse affect on its 2009-2010 accreditation status. Ms. Angela McLean seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Bernie Olson was absent for the vote.

Item 29 FRAZER PUBLIC SCHOOLS - Steve Meloy and Rita Talks Different, Chairperson
Chairperson Rita Talks Different and Superintendent Don Johnson participated in this item via conference call at 5:35 p.m. On December 17, 2008 the Board of Public Education directed the Chairperson and the Superintendent to appear at the Board of Public Education meeting on January 9, 2009 to hear directly why Frazer Public Schools have been in noncompliance dating back to 2005. Mr. Dale Kimmet stated that Mr. Don Johnson inherited a number of the non-compliance issues. Mr. Don Johnson commented how difficult it is to find qualified applicants and retain them. Many applicants turn down the position if it is offered despite that fact that the school district provides \$50.00 a month for rent and a \$500.00 signing bonus for the first and second year of employment. There continues to be a high turnover rate. The Board of Public Education discussed the Critical Quality Educator Loan Forgiveness Program with Mr. Don Johnson and Ms. Rita Talks Different. The Office of Public Instruction will be in contact with the district about incorporating the loan forgiveness program into its plan.

MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved that by February 20, 2009 the Frazer School District working with the Accreditation Division of the Office of Public Instruction must develop a definite plan that would stop the use of the non-licensed teacher(s). This plan must address the letter and intent of both accreditation rule (ARM 10.55.707) and state statute (20.4.101). The Board of Public Education will then review the plan and the State Superintendent's recommendation to approve or disapprove the plan at the March meeting. The district is advised that if such a plan is not forthcoming or if it is not recommended for approval by the State Superintendent, that such a circumstance could have a direct and adverse affect on its 2009-2010 accreditation status. Ms. Angela McLean seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Bernie Olson was absent from the vote.

Ms. Angela McLean followed-up with Mr. Steve Meloy about the need to examine these standards. Mr. Steve Meloy stated that he would be in contact with Mr. Dale Kimmet and Mr. Al McMilin to follow-up on the spreadsheet as requested by Ms. Angela McLean during the November 2008 Board of Public Education meeting.

Ms. Katie Wood expressed her appreciation to Dr. Miller for what he has done for education. She departed at 6:00 p.m.

Item 30 MSDB COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT - Steve Gettel

Ms. Patty Myers presented the MSDB Committee Meeting Report in Mr. Steve Gettel's absence who had a prior engagement. The items presented were:

1. Spotlight on Outreach
2. Student Enrollment/Evaluation
3. Human Resources
 - Personnel Actions
4. School Improvement
 - Update on strategic planning process
 - Update on legislative activity
 - Approval of 2009-1010 calendar

MOTION: Dr. Kirk Miller moved to approve the 2009-2010 MSDB school calendar as presented. Mr. Cal Gilbert seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Ms. Angela McLean and Mr. Bernie Olson was absent from the vote.

5. Professional Development Activities
 - Update on in-service training
6. MSDB Foundation Activities
7. Conference, Meetings, and Contacts
8. Budget and Finance
9. Facilities and Safety
10. School Calendar of Events
11. Student News

Ms. Patty Myers presented Dr. Kirk Miller with a signed poster and a floor mat on behalf of Mr. Steve Gettel, MSDB staff, and MSDB students for his years of service on the Montana Board of Public Education.

PRELIMINARY AGENDA ITEMS – March 12-13, 2009

Front Street Learning Center - Helena

Executive Secretary Performance Evaluation & Contract Extension Discussion
MSDB Superintendent Performance Evaluation & Contract Extension Discussion
Establish Executive Staff Salaries
CSPAC/BPE Joint Meeting
Annual CSPAC Report
Annual School Food Services Report
Assessment Update
Accreditation Recommendations
NCLB Update
Alternative Standards Requests & Renewals
MACIE Update
MSU-Billings – New Programs for Endorsement
Chapter 57 – action
Reauthorization of MACIE
School Nurse Standards
RMC Request for new programs – recommendation for action
Strategic planning – Goals and Objectives - action

Blessings, expressions of gratitude, and well wishes were extended to Dr. Kirk Miller.

Dr. Kirk Miller moved to adjourn the Montana Board of Public Education meeting. Everyone present seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

APPROVED