

**BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

March 12-13, 2009

**FRONT STREET LEARNING CENTER**  
**815 Front Street**  
**Helena, MT**

**March 12, 2009 - Thursday**  
**8:30 AM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Patty Myers called the meeting to order at 8:33 AM. Dr. Douglas Reisig led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Carol Will and Ms. Anneliese Warhank took roll call; a quorum was noted. Ms. Patty Myers announced that the Board of Public Education is a renewal unit provider. She extended a personal welcome on behalf of the board to Mr. Mike Miller, Field Services Director, UM-Western. Condolences were extended to the Mr. Marco Ferro family on behalf of the Board in their recent loss.

**MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to accept the agenda as presented. Mr. Bernie Olson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Items Pulled from Consent Agenda if Requested**

Nothing was pulled.

**MOTION: Ms. Sharon Carroll moved to accept the consent agenda as presented. Mr. Cal Gilbert 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, Mr. Storrs Bishop, Mr. Cal Gilbert, Mr. Bernie Olson, and Student Representative Ms. Katie Wood. Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council members present included: Chairperson Dr. Douglas Reisig, Ms. Tonia Bloom, Ms. Judie Woodhouse, Ms. Sharon Applegate, and Ms. Patty Muir. 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; Ms. Anneliese Warhank, Administrative Assistant, 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 represented Commissioner Sheila Stearns. Visitors in attendance included: Ms. Nancy Coopersmith, Assistant Superintendent, OPI; Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, Accreditation Division Administrator, OPI; Ms. Joyce Silverthorne, P-20 Policy Advisor, OPI; Mr. Dale Kimmert, Accreditation Specialist, OPI; Mr. Al McMilin, Educator Quality Program Specialist, OPI; Mr. Darrell Rud, SAM; Ms. Madalyn Quinlan, Chief of Staff, OPI; Dr. Bruce Messinger, Superintendent of Helena School District; Ms. Judy Snow, State Assessment Director, OPI; Ms. Beck McLaughlin, Montana Arts Council; Mr. Robert Allen, Executive Director, Montana Nurses Association; Ms. Sue Buswell, Montana Association of School Nurses; Ms. Kathy Boutilier, RN, BSN; Ms. Cheryl Summerer, RN, MSN; Ms. Elizabeth Keller, Licensure Specialist, OPI; Dr. Jayne Downey, Assistant Professor of Education, MSU; Ms. Nikki Sandve, Coordinator of State Personnel Development Grant, OPI; Dr. Bonnie Jones Graham, Director of Licensure Standards and Clinical Practice, MSU-B; Ms. Cathy Kendall, Health Enhancement & Safety Education Division Administrator, OPI; Ms. Ann Gilkey, Legal Counsel, OPI; Ms. Rene Dubay, Director of

Talent Search/Partnerships for Access, OCHE; Dr. Larry J. Baker, Dean of Education, MSU-Bozeman; Ms. Anne Marie Mistretta, Superintendent, Ophir Public Schools; Mr. Jerry Mistretta, Ophir Public Schools; Ms. Karen B. Crogan, Accreditation Unit Program Officer, OPI; and Mr. Steve Gettel, Superintendent, MSDB.

**Items are presented in the order in which they appeared.**

## **BPE/CSPAC JOINT MEETING**

Board of Public Education Chair Patty Myers extended the chairmanship to Dr. Douglas Reisig, Certification Standards Practices Advisory Council Chair.

### **ITEM 1 SPOTLIGHT ON THE OPI INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES DIVISION: OPI WEBSITE TOUR – Ms. Cheri Bergeron, OPI**

Ms. Cheri Bergeron, the Resource Center & Web Integration Bureau Chief for OPI, came before the Board and Council to give an overview of the OPI website, [www.opi.mt.gov](http://www.opi.mt.gov). The site offers a means of communication for OPI with school personnel, governing bodies, and other interested bodies. There are three ways to navigate around the site. 1) dropdown menu: located on the upper right hand corner of the main page, one can access the most popular links, or scroll down to individual departments; 2) white text links below the dropdown menu: one can find a quick link to official OPI e-mail updates, OPI staff directories, an official OPI calendar, other links, and a quick link back to the home page; 3) buttons listed on the gray bar at the top of the page: if one scrolls over any of the buttons, hot button items appear below for more specific links. The recently added Google search bar, located on the far right of the gray bar, is considered the most powerful tool on the site as one can search the entire site using just a keyword. Superintendent Denise Juneau has suggested the website be revamped, so the style of the site may change in the future.

### **ITEM 2 CSPAC ANNUAL REPORT - Dr. Douglas Reisig**

Dr. Reisig led the group through the mission statement, Montana Code of Ethics, goals for 2008-2009, and highlights from the 2008 CSPAC meetings. Dr. Reisig pointed out all of the short term goals fall into at least one of the five larger goals for CSPAC.

### **ITEM 3 MARCH 11<sup>th</sup> CSPAC MEETING SUMMARY - Dr. Douglas Reisig**

Dr. Reisig spoke about the topics discussed at the previous day's meeting at Capital High School.

### **ITEM 4 PROGRESS ON CSPAC GOALS - Dr. Douglas Reisig**

Dr. Reisig led the group through all of the specific goals the Council is working on. He noted those goals the Council has completed, as well as the goals that have begun within the past year. Dr. Reisig then presented a PowerPoint he originally presented at the Western States Certification Conference in January. The Council was presented with the PowerPoint at the January meeting and encouraged Dr. Reisig to present it to the Board as well. The PowerPoint stressed six benchmarks targets for Montana school districts to focus on in an effort to remain as high performing school districts.

### **ITEM 5 UPDATE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AREA OF PERMISSIVE SPECIALIZED COMPETENCY FOR MENTOR TEACHERS – Ms. Judie Woodhouse; Dr. Jayne Downey, MSU Bozeman; Mr. Pete Donovan**

At the January CSPAC meeting, the Council passed a motion to recommend adding an Area of Permissive Specialized Competency (APSC) for Mentor Teachers. The current APSC's authorized by BPE include: early childhood education, gifted and talented education, and technology in education. The APSC's are statements of specialized competency that appear on educator licenses to indicate that the educator has completed a minimum of 20 semester college credit hours or equivalency in a specific academic area that has been approved by BPE. Dr. Downey passed out the draft language for the rule, as well as courses that would be offered online to attain a master's degree in mentor teaching. The

courses are offered all online. Ms. Woodhouse passed out a timeline noting CSPAC's involvement in Mentoring. Ms. Nikki Sandve spoke before that Board about the survey she is working on for mentoring. Like with the Council, she asked the Board for any feedback before she distributes the survey in April.

**ITEM 6 REPORT ON REVIEW PANEL PROCESS FOR CLASS 8 DUAL CREDIT-ONLY POSTSECONDARY FACULTY LICENSE – Ms. Elizabeth Keller, Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, OPI**

Ms. Keller and Dr. Peterson came before the Board to provide an update on the first work session of the Class 8 Review Panel. The Review Panel convened on March 11<sup>th</sup> to evaluate Class 8 Dual Credit-Only Postsecondary Faculty License applications. The Council then made recommendations for licensure to OPI. Out of the three applications submitted, two were approved. The Council will meet on July 22, 2009 to review the next batch of applications submitted and will continue to meet bi-annually.

**BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION MEETING RESUMES**

Dr. Doug Reisig returned the chairmanship to Ms. Patty Myers for the Board of Public Education Meeting.

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**Item 1 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Ms. Patty Myers**

- January 3, 2009 Learning for Life: Pre-school through Continuing Education – Helena, MT
- February 3, 2009 Math and Science Initiative – Helena, MT
- February 20, 2009 State of Education Address – Helena, MT
- February 20, 2009 MEA-MFT Day of Advocacy – Helena, MT
- February 20, 2009 Accreditation Meeting with OPI – Helena, MT
- February 20, 2009 Hearing HB 433 – Helena, MT
- February 27, 2009 BPE Conference Call
- March 3, 2009 MSDB Committee Meeting Conference Call

Ms. Patty Myers thanked State Superintendent Denise Juneau for recognizing the partnership of the Office of Public Instruction with the Board of Public Education during the State of Education Address.

**RENEWAL UNITS**

Ms. Patty Myers stated that the Montana Board of Public Education is a renewal unit provider. Attending a Board of Public Education meeting may qualify you to receive renewal units. One hour of contact time is equivalent to one renewal unit up to four renewal units per day. Please complete the necessary information on the sign-in sheet if you are applying for renewal units.

**BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION APPEARANCES – Calendar provided to present board members and staff appearances for January, February, and March**

**Ms. Angela McLean**

- January 3, 2009 Learning for Life: Pre-school through Continuing Education – Helena, MT
- January 21, 2009 Indian Education for All & Teacher Preparation Programs Conference Call
- January 28, 2009 Economic Summit – Anaconda, MT
- February 20, 2009 Accreditation Meeting with OPI – Helena, MT
- February 20, 2009 State of Education Address – Helena, MT
- February 20, 2009 MEA-MFT Day of Advocacy – Helena, MT
- February 20, 2009 Hearing HB 433 – Helena, MT
- February 27, 2009 BPE Conference Call

**Mr. Storrs Bishop**

- February 20, 2009 Accreditation Meeting with OPI – Helena, MT
- February 20, 2009 State of Education Address – Helena, MT
- February 27, 2009 BPE Conference Call

**Mr. Cal Gilbert**

- February 20, 2009 State of Education Address – Helena, MT
- February 27, 2009 BPE Conference Call

**Ms. Sharon Carroll**

- January 23-24, 2009 NASBE Assessment Study Group – Washington DC
- January 29-30, 2009 Assessment & Test Administration Conference – Billings, MT
- February 27, 2009 BPE Conference Call

**Mr. Bernie Olson**

- February 18, 2009 SR 5 Hearing – Helena, MT
- February 27, 2009 BPE Conference Call
- March 3, 2009 MSDB Committee Meeting Conference Call

**Item 2**

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT - Steve Meloy**

- January 3, 2009 Learning for Life: Pre-school through Continuing Education – Helena, MT
- January 12, 2009 SB 67, SB 80, SB 81, and HJ 6 Hearings – Helena, MT
- January 13, 2009 Ed Forum – Helena, MT
- January 14, 2009 House Education Committee Presentation – Helena, MT
- January 15, 2009 CSPAC Meeting – Helena, MT
- January 26, 2009 HB 15 Hearing – Helena, MT
- January 27, 2009 Ed Forum – Helena, MT
- January 28, 2009 Learning First Alliance Bylaw Subgroup – Helena, MT
- January 29, 2009 Learning First Alliance – Helena, MT
- January 29, 2009 BPE Budget Hearing – Helena, MT
- January 30, 2009 Executive Action of BPE Budget – Helena, MT
- January 31, 2009 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading SB 80 and SB 81 – Helena, MT
- February 4, 2009 SB 69 and SB 70 Hearings – Helena, MT
- February 4, 2009 TRiO Meeting – Helena, MT
- February 6, 2009 SB 67 and SJ 4 Hearings – Helena, MT
- February 9, 2009 SJ 8 Hearing
- February 11, 2009 HB 459, HB 355, and SJ 12 Hearings – Helena, MT
- February 12, 2009 Healthy Schools Network – Helena, MT
- February 13, 2009 HB 456, HB 388, and HR 2 Hearings – Helena, MT
- February 13, 2009 Board of Regents' Conference Call
- February 17, 2009 Ed Forum – Helena, MT
- February 18, 2009 SR 5 Hearing – Helena, MT
- February 20, 2009 Accreditation Meeting with OPI – Helena, MT
- February 20, 2009 State of Education Address – Helena, MT
- February 20, 2009 MEA-MFT Day of Advocacy – Helena, MT
- February 20, 2009 Hearing HB 433 – Helena, MT
- February 24, 2009 Chapter 57 Hearing
- February 24, 2009 Ed Forum
- February 25, 2009 Learning First Alliance

- February 27, 2009      BPE Conference Call
- March 2, 2009         Ed Forum
- March 3, 2009         MSDB Committee Meeting Conference Call
- March 11, 2009        CSPAC Meeting – Helena, MT

Mr. Steve Meloy addressed the Board's budget as being a small part of the Governor's Executive Budget. He pointed out that the legislature has been reviewing proposals of increases in per diem, travel, and information technology (IT). The Board of Public Education received "free" IT services from the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education's (OCHE) Montana University System while being housed in the same location. Since OCHE moved to a different location the Board has IT expenses that had not been previously budgeted. There is no compensation for the additional legal expenses that are incurred by the Board. A memo was provided to the Governor's office memorializing the financial situation with increased legal costs. The legislature passed an amendment to remove \$6,000 from the Research Fund to pay for the financial gift of nationally certified teachers by reducing general fund obligations. The committee passed it unanimously. This poses a problem for the Board and CSPAC that utilize the research fund to meet financial obligations. If revenues and expenditures remain constant, the fund balance in the state special revenue account will be expended by FY 2017. The Board may need to take appropriate measures to raise teacher fees for licensure in the next legislative session.

**Item 4                    COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION'S REPORT - Commissioner Sheila Stearns**

Dr. Sylvia Moore presented the Commissioner of Higher Education's Report on behalf of Commissioner Sheila Stearns. The Board of Regents' meeting was rescheduled from March 5-6, 2009 to March 19-20, 2009 due to post-secondary's budget coming before the legislature. Dr. Moore addressed the following topics: Class 8, Access to Success, Montana University System Writing Assessment, and upcoming diversity training activities. Discussion ensued on remediation being a huge challenge because students come into the university system in various levels of preparedness, retaining students to complete an area of study, and the effectiveness of the MUS Writing Assessment for promoting faculty development.

**Katie Wood departed at 12:00 PM**

**State Superintendent Denise Juneau arrived at 1:30 PM**

**Item 5                    GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORT - Jan Lombardi**

No report was provided.

**Item 7                    NASBE ASSESSMENT STUDY GROUP - Sharon Carroll**

Ms. Sharon Carroll attended the NASBE Assessment Systems for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Study Group meeting in Arlington, VA January 23-24, 2009. The objectives are: 1) How assessment can promote standards for 21<sup>st</sup> century learning and measure students' progress in meeting those standards; 2) Multiple purposes for testing and the implications for standards-based reform; 3) How assessment systems can leverage ongoing improvements in teaching and learning; 4) Technology applications in assessments; 5) Professional preparation and training needed to use assessments to support high-quality teaching; and 6) School-wide data tracking and decision making to ensure quality teaching and student learning. Ms. Sharon Carroll provided the study group participant list, summary of the January 23-24, 2009 meeting, a letter from Dr. Mariana Haynes the Director of Research, and the March 13-14, 2009 agenda. Discussion ensued in regard to the American Diploma Project which is an effort to align K-12 standards with those of colleges and employers that are at the core of the high school reform agendas in many states. All states in the American Diploma Project Network have the commitment of the governor, the K-12 schools chief and, in many cases, the state board of education, the higher education chancellor and/or other post-secondary officials, and the business community. The states involved have agreed to pursue a four-part policy agenda:

- Align high school standards with the knowledge and skill required for success after high school;
- Require all high school graduates to take challenging courses that actually prepare them for life

- after high school;
- Streamline the assessment system so that the tests students take in high school also can serve as readiness tests for college and work; and
- Hold high schools accountable for graduating students who are ready for college or careers, and hold post-secondary institutions accountable for students' success once enrolled.

**Item 8 ASSESSMENT UPDATE - Judy Snow**

Ms. Judy Snow provided the Board with the following tentative formative assessment timeline:

- **Complete** *Assessment Know-How*
- **Complete** Testimony to appropriations committee (PowerPoint provided)
- **March/April** Preparation/finalization of contracts and RFPs for webinar courses and online writing assessments
- **April** Launch of information about webinar courses and online writing assessments
- **May** Online writing assessment training
- **June** Webinar book discussion of Transformative Assessment
- **August +** Online webinar courses

Discussion ensued on the assessment models of Kansas and Wisconsin, instructional coaches versus mentors, assessment conference, and the availability of webinar courses.

**Item 3 STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - State Superintendent Denise Juneau**

State Superintendent Denise Juneau shared with the Board some of many places and activities that she has either attended or participated in since January. A few are: Billings Career Center, Head Start Legislative Day, State of Education, MEA-MFT Day of Advocacy, We the People Project, and a breakfast at Jefferson Elementary in honor of the National School Breakfast Week. Most of her time has been spent at the legislature supporting some of the following bills: HB 369 - Funding for Head Start and Early Start Programs, HB 433 - Revise ages for compulsory school enrollment, HB 646 – Energy efficiency fund for K-12 schools, HB 459 – Create and fund K-12 distance learning network, HJ 6 – Urge development of K-12 education shared policy goals, and SB 69 – Increasing the total quality educator payment. A couple of bills that she opposed were: SB 80 – Electing the Board of Regents and SB 81 – Electing the Board of Public Education. State Superintendent Denise Juneau believes that Montana educators need to implement innovated projects with the onetime only stimulus money, be accountable, and demonstrate the effectiveness.

**Item 9 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - Steve Meloy and Bernie Olson**

Mr. Steve Meloy reviewed the following list of bills and their current status with the Board: HB 15 – Fund K-12 education, HB 169 – Clarify state payment of tuition for homeless students, HB 355 - Fund math and science academy at Montana Tech, HB 456 - Require seat belts on new school buses, HB 459 – Create and fund K-12 distance learning network, HJ 6 – urge development of K-12 education shared policy goals, HR 2 – Antibullying in schools resolution, SB 67 – Require funding before school rules with fiscal impact implemented, SB 69 – Increase the quality educator payment, SB 70 – Apply inflationary adjustment to K-12 BASE aid and general fund components, SB 80 – Elect Board of Regents, SB 81 – Elect Board of Public Education, SB 173 – Clarify ability of school districts to share superintendents and principals, SJ 4 – Study option for improving administrative efficiencies in school system, SJ8 – Urge development of K-20 education shared policy goals, SJ 12 – Approve Bitterroot Valley Community College, and the confirmation hearings for the Board of Regents and the Board of Public Education. Mr. Meloy stressed that most of the heavily lifting has been done by the Office of Public Instruction and our partners. Recommendations came before the legislature on Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> in regard to the proposed federal stimulus budget.

State Superintendent Denise Juneau distributed a memorandum from Madalyn Quinlan, dated February 20, 2009 in regard to defining the state's primary funding formula for purposed of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. There was an attached chart that shows the amount of funding that the state provided for each funding component in FY 2008 and FY 2009. The chart shows the funding and the

short falls to restore. The Office of Public Instruction provided the Board with their proposed amendments to HB 645.

**Item 10 NCLB UPDATE - Nancy Coopersmith**

The report included information on the status of Montana teachers meeting the “Highly Qualified” federal requirements. Information was included regarding the budget request of President Barack Obama for the 2010-2011 school year. An overview of NCLB/ESEA Title I recently adopted regulations were presented. Ms. Nancy Coopersmith provided a document on the highlights of final Title I regulations. Former Education Secretary, Margaret Spellings, announced October 28, 2008, final Title I regulations under NCLB. Despite receiving more than 400 comments for and against proposals from various education stakeholders, the final Title I regulations have changed little from the version Spellings first proposed in April. The Education Department will allow states to propose to report separately the number of students who graduate in four or more years. Likewise, the Education Department will allow districts to offer two tutoring enrollment periods per year rather than open year-round enrollment, but each must still document all parent outreach in order to spend unused SES set aside funds. Ms. Nancy Coopersmith touched on Highly Qualified Teachers stating that only 13 teachers of those previously reported will need to take the Praxis test this year. A complete update will be provided at the May BPE meeting. The U.S. Department of Education 2010 Budget was included that shows a modest increase proposed by President Obama. Ms. Angela McLean referred to the graduation rate calculations and the other academic indicators found on page 2 of the Highlights of Final Title I Regulations.

**Item 11 SCHOOL HEALTH UPDATE - Cathy Kendall, Bob Vogel and Steve Meloy**

The presentation included information regarding scheduled contemporary health training of school office staff; an update of the Children’s Environmental Health Network funded by Region 8 Federal EPA; and Health Enhancement Professional Development. The presentation was designed to update the Board of Public Education with current progress in the areas of training and initiatives pertaining to healthy schools. Beginning in the fall of 2008, the Montana Office of Public Instruction partnered with the Montana Asthma Control Program, the Montana Diabetes Project and the Injury Prevention Program at the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services to sponsor trainings for office staff, which are often tasked with handling health issues in schools in the absence of school nurses. To date, over 120 individuals from 29 communities have attended these trainings. Based on pre and post training evaluations, participants show increased knowledge in all three areas of training (asthma, diabetes, and emergency response) and, after four months follow-up, they report significant progress towards achieving goals set at the training. They have been filled to capacity. Discussion ensued around the improved capabilities of webinar training for increased professional development and increasing the student to nurse ratio in schools. The message needs to reach President Obama and our senators to put more nurses to work and meet the needs of our students.

**Item 12 SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT - Christine Emerson, Registered Dietician**

This presentation included information about the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, Afterschool Snack Program, Special Milk Program, USDA Donated Food Program, Cooperative Purchase Program, and Team Nutrition Program for the 2007-08 school year. The presentation was designed to show changes in program participation and funding over five school years. It also covered nutrition education activities for schools, parents, and the community to improve nutritional value and acceptability of school meals, and promote the health and education of children. Discussion ensued about schools refusing meals to students who owe for meals with the current economic conditions. Schools are having a difficult time with increasing costs at the same time that families are having a difficult time paying bills. School districts should have policies to consistently work with families who have meal charges. Trainings will be available through the Office of Public Instruction about financial management and meal charge policies during the summer and fall to help schools balance their budgets and at the same time help families experiencing financial hardships.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

**Item 13            SCHOOL NURSING SERVICES IN MONTANA - Sue Buswell, RN, MS, NCSN  
President, Montana Association of School Nurses; Kathy Boutilier, RN, BSN;  
Cheryl Summerer, RN, MSN; and Robert Allen, Executive Director, Montana Nurses  
Association**

In 2008, the Montana Association of School Nurses (MASN) began a campaign to establish a ratio of one registered, professional school nurse to every 750 students in Montana. The known ratio of a school nurse to students was 1:1500 in Montana, ranking the State 34<sup>th</sup> in the country. The school nurses, acutely aware that healthy students achieve greater success in the classroom, advocated for the increase presence of school nurses in every Montana school. MASN met with the Board of Public Education in January 2009 and requested that the Board establish a standard of one school nurse for every 750 students in Montana. The Board requested current demographics related to school nursing practice in Montana so MASN embarked on a historic, in depth study of school health services in the state. The data was complete in all 56 counties, in 100% of school districts, and accounts for every nursing hour/year currently being provided. The optimal ratio of 1 school nurse: 750 students is a national standard. Unfortunately, this latest research indicates that the ratio in Montana in 2009 is **1 school nurse: 2300 students**, ranking Montana at **#45 of 50 states**. In addition, **19 of 56 counties** have no school nursing/school health services at all. The study was provided in its entirety. Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson provided MCA 20-3-324 and 37.111.825.

### **Storrs Bishop departed at 4:30 PM**

Discussion ensued about the liability and accountability issues, homeless students, eye care, roles of education staff, family trust, and the numbers of nursing graduates available. MASN stated the following facts in determining how this standard will be met:

- 144,000 student in Montana public schools
- Minimum of 190 full-time professional school nurses, additional to meet needs of high risk populations
- Currently 62.5 FTE RN school nurses
- 127 new full-time professional school nurses needed
- Salary equivalent to teaching professionals
- Approximately \$3.5 million

The Board intends to move forward by identifying concerns; raising issues surrounding the standards; examine the ability of districts to meet such a standard; raise awareness with state officials, federal officials, and local communities; and ultimately consider the best way to promote and implement the forthcoming standard and/or resolution.

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### **March 13, 2009 – Friday**

#### **8:00 AM**

8:05 AM Meeting called to order.

**Item 14            REQUEST FOR NEW PROGRAMS – MSU-BILLINGS PROPOSAL TO ADD  
PROGRAMS FOR ENDORSEMENTS IN BROADFIELD SCIENCE, POLITICAL  
SCIENCE, AND AREAS OF PERMISSIVE SPECIALIZED COMPETENCIES FOR  
EARLY CHILDHOOD AND EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY - Dr. Linda Vrooman  
Peterson and Dr. Bonnie Graham, MSU-Billings**

The Office of Public Instruction provided to the Board of Public Education for discussion the materials relating to the proposal from Montana State University-Billings (MSU-B) to add the following programs to its education curriculum: Broadfield Science Major; Political Science Major; and Areas of Permissive Special Competency in Early Childhood and Technology in Education. Dr. Bonnie Jones Graham,

Director of Licensure Standards and Clinical Practice at MSU-B presented the descriptions of the proposed programs including the rationale, justification, and program of study requirements relating to the specific standards of Chapter 58 – Professional Educator Preparation Program Standards: ARM 10.58.522 Broadfield Science; ARM 10.58.523 Political Science; ARM 10.58.527 Areas of Permissive Special Competency: Early Childhood and Technology in Education, and ARM 10.58.802 Standards for Approval. The related materials were included. The Office of Public Instruction will conduct a review of the materials provided by MSU-B and report its finding to the Board of Public Education in May 2009.

Dean Tasneem Khaleel, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences; Dr. Craig Wilson, Department Chair, Professor of Political Science; and Dr. Christy Low, Pedagogical Instructional Designer of E-Learning Operations were included in the discussion via conference phone. Dr. Khaleel stated that the resources and faculty are in place and students are actively involved in the programs, so there will be not additional burden on the College of Arts and Sciences. Dr. Wilson expressed the need to offer a broadfield science major due to meet the needs of providing highly qualified educators in multiple sciences at small and rural schools. Discussion ensued about the areas of permissive special competencies, broadfield majors, double majoring recommendations, or getting a major and a minor in another area to meet the HQT standards.

**Item 15 MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY BOZEMAN – STATE ON-SITE REVIEW EXIT REPORT - Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, Dr. Larry Baker, and Dr. Lynette Zuroff**

In October 2008, the Office of Public Instruction conducted a state review of the Professional Education Unit at the Montana State University-Bozeman (MSU-Bozeman). The purpose of the review was to validate the Professional Education Unit's Institutional Report. The State Review Team examined the evidence provided by the unit relating to the conceptual framework, unit standards and specific program standards as articulated in the Board of Public Education approved 2007-2013 Professional Educator Preparation Program Standards (PEPPS).

Dr. Lynette Zuroff, Director of Teacher Education at Carroll College in Helena served as chairperson of the review process and the team. The attached exit report and narrative provided to the Board of Public Education contained the results of the review.

The team recommended provisional approval of the Standards "Met with Weakness" and "Not Met". Provisional approval requires the following action be completed by the Professional Education Unit at MSU-Bozeman. The Dean of Education shall meet with the Board in May 2009 to describe the unit's plan and progress on meeting the standards "Met with Weakness" and "Not Met". If the report to the Board indicates the Professional Education Unit is making progress towards meeting the standards, the team chairperson and appropriate team members will conduct a focused site visit of the Professional Education Unit at MSU-Bozeman in October 2009. The purpose of the focused site visit will be to verify the standards are met. See the attached Exit Report for the standards "Met with Weakness" and "Not Met".

Dr. Larry Baker extended his appreciation for the congenial and professional work of the accreditation team. He provided the Board with a rejoinder to address the conclusions drawn in the final report. This item will be presented to the Board of Public Education for action at the May 2009 meeting, and the Board will have the opportunity to read the rejoinder prior to action.

**Item 16 UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA-WESTERN JOINT NCATE/MONTANA ON-SITE REVIEW EXIT REPORT - Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, Dr. Delena Norris-Tull, and Dr. Karl Ulrich**

In October 2009, the Office of Public Instruction conducted a Joint NCATE/State Review of the Professional Education Unit at the University of Montana-Western in Dillon. The purpose of the review was to validate the Unit's Institutional Report. The Montana State Review Team examined the specific program standards articulated in the Board of Public Education's approved 2007-2013 Professional Educator Preparation Program Standards (PEPPS). The NCATE State Team examined the NCATE Unit

Standards, which are incorporated into the Montana PEPPS.

Dr. Mary Susan Fishbaugh, Interim Dean of Education at Montana State University-Billings, served as chairperson of the review process and the team. The report was provided to the Board of Public Education with the results of that review. This item will be presented for action to the Board in May 2009.

**Item 6 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT - Katie Wood**

Ms. Katie Wood will be attending the Montana Association of Student Council (MASC) meeting on March 22, 2009 in Helena, MT.

**Item 17 UPDATE ON THE REVISIONS OF THE MATHEMATICS CONTENT STANDARDS AND PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTORS - Jean Howard and Stephanie Soderquist**

The Office of Public Instruction provided the Board of Public Education an update on the revision process of the K-12 Mathematics Content Standards and Performance Descriptors. This presentation included the selection of the writing team, standards-based education foundational documents; research and best practices; 2008 reports from the National Council for the Mathematics and National Mathematics Panel; and 2009 draft math standards and timeline for next steps. The draft math standards are:

1. Number sense and operations
2. Data Analysis
3. Geometric Reasoning
4. Algebraic and Functional Reasoning

Discussion ensued about why the number of standards was reduced. Ms. Howard stressed that some of the standards were infused into others. This may prevent teachers from failing to reach a particular standard based on schedules. In addition, Ms. Sharon Carroll questioned if students will be able to meet the math standards if they only take two years of math in high school, which is the requirement for graduation in most Montana schools. Ms. Howard stated that these standards are for proficient students.

It is up to the school district to decide how many units a student will need to take in order to meet these standards. As a result, some districts may have to look at increasing their high school graduating requirements for mathematics. School districts can certainly exceed the minimum standard expectations. Further discussion of addressing remediation rates and increasing the rigor occurred. A student should be able to be successful at an entry level postsecondary course if they have successfully met the minimum standard in high school. The team includes:

BARA, CLIFF Troy  
BOLLINGER, SUSAN Hardin  
BOOTHE, MARIE St Labre  
CRAMER, KARLA Florence  
DAHL, TERRI Great Falls  
ERICKSON ,DAVID U of M-Missoula  
FLOYD, RENEE Hot Springs  
GREEN, VICKI Eldergrove  
GRIMES, JUDI East Helena  
HAMLING, MARY JO Lewistown

HANNA, SUSAN West Yellowstone  
HILL, KATHY Bissell  
HILL, ESTELLE Cascade  
JADIS, COLETTE Bozeman  
JOHNSON, ANDREA Ophir  
KOHL, SHERYL Poplar  
LUEBECK, JENNIE MSU-Bozeman  
MAHON, BERT Hamilton  
REDDING, STACEE Hardin  
RICHARDS, RAISA Browning

RISSER, HILARY MT Tech-Butte  
ROMANO, MELISSA Helena  
STEELE, THERESA Browning  
STOBIE, CHERIE Polson  
STROMBERG, JOHN Hamilton  
TAFT, JAMES Yellowstone Academy  
WAGNER, EDI Browning  
ZEILER, RODD Laurel  
SODERQUIST, STEPHANIE Froid

**Katie Wood departed at 10:30 AM**

**Item 18 ACCREDITATION PROCESS REPORT – LONE PEAK HIGH SCHOOL, OPHIR, MONTANA - Dale Kimmert and Anne Marie Mistretta, Superintendent**

This presentation provided the Board of Public Education an update on the initial accreditation process underway for the new high school at Ophir, Montana. The Ophir community has been working since 2004 to accomplish their vision of having a high school located in Ophir (Big Sky south of Bozeman). The Legislature approved the request to establish a high school district at Ophir during the 2007 session. The new high school is scheduled to open in the fall of 2009. The Office of Public Instruction's Accreditation

Division has been providing technical assistance to the Ophir District since the fall of 2007. A copy of the accreditation process timeline is attached. The accreditation team that will oversee this process and provide the Board with a final recommendation has made two visits. This report was a brief overview of the process to date and the status of the project. Ms. Anne Marie Mistretta, Superintendent of Ophir Schools, presented a PowerPoint during this report. Discussion ensued about the following: the hiring of highly qualified teachers, school being started by the community, writing of the curriculum, beginning a sister school, distance learning, history themes, professional development, common planning time, starting salaries, and living arrangements for staff. The 3<sup>rd</sup> progress report will come before the Board of Public Education in May 2009 and the Board will take final action in July 2009, allowing the school to open in August 2009. This affirmative action may only occur if all accreditation standards have been met.

## **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 22            RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION ON THE FRAZER PUBLIC SCHOOLS PLAN FOR NON-LICENSED TEACHERS - Dale Kimmet**

This presentation to the Board of Public Education for consideration provided the plan from Frazer Public Schools to correct the non-licensed teachers issue as recommended by State Superintendent Denise Juneau. Frazer Public Schools, Board Chair, Ms. Rita Talks Different, submitted a letter to Mr. Dale Kimmet dated February 10, 2009 which stated, "As of January 23, 2009 [Frazer Public Schools] have hired Mr. Kay Fjeld, Folio #44106, to teach 7-12 Science. Also Mr. Harry Hatton, Folio #82826, became certified after a lengthy time due to lost papers and re-applying several times for various needed materials." State Superintendent Denise Juneau recommends approval of Frazer Public Schools' plan for non-licensed teachers.

**MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to accept the State Superintendent Denise Juneau's recommendation to approve the Frazer Public Schools' plan for non-licensed teachers. Mr. Cal Gilbert seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **Item 23            RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION ON THE BROCKTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS PLAN FOR NON-LICENSED TEACHERS - Dale Kimmet**

- I. Excerpt from the Board of Public Education's letter to Brockton Board Chair dated January 13, 2009:  
"By February 20, 2009 the 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). This Board 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."

- II. Comments/Recommendations:
  1. The plan submitted does not satisfy the requirements of the BPE's letter.
  2. Dale Kimmet, Accreditation Specialist, did call Superintendent Whitesell and offer some possible solutions.
  3. Recommendation: The plan as submitted be disapproved.

4. Recommend the following next step:  
That the Office of Public Instruction be asked to arrange for a meeting with the Board Chair and Superintendent Whitesell in Brockton as soon as possible to deliver and discuss the disapproval letter. The disapproval letter will also contain a request that Superintendent Whitesell and the Board Chair appear before the Board of Public Education at the May 2009 meeting in Great Falls.

Mr. Rodney Burshia, Chair of the Brockton Board of Trustees, and Mr. Richard Whitesell, Superintendent, were directed to appear before the Board on January 9, 2009 to address the deficiencies that have been identified by the Office of Public Instruction. Neither one appeared. Mr. Whitesell did write a letter to the Board indicating that he would not be in attendance at the January meeting due to weather and road conditions. A conference call was arranged to have a dialogue with the Board. When the Board called Mr. Whitesell on the conference phone during that particular item, Mr. Whitesell did not answer the phone. Mr. Richard Whitesell did respond to Mr. Dale Kimmet via a letter dated February 11, 2009 that stated:

“We continue to attempt to find a licensed music teacher and have not done so and probably will not this school year. We will continue to advertise and seek to fill the vacancy with a certified teacher. In the interim my Board and I have concluded that Ms. Zahn will finish the current school year. This will not satisfy you, but I believe our children are better off with this non-certified teacher than they would be with no teacher.”

State Superintendent Denise Juneau recommended that the Brockton’s Public School plan for a non-licensed teacher be disapproved and the Office of Public Instruction should be asked by the Board of Public Education to arrange for a meeting with the Board Chair and Superintendent Whitesell in Brockton as soon as possible to deliver and discuss the disapproval letter. The disapproval letter will contain a request that Superintendent Whitesell and the Board Chair appear before the Board of Public Education at the May 7-8, 2009 meeting in Great Falls.

**MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved that the Board of Public Education accept State Superintendent Denise Juneau’s recommendation to disapprove Brockton Public School’s plan for a non-licensed teacher and OPI will arrange for a meeting with the Board Chair and Superintendent Whitesell in Brockton to deliver and discuss the disapproval letter. The disapproval letter will contain a request that Superintendent Whitesell and the Board Chair appear before the Board of Public Education at the May 7-8, 2009 meeting in Great Falls. Ms. Angela McLean seconded.**

Discussion centered on the needs of the students and confronting these issues directly and letting the public know that the Board of Public Education, along with the Office of Public Instruction, will take action to address these problems. It was also stressed that the BPE and the OPI will work with school districts to comply with the standards to ensure that the students are receiving the proper education. Mr. Al McMilin clarified that the accreditation status that is in question for Brockton is for the 2009-2010 school year and Mr. Storrs Bishop stressed that the superintendent of schools works for the school board and the school board is the body who is ultimately accountable. The school board may not understand the seriousness of this issue.

**Motion passed 5 to 1.**

**State Superintendent Denise Juneau departed at 11:50 AM**

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**Item 19            REPORT ON SECOND YEAR OF PROVISIONAL ACCREDITATION – VALLEY CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL, MISSOULA, MONTANA - Dale Kimmet**

Valley Christian High School is in the second year of provisional status for reinstatement of regular accreditation status. The visitation team included Mr. Dale Kimmet, OPI Accreditation Specialist; Ms. Colet Bartow, OPI Library/Media Specialist; Mr. Hugh Smith, Principal, Great Falls Central High School; and Mr. Kent Paulsen, Principal Whitefish High School. The team completed the second annual visit on November 12, 2008. The proposed 2008-09 accreditation letter to Valley Christian High School was included. The letter states, "In accordance with the accreditation standards and information provided to this office [Office of Public Instruction], and acting on the recommendations of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Board of Public Education has granted the following accreditation status to the school(s) in your district." Valley Christian High School's accreditation status is regular with deviation. The significant issues dealing with the library have been satisfactorily resolved. The curriculum guide of the Valley Christian High School does not meet the minimum requirements for alignment with the Montana Content Standards and Performance Descriptors, which results in the regular with deviation accreditation status.

**Item 20            PROGRESS REPORT ON ON-SITE ACCREDITATION VISITS FOR SCHOOLS WITH CONTINUING SERIOUS ACCREDITATION DEVIATIONS - Dale Kimmet**

This presentation provided to the Board of Public Education a progress report on on-site accreditation visits for schools with continuing serious accreditation deviations. The final report, which verifies the current status of those plans following a review of the 2008-2009 Annual Data Collection, will be presented to the Board of Public Education at the May 2009 meeting.

The State Superintendent of Public Instruction provides annual recommendations to the Board of Public Education for accreditation status determinations for all Montana accredited schools. The continuing concern is: How does the OPI accreditation staff address continuing deviations fairly, consistently, and with intention toward continuous education improvement? The State Superintendent follows the process approved by the Board of Public Education to address ongoing accreditation deviations. The Accreditation Response Options for Continuing Deviations was included.

The progress report included the following schools along with the deviation:

- Pryor Schools – Continued non-receipt of improvement plans, no librarian, and no World Language or Career and Technology course offerings for the 7<sup>th</sup> grade
- Lambert Schools – Non-licensed teacher
- Plentywood Schools – Non-licensed teacher
- Lewistown Elementary Schools – Not enough library FTE for all the elementary schools

**Mr. Storrs Bishop and Dr. Sylvia Moore departed at 12:15 PM**

**Ms. Joyce Silverthorne represented State Superintendent Denise Juneau at 12:30 PM**

**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 26            RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF NEW PROGRAMS PROPOSED BY ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGE FOR ENDORSEMENTS IN ENGLISH EDUCATION MINOR AND A READING MINOR - Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson**

At the January meeting of the Board of Public Education, the Office of Public Instruction provided 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. Dr. Barbara J. Vail, Director of Education and Associate Academic Vice President, and Dr. Jo Swain, Lead Faculty for these proposed

programs, presented the rationale, course description, and support for the proposed programs. The Office of Public Instruction reviewed the materials for proposed programs and recommends approval of English Education Minor and Reading K-12 Minor. In 2011, the OPI will conduct an on-site visit of Rocky Mountain College to review the implementation of the two programs. A report will be provided to the Superintendent and to the Board of Public Education. The Office of Public Instruction recommended approval of the new programs for English Education Minor and Reading K-12 Minor.

**MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to approve the new programs for English Education Minor and Reading K-12 Minor as recommended by State Superintendent Denise Juneau. Mr. Bernie Olson seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Storrs Bishop was absent for the vote.**

**Item 27           RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF NOTICE OF AMENDMENT RELATING TO ARM 10.57.102 THROUGH 10.57.611 CHAPTER 57 EDUCATOR LICENSURE – Elizabeth Keller, Kim Warrick, and Peter Donovan**

At the January 2009 meeting, the Board of Public Education approved the Notice of Public Hearing and timeline relating to Chapter 57 Educator Licensure. This presentation requested the Board of Public Education to take final action on the proposed Notice of Adoption relating to ARM 10.57.102 through 10.57.611 Chapter 57 Educator Licensure. On February 24, 2009, the Board of Public Education conducted a public hearing on the proposed amendments. The comments and the Board of Public Education's responses are contained in the Notice of Adoption.

**MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to approve the amendment of ARM 10.57.102, 10.57.112, 10.57.201, 10.57.201A, 10.57.215, 10.57.216, 10.57.301, 10.57.410 through 10.57.421, 10.57.424 through 10.57.430, 10.57.432 through 10.57.436, 10.57.601A and repeal of ARM 10.57.104, 10.57.110, 10.57.220, 10.57.422, and 10.57.423 relating to educator licensure as noticed. Ms. Sharon Carroll seconded.**

Mr. Steve Meloy apprised the Board that he questioned Mr. Jim Standaert from the Legislative Fiscal Division if the staff for the Education and Local Government Interim Committee has the authority to proceed with an analysis prior to the convening of the Interim Committee. This may delay implementation of the rule if they find fiscal impact. Mr. Meloy has not received a response from Mr. Standaert to date and stated the Board may go ahead and adopt the rule as noticed. If SB67 is passed then this process will be tightened down even further in the future. Discussion continued about the Board's autonomy. In addition, this is the time that license renewals are at the peak. This rule will impact how the licensure department at the Office of Public Instruction will proceed.

**Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Storrs Bishop was absent for the vote.**

**CLOSED SESSION FOR ITEM 28 AT 1:00 PM**

**Mr. Storrs Bishop arrived at 1:00 PM**

**Item 28           DENIAL HEARING - BPE CASE #2009-01 - Steve Meloy and Ann Gilkey, Attorney, OPI**

**OPENED SESSION AT 1:12 PM**

**MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to uphold the Montana State Superintendent's action to deny a Montana teaching license in the BPE Denial Case #2009-01. Mr. Cal Gilbert seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Item 21           REVISED 2007-08 IMPROVEMENT PLANS FOR SCHOOLS WITH ADVICE OR**

**DEFICIENCY ACCREDITATION STATUS AND SCHOOLS WITH REGULAR WITH DEVIATION STATUS DUE TO MISASSIGNMENTS - Dale Kimmet**

This presentation provided the Board of Public Education with a progress report of the improvement plans to correct accreditation deviations. This report provided the current information on the action taken by schools to meet the 2007-2008 improvement plans. By August 1, each school receiving Advice or

Deficiency Accreditation or Schools with Regular with Deviation Status Due to Misassignments are required to submit an improvement plan describing its action to correct the deviations.

Mr. Dale Kimmet reviewed the report. He pulled Brockton Public Schools in Roosevelt County and Frazer Public Schools in Valley County due to the fact that the Board has already taken action. Attention was directed to OPI's recommendation concerning Boulder, Highland, Poly Drive, and Meadowlark Elementary Schools in Yellowstone County due to insufficient counseling FTE. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> year that all four schools have had this deviation. OPI recommends that a meeting be set up in March with Superintendent Jack Copps. At that meeting OPI needs to stress the requirements that need to be met and again, offer any technical assistance in developing a new improvement plan. In addition, discuss with Mr. Copps the process outlined under Accreditation Response Options for Continuing Deviations protocol. The Accreditation team will provide an update report at the BPE meeting in May.

**MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to accept the Progress Report on Revised 2007-2008 Improvement Plans for Schools with Advice or Deficiency Accreditation Status and Schools with Regular with Deviation Status Due to Misassignments as submitted. Ms. Angela Mclean seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Dale Kimmet did not report on the *Summary of Improvement Plans Submitted by Schools Receiving Regular with Deviation Status Due to Misassignments* because he did not provide the involved schools an adequate deadline to respond. The report will be presented to the Board of Public Education at its May meeting.

**Item 24            RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION – 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 was included. Mr. Al McMilin provided the Board of Public Education with an overview of the alternative standard process per ARM 10.55.604 and why school districts choose to use alternative standards. It could be because complying with the current standard is not viable or maybe the district simply came up with a better way to meet or exceed the standard. Mr. Storrs Bishop expressed his opinion that the Board needs to take the State Superintendent's recommendations very seriously because of the process that the Office of Public Instruction and the accreditation team has completed to provide an accurate picture to the Board.

A memorandum to State Superintendent Denise Juneau dated February 8, 2009 included the review of Montana Small Schools Alliance (MSSA) Plan for Alternative Standard Collaboration, 2 renewal alternative standard requests representing 2 districts and 2 schools that have been received and evaluated in accordance with ARM 10.55.604, and 3 initial alternative standard requests representing 3 districts and 3 schools that have been received and evaluated in accordance with ARM 10.55.604. Mr. Al McMilin and Mr. Dale Kimmet reviewed the proposals.

**MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to approve the State Superintendent's recommendations of the alternative standard requests as presented because the proposals meet or exceed the current standard. Ms. Angela McLean seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

A spreadsheet was provided that included the current approved variances. The white bands indicated that the standards are approved and ongoing, the green bands indicated standards that are being renewed

because they expire 6/30/2009, and the yellow bands indicated the schools that are being reviewed for action at this meeting. The Office of Public Instruction intends to have this spreadsheet updated for every Board of Public Education meeting to review the progress of schools.

**Item 25            2008-09 FINAL ACCREDITATION STATUS RECOMMENDATIONS – ALL SCHOOLS  
Dale Kimmet**

This presentation provided to the Board of Public Education for consideration the final 2008-2009 accreditation determinations for all schools as recommended by State Superintendent Denise Juneau. The report was included. Mr. Dale Kimmet reviewed the Montana Accreditation History All Schools graph which included an extra category of Regular with Deviation identified in green. The overall percentage of schools in Regular status increased by 6%, Regular with Deviation increased by 1%, Advise decreased by 4%, and Deficiency decreased by 3% since the 2007-2008 report. This demonstrates a significant improvement overall out of the 843 schools accredited. Pages 14 – 16 of the report included the summary of districts and schools in Advice and Deficiency Status which was what the Board of Public Education took action on for this item. The same person providing services in multiple schools is boxed for the following reports: 2008-2009 Summary of Library and Counseling Accreditation Issues Report, Teacher Misassignments by County/District 2008-2009, and Nonlicensed Teachers by County/District 2008-2009.

Mr. Dale Kimmet stressed that the data will become more reliable if the rules remain the same over a period of time. Discussion continued about methods to ensure that teachers are aware of renewing their licenses prior to expiring and the concern of increasing class size due to budget constraints.

**MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to approve the State Superintendent's recommendations as presented in the 2008-2009 Montana Final Accreditation Status Report. Ms. Angela McLean seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Item 29            MACIE REAUTHORIZATION - Steve Meloy**

State Superintendent Denise Juneau recommended, in a letter to Ms. Patty Myers dated February 23, 2009, that the Board of Public Education take action to renew the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education (MACIE) through September 2010 to ensure the continuing partnership between MACIE, the Board, and the State Superintendent.

**MOTION: Mr. Cal Gilbert moved to extend the reauthorization of the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education (MACIE) to September 2010. Mr. Bernie Olson seconded.**

Mr. Steve Meloy offered an amendment to the motion: "to extend the reauthorization of the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education (MACIE) to September 2010 **based on the State Superintendent's recommendation.**

Mr. Cal Gilbert accepted the amendment.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

A nomination letter written by Ms. Lynn Hinch, Acting Administrator of the Indian Education Division, dated March 10, 2009, was provided to Ms. Patty Myers from State Superintendent Denise Juneau at the meeting to accept the nomination of James DeHerrera. If accepted Mr. James DeHerrera will represent the Montana School Board Association (MTSBA) on the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education (MACIE).

**MOTION: Mr. Cal Gilbert moved to accept the nomination of Mr. James DeHerrera to represent MTSBA on the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education (MACIE). Mr. Bernie Olson seconded.**

Mr. Steve Meloy offered the following amendment to the motion: "to accept **the State Superintendent's recommendation the nomination of to nominate** James DeHerrera to represent MTSBA on the Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education (MACIE)."

Mr. Cal Gilbert accepted the amendment.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**Item 30 BPE STRATEGIC PLANNING 2008-2013 - Patty Myers**

Ms. Patty Myers submitted a different version of the draft mission statement and strategic goals for the Board of Public Education for 2008-2013 than the version previously provided by Mr. Steve Meloy. Ms. Myers explained that she wanted to be more concise and exclude the word reform from goal 2 because high schools do not need to be reformed. Ms. Patty Myers asked her daughter, who is an English teacher, and Mr. Eric Feaver to assist her in the revision of the language for the document. Ms. Patty Myers expressed her appreciation to Mr. Steve Meloy for the work that he completed and her desire to maintain the integrity of his work.

**MOTION: Mr. Bernie Olson moved to accept Ms. Patty Myers' more succinct version of the mission statement and strategic goals for the Montana Board of Public Education for 2008-2013. Mr. Storrs Bishop seconded.**

Mr. Steve Meloy agreed that it is a much better document and reflects the work of the Board and its partners from the Strategic Planning Session.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**INFORMATION ITEM**

**Item 34 MSDB COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT - Steve Gettel**

Mr. Steve Gettel introduced Ms. Lisa Cannon, the Consulting Audiologist for MSDB. Ms. Cannon spoke extensively on the referral process and expressed the need to increase communication between the community, teachers, administrators, staff, audiologists, etc... to meet the needs of the child. Other topics included: Student Enrollment/Evaluation, personnel Actions, update of current year CEP and effectiveness report, strategic plan draft presentation, concept proposal for Professional Development Institute, report on hearings and status of budget, update on in-service training, update projects and grants concerning the MSDB Foundation, conferences, meetings, update on current project concerning facilities and safety, school calendar of events, and student news. Discussion centered on state funded schools like MSDB will not have access to funds made available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. OPI indicated that the funds made available to the school through IDEA discretionary grants will increase in the next fiscal year.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**CLOSED SESSION FOR ITEMS 31-33 AT 3:50 PM**

**Ms. Sharon Carroll Departed at 3:50 PM**

**OPENED SESSION AT 4:45 PM**

**Item 31 MSDB SUPERINTENDENT PERFORMANCE EVALUATION & CONTRACT  
EXTENSION - Patty Myers**

**MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to extend the MSDB Superintendent's contract until June 30, 2012. Mr. Cal Gilbert seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Ms Sharon Carroll was absent for the vote.**

**Item 32 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY PERFORMANCE EVALUATION & CONTRACT  
EXTENSION - Patty Myers**

**MOTION: Ms. Angela McLean moved to extend the Executive Secretary's contract until June 30, 2012. Mr. Storrs Bishop seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Ms. Sharon Carroll was absent for the vote.**

**Item 33 ESTABLISH EXECUTIVE STAFF SALARIES - Patty Myers**

This item was postponed until the May 7-8, 2009 BPE meeting.

**PRELIMINARY AGENDA ITEMS – May 7-8, 2009**

**Montana School for the Deaf and Blind, Great Falls, MT**

Student Representative Survey Report  
CSPAC Appointments  
BASE Aid Payment Schedule  
Assessment Update  
Alternative Standards Request & Renewals  
MACIE Update  
NCLB Update

**MOTION: Mr. Storrs Bishop moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bernie Olson seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Ms. Sharon Carroll was absent for the vote.**

**Meeting adjourned at 4:52 PM**