

BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES

May 10-11th, 2012

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

May 10th, 2012

8:34 AM

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Ms. Patty Myers called the meeting to order at 8:34 AM and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Kris Stockton took roll call; a quorum was noted. Ms. Patty Myers read the Statement of Public Participation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was made.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent agenda approved as presented.

ADOPT AGENDA

Ms. Myers noted changes to agenda for Items 9-11 to be moved from Executive Committee to Accreditation Committee and re ordered the items. Additionally 2 Action Items will be taken up for Item 7.

Motion to approve the agenda as amended made by Ms. Sharon Carroll. Motion seconded by Mr. Bernie Olson.

Agenda approved unanimously

Board members in attendance included: Chair Ms. Patty Myers, Vice-chair Ms. Sharon Carroll, Board members Mr. John Edwards, Mr. Bernie Olson, Ms. Lila Taylor, Mr. Doug Cordier, Ms. Erin Williams, student rep Ms. Holly Capp, new student rep Charity Ratliff. Staff present included: Mr. Peter Donovan, Executive Secretary Board of Public Education/Administrative Officer, Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council; and Ms. Kris Stockton, Administrative Assistant, Board of Public Education. Ex-officio members present included: State Superintendent Denise Juneau. Visitors in attendance included: Dr. Linda Vrooman Peterson, Accreditation Division Administrator, OPI; Mr. Dennis Parman, Deputy Superintendent, OPI; Ms. Ann Gilkey, OPI; Ms. Terri Wing, OPI; Mr. Conrad Stroebe, Billings Public Schools; Ms. Nancy Coppersmith, OPI; Mr. Eric Feaver, MEA-MFT; Mr. Rob Miller, LFD; Mr. Bob Vogel, MTSBA; Ms. Sandra Bonham, MACIE; Ms. Alyson Hagen, OPI; Mr. Dohn Ratliff, Hardin; Ms. Taryn Purdy, LFD; Dr. Barbara Vail, Rocky Mountain College; Ms. Cheryl Crawley, GFPS; Mr. Joe Easton, Missoula; Mr. Jim Kelly, MSDB; Ms. Sandy Welch, Jack Copps, Billings Public Schools.

INFORMATION

Item 1 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT - Patty Myers

Ms. Myers discussed her recent attendance at PRAXIS Conference and her continuing involvement with the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind. Ms. Myers also reminded the Board members to send in list of their appearances on behalf of the Board to Ms. Stockton.

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 2 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY/CSPAC REPORT – Pete Donovan

Mr. Donovan updated Board members on CSPAC members/appointments. Ms. Janice Bishop is up for re-election and has requested reappointment. Ms. Bishop's resume' and application letter are available in the agenda packet. The School Trustee and K-8 position deadline has been extended. Interest has been expressed in both positions and a conference call with the Board will be held in May to approve the applicants. Mr. Donovan asked the Board for motion to approve the reappointment of Ms. Janice Bishop to a second term on the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council.

Ms. Sharon Carroll moved to reappoint Ms. Janice Bishop to a second term of the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council. Mr. Doug Cordier seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Donovan updated the Board regarding the Legislative Audit, status of the budget issue, his upcoming attendance at the Board of Regents meeting, the Boards Authority to adopt rules and the Sherlock Decision which upheld the Board's rulemaking authority. There were no questions for Mr. Donovan and he advised members that a list of his recent meetings attended is included in Agenda Packet.

REPORTS

Item 3 State Superintendent Report – Ms. Denise Juneau

Superintendent Juneau thanked Ms. Capp for her representation on the Board and welcomed Ms. Charity Ratliff as the new Student Representative to the Board. Ms. Juneau noted the NAPE 8th grade science scores were released that morning and Montana received a #2 ranking. Ms. Juneau updated the Board on recent happenings at OPI including new funding for Graduation Matters Montana from the Washington Foundation and new partnerships with State Farm and Optimum, the Title I book giveaway, the development of a new guide for Common Core implementation, and a new Technology Readiness Survey being piloted. Other items of interest included the new GEMS data warehouse training sessions which are ongoing across the state, a new Bully Free Montana website recently launched, and the completion of this year's pilot program for ACT Plus Writing for all high school juniors. Action will take place in Item 7 for the two recommendations to the MACIE Advisory Council:

Mr. John Bercier
Mr. Steve Small

Item 4 Commissioner of Higher Education Report

No one from the Commissioner's Office was available to report

Item 5 Governor's Office Report

No one from the Governor's Office was available to report

Item 6 Student Representative Report – Ms. Holly Capp

Ms. Capp stated that she greatly appreciated the time she served on the Board and thanked the Board for her time. She gave a brief overview of the Student Advisory Board meeting in Bozeman in April stating

that the meeting focused on “student voice” around the state and the different perspectives of students. Ms. Capp introduced Ms. Charity Ratliff who introduced herself and discussed her work and activities. Ms. Capp again thanked the Board for her opportunity to serve as the student representative.

DISCUSSION

❖ MACIE LIAISON – Doug Cordier

Item 7 **MACIE UPDATE** **Norma Bixby**

Ms. Sandra Boham – Director of Indian Ed Great Falls Public Schools and MACIE representative for the off reservation community in Great Falls gave the MACIE report in place of Ms. Norma Bixby. Ms. Bonham gave an update on the MACIE meeting held in Bozeman in April in conjunction with MIEA Conference. She discussed MACIE’s involvement with a pilot program infusing MIEA with education coursework and methodologies. Ms. Bonham requested a meeting with the Digital Academy and Mr. Dennis Parman to ensure MIEA is being addressed in the Digital Academy. Ms. Bonham also discussed MACIE’s work with Chapter 55 Task Force, as well as work with school districts regarding Indian Student Achievement, and her work with Dr. Holly Hunn to develop a textbook for a human development course in the Montana University Systems. MACIE may have a retreat in August and Mr. Olson asked for date of meeting. Ms. Bonham stated the retreat will be August 6th.

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.

No public comment.

Mr. Doug Cordier moved to appoint Mr. John Bercier and Mr. Steve Small to MACIE. Motion seconded by Ms. Lila Taylor.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

❖ LICENSURE COMMITTEE – Sharon Carroll

Item 12 **SURRENDER OF EDUCATOR LICENSE CASE #2012-02 (CLOSED)** **Ann Gilkey**

Closed session – recess at 11:15
Opened at 11:26

Ms. Carroll discussed the issue of the Board reporting licensure revocations/surrenders. Mr. Donovan and Ms. Carroll will meet before the July Board meeting to discuss how those will be reported in the future and what information can be made public.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Patty Myers

Item 8 **BUS SAFETY/TRANSPORTATION REPORT** **Donnelle Rosenthal**

Pupil Transportation Director – OPI

Ms. Rosenthal discussed a survey which was sent to school districts on bus use, seatbelts on buses, and how drivers are paid. With the exception of the Special Education buses most buses do not have seatbelts. A spreadsheet of the survey results is included in Agenda Packet. Ms. Rosenthal noted that she spoke with John Carter, Director of Public Services for the Helena School District which will

implement buses with seatbelts in the fall of 2012. This information is included in summary portion of Agenda Packet. In addition a meeting was held with the Montana Department of Transportation regarding bus safety which overall in Montana is very good. Mr. Edwards commented on the exemplary safety record but wanted to know if any studies have been done or are other states which require seatbelts finding that it is unsafe to have seatbelts due to being trapped, or if more injuries are occurring due to seatbelt use. No data or reports are available and Mr. Edwards expressed frustration on this issue noting that he still wants data and hard facts on safety and if seatbelts are safe or unsafe on school buses. It was agreed that Mr. Edwards and Ms. Rosenthal will meet to discuss and research the issue. Mr. Bob Vogel from MTSBA commented that the answer to the question "Are kids safer on buses with seatbelts or not?" has not been answered. Mr. Vogel noted that 2 separate legislative bills failed in the 2011 Legislative session regarding this issue and that there is a local control issue with school districts. Mr. Olson brought the issue of over the road carriers again and Mr. Vogel commented that is also an issue that needs to be reviewed.

Break for lunch at 12:10

Resume from lunch at 1:02

❖ **ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE – John Edwards**

Item 14 INTENSIVE ASSISTANCE STEP 2 – BILLINGS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT (BPS) – Teri Wing, Jack Copps-BPS Superintendent, Teresa Stroebe-BPS Board of Trustees Chairperson

Ms. Teri Wing and Mr. Jack Copps were both present at the meeting with Ms. Theresa Stroebe on the phone. Ms. Wing explained to the Board the item is to move Billings Public Schools to Step 2 of the Intensive Assistance process and to request the Board Chair and new Superintendent to appear before the Board of Public Education at the July 2012 meeting. The current chair and Superintendent are appearing before Board to determine next steps and recommendations. Mr. Jack Copps, Superintendent of BPS explained the current recommendation is to add 8 teachers and 14 Para professionals; however, this will not correct the problem because of the rapid growth in the school district. 23 teachers are needed but there is not enough classroom space. Ms. Stroebe apologized for the situation and agreed with what Mr. Copps relayed, adding that solutions are needed, and that the current situation facing AA schools under current funding needs to be realized. Mr. Olson commented that accreditation is at stake if issues are not resolved. Next steps: Superintendent Juneau commented on the need to follow the rules and the next steps as put forth in rule and accreditation standards. OPI has asked for an itemized solution and the date it will be accomplished from the BPS. Ms. Wing stated she is concerned about definitive answers to the problem so it doesn't keep rolling over. Superintendent Juneau commented that the Board's job is to hold school districts to the accreditation standards regardless of what the legislative funding is; a statement agreed upon from Mr. Edwards and Ms. Stoebe. Ms. Myers asked if any students were in elementary schools because of permissive transfer and if they are in the overloaded schools, and then asked if the option of portables was being considered to ease the classroom space issue. Mr. Copps answered that is an option being looked at. Mr. Edwards thanked Mr. Copps for coming before the Board.

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.

Mr. John Edwards moved to approve the Superintendent's recommendation to move Billings Public Schools to Step 2 of the Intensive Assistance process. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bernie Olson.

Comments – Mr. Edwards commented that the process is working, although difficult, and expressed his

appreciation of the Billings Public Schools to come before the Board. Ms. Myers also thanked the district for pushing the process along and working to resolve the issues

Motion passed unanimously.

**Item 13 COST ANALYSIS ASSUMPTIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF PROPOSED
CHANGES TO ARM 10.56.101, STUDENT ASSESSMENT
Judy Snow**

Ms. Snow asked for approval from Ms. Myers to review the detailed changes listed in Item 15; Ms. Myers approved the request and Ms. Snow reviewed the changes which include: new for 2014-15 assessments will be based on Common Core Standards for math and language arts, but will remain with MT State Standards for other subject areas until those standards are completed for new language. Other changes include the ACT plus Writing required for all high school juniors funded by the GEAR UP grant for the 2012-13 school year. Ms. Snow explained the cost analysis – ACT plus Writing changes are funded by the GEAR UP grant. The grant is for six years so funding will need to be sought for year seven and beyond. CRT tests are paid by OPI federal grants. Overall costs of the rule changes are minimal. No questions were raised from the Board.

Item 10 CHAPTER 55 TASK FORCE UPDATE – Patty Myers and Dennis Parman

Mr. Parman gave the Chapter 55 update and noted page 93 in the agenda packet contains a list of the accomplishments from the April meeting of the Task Force. Accomplishments are listed in order of rule, not in order of changes. Mr. Parman discussed the language changes done by the Task Force as well as changes to bullying definitions which are now more specific to behaviors. He highlighted changes to evaluation framework and explained the chart passed out based on the Chapter 55 deviation to standards piece as it relates to the Billings Public School District as an example. With the new Chapter 55 Blended Accreditation model, schools accreditation status can improve. Rule changes will not be effective until July 2013 if approved. Questions – Mr. Olson asked about taking out the word “bully” in Chapter 55 but that it is noted in Judy Snow’s item in 10.55.701. Mr. Parman clarified that the word “bully” is only being removed from 10.55.719 and noted that Montana is the only state that does not have current statute around bullying. Ms. Myers called for any comments or questions from the audience. Ms. Taylor asked a question of clarification regarding the Belgrade variance to standards request in the class size issue by breaking into small instructional groups. Mr. Parman made note that the Minority Report is included in the Item 11 packet.

ACCREDITATION

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 11 SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATION FOR CHAPTER 55 APPROVAL State
Superintendent Denise Juneau and Dennis Parman**

Superintendent Juneau thanked Mr. Parman and Ms. Myers for their work on the Task Force and bringing all different parties together. Hard copy items from the Task Force meeting were passed out to the Board members and the audience and Superintendent Juneau discussed her recommended changes emphasizing they are only substantive changes of the Superintendent from the recommendations of the Task Force. Changes were read through one by one. Mr. Vogel passed out a letter to the Board members from MTSBA and MREA addressing their concerns regarding Superintendent Juneau’s changes concerning variance to standards. Mr. Eric Feaver commented that he doesn’t disagree with MREA and MTSBA’s comments but also does not disagree with the changes of the Superintendent. However, if Superintendent had an advisory group and MTSBA, MEA-MFT, or MREA were not included they would have a statement to make. Mr. Olson asked if the Board can ask for those opposed to the

changes to come before the Board and Ms. Myers indicated that the hearing would be the appropriate time for outside parties to make comment to the Board. Ms. Carroll questioned why the Board is seeing these changes for the first time. Clarification was made by Ms. Myers that only members of the Task Force have seen these changes and the parties against it are members of the Task Force, not the general public. Ms. Myers brought to the Board's attention the Minority Report's from MTSBA and MREA, and a Minority report from CSPAC Chair Sharon Applegate. Ms. Taryn Purdy from Legislative Fiscal Division expressed concern with the timeline of the adoption of the Chapter 55 changes and the LFD's requirement of doing the fiscal analysis. The LFD has concerns that there may not be enough time to do the analysis before the Board is scheduled to adopt the changes. Comments: Ms. Myers suggested they start as soon as possible with their inquiries and to begin with the small schools that are not available over the summer, while the large schools are available year round. Mr. Feaver asked for clarification of Item 21 – Revisions of the Chapter 55 Task Force Notice of Public Hearing. Ms. Peterson explained that Item 11 is requesting Board's approval of the Superintendent's changes. Item 21 is the request for approval of the Notice of Public Hearing. Discussion took place revolving around the clarification of the difference between the 2 items. Comments were then heard from Mr. Conrad Stroebe from Billings and handouts were given to the Board. Mr. Stroebe discussed the struggles of urban school districts, the lack of a connection between the local school board and the students and that the costs of running a large school district are many compared to rural school districts. Ms. Taylor asked if anyone knew which year the levy passed allowing permissive busing – no knowledge. Mr. Olson commented that some of the suggestions made by Mr. Stroebe would have to be passed by the Legislature. Mr. Stroebe answered that money needs to be directed from funds other than the general fund. Mr. Olson suggested Mr. Stroebe discuss his ideas with the local legislators in Billings. The Board thanked Mr. Stroebe for his comments.

ASSESSMENT

**Item 15 RECOMMEND APPROVAL TO PRODUCE THE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
PERTAINING TO THE REVISIONS OF CHAPTER 56 STUDENT ASSESSMENTS
Judy Snow**

See item 13 for details.

Ms. Sharon Carroll moved to approve the Recommendation to Produce the Notice of Public Hearing Pertaining to the Revisions of Chapter 56 Student Assessments.
Mr. Bernie Olson seconded the motion.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Item 16 BASE AID PAYMENT SCHEDULE
Nancy Coopersmith**

Ms. Coopersmith asked the Board to approve the payment schedule to the schools for the 2012-13 school year.

Mr. Bernie Olson moved to approve the Base Aid Payment Schedule for the 2012-13 school year. **Ms. Lila Taylor seconded motion.**

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

LICENSURE

**Item 17 RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF NOTICE OF ADOPTION AND TIMELINE OF
LICENSED EDUCATOR DISCIPLINE
Ann Gilkey**

Ms. Gilkey reviewed the process over the last year since the rule change was first brought before the Board in May 2011. The recommended changes went before CSPAC in July and October 2011, a hearing was held in March 2012, and the recommendation is now before the Board for Adoption. No comments were made at the hearing.

Ms. Sharon Carroll moved to approve the Notice of Adoption and Timeline of Licensed Educator Discipline. Ms. Erin Williams seconded the motion.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously

Item 18 RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF NEW PROGRAM – BROADFIELD SCIENCE – ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGE

Linda Peterson, Dr. Barbara Vail, Director of Education and Associate Academic Vice President, Rocky Mountain College

Dr. Linda Peterson with OPI and Dr. Barbara Vail with Rocky Mountain College asked the Board for Approval of the New program for Broadfield Science at Rocky Mountain College. An informational sheet of requirements was passed around which outlined the course schedule for new program. Dr. Vail explained the document to the Board and thanked Dr. Peterson and OPI for their work on the project. The coursework sheet is an updated document with new course numbers. A review of the program will take place in December 2013 when students are enrolled in the program and data can be collected.

Ms. Williams asked how long the provisional approval is for – until the review and the program will then move into regular accreditation upon approval from the Board. Ms. Taylor asked if the provisional status affects the student's. Dr. Peterson answered it will not affect the students.

Ms. Sharon Carroll moved to approve the New Program – Broadfield Science at Rocky Mountain College. Ms. Lila Taylor seconded the motion.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Friday May 11th, 2012

8:30 AM

Call to order at 8:39

Visiting Friday were Ms. Erin Williams daughter Fionna and husband Joe – introductions were made.

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 19 RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF NOTICE OF ADOPTION AND TIMELINE OF DANCE EDUCATION AREA OF PERMISSIVE SPECIALIZED COMPETENCY Linda Peterson

Dr. Linda Peterson discussed the final steps for Area of Permissive Specialized Competency in Dance Education. The hearing was held in March 2012 with no comments and the recommendation is now before the Board for adoption.

Ms. Sharon Carroll moved to approve the Notice of Adoption and Timeline of Dance Education Area of Permissive Specialized Competency. Mr. Bernie Olson seconded the motion.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

ACCREDITATION

Item 20 **RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF STATE EXIT REPORT OF THE FOCUSED ACCREDITATION REVIEW OF THE PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION UNIT AT MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-NORTHERN (MSU-N)**
Linda Peterson, Audrey Peterson, Focused Accreditation Review Team Chairperson, Carol Reifschneider, MSU-N Acting Dean of Education Arts and Sciences, and Nursing, Rosalyn Templeton, MSU-N Provost

Dr. Linda Peterson explained this is an action item regarding the Exit report and next steps for Montana State University Northern for their Education College. An Exit Review was done in January 2012 that focused on areas of weakness from the previous review in 2009. The Office of Public Instruction is recommending the Boards approval for provisional approval of the standards that were reviewed. Dr Templeton and Dr Reifschneider discussed next steps towards full accreditation. 2 areas were not met and those issues will be addressed in order to move forward to full accreditation. Dr Reifschneider thanked the Board for allowing them to come forward and thanked OPI for all their work and assistance in working on the program. She discussed the development of the program, conceptual framework, data collection, and evaluation. Areas of weakness were identified and solutions were developed. Dr Peterson reviewed timeline of the process with the Board. Dr Peterson requested recommendation from the Board to approve the report.

Ms. Sharon Carroll moved to Approve the State Exit Report of the Focused Accreditation Review of the Professional Education Unit at Montana State University-Northern (MSU-N). Ms. Lila Taylor seconded the motion.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Myers and Ms. Carroll both thanked them for their work and dedication.

Item 21 **RECOMMEND APPROVAL TO PRODUCE THE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PERTAINING TO THE REVISIONS OF CHAPTER 55 STANDARDS OF ACCREDITATION**
Linda Peterson

Ms. Myers clarified this action item is to approve the notice of public hearing. Comments will be coming in from the field and allowed after the hearing is made public. All comments should be funneled through the BPE office in Helena for compilation. Dr. Peterson requested approval to produce the notice of public hearing for the Chapter 55 standards of accreditation.

Mr. John Edwards moved to Recommend the Approval to Produce the Notice of Public Hearing Pertaining to the Revisions of the Chapter 55 Standards of Accreditation. Ms. Sharon Carroll seconded the motion.

No public comment – Mr. Olson asked if groups would come to the hearing to make comments or objections. Mr. Donovan clarified that is the case, in person testimony or written testimony holds equal weight and all comments will be made available to the Board. Action will take place at the September 2012 Board meeting where the public can also make comment.

No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 22 **RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE ADDENDUM TO 2011-12 FINAL ACCREDITATION STATUS**
Teri Wing

Ms. Wing appeared requesting approval of the addendum to the 2011-12 final accreditation status report

due to 2 schools hiring staff to meet their deficiencies. Ms. Myers asked Ms. Wing what the status was of the Great Falls middle schools who are not on the report but who are not offering World Languages. Ms. Wing commented that ADC does not capture everything to see if a school is not meeting standards but a new ADC will be correcting these issues. Ms. Wing is working with the Great Falls middle schools to correct the issue and she may have another addendum to the report that would add the Great Falls middle schools. Discussion ensued on how the report questions could be changed to help identify these kinds of situations.

Mr. John Edwards moved to Approve the Addendum to 2011-12 Final Accreditation Status Report. Mr. Bernie Olson seconded the motion.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 23 RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF ALTERNATIVE TO STANDARDS REQUESTS Teri Wing

Ms. Wing requested to the Board to recommend approval of alternative to standards requests from schools in deficiency. Ms. Wing commented on the work of Chapter 55 Task Force that small schools that choose to contract their services will not have to use alternative to standards requests with the new standards; they automatically meet the standards. Ms. Wing noted the list of schools in agenda packet and discussed in detail the requests of each school. Mr. Edwards asked for clarification on the request from Corvallis and Ms. Carroll commented that in small schools and in her school they have a similar program called "Guided Study" such as a Study Hall in which the teacher works with the students or the student receives a pass to another class for help. However, there are concerns with the request in giving credit for something that is essentially a study hall. Ms. Wing answered that she was skeptical of the request for the same reason but feels that the principal has a good enough handle on things and that his staff is actually pushing the request forward. Mr. Edwards asked how OPI and the Board evaluates if the request is working to which Ms. Wing answered in the assessments, data gathering, student survey's, and student tracking. A discussion continued in regards to the request.

Mr. John Edwards moved to accept the Recommendation for Approval of Alternative to Standards Requests. Ms. Lila Taylor seconded the motion.

No discussion. Motion passed with Board Member Olson dissenting.

DISCUSSION

**Item 24 MSDB REPORT
Steve Gettel, Kim Schwabe, Jim Kelly**

The MSDB Report and Committee meeting were held in conjunction with the Board meeting for the month of May. Mr. Gettel updated the Board on enrollment numbers, upcoming retirements, future funding issues, accreditation, vacancies, and hiring for teachers and an Outreach Director. Principal Kim Schwabe introduced herself and gave a brief summary of her background. Ms. Schwabe then reported on Progress Monitoring at MSDB and discussed the different types of testing being used with the students. Upcoming events going on at the school through the end of the school year were discussed as well as a new partnership with the Idaho School for Deaf and Blind.

Mr. Jim Kelly reported on the Cottages and students living on site at the campus, activities for the students, scheduled trips home, community activity participation, fundraisers, ongoing student evaluations for potential students, and summer programs. Ms. Myers asked what the age range of residents currently is, and Mr. Kelly answered 4 years old – 21 year old.

Mr. Cordier asked what the next steps will be in negotiation process with MEA-MFT. Mr. Gettel answered that contract issues being worked on one by one and that some common ground has been found.

Mr. Bill Sykes gave an update via conference call on the budget which mostly involves payout for retirement and the transfer of funds to personal services to cover that. Mr. Sykes gave an update on the

2014-15 Budgeting Cycle currently underway and covered some of the requests the school will make in the next budget such as funds to cover window replacement, re-keying of campus doors, updating the pool locker room, repairing the roof, and painting and wallpaper in some buildings. Mr. Gettel then discussed the recent school accreditation, state standards, issues with meeting those standards, and dealing with deficiencies and deviations. He discussed a recent visit from Ms. Teri Wing at OPI to deal with those deviations and work towards correcting the deviations in order to meet standards. There are issues with recruiting qualified teachers for deaf and blind students. Ms. Williams asked if University teacher prep programs were aware of the issues hiring qualified deaf and blind teachers and if so, why would they not be pushing students to those careers. The answer is that there is a high cost of administering programs such as these, and funding is not increasing for those programs. Ms. Myers asked Mr. Gettel out of the 3 options given by Ms. Wing, what his preference is? Mr. Gettel prefers option 3 – to not pursue accreditation at this point, but to still submit data and respond to reports. Ms. Nancy Coopersmith added that Mr. Gettel should check with financial experts at OPI in regards to this option. A discussion continued with regards to this option – questions remain to be answered. Ms. Myers asked that Mr. Gettel work with OPI to find out what financial implications there may be and to report back at the July Board meeting where a decision regarding accreditation will take place.

❖ **EXECUTIVE SESSION (CLOSED)**

Item 25 MSDB SUPERINTENDENT PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (CLOSED)
Patty Myers

Item 26 BPE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (CLOSED)
Patty Myers

Meeting Adjourned at 11:45 AM

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