

BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION MEETING AGENDA

March 19, 2026
Ronan Middle School, Library
35885 Round Butte Rd
Ronan, MT

March 20, 2026
Ronan High School, Library
130 3rd Ave NW
Ronan, MT

Thursday, March 19, 2026
Ronan Middle School
8:30AM

CALL TO ORDER

- A. Pledge of Allegiance
- B. Roll Call
- C. Statement of Public Participation
- D. Welcome Visitors

PUBLIC COMMENT

This time will be provided for public comment on items not listed on the agenda. This meeting is open to the public both in person and electronically. For those wishing to give virtual public comment, please contact bpe@mt.gov to request the Zoom link for the meeting. Members of the public who have joined virtually on Zoom may “raise their hand” at the appropriate time to participate after being recognized by the Board Chair. Members of the public who wish to share written public comment with the Board members must submit written public comment to the Executive Director at bpe@mt.gov no later than two (2) business days before the start of the meeting. Any written public comment received after this deadline will be shared with the Board members after the meeting. All written public comment will be included as part of the official public record.

Action may be taken on any item listed on the Board agenda. Per §2-3-103, MCA, the Board encourages public comment on any item prior to Board final action.

CONSENT AGENDA – page #9

(Items may be pulled from Consent Agenda upon request)

- A. January 15-16, 2026 Meeting Minutes
- B. Financials

ADOPT AGENDA

❖ REPORTS – Dr. Tim Tharp (Items 1-5)

- Item 1 CHAIRPERSON REPORT – 15 Minutes, page #26
Dr. Tim Tharp
 - Welcome from Superintendent Mark Johnston, Ronan School District
 - Committee Assignments
- Item 2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT – 15 Minutes, page #28
McCall Flynn

Item 3 STATE SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – 45 Minutes, page #29
State Superintendent Susie Hedalen

- Assessment Update
- Federal Update
- Content Standards Update
- Annual Food Services Report

Item 4 COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION REPORT – 15 Minutes, page #76
Dr. Angela McLean

Item 5 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT – 15 Minutes, page #83
Lydia Comstock

❖ CHARTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE – Lisa Schmidt (Items 6-7)

Item 6 UPDATE ON COMMUNITY CHOICE SCHOOLS COMMISSION – 15 Minutes, page #84
Cathy Kincheloe

Item 7 ACTION ON THE EXECUTION OF NEW AND REVISED PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL
CONTRACTS – 5 Minutes, page #86
Lisa Schmidt

❖ BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION TOURS & ACTIVITIES

10:45AM TRAVEL TO CSKT TRIBAL COMPLEX

11:00AM MEET WITH CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES TRIBAL COUNCIL
42487 COMPLEX BLVD, PABLO, MT

11:45AM TRAVEL TO RONAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

*****LUNCH BREAK*****
****Lunch will be provided for Board Members****

❖ BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION STRATEGIC PLANNING – Dr. Tim Tharp

12:15PM DISCUSSION OF MISSION AND VISION CONT.

12:45PM DISCUSS COMMITMENTS AND INITIAL STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

1:45PM WRAP UP AND NEXT STEPS

*****TIME CERTAIN AT 2:00PM*****

❖ LICENSURE COMMITTEE – Dr. Ron Slinger (Items 8-14)

Item 8 ACTION AND INFORMATION ON INITIAL REVIEW OF BPE CASE #2026-01, DAVIS –
15 Minutes, page #90
Brenton Craggs

ACTION ITEMS:

- Action on Initial Review
- Action on Summary Suspension

- Item 9 **ACTION AND INFORMATION ON INITIAL REVIEW OF BPE CASE #2026-02, LARSON**
 – 15 Minutes, page #91
 Brenton Craggs
- ACTION ITEMS:**
- Action on Initial Review
 - Action on Summary Suspension
- Item 10 **ACTION ON THE NOTICE OF ADOPTION PERTAINING TO RULEMAKING IN ARM**
TITLE 10, CHAPTER 57, SPECIAL EDUCATION TECHNICIAN LICENSE, AND
AUTHORIZE FILING OF THE NOTICE WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR
PUBLICATION IN THE MONTANA ADMINISTRATIVE REGISTER – 5 Minutes, page #92
 Dr. Ron Slinger
- Item 11 **ACTION ON THE SITE VISIT AND ACCREDITATION STATE EXIT REPORT OF ABCTE**
FOR PROGRAM APPROVAL FOR ALTERNATIVE CREDENTIALING – 10 Minutes,
 page #95
 Crystal Andrews
- Item 12 **ACTION ON THE SITE VISIT AND JOINT ACCREDITATION STATE EXIT REPORT OF**
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY BILLINGS EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDER IN
THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION – 10 Minutes, page #122
 Crystal Andrews
- Item 13 **ACTION ON MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY NORTHERN GOOD CAUSE EXTENSION**
REQUEST – 10 Minutes, page #202
 Crystal Andrews
- Item 14 **INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ON CLASS 8 DUAL CREDIT POSTSECONDARY**
FACULTY LICENSE – 15 Minutes, page #205
 Dr. Julie Murgel, Crystal Andrews
- ❖ **ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE – Dr. Hannah Nieskens (Items 15-17)**
- Item 15 **ACTION ON PROVISIONAL ACCREDITATION STATUS FOR PUBLIC CHARTER**
SCHOOLS – 15 Minutes, page #211
 Crystal Andrews
- Item 16 **ACTION ON THE SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATION ON THE INTENSIVE**
ASSISTANCE PROCESS FOR ACCREDITATION – 30 Minutes, page #217
 Dr. Julie Murgel, Christy Mock-Stutz
- Item 17 **INFORMATION ON THE PROPOSED PROCEDURES AND SCHEDULES FOR**
REVIEWING THE ACCREDITATION STATUS OF EACH SCHOOL – ASSURANCE
STANDARDS – 30 Minutes, page #243
 Crystal Andrews
- ❖ **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Dr. Tim Tharp (Item 18)**
- Item 18 **ACTION ON MONTANA ADVANCED OPPORTUNITY GRANT APPLICATION FOR**
LAME DEER – 5 Minutes, page #264
 Krystal Smith
- ❖ **ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE – Renee Rasmussen (Item 19)**
- Item 19 **ACTION ON THE APPROVED LIST OF SCREENING TOOLS PERTAINING TO TITLE**
10, CHAPTER 54, EARLY NUMERACY TARGETED INTERVENTION STANDARDS – 5
 Minutes, page #269
 Renee Rasmussen

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130 3rd Ave NW
Ronan, MT**

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Ronan High School
8:30AM

CALL TO ORDER

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❖ **MACIE LIAISON – Julia Maxwell (Item 20)**

Item 20 **MACIE REPORT – 15 Minutes, page #276**
Jordann Lankford Forster

❖ **MSDB COMMITTEE – Lisa Schmidt (Item 21)**

Item 21 **MSDB REPORT – 30 Minutes, page #280**
Superintendent Paul Furthmyre

ACTION ITEMS:

- **Action on Out of State Travel Requests**
- **Action on Personnel Items**
- **Action on 2026-2027 MSDB Calendar**

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❖ **BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION TOURS & ACTIVITIES**

9:15AM **RONAN CHARTER ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL TOUR – AUTOMOTIVE SHOP**
130 3RD AVE NW

10:00AM **RONAN CHARTER ACADEMY MIDDLE SCHOOL TOUR – AG/GARDENING**
35885 ROUND BUTTE RD

10:30AM **RONAN CHARTER ACADEMY MIDDLE SCHOOL TOUR – SMALL ENGINES**
35885 ROUND BUTTE RD

11:00AM **RONAN CHARTER ACADEMY ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**
130 3RD AVE NW

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS May 21-22, 2026, Great Falls, MT
Student Representative – Last Meeting & Recognition
MACIE Update
Review Public Charter School Performance Reports

Action on K-12 Schools Payment Schedule
Assessment Update
Federal Update
Content Standards Revision Update
Accreditation Update – Student Performance Standards
Action on Accreditation Procedures and Schedules
Action on Accreditation Status of All Schools
Review Draft CAEP MOU
Executive Director Performance Evaluation

ADJOURN

The Montana Board of Public Education is a Professional Development Unit Provider. Attending a Board of Public Education Meeting either in person or via Zoom may qualify you to receive professional development units. Please complete the necessary information on the sign-in sheet if you are applying for professional development units.

Agenda items are handled in the order listed on the approved agenda. Items may be rearranged unless listed “time certain”. Public comment is welcome on all items listed as “Action” and as noted at the beginning and end of each meeting.

The Board of Public Education will make reasonable accommodations for known disabilities that may interfere with an individual’s ability to participate in the meeting. Individuals who require such accommodations should make requests to the Board of Public Education as soon as possible prior to the meeting start date. You may write to Kris Stockton, PO Box 200601, Helena MT, 59620, kmstockton@mt.gov, 406-444-0302.