

BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES

May 13-14, 2021
Montana School for the Deaf and the Blind
3911 Central AVE
Great Falls, MT 59401
Zoom Link:
Join Zoom Meeting

Thursday May 13, 2021
8:30 AM

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:34 AM. Students from the MSDB led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Chair read the Statement of Public Participation and welcomed guests.

Board members present: Dr. Darlene Schottle, Chair; Ms. Tammy Lacey, Vice Chair; Ms. Mary Heller; Ms. Madalyn Quinlan; Ms. Jane Hamman; Ms. Anne Keith; Ms. Susie Hedalen; Ms. Paige LePard, Student Representative. Ex-Officio members: Ms. Angela McLean, OCHE; Mr. Dylan Klappmeier, Governor's Office; Ms. Elsie Arntzen, Superintendent of Public Instruction. Staff members: Ms. McCall Flynn, Executive Director, Board of Public Education; Ms. Kris Stockton, Administrative Assistant. Guests present: Ms. Diane Fladmo, MFPE; Ms. Diane Burke, MQEC; Dr. Kirk Miller, School Administrators of Montana; Ms. Donna Schmidt, MSDB; Ms. Jule Walker, MTSBA; Ms. Emily Dean, MTSBA; Dr. Brock Tessman, OCHE; Mr. Jim Kelly, MSDB; Ms. Ashley McGrath, OPI; Mr. Jacob Barto, OPI; Ms. Colet Bartow, OPI; Mr. Ken Bailey, OPI; Ms. Sharyl Allen, OPI; Ms. Nancy Hall, OBPP; Mr. Jason Butcher, Reach Higher Montana; Ms. Jennifer Smith, MACIE; Ms. Kelly Cresswell, Reach Higher Montana; Dr. Julie Murgel, OPI; Ms. Crystal Andrews OPI; Mr. Nathan Miller, OPI; Mr. Casey Bertram, Superintendent Bozeman Online Charter School; Mr. Travis Andersen; Ms. Lisa Werner; Cale VanVelkinburgh, principal, Bozeman Online Charter School;

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment from Diane Burke saying Good Morning and looking forward to a productive meeting. Comment from Dr. Kirk Miller thanking Mr. Furthmyre and the MSDB, welcoming new Board members, and thanking the Board for their work. Ms. Diane Fladmo thanked the Board for their work.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Tammy Lacey moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Ms. Madalyn Quinlan.

Ms. Lacey thanked Ms. Stockton for her careful and accurate minutes.

No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

ADOPT AGENDA

Ms. Madalyn Quinlan moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Ms. Susie Hedalen.

Ms. Lacey noted she will not be present at the meeting Friday.

No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

*****MSDB STUDENT PRESENTATION*****

*****ITEMS ARE PRESENTED IN THE ORDER IN WHICH THEY ARE PRESENTED*****

INFORMATION ITEMS

❖ REPORTS – Dr. Darlene Schottle (Items 1-5)

**Item 1 CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT – 10 Minutes
Dr. Darlene Schottle**

Chair Schottle welcomed the new Board members and expressed her appreciation for being able to meet in person again. Chair Schottle noted the committee assignments and asked that if anyone has any questions to please reach out to her. Chair Schottle also thanked Ms. Flynn and the Legislative Committee for their work during the session.

**Item 2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT – (ACTION) - 15 Minutes
McCall Flynn**

Ms. Flynn reviewed for the Board that the Legislative Audit for the Board has completed, and the report is awaiting approval. Ms. Flynn reviewed the three recommendations that came out of the audit. Ms. Flynn and Ms. Stockton answered Board member questions regarding the audit. Ms. Flynn reviewed the two renewal applications for the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council and the initial application. Chair Schottle asked Ms. Lacey for a review of CSPAC for the new members on the Board.

Ms. Lacey moved to approve the renewal applications to CSPAC for Kelly Elder and Ann Wake and the initial application for Dr. Eisele. Motion seconded by Ms. Mary Heller.

Ms. Diane Fladmo, MFPE, expressed support of Mr. Elder and Dr. Eisle.

Ms. Lacey noted that Mr. Elder is the chair of CSPAC and works diligently on the Council.

No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Item 3 STATE SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – 15 Minutes
State Superintendent Elsie Arntzen**

Superintendent Arntzen discussed the opening of a new school in the Bitterroot, the Governor signing SB46 regarding Special Education funding, and spoke briefly regarding the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) from the Covid-19 Relief funds and turned the item over to Mr. Ken Bailey for a report. Mr. Bailey introduced Mr. Dave Williams who will be the new Chief Financial Officer at the OPI. Mr. Bailey discussed the different funding received and how funds have been used and allocated to schools and programs across the state. Mr. Bailey answered Board member questions regarding the funding and allowable expenditures with the money. The Superintendent requested a continuing update to the Board on the ESSER funding and reopening schools. Chair Schottle thanked the Superintendent for her update and assured her that a continuing discussion on the ESSER funds will be included in future agendas. The Superintendent answered Board member questions.

**Item 4 COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION’S REPORT – 15 Minutes
Angela McLean**

Ms. McLean noted College Application Week October 4-8 and HB403 regarding the Grow Your Own Teacher program bill on the Governor’s desk. Ms. McLean discussed the one year pause for the

❖ **MSDB LIAISON - Mary Heller - (Item 6)**

Item 6 **MSDB REPORT – (ACTION) – 20 Minutes**
Paul Furthmyre

Mr. Furthmyre gave the MSDB report to the Board highlighting the Outreach program, growth in student numbers especially in the preschool grades, a brief legislative update. Mr. Furthmyre thanked the Governor and the Legislature for filling the funding requests the school asked for, ESSER funds the school received, then reviewed the action items he is asking the Board to approve. Mr. Furthmyre briefly reviewed the results of the school's Accreditation review, and the Literacy grant the school received. Mr. Furthmyre reviewed the Personnel Actions being requested and discussed concerns he has in recruiting faculty to the school. Mr. Furthmyre asked Ms. Donna Schmidt to review the Legislative Audit report and the findings that came out of the report.

Ms. Mary Heller moved to approve the personnel actions for MSDB. Motion seconded by Ms. Tammy Lacey

No comment. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Mary Heller moved to approve the MSDB 2021-2022 Academic Calendar. Motion seconded by Ms. Tammy Lacey.

Ms. Tammy Lacey thanked Mr. Kelly for coordinating the calendar with Great Falls Public Schools.

No comment. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Mary Heller moved to approve the MOU's between the MSDB and: Benchmark Services; Child Development Center; Developmental Educational Program; Early Childhood Intervention; Family Outreach. Motion seconded by Ms. Tammy Lacey.

No comment. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Mary Heller moved to approve the MHSA new contracts for: boys and girls basketball; boys and girls cross country; boys and girls soccer; boys and girls tennis; boys football, and girls wrestling. Motion seconded by Ms. Tammy Lacey.

No comment. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Mary Heller moved to approve the MHSA renewal contracts for boys and girls golf; boys and girls swimming; boys and girls track; softball; volleyball; and boys wrestling. Motion seconded by Ms. Tammy Lacey.

No comment. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Mary Heller moved to approve the contract with MSDB and Golden Triangle. Motion seconded by Ms. Tammy Lacey.

Comment from Ms. Lacey about the agreement.

No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

❖ **MACIE LIAISON – Susie Hedalen (Item 7)**

Item 7 MACIE REPORT – (INFORMATION ONLY) -20 Minutes
Jennifer Smith

Ms. Hedalen expressed her appreciation in being the MACIE Liaison and highlighted a few items from the recent MACIE meeting. Ms. Hedalen turned the item over to MACIE Chair Ms. Jennifer Smith. Ms. Smith reviewed the MACIE appointments recommended by the tribes and approved for consideration by Superintendent Arntzen.

Ms. Susie Hedalen moved to approve the MACIE appointments for Michael Dolson and Michelle Crazy Hazy. Motion seconded by Ms. Madalyn Quinlan.

No comment. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Smith continued with her report pointing out a recent meeting Ms. Smith had with Deputy Superintendent Sharyl Allen, an update to the By-laws to include a Student Representative position, and a change to the meeting format from every other month to monthly. Ms. Smith discussed the revision to the MACIE goals and that four goals have been established.

Lunch 12:00 – 1:00 with MSDB Students

❖ **LICENSURE COMMITTEE – Tammy Lacey (Items 12-14)**

*****TIME CERTAIN AT 1:00 PM*****

Ms. Lacey opened the Licensure Committee items and introduced Ms. Katherine Orr, from Agency Legal Services, who introduced herself and welcomed the new Board members to the Board.

Item 12 INITIAL REVIEW OF BPE CASE #2020-02, HEATON- (ACTION) – 15 Minutes
Katherine Orr

Ms. Orr reviewed the case for the Board, noting that the decision today is for the Board to determine if this will be moved to a contested case hearing.

Ms. Tammy Lacey moved to approve moving BPE Case #2020-02 to a contested case hearing at the next available opportunity. Motion seconded by Ms. Mary Heller.

Motion passed unanimously.

Item 13 ACTION ON REQUEST TO GRANT LICENSE AS AN UNUSAL CASE, BPE
CASE # 2021-04, MUSKE, (ACTION) – 15 Minutes
Katherine Orr

Ms. Orr reviewed the merits of the Ms. Muske's education and qualifications for the request to add an English endorsement to her existing license under the Unusual Cases Administrative Rule 10.57.109. Ms. Muske presented her case to the board, reviewing her educational and employment background. Ms. Muske answered Board member questions.

Ms. Tammy Lacey moved to grant an endorsement in English Language Literature 5-12 to her current Montana Educator License. Motion seconded by Ms. Mary Heller.

Ms. Lacey thanked Ms. Muske for attending and bringing her case forward.

Ms. Heller echoed those comments.

Motion passed unanimously.

*****CLOSED*****

**Item 14 HEARING ON REQUEST FOR REVOCATION, BPE CASE #2020-14, ORTMAN
– (ACTION) – 2 hours
Katherine Orr**

*****OPEN*****

The Board convened in open session at 4:27 PM. Chair Schottle announced the Assessment Report will be moved to Friday morning.

The Board adjourned for the day at 4:30 PM.

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Friday May 14, 2021

*****8:30 AM MSDB Campus Tour*****

9:00 AM Meeting Begins:

Chair Schottle called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM. The MSDB Expressions of Silence gave a presentation to the Board to begin the meeting.

Ms. Stockton took roll call, and the Chair welcome guests.

❖ **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Dr. Darlene Schottle (Items 15-18)**

**Item 16 SEAL OF BILITERACY PRESENTATION – (INFORMATION ONLY) – 20
Minutes
Lisa Werner**

Ms. Flynn introduced the item explaining that the item was originally brought forward to former Executive Director Pete Donovan and was presented to the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council in February. The Council voted to move the item forward to the BPE as an informational item for this meeting. Ms. Werner introduced herself to the Board and explained the Seal of Biliteracy, what states have adopted the seal and what states are looking at doing so. Montana is currently one of a handful of states that has not adopted the Seal of Biliteracy. Chair Schottle noted that the Board is interested in taking the next steps to move forward in the process and encouraged Ms. Werner to coordinate with Ms. Flynn to move forward. Ms. Flynn answered Board member questions.

**Item 17 FEDERAL UPDATE – (INFORMATION ONLY) – 15 Minutes
Dr. Julie Murgel**

Dr. Murgel presented the Federal Report to the Board on the Federal Accountability Waiver, Opportunity to Learn Survey, and ESSER funding from the American Relief Act. Dr. Murgel answered Board member questions.

**Item 18 APPROVE K-12 SCHOOL PAYMENT SCHEDULE – (ACTION) -15 Minutes
Barb Quinn**

Ms. Quinn presented the proposed payment schedule for the 2021-2022 School year for the Board and requested approval.

Ms. Jane Hamman moved to approve the K-12 School Payment Schedule for 2021-2022. Motion seconded by Ms. Madalyn Quinlan.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

❖ **REPORTS – Dr. Darlene Schottle (Item 6)**

Item 15 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE’S REPORT – 15 Minutes
Paige Lepard

Ms. LePard introduced herself to the Board and gave the Student Representative Report to the Board, updating the Board with student athletic activities, graduation preparations, survival kits for finals, and summer fundraising activities by student groups. Ms. LePard also gave an update on student clubs that will be participating in National finals over the summer. Ms. LePard answered Board member questions.

❖ **ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE – Madalyn Quinlan (Item 19)**

Item 19 CONTENT STANDARDS REVISIONS UPDATE – (INFORMATION ONLY) - 15 Minutes
Colet Bartow

Ms. Bartow updated the Board on the Content Standards revisions noting that the standards approved by the Board in November will be implemented and effective July 1, 2021. Ms. Bartow discussed professional development courses on the Teacher Learning Hub which provide resources to teachers for implementing the new standards. Ms. Bartow also provided an outline to professional development workshops being given by OPI to educators regarding the new standards. Ms. Bartow answered Board member questions.

❖ **ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE – Anne Keith (Item 8)**

Item 8 ASSESSMENT REPORT – (INFORMATION ONLY) – 20 Minutes
Ashely McGrath

Ms. McGrath updated the Board on the Montana Comprehensive Assessment System with specific updates on the summative/interim test completions, waiver updates, medical exemption policy, and OPI’s expected reporting timelines and 2021-2022 testing windows. Ms. McGrath answered Board member questions.

❖ **ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE – Madalyn Quinlan (Items 20-21)**

Item 20 RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE INITIAL AND RENEWAL VARIANCE TO STANDARDS APPLICATIONS AND INITIAL AND RENEWAL CHARTER PROGRAM/SCHOOL APPLICATIONS – (ACTION) – 20 Minutes
Nathan Miller

Mr. Miller presented the Variance to Standards applications initial requests and renewals. Applications from districts are reviewed by the Variance to Standards Review Board, which met via Zoom on April 15th. The Variance Board reviewed and approved all ten applications and moved them to Superintendent Arntzen, who approved the requests and is requesting approval from the Board of Public Education. Mr. Casey Bertram, Bozeman Online Charter School presented their application to the Board and gave an explanation of how the school operates. Mr. Cale VanVelkinburgh, principal, also addressed the Board and discussed how students and families use the school and why. Mr. Miller presented the five renewal applications seeking variances to the Library Sciences standards, and the Bridger Charter School at Bozeman High School.

Ms. Madalyn Quinlan moved to approve Superintendent Arntzens recommendation of three initial variance to standards requests for Big Fork

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:49AM.

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Agenda items are handled in the order listed on the approved agenda. Items may be rearranged unless listed "time certain". Action may be taken by the Board on any item listed on the agenda. Public comment is welcome on all items but time limits on public comment may be set at the Chair's discretion.

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, email at: kmstockton@mt.gov or phone at 444-0302.