OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION STATE OF MONTANA





### STATE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY PANEL MEETING Minutes – April 25, 2024

# 8:30 Chairperson Jennifer Schoffer-Closson called the meeting to order and led introductions.

**Members Present:** Cindy Galbavy, Dr. Jennifer Schoffer Closson, Norah Barney, Deva McNiven, Theresa Baldry, Lisa Fant, Marisa Britton-Bostwick, Rebekah Sirrine, Vena Dagnall, Mildred (Millie) Armstrong, Christina Petersen

**Members Not Present:** Brandi Loch, Michael Peck, Vicki Lang, Chad Berg, Christa Gabriel, Vicki Langlinais, Sandy Cade.

Staff Present: Danni McCarthy, Ty House, John Gorton,

#### **Public Present: None**

## Approve the Proposed Agenda with removal of 2<sup>nd</sup> public comment— (Action Item) Proposed: Millie Armstrong 2<sup>nd</sup>: Lisa Fant Approved: Yes

Approve the Proposed Agenda with additional time added for panel— (Action Item) Proposed: Theresa Baldry 2<sup>nd</sup>: Deva McNiven

Approved: Yes

#### Approve the Proposed Agenda with all changes— (Action Item)

Proposed: Christina Petersen 2<sup>nd</sup>: Rebekah Sirrine Approved: Yes









#### Panel Members gave updates and made comments

#### 8:45 Public Comment - No comments

#### Review/Approve Minutes of March 2024 (Action Item)

Proposed: Norah Barney 2<sup>nd</sup>: Cindy Galbavy Approved: Yes

Mandi Gibbs, Early Assistance Program Director, presented on dispute resolution.

Danni McCarthy presented on the Annual Application/Budget. Jennifer Schoffer Closson requested the OPI look at an increase in SLP tuition support, line-item J of the budget. Danni will look at school Psychology tuition support rates to compare.

Adding TOD(teacher of deaf), TVI(Teacher of the Visually Impared) to the IEP as a consideration was brought up by the Panel.

Outreach with State Prisons with active MSDB training programs was proposed.

#### 10:38-10:53 Break

Discussions of changing the dates of the Spring meeting in 2025 and setting the dates

for the rest of the year occurred.

- September 26, 2024
- January 9, 2025
- March 6, 2025
- April 9-10, 2025

#### Meeting Dates 24-25 Approval (Action Item)

- Proposed: Norah Barney
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Theresa Baldry
- Approved: Yes

The Panel discussed the 3-year term and how many Panel members are parents of SWD that will be leaving.

#### Cindy Galbavy approved for 2<sup>nd</sup> 3-year term (Action Item)

- Proposed: Millie Armstrong
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Jennifer Schoffer Closson
- Approved: Yes

#### Jennifer approved for 2<sup>nd</sup> 3-year term (Action Item)

- Proposed: Nora Barney
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Deva McNiven
- Approved: Yes

#### Christa approved for 2<sup>nd</sup> 3-year term (Action Item)

- Proposed: Theresa Baldry
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Rebekah Sirrine
- Approved: Yes

#### Deva approved for 2<sup>nd</sup> 3-year term (Action Item)

- Proposed: Rebekah Sirrine
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Christina Petersen
- Approved: Yes

Requests for nominations for a Student Representative were made. Panel members will reach out to the OPI Sped Director, Danni McCarthy with nominations.

#### Per the By-Laws Vena Dagnall will take over the role of Chair.

#### Vice Chair Nominations: Deva McNiven

#### Vice Chair Election (Action Item)

- Proposed: Marissa Britton-Bostwick
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Lisa Fant
- Approved: Yes

#### Secretary Nominations: Lisa

#### Secretary Election (Action Item)

- Proposed: Cindy Galbavy
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Theresa Baldry
- Approved: Yes

Panel Work groups made presentations of their findings and work. The Panel discussed and approved the continuation of work groups among the Panel to provide better recommendations to the OPI to bring to the legislature.

Jennifer thanked the Panel and welcomed Vena as the New Chair.

#### Motion to adjourn meeting (Action Item)

- Proposed: Christina Petersen
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Cindy Galbavy

• Approved: Yes

# 12:30 Adjourn (Action Item)