

# **2010 ANNUAL REPORT**

*OF THE*

## **MONTANA CERTIFICATION STANDARDS AND PRACTICES ADVISORY COUNCIL**



*TO THE*

## **MONTANA BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION**

*July 14, 2011*

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## *Mission Statement*

The mission of the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council is to study and to make recommendations to the Board of Public Education on certification issues concerning teachers, administrators and specialists; professional standards and ethical conduct; the status and efficacy of approved teacher education programs in Montana; and policies related to the denial, suspension and revocation of educator certification and the appeals process.

The Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council will submit a report to the Board of Public Education with recommendations for the above areas at least once annually.



# **Professional Educators of Montana Code of Ethics**

## **Preamble**

Education in Montana is a public endeavor. Every Montanan has a responsibility for the schooling of our young people, and the state has charged professional educators with the primary responsibility of providing a breadth and depth of educational opportunities.

The professional conduct of every educator affects attitudes toward the profession and toward education. Aware of the importance of maintaining the confidence of students, parents, colleagues and the public, Montana educators strive to sustain the highest degree of ethical conduct. While the freedom to learn and the freedom to teach are essential to education in a democracy, educators in Montana balance these freedoms with their own adherence to this ethical code.

## **The Professional Educator in Montana:**

### **Makes the well-being of students the foundation of all decisions and actions.**

- Protects students when their learning or well-being is threatened by the unsafe, incompetent, unethical, or illegal practice of any person.
- Provides educational services with respect for human dignity and the uniqueness of the student.
- Safeguards the student's right to privacy by judiciously protecting information of a confidential nature.

### **Fulfills professional responsibilities with diligence and integrity.**

- Enhances individual competence by increasing knowledge and skills.
- Exemplifies and fosters a philosophy of education which encourages a lifelong pursuit of learning.
- Contributes to the development and articulation of the profession's body of knowledge.
- Promotes professionalism by respecting the privacy and dignity of colleagues.
- Demands that conditions of employment are conducive to high-quality education.

### **Models the principles of citizenship in a democratic society.**

- Respects the individual roles, rights, and responsibilities of the community; including parents, trustees, and colleagues.
- Assumes responsibility for individual actions.
- Protects the civil and human rights of students and colleagues.

**MONTANA CERTIFICATION STANDARDS AND  
PRACTICES ADVISORY COUNCIL**

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**2010 MEMBERSHIP**

Sharon Applegate, Chair

Kalispell  
Teacher K-8

Jon Runnalls, Vice-Chair

East Helena  
Teacher K-8

Patty Muir

Laurel  
Reading Specialist

Mary Susan Fishbaugh

Billings  
Post Secondary  
Education

Tammy Lacey

Great Falls  
School Administrator

Janis Bishop

Missoula  
Teacher 9-12

John Harris

Eureka  
Trustee

**CSPAC Staff:**

Peter Donovan  
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Administrative Officer

Anneliese Warhank  
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CSPAC Administrative  
Assistant

## **CSPAC Goals for 2010-2011**

- 1)** Study and make recommendations to the Board of Public Education on the status and efficacy of approved teacher educator programs in Montana.
- 2)** Study and make recommendations to the Board of Public Education in the areas of pre-certification training and educational requirements and in certification renewal requirements and procedures.
- 3)** Study and make recommendations to the Board of Public Education on policies related to the denial, suspension, and revocation of teachers' certificates and the appeals process.
- 4)** Study and make recommendations to the Board of Public Education on the feasibility of establishing standards of professional practices and ethical conduct.
- 5)** Study and make recommendations to the Board of Public Education on the status and efficacy of alternative and/or nontraditional teacher preparation opportunities.



**HIGHLIGHTS OF 2010-2011**  
**CERTIFICATION STANDARDS AND**  
**PRACTICES ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**MEETINGS**

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**Highlights of the July 14, 2010 CSPAC Meeting**

The Montana Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council (CSPAC) met on July 14, 2010 at the Montana State Capitol in Helena, MT. The Certification Advisory Council, created by the 1987 Montana Legislature, is composed of seven members and meets quarterly. The CSPAC makes recommendations to the Board of Public Education concerning licensure issues, professional practices, and ethical conduct for educators in Montana.

Currently serving on the Council are: Chair Ms. Judie Woodhouse, Teacher, Polson; Ms. Patty Muir, K-12 Specialist, Laurel; Ms. Sharon Applegate, Teacher, Kalispell; Mr. Jon Runnalls, Teacher, East Helena; Dr. Mary Susan Fishbaugh, Dean of the College of Education, Montana State University-Billings, Billings (who was not able to attend the meetings); and Ms. Tammy Lacey, School Administrator, Great Falls.

Meeting attendees included: Dr. Linda Peterson, OPI; Mr. Dennis Parman, OPI; Ms. Elizabeth Keller, OPI; Ms. Ann Gilkey, OPI; Mr. Marco Ferro, MEA-MFT; Dr. Jan Clinard, OCHE; Ms. Patty Myers, Chair, BPE; Ms. Sharron Carroll, Vice Chair, BPE; Mr. Steve Meloy, Executive Secretary, BPE; Mr. Pete Donovan, Administrative Officer, CSPAC; and Ms. Anneliese Warhank, Administrative Assistant, CSPAC.

### **Correspondence**

Mr. Donovan spoke about the memo issued by BPE to all its education partners inviting everyone to its strategic planning session that afternoon. He also spoke about a letter from the Montana Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (MRID) to OPI, MSDB, and the Educational Interpreter Workgroup Committee (the latter of which former CSPAC member Dr. Doug Reisig chaired) advocating for OPI “to consider creating a new position of an Educational Interpreter Outreach Advisor” to aid in the licensing of Educational Interpreters in the state.

### **Executive Committee**

With Chair Judie Woodhouse retiring this past spring, she will no longer be eligible to hold the position as 9-12 teacher on the Council this fall, requiring the Council to appoint a new chair and vice chair. The Council elected Ms. Sharon Applegate as Chair and Mr. Jon Runnalls as Vice Chair. Mr. Donovan then read a poem to Ms. Woodhouse, and Ms. Applegate presented her a present on behalf of the Council. The Council then spoke about committee appointments. After a bit of discussion, the Council decided to revisit committee appointments at its fall meeting when the two new members are present. The Council set the Calendar for the following year setting dates for its January and March 2011 meetings (January 13 and March 3 respectfully). The joint CSPAC/BPE meeting has been moved permanently to July and will take place on July 13-14, 2011. The joint CSPAC/Council of Deans meeting will coincide with the CoD’s October meeting. At the time, CSPAC was waiting to find out the October CoD meeting date and will be notified when the office attains the exact date. The meeting will be held in Missoula, MT. The 2010-2011 goals were then set and approved.

### **Board of Public Education Report**

Mr. Meloy spoke about the current issues the Board will discuss at its strategic planning session including, but not limited to: National Common Core Standards and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning. Mr. Meloy then spoke about working with the Chapter 55 group to update the rules, the Legislative Interim Committee to continue work on the Shared Policy Goals, and the K-College workgroup. Mr. Meloy finished by updating the Council of the Board’s budget and the Legislative Auditors recommendation to use the research fund before using the general fund.

### **Administrative Officer’s Report**

Mr. Donovan provided a list of all the meetings he had attended since the March CSPAC meeting including the NASDTEC Annual Conference and the Praxis Client Conference. Mr. Donovan also participated in the follow-up accreditation review at Salish Kootenai College.

### **Licensure and Endorsement Committee Report**

Ms. Ann Gilkey, attorney for OPI, came to speak about the licensure hearing process surrounding all licensure denials, letters of reprimand, suspension, and revocations. She spoke about how many of the immoral conduct cases fall into “gray areas” meaning they may not be illegal practices, but still push the boundaries of appropriate behaviors between teachers and students. She is currently reviewing other state’s code of ethics and is happy to hear CSPAC will be considering revisions to our own. The Licensure and Endorsement Committee has been assigned the review process and will report back to the Council at the October meeting.

### **Professional Preparation and Continuing Education Committee Report**

Dr. Mary Susan Fishbaugh was unable to attend the meeting due to unforeseeable circumstances.



### **Montana Commission on Teaching Committee Report**

Ms. Patty Muir informed the Council about this year's Teacher Mentor Institute, which will be August 9-11 in Great Falls. Barbra Lawson will present and there will be a panel discussion on the final day. Along with her co-director, Ms. Muir conducted a one day workshop in Sydney. Ms. Allison Mike has invited Ms. Muir to participate in the eMSS (e Mentoring for Student Success) program. Ms. Muir just completed a 3 week online training. Math, science, and special educators can all participate from across the nation in this eMass program.

### **OPI Update**

Dr. Peterson spoke to the Council about the proposed NCATE/TEAC merger. Both entities have developed a unifying committee better known as CAEP, the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation. They have already agreed upon 4 standards to follow, very similar to the standards both entities held prior to the merger. They believe it should take 2 years to complete the unification once the initial planning is all agreed upon by both NCATE and TEAC. Dr. Peterson then spoke about the various options schools will have when choosing which accrediting body will review them prior to the final merge.

### **Plan for Future Conferences**

Ms. Woodhouse reminded everyone this year's MEA-MFT Educator Forum will take place on October 8 in Helena.

### **Future Agenda Items**

The Council briefly reviewed the by-laws and will approve them at the October meeting.

### **The Writing Assessment's Professional Development**

Dr. Jan Clinard came from OCHE to speak about the Montana University System Writing Assessment (MUSWA) and how it pertains to professional development. The MUSWA helps align what is expected of college freshmen composition courses with high school composition courses. In order to score the individuals must be trained through the Writing Assessment Workshop. The last one, held in March, was attended by teachers, college instructors, ABE instructors, and pre-service teachers. These participants filled out evaluations to offer insight into what tools and skills they found most useful when scoring. Since its inception in 1998, the MUSWA scores have steadily increased, while at the same time remediation rates have declined. The MUSWA has fulfilled several purposes including defining college readiness in writing amongst high school seniors, and providing ongoing professional development in writing for teachers who score.

### **Public Comment**

Dovetailing off of Ms. Gilkey's report, Mr. Marco Ferro distributed a pamphlet published by the American Federation of Teachers detailing proper use of technology for both teachers and students. He also handed out pamphlets of the October 8, 2010 Montana Educator Forum.

### **Licensure and Endorsement Committee Report**

Ms. Woodhouse asked the Council revisit Item 4 in order for Ms. Applegate to report on the progress the Chapter 55 Review team has made. Ms. Applegate informed the Council the work is very close to CSPAC's work and they should follow closely.

### **Joint CSPAC/BPE Meeting July 15, 2010**

The Board of Public Education met with the Council on the morning of July 15<sup>th</sup> for their annual joint meeting. Ms. Woodhouse presented the 2009 CSPAC Annual Report highlighting the work CSPAC has

done over the past year. The newly revised and adopted goals were also presented and CSPAC pointed out the various areas they would like to concentrate their time on more in the coming year, including possibly making revisions to the Montana Code of Ethics. The Group then spoke about the Board's Strategic Planning Session, which took place the previous afternoon with many of the Board's education partners participating. The group spoke about the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats of the 5 main issues the Board is currently facing. Finally, the Board made appointments for the vacant Trustee and Teacher 9-12 positions on CSPAC. John Harris was appointed as the Trustee and Janice Bishop was appointed at the Teacher 9-12.

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### **Highlights of the October 14 & 15, 2010 CSPAC and Joint Council of Deans Meeting**

The Montana Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council (CSPAC) met on October 14-15, 2010 at the Phyllis J. Washing School of Education on the U of M-Missoula campus. The Certification Advisory Council, created by the 1987 Montana Legislature, is composed of seven members and meets quarterly. The CSPAC makes recommendations to the Board of Public Education concerning licensure issues, professional practices, and ethical conduct for educators in Montana.

Currently serving on the Council are: Chair Ms. Sharon Applegate, Teacher, Kalispell; Vice-Chair Mr. Jon Runnalls, Teacher, East Helena; Ms. Patty Muir, K-12 Specialist, Laurel; Dr. Mary Susan Fishbaugh, Dean of the College of Education, Montana State University-Billings, Billings; Ms. Tammy Lacey, School Administrator, Great Falls; Mr. John Harris, Trustee, Eureka; and Ms. Janice Bishop, Teacher, Missoula.

October 15<sup>th</sup> meeting attendees included: Ms. Karen Kaufman, U of M-Missoula College of Visual and Performing Arts; Dr. Linda Peterson, OPI; and Mr. Jason Niefer, Montana Digital Academy.

#### **Joint CSPAC/Council of Deans Meeting October 14, 2010**

CSPAC met with the Council of Deans of Education, the Council of Deans of Arts and Sciences, and the Office of Public Instruction on the afternoon of the 14<sup>th</sup> for the annual CSPAC joint CoDE meeting. State Superintendent Denise Juneau, along with Ms. Nancy Coopersmith; Ms. Joyce Silverthorne; and Dr. Linda Peterson, presented on the Common Core State Standards. They stressed educators should try and play as large of a role possible in the creation of the standards. Mr. Steve York of OPI presented on evaluation systems for teachers and administrators. He spoke about the Council of Chief State School Officer's State Consortium for Educators Effectiveness, or SCEE, and School Improvement Grant Schools, amongst other topics. Dr. Susan Harper-Whalen (UM); Dr. Patricia Ingraham (MSU); and Dr. Jonathan Matthews (Carroll) presented on selected models of evaluation for student teachers. The group spoke about ways to engage students in teacher prep program in the teaching environment both prior to, and during student teaching.

## **CSPAC Meeting October 15, 2010**

### **Correspondence**

The correspondence consisted of a letter of thanks from former CSPAC chair Dr. Doug Reisig to Board Chair Ms. Patty Myers, Executive Secretary Mr. Steve Meloy, and Mr. Pete Donovan for writing a letter of recommendation for him, the actual letter of recommendation to the National Assessment Governing Board, and a letter from the Board to Deputy Superintendent Dennis Parman requesting a confirmation on the total number of licensed educators in the state by year.

### **Executive Committee**

The Council discussed the previous day's joint meeting, particularly the OPI presentations. CSPAC felt a lot of change was on the horizon. The Council then reviewed and approved the CPSAC By-Laws with the amended changes.

### **Review Purpose of Committees**

Dr. Fishbaugh stated she was interested in possibly joining the State Consortium on Educator Effectiveness. The Council members broke into committee groups to discuss directions. The Council voted to place Mr. Harris on the Pre-Professional Preparation and Continuing Development Committee, Ms. Bishop on the Montana Commission on Teaching Committee, and Ms. Lacey on the Licensure and Endorsement Committee. They also changed the name of the Pre-Professional Preparation and Continuing Development Committee to the Pre-Professional Preparation and Continuing Professional Development Committee.

### **Administrative Officer's Report**

Mr. Donovan discussed the meetings he had attended since the July 14, 2010 CSPAC meeting. He also explained Chapter 55 for Mr. Harris and passed out a list with a brief description of CSPAC members who will present at the upcoming MEA-MFT and MCEL conferences.

### **Board of Public Education Report**

Mr. Donovan explained Executive Secretary Steve Meloy was at a NASBE Annual Conference/NCSBEE Meeting in Salt Lake City, UT. The email updates Mr. Donovan sends on a regular basis and the letter to Deputy Superintendent Dennis Parman were also discussed.

### **Professional Preparation and Continuing Education Committee Report**

Dr. Fishbaugh spoke about MSU-Billings being ranked a Tier 1 Ranked Regional Comprehensive Master's Institution for Western Institutions by the U.S. News & World Report. Their most recent NCATE accreditation visit was a success with BPE approving the program with no major flaws and only 2 target areas to work towards in the future.

### **Montana Commission on Teaching Committee Report**

Ms. Muir presented a PowerPoint on the Laurel Public Schools Mentoring Program. Ms. Muir worked with the superintendent and trustees of her school district to develop and implement the program during the 2005-6 school year. The program is offered to any new teacher to the district. The new teacher is assigned a mentor for one year, but can request a second year if needed. The mentors need to be willing to commit the time necessary to aid their mentee. The two track their progress in a log and respond to a survey. Ms. Muir hopes in the future the program can: expand to special curriculum training – small cohort; increase the stipend for mentors; and build a large mentor pool.

### **Licensure and Endorsement Committee Report**

Ms. Applegate reported on the progress the Chapter 55 workgroup has made. The group has and will continue to discuss goals, timelines, and milestones. The recommendations for change should be brought before the Board by next fall, followed by the public hearing period. The Code of Ethics review was next. Ms. Applegate, Mr. Runnalls, and Ms. Lacey are working with Mr. Donovan and Ms. Ann Gilkey of OPI to look at a possible revision to the 1997 Code of Ethics for Educators. Ms. Lacey spoke about what the group would like the code to address. Finally, Ms. Karen Kaufmann of the U of M School of Theatre and Dance spoke about the possible Area of Permissive Specialized Competency in dance. Ms. Kaufmann described current successful school programs that have integrated dance into the learning environment to help children in various areas of the school of curriculum. Ms. Kaufmann will work on polishing draft language for the Council and should present at a future meeting.

### **Montana Digital Academy Update**

Mr. Jason Niefer, Curriculum Specialist for the Montana Digital Academy, spoke to the Council of the progress MTDA has made since it launched the online program in September. Mr. Niefer spoke about the development of the program, the types of courses offered, and the type of students the Academy has attracted. All teachers hold Montana educator licenses. The program uses Power Speak, Smart Science, Moodles, and Google Apps to help the courses run.

### **OPI Update**

Dr. Linda Peterson spoke about the joint meeting. She felt it was very engaging. Any comments regarding the topics covered by OPI should be directed to her, which she will relay back to OPI.

### **Plan for Future Conferences**

Mr. Donovan spoke to the Council about the moratorium on travel discussed at the September Board meeting. However the BPE office has been in contact with its budget analysts from the governor's office in search for more money for the Board.

### **Future Agenda Items**

The Council will look at the Code of Ethics and the progress the small group has made at its meeting in January.

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

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## **Highlights of the January 13, 2011 CSPAC Meeting**

The Montana Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council (CSPAC) met on January 13, 2011 at the Front Street Learning Center in Helena, MT. The Certification Advisory Council, created by the 1987 Montana Legislature, is composed of seven members and meets quarterly. The CSPAC makes recommendations to the Board of Public Education concerning licensure issues, professional practices, and ethical conduct for educators in Montana.

Currently serving on the Council are: Chair, Ms. Sharon Applegate, Teacher, Kalispell; Vice-Chair, Mr. Jon Runnalls, Teacher, East Helena; Ms. Patty Muir, K-12 Specialist, Laurel; Mr. John Harris, Trustee, Eureka; Dr. Mary Susan Fishbaugh, Dean of the College of Education, Montana State University-Billings, Billings; Ms. Tammy Lacey, Administrator, Great Falls; and Ms. Janice Bishop, Teacher, Missoula.

Meeting attendees included: Dr. Linda Peterson, OPI; Ms. Elizabeth Keller, OPI; Mr. Le Gaub, Lewis and Clark Troops to Teachers; Mr. Byron McKinney, Lewis and Clark Troops to Teachers; Ms. Jeredene Mayfield, Valier; Mr. Pete Donovan, Administrative Officer, CSPAC; and Ms. Anneliese Warhank, Administrative Assistant, CSPAC.

### **Correspondence**

Mr. Donovan spoke about a letter he received from the National Assessment Governing Board. The letter notified him of their receipt of his nomination of former CSPAC Chair Dr. Doug Reisig for membership on the National Assessment Governing Board. This was followed by a letter from Marco Ferro thanking Mr. Donovan for his work on the 2010 Montana Educator Forum planning committee. A few suggestions were made by Council members on ways they could improve the 2011 Forum.

### **Executive Committee**

The duties of the committees were outlined for clarification. The Council plans on doing more breakout sessions with committees at future meetings. Chairperson Applegate then gave an overview of the Chapter 55 workgroup, including who is involved, its purpose and principles, what they have accomplished, and what they will work on in the future. Mr. Donovan explained to the Council how the hearing process will go before new rules are approved by the Board.

### **Board of Public Education Report**

Mr. Donovan spoke about the 2011 Montana Legislative session. Like all state agencies, the Board's budget will experience a 5% cut. However, funds will be added back in once the revenue is more concrete. A number of bills that would affect the Board if passed were discussed. Mr. Donovan then passes out an article from the Wall Street Journal on budget deficits other states are facing and how they are managing the situation. The influx of new legislatures this session was also discussed.

### **Administrative Officer's Report**

Although the standards for instructors of Braille and sign language interpreters have been approved, the challenge of finding ways to get these people qualified still exists. A new group consisting of members from both workgroups is planning on meeting to tackle this issue beginning in February. Funding for Council members to attend national meetings and another WSJ article about school reform in response to the budget crisis were also discussed.

### **Licensure and Endorsement Committee Report**

Ms. Lacey highlighted her *Conducting Investigations & Managing Progressive Discipline Surrounding Alleged Employee Misconduct* PowerPoint originally presented at the 2010 Montana Conference of Education Leadership. The presentation addressed how to manage investigations of employees in schools and how administrators must do a thorough investigation while respecting the rights of those involved in the case. She outlined the basics and the process to keep in mind and follow while conducting the investigation. Many felt this presentation could benefit schools districts throughout the state.

### **Troops to Teachers Update**

Mr. Le Guab and Mr. Byron McKinney from the Lewis & Clark Troops to Teachers spoke to the Council to update them on the work TTT has done in the past few years. The L & C TTT covers the Dakotas over to Oregon. TTT works with retired soldiers to get them certified to teach in the classroom. TTT aims to parlay the skills the soldier utilized while in the service or prior into the area of teaching they enter.

### **Update on Possible Area of Permissive Specialized Competency in Dance**

Ms. Karen Kaufman from the U of M College of Visual and Performing Arts came to present possible draft language that would make dance an area of permissive specialized competency for educator licensing. Ms. Kaufman gave a quick refresher of what she hopes to accomplish with an APSC in dance and answered a few questions about the proposed language. A motion was called and seconded to recommend the proposed language to the Board for approval. Prior to final vote discussion ensued about the vagueness some of the Council members, as well as Dr. Linda Peterson from the Accreditation Division at OPI, felt the language displayed. Dr. Peterson agreed to work with Ms. Kaufman to rework the language to align more with the National Standards and Indian Education for All requirements. The Council moved to vote on the current language resulting in a failed vote. A second motion was called and seconded to call for further refinement of the language through collaboration with the Accreditation Division at OPI. The vote was unanimously approved.

### **Professional Preparation and Continuing Education Committee Report**

Mr. Harris reported to the Council on his recent trip to Portland, OR to attend the Western States Certification Conference. Mr. Harris outlined the conference content and highlights which strongly centered around the National Common Core State Standards. The conference also highlighted teacher performance evaluations, clinically based teacher accreditation, and Race to the Top. Mr. Harris expressed general impressions and concerns he took from the conference, but felt it was a great learning experience for him.

### **Montana Commission on Teaching Committee Report**

Chairperson Applegate explained to the Council unforeseen circumstances required Ms. Muir to leave the meeting early, so she was unable to talk about her ongoing work with mentoring language. Ms. Muir would like to see mentoring language added to state accreditation standards.

### **Update on OPI School Staffing Project**

Ms. Elizabeth Keller from OPI explained the goal of the project is to aid in reporting on teachers licensed in the state and to aid with school Annual Data Collection, which every school district must report back to OPI. At the moment the project RFP has been released and OPI is waiting on a bid.

### **OPI Update**

Dr. Peterson addressed some of the questions Mr. Harris raised on curriculum and the Smarter Balance Assessment Consortium in his presentation under the Professional Preparation and Continuing Education Committee Report. She suggested, and the Council agreed, Ms. Nancy Coopersmith of OPI come and speak on the CCSS at the next meeting. She then gave an update on the merger up NCATE and TEAC into CAEP. Montana now needs to decide its next steps as it currently uses NCATE as its accrediting body for schools of education.

### **Future Agenda Items**

The Council will review its Annual Report and by-laws, as well as evaluate the progress of goals at its March 3, 2011 meeting in Helena.

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

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## **Highlights of the March 3, 2011 CSPAC Meeting**

The Montana Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council (CSPAC) met on March 3, 2011 at the Front Street Learning Center in Helena, MT. The Certification Advisory Council, created by the 1987 Montana Legislature, is composed of seven members and meets quarterly. The CSPAC makes recommendations to the Board of Public Education concerning licensure issues, professional practices, and ethical conduct for educators in Montana.

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Meeting attendees included: Dr. Linda Peterson, OPI; Ms. Elizabeth Keller, OPI; Ms. Lorri Weiss, OPI; Ms. Nikki Sandve, OPI; Ms. Ann Gilkey, OPI; Mr. Pete Donovan, Administrative Officer, CSPAC; and Ms. Anneliese Warhank, Administrative Assistant, CSPAC.

### **Correspondence**

A letter from Chairperson Patty Myers of the Board to former CSPAC Chairperson Doug Reisig, congratulating him on being awarded the G.V. Erickson Award by the School Administrators of Montana, was included in the correspondence.

### **Executive Committee**

Ms. Applegate asked the Council if it would be okay to move the breakout sessions of the committee groups to the July meeting due to the fact one committee did not have any members present at the meeting. The Council then reviewed the short term goals as well as the long term goals. The Council discussed the possible replacement of the NASDTEC reviews with CAEP reviews and their role in the process and its effects on the PEPPS review process. Various other short term and long term goals were discussed along with the CSPAC By-laws. The Annual Report was approved by all and Ms. Applegate informed the Council the Chapter 55 Workgroup will meet again in May.

### **Administrative Officer's Report**

Mr. Donovan informed the Council of a recent meeting between OPI, MSDB, and representatives from the sign language interpreters and instructors of Braille standards workgroups to look at ways to offer certification to these instructors so they may meet the standards to work in Montana schools. He also spoke about former CSPAC member Mr. John Harris' decision to not run for another trustee term, thus making him ineligible for the Council. Applications for a new trustee will be accepted for a new appointment in May. He also reminded Ms. Muir and Ms. Applegate they will need to resubmit an

application to continue with their second three-year term on the Council. Dr. Fishbaugh has also completed her 2<sup>nd</sup> term so the Council will welcome a new post-secondary education member at its next meeting.

### **Licensure and Endorsement Committee Report**

The subgroup met with Mr. Donovan and Ms. Applegate to continue work on drafting new language for the Montana Educator Code of Ethics. A draft of the possible codes was passed out and the Council was asked to provide feedback via email. Ms. Lacey suggested the draft codes be presented to Council member's colleagues to understand how educators feel about the proposed codes.

### **Montana Commission on Teaching Committee Report**

Ms. Applegate handed the meeting over to Ms. Muir who in turn introduced Ms. Nikki Sandve of OPI and director of mentoring institute training programs. She spoke of the continued push to implement teacher mentoring programs across state schools, online tools to help with these efforts, and the upcoming summer institute in Bozeman. She also discussed other various online tools to help in mentoring efforts.

### **Update on Possible Area of Permissive Specialized Competency in Dance**

Technical difficulties made it impossible to connect with Ms. Karen Kaufman via conference call. The Council plans on readdressing the item at its July meeting as a result.

### **Professional Preparation and Continuing Education Committee Report**

Dr. Fishbaugh was unable to attend the meeting due to a prior engagement. As a result, the PPCE report was not presented.

### **Common Core State Standards Update/OPI Update**

Ms. Nancy Coopersmith was unable to present due to the OPI budget hearing with the legislature which took place the same day. As a result, Dr. Linda Peterson presented the Common Core update along with her OPI update. During the February 17, 2011 Board of Public Education meeting, Ms. Kris Goyins presented a comparative study to the Board between the national and state standards to see where the state aligned and deviated from the national standards. Dr. Peterson stated OPI and the Board will continue their awareness level and let the public know new information as soon as they can. Questions ensued surrounding what responsibilities districts would hold with these standards.

### **Board of Public Education Report**

Mr. Meloy spent the morning at the Leadership Institute for the Council of Chief State School Officers listening to former OPI employee Chris Lohse. Mr. Lohse currently works at CCSSO as the Design & Dissemination Director. He then discussed the current legislative session and the possibility of have the 5% cut made to the budget of all state agencies restored. A possible alternative to recoup the funds lost from the potential 5% cut would be to raise the teacher licensure fees. Although MEA-MFT would not support this raise in fees, they would not oppose either. Mr. Meloy then mentioned a few bills the Council should follow including bills that would affect compulsory school enrollment, address bullying issues, and one dealing with charter schools. There is also a bill that would bring statutorily created councils, such as CSPAC, to an interim legislative committee to justify their existence.

### **Plan for Future Conferences**

Mr. Meloy worked with Chairperson Ms. Patty Myers of the Board of Public Education to set aside enough funding to send Mr. Donovan and two Board or Council members to the NASDTEC Annual



Conference June 5-8, 2011 in Sacramento, CA. Ms. Applegate will attend along with Ms. Sharon Carroll of the Board.

**Future Agenda Items**

The Council will meet next on July 13-14, 2011 in Helena, MT. The Council will meet with the Board at its annual joint meeting on July 14, 2011. Mr. Donovan reminded everyone the annual calendar will be set at the July meeting.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.