



Governing Board Meeting Minutes October 12, 2022

Attendees

Members

Present	Absent	Member
X		Sharyl Allen , Deputy Superintendent, Office of Public Instruction
X		Joel Graves (Chair), Superintendent, Eureka Public Schools
X		Anthony Lapke (Vice Chair), Teacher, Glacier High School
X (at 2:39pm)		Adrea Lawrence , Dean, Phyllis J. Washington College of Education, University of Montana, Non-Voting
X		Luke Muszkiewicz , Chair, Board of Trustees, Helena School District No.1
X		Brock Tessman , Deputy Commissioner, Academic, Research & Student Affairs, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education
X		Jason Neiffer , Executive Director, Ex Officio, Non-Voting
X		Mike Agostinelli , Assistant Director/Curriculum Director, Ex Officio

Staff and Guests

- Christen Cole, MTDA
- Anna East, MTDA
- Kate Peterson, MTDA
- Sarah Marker, MTDA
- Ryan Schrenk, EMTDA
- Jason Leonard, MTDA
- Jodie Hirsch, MTDA
- Caitlin Byers, MTDA
- McCall Flynn, Executive Director, Board of Public Education

1. Establish The Presence Of A Quorum - Chair Graves established the presence of a quorum and called the meeting to order at 2:31pm.
2. Public Comment - Chair Graves called for public comment. No public comment was offered.
3. Board Leadership Elections (Chair Joel Graves, Board Member Adrea Lawrence)
 - a. Chair Graves called upon Board Member Lawrence, who was asked during the September meeting to connect with board members to determine candidates. Dr. Lawrence described the process, including connecting with board members and concluded that Board Chair Graves and Board Vice Chair Lapke would like to continue in their current roles.
 - b. Chair Graves called for a motion. Board Member Muszkiewicz moved to reelect Joel Graves as Chair and Anthony Lapke as Vice Chair. Board Member Allen seconded. The board voted unanimously on the motion.
4. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of Minutes of the August Meeting (document attached)
 - i. August meeting minutes were presented.
 - ii. Board Member Tessman moved to approve the minutes. Board Member Muszkiewicz seconded. The board voted unanimously on the motion.
 - b. Approval of Minutes of the September Meeting (document attached)
 - i. September meeting minutes were presented. Director Neiffer noted that there wasn't a quorum, but he is submitting minutes of the board out of an abundance of deference to protocol.
 - ii. Board Member Muszkiewicz moved to approve the minutes. Board Member Tessman seconded. The board voted unanimously on the motion.
 - c. Approval of Financial Report (Director Jason Neiffer & Business Manager Sarah Marker; document attached)
 - i. Business Manager Marker presented the Financial Report to the Board.
 - ii. Board Member Lapke moved to approve the financial report. Board Member Muszkiewicz seconded. There was no discussion. The board voted unanimously on the motion.
5. Discussion/Updates
 - a. Collaboration with Jobs for Montana Graduates (JMG) and Jobs for American (JAG) Graduates (Neiffer and Assistant Director Mike Agostinelli)
 - i. Director Neiffer discussed meetings with the staff of Jobs for Montana Graduates on possible collaboration. Assistant Director Agostinelli described discussions with the national Jobs for American Graduates program and the possibilities of utilizing digitalized national curriculum assets with existing Montana J.M.G. MTDA will attempt to push this out for Spring 2023. However, it is a heavy lift and might be more likely to roll in Fall 2023.

- ii. Board Member Allen asked about the processes regarding the adoption of curriculum and materials at MTDA. Director Neiffer answered that 20-7-1201 places the authority to evaluate and adopt curriculum and materials with the leadership of MTDA. Assistant Director Agostinelli also noted that the evaluation of vendors and materials has additional factors in an online program due to technical requirements like compatibility with systems and accessibility standards. Director Neiffer said he would present an updated version of the process to the board at a future meeting.
- b. “Project Sirius” Updates
 - i. Director Neiffer clarified that while the MTDA staff calls the current expansion project “Project Sirius,” this is not a name that will be used with our constituents or the public. New offerings will have names commiserate with the service in MTDA’s “clearinghouse.”
 - ii. Certification Prep and Collaboration with the OPI CTE Team and Montana Contractor Association (Agostinelli)
 - 1. Assistant Director Agostinelli discussed conversations with the OPI CTE Team and the Montana Contractor Association, including possibilities of offering materials through the clearinghouse in “short courses” to enhance students' skill sets in preparation for hands-on learning at schools or regional centers. M.C.A. connected us with the National Center for Construction Education and Research, which offers materials to the largest high schools in the state.
 - 2. Board Member Allen inquired about resources from the MCA. Mr. Agostinelli commended that they have licensed many materials from NCCER that could be utilized at no cost, allowing MTDA to provide a single point of access.
 - 3. Chair Graves commented that he appreciates the MTDA staff’s work to stay relevant.
 - iii. Alternative Discipline and Collaboration with the Billings School District and Riverstone Health (Neiffer)
 - 1. Director Neiffer discussed conversations with Billings School District and Riverstone Health on ways to offer educational strategies to help provide alternatives to expulsion for students vaping and using tobacco. Riverstone has an existing, research-driven approach that could be offered in an asynchronous or blended model online.
 - iv. Anticipated Next Steps
 - 1. Director Neiffer discussed some background work that allows this work to continue. He described an example of working with districts to allow “single sign-on” from local district credential systems like

Clever or Classlink, along with enrollment integrations with local student information systems like Infinite Campus.

2. If MTDA receives an indication that this project will likely move forward, he intends to come to the board with a plan to use the remaining FY23 budget to start this fiscal year with staffing to get a running start on the FY24 program year. Dr. Neiffer also mentioned that staff has been working with Jay Phillips, the CFO at OPI, to discuss ways to carry over one-time-only monies for projects like Indigenous Language beyond June 20, 2023.

6. Adjourn