

# BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION MEETING AGENDA

May 15-16, 2025  
Montana School for the Deaf and Blind  
3911 Central Ave  
Great Falls, MT 59401

Thursday, May 15, 2025  
8:30AM

## CALL TO ORDER

- A. Pledge of Allegiance led by MSDB Visually Impaired Students
- 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 #8

*(Items may be pulled from Consent Agenda upon request)*

- A. March 5, 2025 and March 11-12, 2025 Meeting Minutes
- B. Financials

## ADOPT AGENDA

### BASICS OF AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE – Jennifer St. Pierre, ASL Mentor

#### ❖ REPORTS – Dr. Tim Tharp (Items 1-5)

- Item 1 CHAIRPERSON REPORT – 15 Minutes, page #26  
Dr. Tim Tharp
- Item 2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT – 15 Minutes, page #27  
McCall Flynn
- Item 3 STATE SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – 1 Hour, page #28  
State Superintendent Susie Hedalen
  - Teacher of the Year Introduction
  - Assessment Update and Information
  - MAST Update
  - MIC3
  - Graduation for Military Students and Native American Students

Item 4 COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION REPORT – 15 Minutes, page #39  
Dr. Angela McLean

Item 5 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT – 15 Minutes, page #40  
Gavin Mow

- Recognition of Exiting Student Representative

❖ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Dr. Tim Tharp (Item 6)

Item 6 UPDATE ON MONTANA 250<sup>TH</sup> COMMISSION – 15 Minutes, page #41  
Chris Averill

❖ MSDB LIAISON – Lisa Schmidt (Item 7)

Item 7 MSDB REPORT – 1 Hour, page #54  
Paul Furthmyre

- MSDB Foundation Memorandum of Understanding
- MSDB Outreach Programming
- Superintendent Updates

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- Action on Out of State Travel Request
- Action on Personnel Items
- Action on MSDB/Golden Triangle Co-op
- Action on MHSA Agreement
- MFPE Local #4027 STARS Act Agreement

\*\*\*\*\*LUNCH WITH MSDB STAFF AND FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS\*\*\*\*\*  
*\*\*Lunch will be provided for Board members\*\**

❖ BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION TOURS & ACTIVITIES

1:00PM GREAT FALLS CORE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TOUR AND ROUDTABLE  
DISCUSSION  
Morningside Elementary School  
4119 7<sup>th</sup> Ave North, Great Falls, MT

2:30PM GREAT FALLS PUBLIC SCHOOLS INDIAN EDUCATION FOR ALL ACTIVITY  
Paris Gibson Education Center  
2400 Central Ave, Great Falls, MT

\*\*\*\*\*TIME CERTAIN AT 3:30PM\*\*\*\*\*

❖ LICENSURE COMMITTEE – Dr. Ron Slinger (Items 8-10)

Item 8 ACTION ON THE NOTICE OF SURRENDER AND MOTION TO DISMISS OF BPE  
CASE #2025-01, REGER – 5 Minutes, page #102  
Katie Verderber

Item 9 DISCUSSION ON THE COUNCIL FOR THE ACCREDITATION OF EDUCATOR  
PREPARATION MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – 15 Minutes, page #103  
Dr. Julie Murgel

Item 10 INFORMATION ON PRAXIS REGENERATED TEST REVIEW AND QUALIFYING  
SCORE FOR ELEMENTARY EDUCATION – 15 Minutes, page #108  
Crystal Andrews

\*\*\*\*\*CLOSED SESSION\*\*\*\*\*

❖ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Dr. Tim Tharp (Item 11)

Item 11 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PERFORMANCE EVALUATION – 30 Minutes, page #114  
Dr. Tim Tharp

\*\*\*\*\*OPEN SESSION\*\*\*\*\*

❖ BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION ACTIVITY

4:30PM BOWLING WITH MSDB COTTAGE STUDENTS  
Mustang Center  
Montana School for the Deaf and Blind

RECESS

Friday, May 16, 2025  
8:30AM

CALL TO ORDER

- A. Pledge of Allegiance led by MSDB Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students
- B. Roll Call
- C. Statement of Public Participation
- D. Welcome Visitors

BASICS OF WORKING VISUALLY IMPAIRED – Geri Darko, Orientation and Mobility Specialist

❖ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Dr. Tim Tharp (Item 12)

Item 12 ACTION ON THE K-12 PAYMENT SCHEDULE – 15 Minutes, page #118  
Paul Taylor

❖ MACIE LIAISON – Julia Maxwell (Item 13)

Item 13 MACIE REPORT – 30 Minutes, page #121  
Jordann Lankford Forster

- Review American Indian Student Achievement Gap Recommendations
- Review IEFA Funding Recommendations

❖ CHARTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE – Dr. Ron Slinger (Items 14-15)

Item 14 UPDATE ON COMMUNITY CHOICE SCHOOLS COMMISSION – 15 Minutes, page #125  
Cathy Kincheloe

Item 15 REVIEW OF REVISED PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL APPLICATION AND EVALUATION CRITERIA – 15 Minutes, page #127  
McCall Flynn

❖ ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE – Renee Rasmussen (Item 16)

Item 16 ACTION ON THE SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATION FOR A MODIFICATION TO THE SINGLE SYSTEM OF ALTERNATIVE STATEWIDE ASSESSMENTS – 15 Minutes, page #142  
Cedar Rose

❖ **ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE – Madalyn Quinlan (Items 17-21)**

- Item 17**                    **INFORMATION ON THE ACCREDITATION PROCESS AND FEEDBACK – 30 Minutes, page #146**  
**Crystal Andrews; Superintendent Elliott Crump, Shelby Public Schools; Superintendent Heather Jarrett, Reed Point Schools**
- Item 18**                    **ACTION ON ACCREDITATION THREE-YEAR CYCLES – 15 Minutes, page #149**  
**Crystal Andrews**
- Item 19**                    **ACTION ON THE ACCREDITATION STATUS OF ALL SCHOOLS – 15 Minutes, page #152**  
**Crystal Andrews**
- Item 20**                    **INITIAL REVIEW OF SUPERINTENDENT’S PROPOSED REVISIONS TO ARM TITLE 10, CHAPTER 53, ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND LITERACY CONTENT STANDARDS – 1 Hour, page #154**  
**Marie Judisch**
- Item 21**                    **INFORMATION ON THE RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT INCREASING PK-12 ATTAINMENT IN READING AND READING PROFICIENCY – 15 Minutes, page #247**  
**McCall Flynn**

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS July 16-18, 2025, Helena, MT**

Strategic Planning Meeting  
MACIE Update & Recommendation Work Session  
Reflection and Review of Chapter 56 Assessment Standards  
Review Public Charter School Annual Report (20-6-809, MCA)  
*Assessment Update*  
*Federal Update*  
*OPI Staffing Report*  
*Accreditation Report*  
*Content Standards Revision Update*  
*Indian Education for All Report*

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

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**ADJOURN**

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*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](mailto:kmstockton@mt.gov), 406-444-0302.*