Missoula Area Education Cooperative

Joint Advisory Board (JAB) Meeting Minutes

Date:	November 19, 2025
Time:	10:05 a.m.
Meeting called to order by:	Dale Olinger, Board Chair

The Joint Advisory Board of the Missoula Area Education Cooperative met for a regular meeting via ZOOM at MAEC Conference Room located at 2825 Stockyard Rd, Suite i-2, Missoula, MT. All motions carried unanimously unless otherwise stated.

DRAFT

ATTENDEES

Stacia Vaughn, Cooperative Director
Dale Olinger, Superintendent, Lolo School
Erin Lipkind, Missoula County Superintendent of Schools
Jason Sargent, Superintendent, St. Ignatius Schools
Jim Howard, Superintendent, Bonner School
Logan Labbe, Superintendent, Superior Schools
Ryon Noland, Principal, Dixon Elementary
Amanda Cyr, Superintendent, Alberton Schools
Christina Hartmann, Superintendent, Seeley Lake Elementary
Jim Baldwin, Superintendent, Charlo Schools
Emily Sallee, Principal, Potomac School
Jon Martin, Principal, Woodman School
Matt Driessen, Superintendent, DeSmet School
Kathy Schneider, Superintendent, Clinton School
Rhonda Decker, Cooperative Business Manager

ABSENT

Angela Mock, Principal, Swan Valley School
Anne Tanner, Principal, Arlee Schools

GUESTS

None

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair, Dale Olinger called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Attendance of the 2025-2026 Joint Advisory Board members was conducted by Rhonda Decker.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Matt Dreissen moved to accept the Minutes of the June 19, 2025 Joint Advisory Board meeting minutes. Amanda Cyr- Second.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

PROPOSED 25-26 BUDGET

Stacia Vaughn presented the 2025-2026 budget and reviewed the anticipated revenue budget. Matt Driesen moved to accept the 2025-2026 budget as presented. Kathy Schneider- Second.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: INFORMATION

Stacia Vaughn discussed the following:

A. Invitation to Join- MAEC invites nonmember districts within its boundaries to join the Cooperative; by statute, this must be completed annually by October each year; in July 2025, Rhonda sent letters of invitation to nonmember districts within MAEC boundaries; MAEC received no response from non-member districts.
B. The Director has traveled in person to 11 of 15 member districts since August 2025; she has scheduled site visits to Charlo, Dixon in December 2025, and will schedule site visits to Woodman and Sunset in January 2026. She advised the board that Child Find screenings have been completed for all 15 member districts.
C. Sped Child Count by Member District (historical-present)- Director presented historical child count charts for each Member District that included data from 2008 through 2025.
D. OPI's IDEA E-grant Application Update- Director thanked each of the Member District Administrators for their help with their applications and let the board know that the Cooperative application was submitted by MAEC to OPI and both reviewed and approved by OPI on November 13, 2025.
E. Virtual Best Practices in Sped Trainings provided by Kaleva Law Office in August 2025 - availability for member districts to view the three-part series ends November 21, 2025.
F. Districts serving high school students must ensure FAPE is offered to eligible students until they reach age 22 - Districts must confirm with OPI that offers of FAPE were made to eligible students by December 1, 2025.
G. OPI'S request for IDEA Program Narrative, Fiscal and Risk Assessment is due to 6/1/2026. MAEC Director will coordinate the fiscal and risk assessment portions with member district administrators and will be submitting a Cooperative program narrative on behalf of each district.
H. OPI's annual special education parent survey must be sent to parents of students receiving special education each year; the survey is open and must be completed no later than 6/30/2026.

ADJOURN

Dale Olinger called the meeting adjourned at 10:33 a.m.

_____ _____

Business Manager, Attest Chairman

_____ _____

Date Date

_____

Date Copies sent to JAB