



Management Council Regular Meeting Minutes

Date: February 20, 2025
Time: 1:00 p.m.
Meeting called to order by: Dale Olinger, Board Chair

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

ATTENDEES

Stacia Vaughn, Cooperative Director
Dale Olinger, Superintendent, Lolo Schools, via ZOOM
Jason Sargent, Superintendent, St. Ignatius School
Jim Howard, Superintendent, Bonner School, via ZOOM
Logan Labbe, Superintendent, Superior School Via ZOOM
Rhonda Decker, Cooperative Business Manager

ABSENT

Erin Lipkind, Missoula County Superintendent of Schools

GUESTS

Sarah Schmill, Principal, Potomac School

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Jason Sargent moved to accept the Minutes of the December 18, 2024 and January 8, 2025 Management Council meetings. Logan Labbe- Second.

PUBLIC COMMENT

2. None

CORRESPONDENCE

3. None

OLD BUSINESS

4. None

NEW BUSINESS

5. BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT: Information & Action
 - A. Rhonda Decker, Cooperative Business Manager, reported to the Board that February year-to-date expenditures are \$842,091.00
 - B. Treasurer's Financial Statement Fund Balance for December was \$453,420.00
 - C. The Board approved the Business Manager to pay March claims and payroll. Logan Labbe moved to approve the Business Manager's report. Jim Howard- Second.

PERSONNEL REPORT

6. None

GRANTS/CONTRACTS

7. None

POLICY UPDATES

8. None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

9. A. Stacia Vaughn updated the board on OPI's Special Education Compliance Monitoring. Seventeen schools were monitored with 11/17 being fully compliant and 6 resulting in corrective action plans. The process has changed since 2020, where OPI gave schools 30-60 days for corrections before placing schools on corrective action plans. For 2025, any items in error move districts to immediate corrective action plans where schools are required to show evidence of sustained post-monitoring compliance and OPI conducts random file section through February of 2026. Schools have until March 25, 2025 to make corrections. As a comparison note, Stacia informed the board that in 2020, 47% of schools were fully compliant, while 65% were fully compliant in 2025.

B. OPI's Special Education Department has announced its Para Pathways Project which is now offering over 100 training modules through LRP (special education connections), which are free to all Montana school districts and available online 24 hours per day. This project is coordinated by Patrick Cates, Senior Manager of Student Support Services at OPI. The flexible learning modules include high quality content and professional development for special education teachers, para professionals, regular education teachers and administrators. Stacia encouraged everyone to review this offering and to take advantage of this service when planning district professional development.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

10. NEXT MANAGEMENT COUNCIL DATE: MARCH 12, 2025 @ 9 a.m.

OTHER

B. None

ADJOURN

C. ADJOURN: Dale Olinger called the meeting adjourned at 1:17 p.m.

Rhonda Ole
Business Manager, Attest

3/12/2025
Date

3/12/2025
Date Copies sent to JAB

Dale Olinger
Chairman

3/12/2025
Date