



Management Council Regular Meeting Minutes

Date: September 3, 2026

Time: 9:00 a.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 9:00 a.m. All motions carried unanimously unless otherwise stated.

ATTENDEES

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

GUESTS

Amanda Cyr, Superintendent, Alberton School via ZOOM
Kendal Baldwin, Superintendent, Arlee Schools

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Erin Lipkind moved to accept the Minutes of the August 12, 2026 Management Council meeting. Jim Howard- 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 September claims have not been processed yet and August year-to-date expenditures so far were \$76,607.00.
 - B. Rhonda reported a reconciled cash balance with the Missoula County Treasurers for July in the amount of \$639,048.06.
 - C. The Board approved the Business Manager to pay October claims and payroll. Erin Lipkind moved to approve the Business Manager's report. Jason Sargent- Second.

PERSONNEL REPORT

- A. Stacia Vaughn, Cooperative Director, recommended the hire of Liz Couch to assist with Physical Therapy needs up to 20 days or 150 hours for the 2026-2027 school year. Jim Howard moved to approve the hire of Liz Couch. Erin Lipkind- Second.
- B. Stacia recommended the hire of Marit Waldum to assist with School Psychology needs up to 30 days or 225 hours for the 2026-2027 school year. Jason Sargent moved to approve the hire of Marit Waldum. Logan Labbe- Second.

GRANTS/CONTRACTS

- A. None

POLICY UPDATES

- A. Policy 2015 Revision: Criminal Background Investigations. Jim Howard moved to approve the Revised Policy 2015. Logan Labbe- Second.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A. Stacia Vaughn, Cooperative Director, reported that OPI's Annual Parent Survey is mandatory for all Montana school districts, and it is available now through June 30, 2027. The Director will send the survey link and instructions to all Administrators who must then determine how to distribute it to parents of students with IEPs. OPI's statewide goal is to have a 10% response rate, and they will provide updates mid-year regarding what each district's response rate is.
- B. The Director will distribute the recording of Kaleva Law Office Principal's Academy webinar from August 2026 – it will be shared with all member school district administrators. In particular, there is relevant information for all Principals pertaining to 504s and FAPE to 22.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

6. NEXT MANAGEMENT COUNCIL DATE: 10/1/2026 @ 9:00 a.m.

OTHER

7. None

ADJOURN

8. ADJOURN: Dale Olinger called the meeting adjourned at 9:17 a.m.

Rhonda Dee

Business Manager, Attest

10/1/2026

Date

10/1/2026

Date Copies sent to JAB

Steele

Chairman

10/1/2026

Date