

Board of Public Education – MSDB Report: September 13, 2019

D/HH=Deaf or Hard of Hearing, B/VI=Blind or Visually Impaired, DB=Deafblind

**Some numbers below indicate ongoing total since the beginning of the school year*

Agenda Item	Report																																				
Numbers	<p><u>EDUCATION NUMBERS</u></p> <p><i>Blind/Low Vision Department-Anticipated</i></p> <table border="0" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>M</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>F</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>PreSchool</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Elementary (K-6)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Middle School (7-8)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>High School (9-12)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Total</td> <td style="text-align: center;">11</td> <td style="text-align: center;">6 (17)</td> </tr> </table> <p><i>Deaf/Hard of Hearing Department</i></p> <table border="0" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>M</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>F</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>PreSchool</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Elementary (K-6)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Middle School (7-8)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>High School (9-12)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">6</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Total</td> <td style="text-align: center;">9</td> <td style="text-align: center;">10 (19)</td> </tr> </table> <p><u>COTTAGE: 10 total students</u></p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">6 DHH 4 VI 1 Boys 9 Girls</p> <p><u>LEAP Program (Post-High School Transition)</u></p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">1 student (male, VI)</p> <p><u>CAMPUS VISITS* 3 total</u></p> <p>*Robert “Bob” Herbold (1956) and his family visited from Arizona this summer.</p> <p>*Deaf Family from Maryland was traveling through Montana this summer. Happened to find out about MSDB being in Great Falls and they stopped by for a quick tour.</p> <p>*Matt Meinhardt (1992) and his partner Katie (former teacher at Iowa School for the Deaf) visited the week of Orientation.</p> <p><u>CAMPUS</u></p> <p><i>Possible students for the fall:</i></p> <p><u>DHH</u></p> <p>1 male residential 12th grade 1 female residential 11th grade 1 male residential 8th grade 1 female residential 8th grade 1 female residential 5th grade 1 male day preschool <i>6 Total: 5 residential, 3 female, 3 male</i></p> <p><u>VI</u></p> <p>1 male residential 4th grade</p> <p><u>OUTREACH</u></p> <p><i>No data as school hasn’t started.</i></p> <p><u>Data as of</u></p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">*Family Contacts D/HH *School Contacts D/HH *Other Contacts D/HH</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">*Family Contacts B/VI *School Contacts B/VI *Other Contacts B/VI</p> <p><u>Data as of</u></p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">*Prof Dev In-services / *Number in Attendance</p>		<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	PreSchool	2	0	Elementary (K-6)	3	3	Middle School (7-8)	1	0	High School (9-12)	5	3	Total	11	6 (17)		<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	PreSchool	0	2	Elementary (K-6)	2	3	Middle School (7-8)	1	1	High School (9-12)	6	4	Total	9	10 (19)
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Administration	<p><u>COSB Board Meeting</u></p> <p>The summer face-to-face COSB (Council of Schools and Services for the Blind) was held at the North Dakota Vision Services. Their model is different from most schools. They are housed under their Department of Education and have regional offices around the state. They do not have a school year campus-based program. They offer short-term programming during the school year and they coordinate services for students who are blind or visually impaired around the state. They also offer programs from birth into adulthood or as their Superintendent Paul Olson likes to say, “from womb to tomb.”</p> <p>The home base for North Dakota Vision Services is housed next door to the University of North Dakota where they also house the Space Studies Program. Superintendent Olson has been instrumental in partnering with this program to provide rich educational opportunities to the students NDVS serve.</p> <p><u>Superintendent of Deaf School Western Meeting</u></p> <p>Several Superintendents met at the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind in Salt Lake City. They</p>																																				

	<p>have a new state-of-the-art facility for their gym and preschool programs. We all shared ideas and projects we hope to accomplish this year. It was wonderful to connect with peers and learn from each other.</p> <p><u>Website</u> We are very close to having our new website up and running. We are making last minute changes before we upload to our live site.</p>
Union Items	<p><u>MFPE</u> MFPE met during Orientation week on Monday. We continue to negotiate the next contract.</p> <p><u>UFCW</u> Sarah Thody, Field Representative, presented to the UFCW members on the first day of orientation. We look forward to a great year!</p>
Education Program	<p><u>Orientation</u> We have had a wonderful start to our school year with staff. A committee comprised of teachers and administrators planned the Orientation (PIR) week for staff.</p> <p>Monday, Donna Sorensen led the entire staff through Mandatory Reporting and then facilitated 15 groups visiting 15 locations on campus to discuss safety and emergency procedures in each location. Groups noted any questions or concerns and the Safety Committee will be addressing those this year.</p> <p>Tuesday, we assembled at the East Middle School computer lab to learn about Google Classroom. Lindy Hockenberry presented as she is a Google Certified Instructor. Over the summer, our own Denise Rutledge completed Level 1 of becoming a Google Certified Teacher. We continue to work out some kinks as our email domain is a .gov and not an .edu. However, many other schools for the deaf and the blind are Google schools and have alternate email domains. We hope to get this resolved soon. Once this is resolved, we will be able to utilize Google Suite. We have been working with Jeff Patterson from SchoolHouse IT in getting our Google backbone in place and will continue to work with Jeff throughout the school year. Lindy presented mini-sessions in the afternoon and she worked specifically with Outreach on some issues.</p> <p>Wednesday, we had Keith Orchard present about <i>Fostering Resilient Learners</i> by Krisin Souers and Pete Hall. We learned the definition of trauma, how trauma impacts the brain, and we discussed how trauma has impacted many of our students. This was a powerful presentation about recognizing behavior and learning that the behavior might not be related to a diagnosis and that it might be related to students not be able to identify or communicate their needs. The Education Department will be doing a book study and will continue to engage in dialogue related to trauma and stress in ourselves and in our students.</p> <p>Thursday, Marla Swanby from the Office of Public Instruction was here to help us improve our transition IEPs. We appreciated the information she shared with us as this will help us do better in our next OPI monitoring.</p> <p>On Friday, many of our staff renewed their CPR certificates.</p> <p><u>Staff Needs</u> We currently continue to seek a Health Enhancement and PE Teacher. We have interviewed several candidates for the position. One person turned down the offer because of their current family needs. There were some that the interview team did not feel would be a good fit for our school.</p> <p>Over the summer, we hired four paraeducators and substitute teachers and paras. For the first time</p>

	<p>in recent history, we also have skilled substitute teachers on staff that we will be able to call upon.</p>
Student Life Program	<p><u>National Student Life Conference</u> June 23-28, Richard Aguon, Amy Crachy, Jim Kelly and Dorothy Nutter attended the National Student Life Conference for Deaf and Hard of Hearing held in Hartford CT. The American School for the Deaf hosted this wonderful weeklong conference. There were 35 schools represented at this conference. This conference is held every two years and the information, sharing and networking is very beneficial to our Student Life Program. The next program will be hosted by the Indiana School for the Deaf in the summer of 2021.</p> <p><u>2019-2020 School Year</u> On the Student Life side the 2019-2020 school year will be an exciting year. Student and personnel changes and needs have dictated to us that a change is needed in several areas of our program. Efforts will be focused on the implementation of a new and “improved” Independent Living Skills Program. We will also continue to be student driven with our programs to meet the individual and group needs of our students.</p> <p>Student Life administration has been working hard this summer to prepare for the upcoming school year. Counselors and Lead Cottage Life Attendants will meet prior to Orientation to construct and put forward a consistent message to our students and co-workers. This will be the “student comes first” and it is our job to support them the best way we can for their future.</p> <p><u>Orientation</u> The Student Life staff spent time getting cottages ready for students. We spent significant time in safety drills and reviewing protocols for different types of situations.</p> <p><u>First Day</u> Students will arrive on Sunday, August 25. September 2 is Labor Day and there is no school. Residential students will not travel home. Various “fun” activities will be planned for the weekend and will be funded by the MSDB Foundation. The first travel day will be Friday, September 20. We will be using the same service as the previous two years. We are in the third year of our three-year contact with Helena Town Car Service. Thus far, we have been pleased with this relationship.</p>
Outreach Program	<p>DHH Outreach held the CI Saturday in Helena in July. Cochlear Implant (CI) users of all ages attended and learned how to maintain and use equipment. This day helps parents to hear from adults about the successes and struggles of being a CI user.</p> <p>VI Outreach will be holding a recertification training August 26th-30th to renew their INSITE/VIISA http://ski-hi.mystrikingly.com/blog/blind-visually-impaired information. This gives them the knowledge to train others working with babies who are blind or blind with additional disabilities.</p> <p>Outreach Consultants had 2 days on Campus for Orientation and started in-service trainings and meetings the week of August 20th. Consultants are eager to get back on the road and offer resources to students, families and schools. They are also excited to see what Google training during Orientation will have that supports Outreach.</p> <p>Over the summer, many caseloads grew from families moving into the state. We gained three new students who are Deaf-blind. We look forward to growing our skills in this field.</p>
Business	<p>Fiscal Year 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We received a supplemental fund amount of \$230,000 at fiscal year-end for the Education program. We actually used \$214,227.81 of this amount to cover increases given to the education staff in July of 2018. \$15,772.19 of these funds were unspent.

- Breakdown of fiscal year end 2019 balances:

Program	Personal Services	Less Restricted	TOTAL UNSPENT	Expenditures	Less Restricted	TOTAL UNSPENT
01 Admin	29.89		29.89	3,359.01	(3,306.28)	52.73
02 General	1,482.87		1,482.87	141,250.70	(141,161.00)	89.70
03 Student Life	50.47		50.47	87.12		87.12
04 Education	50,336.19	(47,306.19)	3,030.00	21,090.92	(21,055.74)	35.18
Total	51,899.42	(47,306.19)	4,593.23	165,787.75	(165,523.02)	264.73

- Total FY 2019 Spending was \$7,713,418.58.

Personal Services Restricted Funds	Amounts
Unused Supplemental Funds	15,772.19
Restricted Medicaid Funds	11,534.00
Newborn Health Screening Funds	20,000.00
Total	47,306.19

Expenditure Restricted Funds	Amounts
ITSD Restricted	3,306.28
FY2018 Carry-forward	141,161.00
Newborn Health Screening Funds	11,928.56
PRE-ETS Funds	9,127.18
Total	165,523.02

- The \$141,161.00 Carry-forward amount from FY 2018 has been designated to fix the cottage roofs. The Office of Budget and Program Planning has already moved that balance from FY2019 into FY2020 to be transferred to Architecture and Engineering.

Maintenance and Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Cottage Roof Project has been delayed due to unforeseen issues. The project was put out to bid and only one vendor bid on the project. The bid was awarded to this contractor. But immediately after the award, the vendor found out he had a serious health issue, so A & E allowed him to pull his bid. So at this time the project is on hold until January 2020. We decided to hold off, because we didn't want a roof put on in the fall/winter. The bidding will start again in January 2020, with a summer project timeline.
Foundation	Kathy Saunders is now onboard as our Foundation Executive Secretary. We look forward to working with her.
Calendar Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August 19-23, 2019: Orientation Week • August 25, 2019: Cottage open for returning students • August 26, 2019: First Day of School • September 2, 2019: Labor Day – No School

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 12-13, 2019: Regular BPE Meeting • September 14, 2019: EIPA Written exam in Helena • September 16, 2019: Governor’s Award Ceremony in Helena • September 20, 2019: Travel Home • September 22, 2019: Travel Return • October 7-13, 2019: COSB Leadership Institute / APH Annual Meeting in Louisville, KY • October 16, 2019: Travel Home • October 20, 201: Travel Return • October 21, 2019: MSDB Foundation Board meeting • October 25-26, 2019: Deaf Enrichment Weekend • October 30, 2019: End of First Quarter • November 7-8, 2019: Regular BPE Meeting • November 8-9, 2019: Visually Impaired Enrichment Weekend • November 26, 2019: Travel Home • December 1, 2019: Travel Return • December 18, 2019: Dress Rehearsal for Winter Program at 9am • December 19, 2019: Winter Program at 1pm • December 20, 2019: Travel Home • January 2, 2019: Travel Return
Action Item:	<p>Human Resources Hired:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erin Faulkner, Student Life Behavioral Counselor • Bobbi Fritz, Cook • Stefani Brewer, Paraeducator • Andrew Kauffman, Paraeducator • Mary Calnan-Burns, Paraeducator (background check pending) • Sydney Smail, Paraeducator (background check pending) <p>Open Positions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cottage Life Attendant (vacated by Erin Faulkner) • PE Teacher (vacated by Tyson Patterson) • Substitute positions
Action Item: Policy Work	Second Reading: Web Accessibility and Plan for New Content Policy
Action Item:	<p>Out of State Travel Requests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four (4) students and two (2) coaches traveling for the Gallaudet University Academic Bowl Regional Competition in Honolulu, Hawaii from approximately February 20-25, 2019. Approximate costs of \$6500 paid for by Gallaudet University and the Foundation. • Up to four (4) staff from VI Program or VI Outreach traveling for the Assistive Technology Industry Association (ATIA) in Orlando, FL from January 27, 2020-February 3, 2020. Approximate costs of \$5400 will be paid for by the Foundation. • Paul Furthmyre will be traveling for School Administrators of Montana on October 6-7, 2019 to Sacramento, March 23-25, 2019 to Washington DC, and July 7-9, 2020 to Washington DC. All expenses are paid for by SAM.