

Steven J. Gettel

RESUME

WORK HISTORY

- Superintendent, Montana School for the Deaf and the Blind, 2001 – Present
- Supervising Teacher, Montana School for the Deaf and the Blind, 1994 – 2001
- Teacher of the Deaf; Special Needs-High School, Montana School for the Deaf and the Blind 1988 – 1994
- Case Manager-Consultant for Home-based Services, Quality Life Concepts, 1986 – 1988
- Teacher of the Deaf; Elementary, Montana School for the Deaf and the Blind, 1982 – 1985
- Teacher of the Deaf; Middle School-High School, Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind, 1981 – 1982

EDUCATION

- University of Montana; Administrative Endorsements
- Lewis and Clark College; M.Ed. Deaf Education
- Montana State University; B.A. Speech Communication

CERTIFICATION

- Class 3 Administrative Certificate, Superintendent K-12 and Elementary Principal K-8 Endorsements
- Class I Professional Teaching Certificate, Elementary Curriculum and Special Education Endorsements
- Council on Education of the Deaf, Professional Certificate for Elementary and Secondary Education

RESPONSIBILITIES IN CURRENT POSITION

- Lead an executive branch agency with 5 program divisions and 135 employees providing home-based early intervention and consultation and technical assistance to families and local school districts state-wide, as well as education evaluation services, campus-based residential services, and education programs for preschool through post-high school blind, low vision, deaf and hard of hearing students.
- Develop budget proposals, manage biennial budgets of 13.1 million dollars, and work with the Office of Budget and Program Planning, the Legislative Services Division, and Legislators to secure sufficient funding to provide effective services for all MSDB programs.
- Develop and utilize strategic planning to improve learner outcomes and increase statewide services.
- Ensure the education program maintains accreditation through national and state accrediting bodies.
- Utilize long and short term planning to maintain school facilities and ensure a safe, secure and healthy educational environment for students and staff.

RESPONSIBILITIES IN CURRENT POSITION – Continued

- Ensure that the agency complies with all performance measures and financial procedures through the Legislative Fiscal and Audit Divisions and the Special Education Division of the Office of Public Instruction.
- Work collaboratively with its Executive Director and provide monthly reports to the Board of Public Education.
- Work collaboratively with statewide stakeholders including the Montana Association of the Deaf, the Montana Association for the Blind, the Montana Council of Administrators of Special Education, the Office of Public Instruction, and numerous bureaus in the Department of Public Health and Human Services to secure support and promote the programs and services for the school.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Led MSDB through the development and implementation of its first comprehensive education plan.
- Collaborated with 17 constituent groups to develop and implement a comprehensive strategic plan to improve services statewide for deaf and blind children.
- Partnered with the Department of Public Health and Human Services to revise state laws that created a shared data system that allows referrals from Montana's Universal Newborn Hearing Screening program to come to MSDB as the initial point of entry for home-based, early intervention and education services.
- Led MSDB through national and regional accreditation by the Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf, the National Accreditation Council for Blind and Low Vision Services, and the Northwest Association of Accredited Schools.
- Developed and implemented a plan that integrates core competencies with MSDB's human resources program.
- Collaborated with constituents, program managers, and the legislature to increase and reallocate resources for the outreach program from 7% to 23% of the school's budget, increase program staff from five to seventeen positions, and establish an equipment loan program for school districts which serve blind or visually impaired children.
- Partnered with the Board of Public Education and Office of Public Instruction to develop and implement state standards for educational interpreters and instructors of Braille in the public schools.
- Worked with the Governor's Budget Office to resolve issues with recruitment and retention by securing funding to increase the salaries of the licensed professional staff by an average of more than 20% in three years to within an average of 92% of market targets.
- Served as a director of the MSDB Foundation to help secure more than \$280,000 in grants and donations over the past 10 years for facility improvements and classroom technology and more than \$960,000 for professional development, and student activities and support.
- Worked with the Governor's Budget Office and Legislature to increase the legislative appropriation for MSDB by 170% from FY 2005 to in FY 2014.

SELECTED SERVICE

- Family Health Advisory Council “Children’s Special Health Services Advisory Subcommittee,” member
- Clerc Center “Strategic Planning Summit,” participant
- Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council “Educational Interpreter Workgroup,” member
- Montana Board of Education “Kindergarten to College Workgroup” member
- Office of Public Instruction “Assignment of Persons Providing Instruction of Braille Students Workgroup,” member
- Department of Public Health and Human Services “Universal Newborn Hearing Screening and Intervention Program Task Force,” member
- Board of Public Education “Special Purpose Schools Task Force” member
- Stephen F. Austin State University “Project Vision Advisory Board,” member
- “Idaho Special Studies Institute Advisory Board,” member
- Montana School for the Deaf and the Blind Foundation, Inc., board member
- Council of Schools for the Blind, current President
- Conference of Educational Administrators of Programs and Schools for the Deaf, past Treasurer
- Montana Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Services, past board member
- Board of Public Education “Chapter 57 Review Task Force,” member
- Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council, past member and Vice-Chairman
- Central Montana Ski Education Foundation, President
- Eagle Mount Adaptive Ski Program, volunteer

REFERENCES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST