John E. Cech  
Deputy Commissioner for Two-Year and Community College Education  
12 Month Goals  
January 1, 2011

1. Work with Montana’s two-year college leaders to develop a highly functioning cohesive team focused on developing innovative strategies, partnerships, and programs to serve Montana.  
   a. Work with Two-Year College CEOs and Tribal leaders to develop a shared mission and vision for two-year education in Montana  
   b. Develop shared goals and initiatives to help Montana’s two-year college achieve the objectives of the shared mission and vision

2. College!NOW Initiative  
   a. Assess current status of College!NOW initiative to develop baseline  
   b. Complete and revise as necessary the College!NOW strategies and “Scope of Work”  
   c. Complete and revise College!NOW Communications RFP  
   d. Review, revise, and invigorate College!NOW workgroups  
      i. Identify which workgroups are engaged and which are not  
      ii. Refine workgroup charges, goals, tasks, and timelines where needed  
      iii. Ensure regular meeting of workgroups including progress reports regarding goal obtainment  
   e. Establish dashboard indicators of success for College!NOW initiatives and review monthly with key stakeholders

3. Review with OCHE staff and make recommendations to Commissioner regarding for Two-Year open staff lines

4. Assist the Commissioner with Legislative communication issues (as guided by the Commissioner)

5. Conduct listening sessions with CEOs of: FVCC, DCC, MCC, MSUB/COT, MSUGF, UM Helena, UM-Tech/COT, UM-Missoula/COT/Bitterroot, MSU/Gallatin College Programs, UM Western, MSU Northern, and seven Tribal colleges

6. Coordinate a Statewide 2-year effort to develop proposals to pursue a statewide approach to the US Department of Labor TAACCCT grants
7. Develop and Launch a Two-Year College Vision and Branding Committee
   A shared vision, brand, and strategic plan including all MUS 2-year colleges, the three Community College Districts, and seven Tribal Colleges.
   a. Identify membership of the committee
   b. Begin work of the committee establishing goals, timeline, and plan of work

8. Carl D. Perkins and Big Sky Pathways Initiatives
   a. Become knowledgeable with responsibilities with Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act, which includes ensuring compliance with federal and state rules and regulations
   b. Establish relationships and build networks with OPI and reinvigorate the CTE State Executive Leadership Team
   c. Provide leadership and direction for statewide response to US Department of Education Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE) June 2010 audit

9. Work with Two-Year Leaders to enhance and expand dual-credit opportunities for Montana including building on partnership with Montana Digital Academy

10. Develop plan for implementation of *Paving the Way--Building a Rigorous Big Sky Pathway in Construction* which is a collaborative effort between the Montana Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education and the Montana Office of Public Instruction

11. Explore Concept of Creation of Statewide Advisory Board for Two-Year Education
    Possible membership:
    - Broad business and industry representation (e.g. MT Petroleum Association, banking, agriculture, alternative energy, mining, Montana Healthcare Assoc, etc)
    - Tribal college representation
    - AFL-CIO representation
    - State Department of Labor
    - State Department of Commerce
    - State Workforce Investment Board representation
    - Veteran’s Association