

# New Superintendent Work Session

OPI Staff  
August 14, 2023



Putting Montana Students First **A+**

# Achievement In Montana (AIM) Unit



Nicole Thuotte  
AIM Unit Manager  
406-444-2080



Jennifer Straw  
AIM Support  
406-444-0714

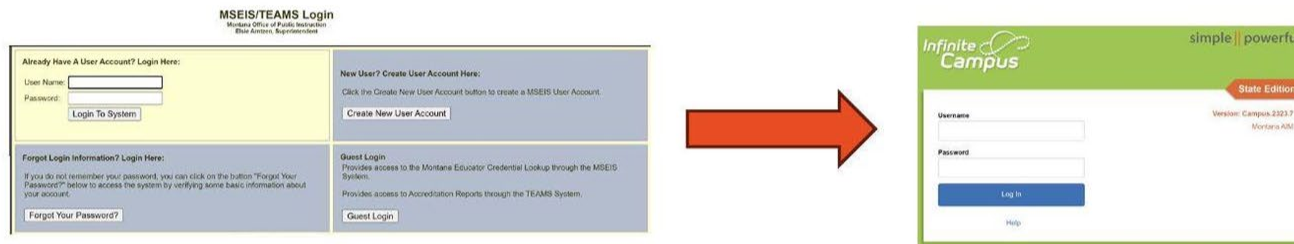


Andy Boehm  
Graduates and Dropouts  
406-444-0375



Shara Blair  
Special Education AIM Support  
406-444-0685

# HAVE YOU HEARD? TEAMS IS TRANSITIONING TO AIM!



Visit the AIM Webpage: <https://opi.mt.gov>

Leadership>Data & Reporting>AIM – Achievement in Montana

## What you need to know:

- Personnel, Course, and Calendar information will be reported through Infinite Campus for the 23-24 school year.
- Training is now available via Zoom or TEAMS OR Friday in-person sessions (see the AIM webpage for details).
- Group trainings are coming to a town near you in September (watch the AIM webpage for dates/locations)!

# Special Education



Patrick Cates

406-444-2534

Senior Manager for  
Student Support Services



Danni McCarthy

406-444-0452

Fiscal & Reporting Manager



John Gorton

406-459-4281

School Improvement Unit Manager

## **Work-Related Duties:**

1. Provide leadership and assistance to the four branches of the unit - Special Education, School Nutrition, Traffic Education, and Coordinated School Health



# Special Education Things to Remember

- IDEA Egrants Applications
- Data Collection Timelines
  - Child Count
  - Personnel
  - Exiting
  - School Discipline
  - Post School Outcomes
- Professional Learning Schedule - CSPD Regions



# Special Education Leadership Contacts

- Patrick Cates – Senior Manager – patrick.cates@mt.gov (406-594-9993)
- Danni McCarthy – Interim Special Education Director/Fiscal & Reporting Manager – dmccarthy@mt.gov (406-444-0452)
- John Gorton – School Improvement Manager – john.gorton@mt.gov (406-459-4281)
- Tammy Lysons – Continuing Education & Technical Assistance – tamara.lysons@mt.gov (406-431-2309)
- Mandi Gibbs – Early Assistance Program & Dispute Resolution – mgibbs@mt.gov (406-444-5664)
- <https://opi.mt.gov/Educators/School-Climate-Student-Wellness/Special-Education/Meet-the-Team>

# School Finance



Barbara Quinn

406-444-3249

School Finance Senior Manager

**Work-Related Duties:**

1. General School Finance questions
2. TFS/Budget
3. Taxable Value



Amanda Zigan

406-444-3096

Computer Support Specialist

**Work-Related Duties:**

1. Access to School Finance applications
2. Indirect Cost Rate application
3. Website and General questions



Andrea Mohammadi

406-444-1960

Business Analyst

**Work-Related Duties:**

1. MAEFAIRS data verification
2. Enrollment/ANB
3. Tuition



Donell Rosenthal

406-461-9316

State Pupil Transportation Specialist

**Work-Related Duties:**

1. Planning, budgeting and distribution of state transportation reimbursement.
2. Providing transportation assistance to school officials.
3. Pupil transportation state and federal laws, regulations and policies.



Kristen Becker

406-444-0701

Auditor

**Work-Related Duties:**

1. Montana School Audit reviews
2. Corrective Action Plans
3. School finance questions

# School Finance Continued



Autumn Belmont

406-444-9852  
Budget Analyst

**Work-Related Duties:**

1. Process school K-12 state aid payments
2. County
3. Budget, Bonds and Debt Service



Laci Novark

406-444-4401  
Budget Analyst

**Work-Related Duties:**

1. TFS/Budget
2. Compensation Expenditures
3. School structure changes, grade changes, and isolation



Paul Taylor

406-444-1257  
Lead Budget Analyst

**Work-Related Duties:**

1. Data requests
2. General Fund questions
3. Legislation



Renee Richter

406-444-1964  
Budget Analyst

**Work-Related Duties:**

1. TFS/Budget
2. Maefairs
3. General School Finance





## FY2024 OPI Access, Applications, and Information for District Superintendents

Action	Location	Contact
<b>New user access</b>		
Complete and submit the OPI School Finance Access form.	<a href="#">School Finance Access Request Form</a>	<a href="#">Amanda Zigan</a> (406) 444-3096
Update contact information with the OPI	<a href="#">Single Sign on Portal</a>	Select the User Access Request Forms For assistance: <a href="mailto:centralupdates@mt.gov">centralupdates@mt.gov</a>
<b>Application</b>		
Single Sign on Portal	<a href="#">Single Sign on Portal</a> This will provide links to the applications to which you already have access to and have been integrated into the portal.	<a href="#">OPI Help Desk</a> (406) 444-0087
EGrants	<a href="#">EGrants Logins/Help</a>	<a href="#">Karla Beagles</a> (406) 444-0764
MAEFAIRS	<a href="#">MAEFAIRS Login</a>	<a href="#">Amanda Zigan</a> (406) 444-3096
OPI Jobs For Teachers	<a href="#">Jobs for Teachers</a>	*Must request a login as a new clerk/superintendent. Click link to get started*
<b>Helpful Information for Superintendents</b>		
OPI Contacts	<a href="#">OPI Contacts Instructions</a>	

\*Please allow OPI personnel one full business day to respond to any voicemails or emails sent\*



# ESSER



Wendi Fawns

406-437-8595

ESSER/EANS Director

**Work-Related Duties:**

1. Review large project/purchase
2. Manage customer service policies, practices, deliverables
3. Provide and ensure compliances and communication



Rebecca Brown

406-444-0783

ESSER Program Manager

**Work-Related Duties:**

1. ESSER E-Grants Processing
2. ESSER Training/Guidance
3. ESSER Compliances and Communication



Jessika Bol

406-590-8086

Administrative Specialist

**Work-Related Duties:**

1. ESSER/EANS status tracking and compliances
2. ESSER/EANS support for ESSER/EANS team
3. ESSER general administrative duties and file/data maintenance

# Federal Programs



Jack O'Connor

406-444-3083

Federal Programs Unit Manager  
Title I Director

**Work-Related Duties:**

1. Allocates Federal Funds to Districts
2. Provides technical assistance to districts
3. Acts as the state private school ombudsman



Angela Branz-Spall

406-444-2423

Migrant Education Director

**Work-Related Duties:**

1. Supervises IDR/Data Collection MIS 2000 /MSIX
2. Subgrating/Allocations to LEA/LOA
3. Supervises Comprehensive Needs Assessment Process
4. Supervises Service Delivery Plan/Evaluation



Serena Wright

406-444-2036

State Director for Homeless Education Title I/Family Engagement Specialist

**Work-Related Duties:**

1. State Coordinator of Homeless Education
2. Title I Specialist
3. Family Engagement Coordinator



Christy Hendricks

406-444-0794

Federal Grants Coordinator

**Work-Related Duties:**

1. Review Title I, Part D; Title II, Part A and Title V federal grant applications
2. Monitor LEAs for Title I, Part D; Title II, Part A and Title V to ensure LEAs are in compliance with federal law.
3. Foster Care Point of Contact for the state of Montana

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# Egrants - Upcoming Dates

## September 1, 2023 - October 31, 2023

- September 1 - Last day to create an FY2024 Consolidated Application
- September 1 - Last day to create an FY23 Consolidated Amendment w/o OPI Approval
- September 30 - Last day to submit an FY24 Consolidated Application
- October 31 - Last day to have an approved FY24 Consolidated Application



# Licensure



Crystal Andrews

406-444-6325

Director of Accreditation, & Licensure



Virginia Sandin

406-444-3150

License Examiner



Lorri Weiss

406-444-3150

License Examiner



Bekki Flanagan

406-444-3150

License Examiner



# CTAE



Shannon Boswell  
406-444-7915  
Career Technical and  
Adult Education Director



Eric Tilleman  
406-438-6636  
Agricultural Education Specialist



Gayla Randel  
406-431-2117  
Family and Consumer  
Sciences Specialist



Jamie Corley  
406-437-2434  
Health Science Specialist



Eric Swenson  
406-444-7991  
Business Education Specialist



Kaitlin Trutzel  
406-438-0523  
Industrial Technology  
Education Specialist



Ian Beagles  
406-444-9019  
Data Control Specialist

# MEET THE REST OF THE CTAE TEAM

Katie Madsen  
406-465-1341  
Director of Adult  
Education



Emily Fuller  
406-437-2434  
Adult Education &  
HiSET Options  
Program Specialist

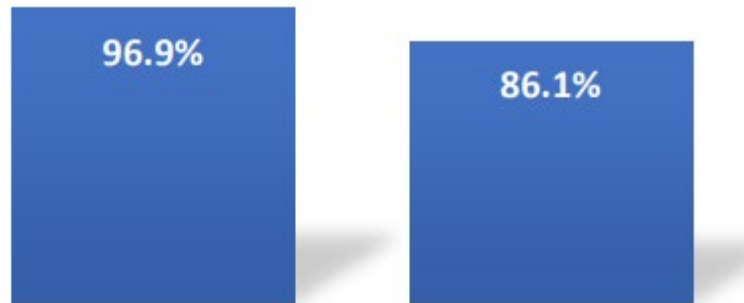


Wanda Arlint  
406-444-4151  
Adult Education  
Administrative Assistant



# What Does Career and Technical Education Provide for Learners

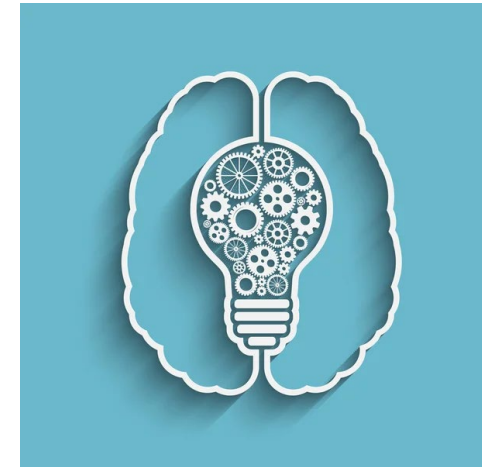
## Increases High School Graduation Rates



CTE Concentrators

All Students

**Four-year cohort graduation rate in Montana (2020-21)**



**Engages learners in developing technical, academic and employability skills while engaging in work-based experiences with industry partners.**

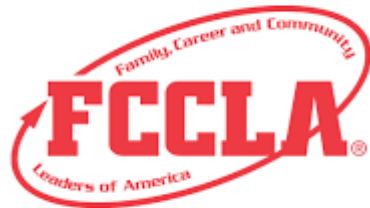


# Montana CTE by the Numbers

- 456 approved programs
- 10,237 members in our seven CTSO's
- 327 CTSO Chapters



**BUSINESS  
PROFESSIONALS  
of AMERICA**  
Giving Purpose to Potential



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# Graduation Requirements

## Economics & Financial Literacy

(h)  $\frac{1}{2}$  unit of economics or financial literacy within the 2 units of social studies, the 2 units of mathematics, or the 1 unit of career and technical education.

**July 1, 2023 Schools must be offering courses**

**July 1, 2025 Graduates must have received the  $\frac{1}{2}$  unit**



# Funding Streams for CTE



State Funding Allocation

\$1,500,000 to local programs

[Funding Page](#)

Secondary Carl Perkins Allocation

\$3,315,410.00 to local programs

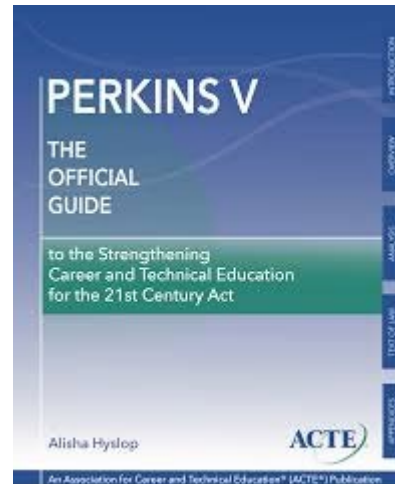


Other Sources:

Rural Reserve Grant

[Advanced Opportunities Grant](#)

[Advancing Agricultural Education](#)



[Perkins V Resource site](#)

# Work-Based Learning Manual

## WORK-BASED LEARNING MANUAL



Montana Office of Public Instruction

Career, Technical, and Adult Education Unit

Revised, October 2022

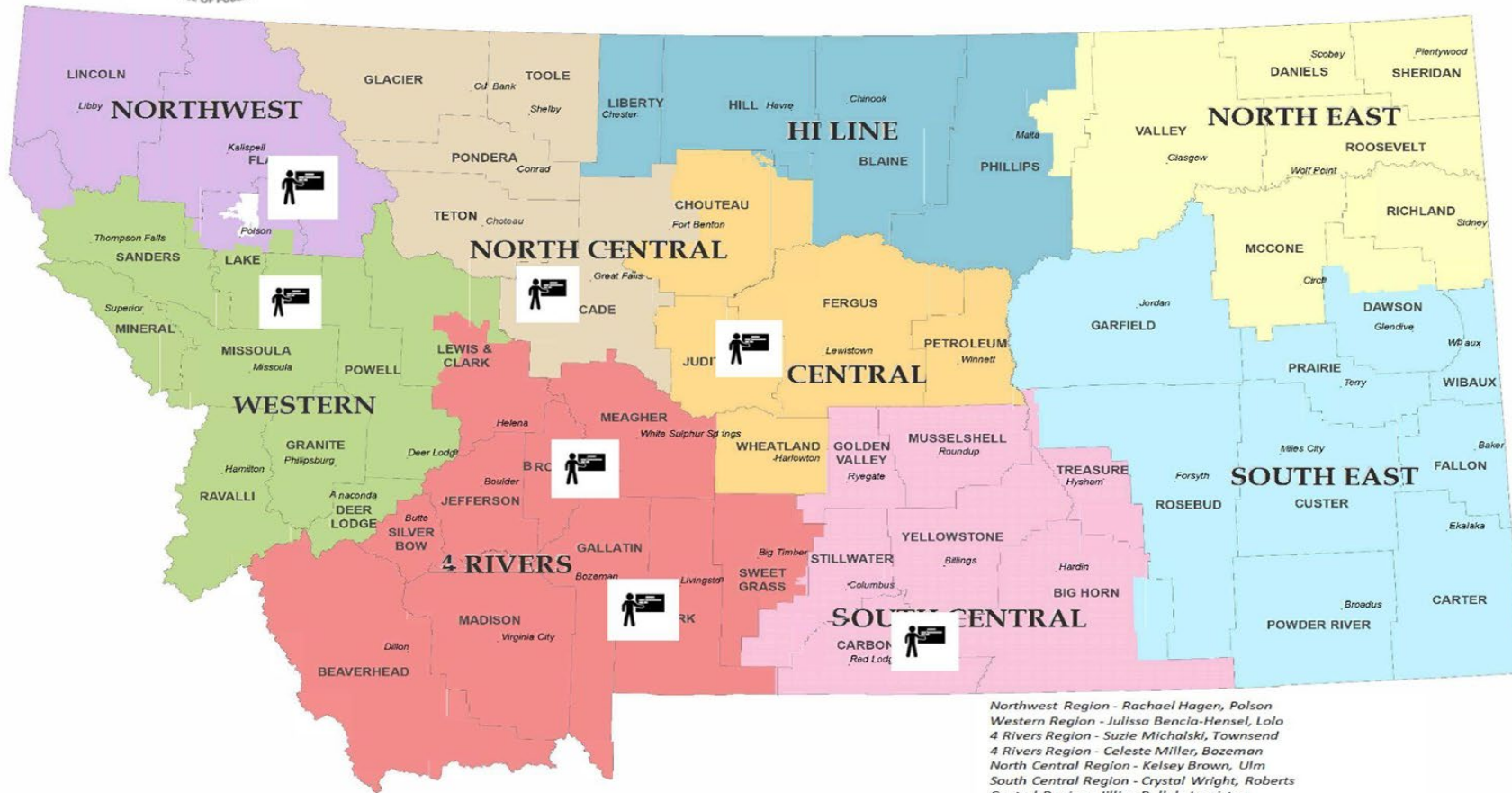
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# Montana Ready Regional Career Coaches



## *Career Coaches within the MASS*



Northwest Region - Rachael Hagen, Polson  
 Western Region - Julissa Bencia-Hensel, Lolo  
 4 Rivers Region - Suzie Michalski, Townsend  
 4 Rivers Region - Celeste Miller, Bozeman  
 North Central Region - Kelsey Brown, Ulm  
 South Central Region - Crystal Wright, Roberts  
 Central Region - Jillian Bellah, Lewiston

[MT Ready  
Resource Site](#)



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# 2023-2024 CTE- Perkins Office Hours

Starting August 23, 2023- June 26, 2024  
Wednesdays 7:00AM to 5:00PM

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Office hours will be consistent throughout the school year.  
Appointments can be made at other times by contacting specialist directly,  
or emailing [OPICTE@MT.GOV](mailto:OPICTE@MT.GOV)

# Indian Education for All



Zach Hawkins

406-444-0708

Director of Indian Education  
for All



Joan Franke

406-444-3694

Administrative Assistant



Jennifer Stadum

406-444-0725

Indian Education Specialist



Stephen Morsette

406-444-0754

Indian Education Specialist



Mike Jetty

406-444-0720

Indian Education Specialist

# Montana Autism Education Project



Doug Doty

406-459-5303

Autism Specialist



# Montana Autism Education Project



What the OPI Montana Autism Education Project Can Do For You!

Doug Doty  
Statewide Coordinator  
OPI Montana Autism Education Project



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# Resources for Educators

## In-Person and Virtual Training

### Consultations for students with an IEP

Where to find upcoming trainings and other resources

# In-person Autism and Behavior Trainings

We provide regional and district-level trainings upon request.

We often provide scholarships to conferences and trainings done by others. (MCEC, School Psychologists, Montana Speech Providers conference, etc.)

The trainings we host (PECS, STAR, etc.) can always be found on the OPI Montana Autism Education Project blog:

(<http://mtautism.opiconnect.org>)

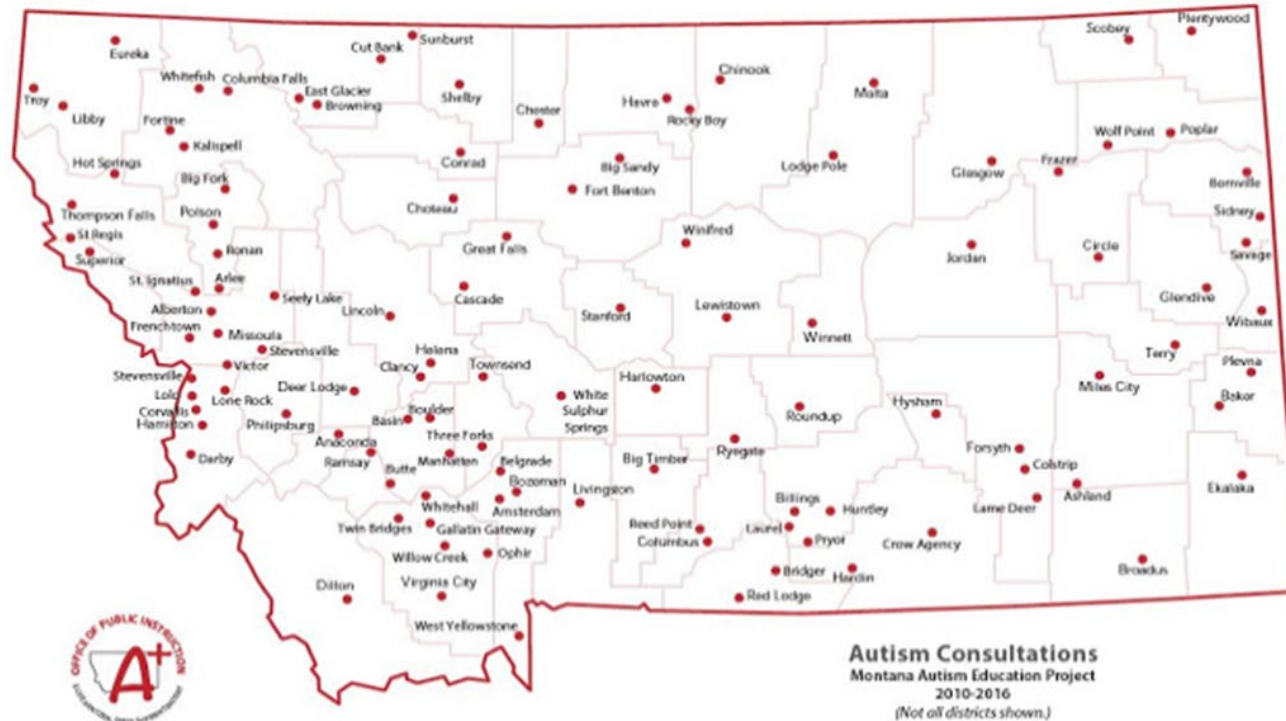
# FREE Autism and Behavior Consultations

We provide individual student consultations and consultations at the classroom level.

OPI consultants can consult on any student who is receiving special education services.



# FREE Autism and Behavior Consultations throughout the state



## FREE Autism and Behavior Consultations – who to contact

Only school district staff can request consultations.

Consultants meet with school staff at the end of the consultation visit and then send a written report.

To request a consultation visit contact Doug Doty at [ddoty@mt.gov](mailto:ddoty@mt.gov)





[mtautism.opiconnect.org](http://mtautism.opiconnect.org)

# Montana Autism Education Project

[Home](#) | [About](#)

Wednesday, October 27, 2021

## Training - Autism 101

Virtual Training

November 9th 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

December 7th 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

This training will include:

1. An infomercial for the services/resources provided by the OPI Montana Autism Education Project;
2. A quick history of autism diagnoses;
3. "Causes" of and "Cures" for autism;
4. A review of Child Count data on Montana students with autism.

(Please note – this training will NOT include a review of the OPI criteria for autism or the identification on students with autism.)

Search This Blog

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[assessment \(25\)](#)

[assistive technology \(61\)](#)

[autism history \(48\)](#)

# Accreditation



Crystal Andrews

406-444-6325

Director of Accreditation, & Licensure



Ellery Bresler

406-444-2410

Accreditation Specialist



Michelle Price

Starting 8/21/23

Accreditation Specialist





## Year 1- “Coach and Guide”

### Focus on **Support, Mechanisms and Methodology**

ISAP Components	Assurance Standards	Student Performance Standards
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CNA with Gap Analysis to set goals and academic programming</li> </ul>	<p><b>General Assurances:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School Leadership</li> <li>• Academic Requirements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Proficiency and Growth</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ SBAC</li> <li>○ MAPS</li> <li>○ I-Ready</li> <li>○ STAR</li> <li>○ Dibels</li> <li>○ Etc.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><i>A valid and reliable assessment the district is already using.</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family and Community Engagement Plan</li> <li>• Professional Development Plan</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>A Plan to Show Progress</b> with the Graduate Profile           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ (2-3 action steps to meet graduate profile)</li> <li>○ no set template- districts have flexibility to individualize</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		



# Separation of Accreditation and Annual Data Collection

Annual Data Collection will still take place in the fall

- Moving from TEAMS to Infinite Campus (TOE, Teacher-Class, etc)
  - **Compensation Expenditure TOE for FY2023 (Due in December) will still take place in TEAMS**
  - Please contact Nicole Thuotte and the AIM Team for questions on that process.
- New Accreditation platform ready in January - Expected Accreditation **Due date is March 29th.**
  - Licensing deadline for accreditation purposes only.
  - All pieces for accreditation purposes only will be entered into this platform
  - We will pull the data needed from Infinite Campus into new system



# New Rules & Changes

## Rules with Significant Changes

- 10.55.601 - Accreditation Standards: Procedures
- 10.55.604 - Variance to Standards
- 10.55.901 - Basic Education Program: Elementary
- 10.55.902 - Basic Education Program: Junior High School, 7th and 8th Grade Program, or Middle School
- 10.55.904 - Basic Education Offerings: High School

## New Rules

- 10.55.608 - Charter School Application
- 10.55.722 - Family and Community Engagement
- 10.55.723 - Mentorship and Induction
- 10.55.724 - Evaluation
- 10.55.806 - English Learners





# Rules with Significant Changes

## 10.55.601 - Accreditation Standards: Procedures

- Districts will be required to submit an integrated strategic action plan. (ISAP) This will replace the continuous school improvement plan.
  - Each plan shall include:
    - A district Graduate Profile
    - The districts educational goals
    - Planned progress toward implementing all content and program area standards
    - Strategies for assessing student progress toward meeting all content standards
    - Professional Development
    - A description of how they will meet programmatic requirements of state and federal grants
    - Strategies for addressing the needs of gifted and talented students, children with disabilities, and English learner students



# Rules with Significant Changes Continued

## 10.55.604 - Variance to Standards

- The biggest change for districts is the due date which will now be the **Second Monday in October** for the current academic year.

## 10.55.901 - Basic Education Program: Elementary

- An elementary school shall have an education program aligned to the program area standards that enables students to meet the content standards and content-specific grade-level or grade-band learning progressions and recognizes the distinct and unique cultural heritages of American Indians.
- Instruction in reading literacy and writing literacy shall be incorporated into all required and elective program areas as required in the Montana Content Standards.



# Rules with Significant Changes Continued

## 10.55.902 - Basic Education Program: Junior High School, 7th and 8th Grade Program, or Middle School

- To earn accreditation for its junior high school, 7th and 8th grade program, or middle school, the school district must have an education program aligned to the program area standards that enables all students to meet the content standards and content-specific grade-level or grade-band learning progressions and recognizes the distinct and unique cultural heritages of American Indians.
- To earn accreditation for its junior high school, 7th and 8th grade program, or middle school, the school district must have an education program aligned to the program area standards that enables all students to meet the content standards and content-specific grade-level or grade-band learning progressions and recognizes the distinct and unique cultural heritages of American Indians.



# Rules with Significant Changes Continued

## 10.55.904 - Basic Education Offerings: High School

- The basic education program, aligned to the program area standards, for grades 9 through 12 shall be at least 20 units of coursework that enable all students to meet the content standards and content-specific grade-level or grade-band learning progressions and recognizes the distinct and unique cultural heritages of American Indians.
- Instruction in reading literacy and writing literacy shall be incorporated into all required and elective program areas as required in the Montana Content Standards, ARM Title 10, chapter 53
- New Minimum offerings
  - 3 units of social studies (including 1/2 unit of Civics or Government);
  - 1/2 unit of economics or financial literacy within the 3 units of social studies, the 3 units of mathematics, or the 2 units of career and technical education.
    - **Extended in Graduation Requirements (10.55.905). The first group to have it on transcripts is the Senior class of 2026. You will still need to offer this.**

# Google Site for updates

## School Accreditation

### New Superintendent Work Session - August 14th 12:30 - 2:00PM

Please join the OPI staff for a work session that will benefit new (and veteran) superintendents. This session is for district level and county superintendents. The OPI will have staff from accreditation, licensure, AIM, and school finance. At this time, you can create your logins and gain insight into deadlines and expectations at the district level. Come with questions or send questions to [OPIAccred@mt.gov](mailto:OPIAccred@mt.gov) that you would like to see addressed.

No RSVP is needed. This session will be recorded however it is a great opportunity to interact with those you will be working with at the OPI.

<https://mt.gov.zoom.us/j/82411018734?pwd=QmFUUVkpWR3hCaW4zd3dBYUVDWnpaUT09>

ACCREDITATION FY24 PROCESS & GUIDANCE  
WEBSITE



# Next Steps

## Virtual Office Hours Via Zoom

- Summer Tuesdays 10:30 - 12:00 starting July 11th - August
- Academic Year Tuesdays 3:00 - 4:30 September - March

## Professional Development:

- July 25th - 26th (in Person @ SAM Administrators Institute): Overview of Accreditation Changes and Open Q&A
- August 14th (Virtual): Work Session for New Superintendents
- September 28th - 29th (Hybrid in Butte): ISAP & Rubric Scoring, CNA, & Stakeholder Engagement
- October 18th - 20th (Hybrid in Billings @ MCEL): Graduate Profile, Family & Community Engagement, the ISAP
- November TBD (Hybrid in Helena): IEFA & The New Accreditation Data Collection Tool
- January 25th - 26th (Hybrid in Great Falls): Student Performances, Professional Development, & Rubric Scoring
- February 20th - 22nd (Virtual): All Day Work Sessions
- March 1st (in Person): All Day Work Sessions
- March 5th - 7th (Virtual): All Day Work Sessions

# Assessment

We are here to help. Contact us.

**Assessment Help Desk: 1-844-867-2569**



Cedar Rose

406-444-0733

Assessment Director



Marcy Fortner

406-444-3511

Assessment Specialist



Shantel Niederstadt

406-444-3450

NAEP State Coordinator



Tressa Graveley

406-444-4524

Assessment Specialist

# Traffic Education



Dwight Nelson

406-422-3944

Montana Traffic Education Director  
Montana DRIVE Supervisor



LeAnn Haas

406-444-4432

Program Specialist



# School Nutrition



Christine Emerson

406-444-2502  
School Nutrition  
Programs Director



Erin Turner

406-559-7588  
School Nutrition  
Programs Assistant Director

OPI School Nutrition Staff are here to help:

Call OPI School Nutrition Programs at 406-444-2501

[School Nutrition Programs Checklist](#)

[Administrative Update Packet for Schools](#)

[MAPS User Access Request Form](#)

# School Mental Health

OPI Staff are here to help:

[Michele Henson](#), School Safety Program Manager - 406.595.1058