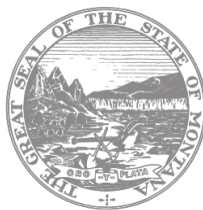


Elsie Arntzen, Superintendent

PO Box 202501
Helena, MT 59620-2501
406.444.5643
In-State Toll-free: 1.888.231.9393
TTY Users: 406.444.0235
opi.mt.gov

OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
STATE OF MONTANA

Putting Montana Students First **A+**



MEETING PROJECT NAME: Education Advocates Meeting

DATE OF MEETING: July 9, 2019

TIME: 9:02 AM – 9:40 AM

LOCATION: OPI – 1201 11th Avenue Conference Room

ATTENDEES:

PRESENT

Pete Donovan, Executive Director, Board of Public Education (BOPE)

Dennis Parman, Executive Director, Montana Rural Education Association (MREA)

Laura Sankey Keip, Attorney, Legislative Services (via computer)

OPI STAFF

Elsie Arntzen, State Superintendent

Julia Swingley, Chief Legal Counsel

Susie Hedalen, Deputy Superintendent for Education Services

Dylan Klapmeier, Director of Communications and Federal Regulations

Tracy Moseman, Health Enhancement Manager

Tara Dempsey, Project Manager

NOTE: The July Education Advocates meeting was moved up by one week due to the public hearing held by the Department of Public Health and Human Services on Thursday, July 11, 2019. Although an updated meeting invitation was sent to the Education Advocates changing the meeting date, **not everybody on the distribution list received the meeting notice and we apologize for that error.**

RECORD KEEPER

Virginia Díaz, Administrative Clerk, Office of Public Instruction



TOPIC & PRESENTER INFO

ESSA Update, Susie Hedalen

- The U.S. Department of Education has approved the OPI's ESSA amended State plan (approval letter follows).
- Updates are posted to the OPI's web site on [the ESSA page](#).

TOPIC & PRESENTER INFO

Adoption of New Rules I through IV, amendments and repeal to existing ARMs pertaining to healthy learning environments in Montana public schools, Tracy Moseman & Julia Swingley

- DPHHS was initially scheduled to attend the Education Advocates meeting and present information regarding the ARM Proposal; after notice of the meeting was given, DPHHS declined to attend and present.
- The OPI will request the Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) extend the comment period beyond the current close date of July 19, 2019 for the above-mentioned items, to allow time for clarification from DPHHS on enforcement & follow-up of new rules.
- [DPHHS Notice of ARM Proposal with Public Hearing healthy learning environments](#).
- [Education Advocates Meeting can be listened to at this link](#).



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

JUL - 1 2019

The Honorable Elsie Arntzen
Superintendent
Montana Office of Public Instruction
P.O. Box 202501
Helena, MT 59620

Dear Superintendent Arntzen:

I am writing in response to the Montana Office of Public Instruction's (OPI) request on June 10, 2019, to amend its approved consolidated State plan under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act. Prior to implementing any revisions to its approved consolidated State plan, a State must submit its proposed amendments to the U.S. Department of Education (the Department) for review and approval.

I have determined that the amended request meets the requirements in the ESEA and, for this reason, I am approving Montana's amended State plan. A summary of Montana's amendment is enclosed. This letter, as well as Montana's revised ESEA consolidated State plan, will be posted on the Department's website. Any further requests to amend Montana's ESEA consolidated State plan must be submitted to the Department for review and approval.

Please be aware that approval of Montana's consolidated State plan is not a determination that all the information and data included in the State plan comply with Federal civil rights requirements, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. It is Montana's responsibility to comply with these civil rights requirements.

Please note the submission of the approved amendment to the consolidated State plan also fulfills the terms of the condition the Department placed on Montana's fiscal year 2018 Title I, Part A grant. As a result of the approval of this amendment, the condition is removed.

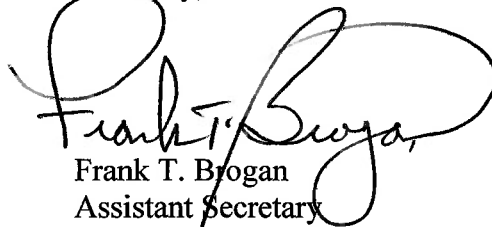
400 MARYLAND AVE., SW, WASHINGTON, DC 20202
<http://www.ed.gov/>

The Department of Education's mission is to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.

Page 2 – The Honorable Elsie Arntzen

Thank you for the work that OPI has put into your consolidated State plan under the ESEA. If you need any assistance regarding the implementation of your ESEA consolidated State plan, please contact Lakesha McKenzie of my staff at: Montana.oese@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank T. Brogan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Frank T. Brogan
Assistant Secretary
for Elementary and Secondary Education

Enclosure

cc: Susie Hedalen, Deputy Superintendent of Education Services, OPI

Amendment to Montana's Consolidated State Plan

The following is a summary of Montana's amendment request. Please refer to the Department's website at <https://www2.ed.gov/admins/lead/account/stateplan17/map/mt.html> for Montana's complete consolidated State plan.

- Disproportionate Rates of Access to Educators (ESEA section 1111(g)(1)(B))

Montana amended its plan to describe how low-income and minority children enrolled in schools assisted under Title I, Part A of the ESEA are not served at disproportionate rates by ineffective teachers and inexperienced teachers.