

Elsie Arntzen, Superintendent

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OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
STATE OF MONTANA

Putting Montana Students First **A+**



MEETING PROJECT NAME: Education Advocates Meeting
DATE OF MEETING: September 15, 2020
TIME: 9:30 AM – 10:10 AM
LOCATION: Zoom Meeting

ATTENDEES:

PRESENT

Dan Rask, Executive Director, Montana Small School Alliance (MSSA)
Dianne Burke, Executive Director, Montana Quality Education Coalition (MQEC)
Paul Furthmyre, Superintendent Montana School for the Deaf and the Blind (MSDB)
Angela McLean, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE)
Peter Donovan, Executive Director, Board of Public Education (BOPE)
McCall Flynn, Education Policy Advisor, Governor's Office
Pad McCracken, Legislative Services
Dennis Parman, Executive Director, Montana Rural Education Association (MREA)
Emily Dean, Director of Advocacy, Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA)
Jule Walker, Field Specialist, MTSBA
Katie Rubinger, Legislative Assistant, Senator Tester's Office
Kirk Miller, Executive Director, School Administrators of Montana (SAM)
Marco Ferro, Public Policy Director, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)
Mark Beckman, Executive Director, Montana High Schools Association (MHSA)

OPI STAFF

Elsie Arntzen, State Superintendent
Sharyl Allen, Deputy Superintendent
Tim Johnson, Deputy Superintendent
Dylan Klapmeier, Director of Communications and Federal Regulations
Ken Bailey, Chief Financial Officer
Jack O'Connor, Title I Federal Programs Manager

RECORD KEEPER

Virginia Díaz, Administrative Clerk, Office of Public Instruction

TOPIC & PRESENTER INFO

Education Interim, Pad McCracken, Tim Johnson

- Overview of the list committee bills. Available on the Montana State Legislature website, [Education Interim Committee page](#), under the “Legislation” tab. Some focus is on:
 - Revising special education funding; including the special education allowable cost payment in the definition of “base aid”; establishing a method for calculating the total special education allocation; applying the inflation factor calculated under 20-9-326 to the total special education allocation for determining the present law base. [Link to PD 0001 Bill Draft](#).
 - Revising school funding laws related to children in children’s psychiatric hospitals and residential treatment facilities; clarifying that Medicaid does not provide funding for the educational costs of students in children’s psychiatric hospitals and residential treatment facilities. [Link to PD 0012 Bill Draft](#).
 - An act temporarily redirecting and statutorily appropriating technology funding to e-rate broadband matching funds; providing an appropriation. [Link to PD 002 Bill Draft](#)
 - Requiring trustees to allow children of military families that are relocating to Montana under military orders to preliminarily enroll in classes prior to establishing residency. [Link to PD 0022 Bill Draft](#)

TOPIC & PRESENTER INFO

BOPE Action Related to Accreditation Status, Sharyl Allen

- Reviewed the BOPE determination regarding Accreditation Status for schools and districts at their September 10, 2020 meeting. Materials follow.
- Chapter revisions:
 - 58 – Educator Preparation Programs, approved in the BOPE September 10, 2020 meeting
- Future request of BOPE for Chapter revisions:
 - 55 – Accreditation
 - 57 - Licensing

TOPIC & PRESENTER INFO

ESSER Dollars, Equitable Shares, Ken Bailey, Jack O’Connor

- Requested data: How many schools, and which schools, were impacted by the court ruling to change the calculation of equitable shares?
- Jack O’Connor shared more information on school use of ESSER funds.

TOPIC & PRESENTER INFO

Other business

- Update by the Governor’s Office regarding the Outbreak Response Protocols for K-12 and DPHHS posting positive COVID-19 cases data in school populations on the DPHHS demographics web page.

[Full Education Advocates meeting can be listened to at this link](#)