



Montana
Office of Public Instruction
Elsie Arntzen, Superintendent

67TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION
END-OF-SESSION WRAP-UP

April 26th, 2021

"Putting Montana Students First!"

67th LEGISLATURE WRAP-UP FROM THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

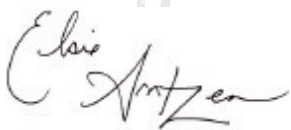
Thank you, Montana Legislators, for your dedication to building a better Montana during this 67th Legislative session and **putting Montana students first** in your home districts throughout the interim. As a fellow legislator of 12 years following my 23 year public school teaching career, I appreciate your commitment to adequately funding Montana schools, offering all of Montana's students new educational opportunities this session all under the lens of school safety during this uncertain time.

As my third legislative session as Montana's elected Superintendent of Public Instruction comes to a close, it has been my great honor to work alongside each of you. My team of experts here at the Office of Public Instruction (OPI) have compiled informational updates regarding education legislation outcomes. We are also providing you with an update on major activities within OPI, the State Board of Land Commissioners, and last but not least the federal Covid-19 relief funds awarded to Montana in the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Act (ESSER) I, II, and III and Emergency Assistance for Nonpublic Schools (EANS).

The OPI is charged with implementing the Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) adopted by the Montana Board of Public Education. Included in these rules are Chapter 55 (Accreditation), Chapter 57 (Educator Licensure) and Chapter 58 (Educator Preparation Programs). The OPI is currently in the research and review phase to recommend updated language for each of the three chapters. The goal of the updated rules will be to provide more flexibilities while still maintaining high quality educators and schools for Montana's students. During April and May, the agency will be soliciting feedback from stakeholders via a survey and focus groups to inform the revision process. Please visit OPI's website for up-to-date information on the process, and how you can provide feedback.

Thank you for joining me in **putting Montana students first** this legislative session!

Blessings to you and your families,



Elsie Arntzen
State Superintendent

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Education in Montana

For a full overview of education in Montana, visit the [OPI's website](#):

- A quality public education system is a value enshrined in Article X of Montana's Constitution.
- Funding for education is the single largest appropriation from Montana's general fund; 43% of a school's funding is derived from the state, and this year that equates to \$2.6 Billion.
- Montana currently has 826 public schools within 401 school districts.
- Montana's public school enrollment as of 2020 is 145,598; Montana's home-school enrollment is 9,868; and enrollment in private schools is 7,600.
- Due to the Coronavirus, the Montana Office of Public Instruction received federal waivers for the school nutrition program for the 2020-21 and summer of 2021 school year. These waivers provide funding for every public school and community-partner sponsor of the free and reduced-price lunch program.
- Due to the Coronavirus, the Montana Office of Public Instruction successfully applied for and received waivers for the 2019-2020 school year to suspend federally mandated assessment federal assessment waivers for the 2019-2020 school year. The OPI applied for federal assessment waivers for the 2020-21 school year but was declined. As a result, the test was shortened, the medical waivers were granted and the mandated 95% participation was waived.
- Student demographics: white 78.1%; American Indian 10.8%; Hispanic 5.2%; other 5.9%.
- Schools with 50 or less students make up 40% of the schools in Montana.
- The graduation rate for Montana high school students in 2020 was 85.95%; and the graduation rate from Montana's Native American high school seniors has continued to rise with 68.27% graduating in 2020.
- Montana has approximately 16,000 licensed K-12 educators.
- The average student to teacher ratio in Montana is 13 to 1.
- State Trust Lands produced \$41,186,280 for MT schools in 2020, down from \$45,980,220 in 2019.
- In Spring of 2020 OPI received and distributed \$41,295,230 in federal COVID relief funds to Montana schools (ESSER I).
- In January 2021 OPI received \$170,099,465 in addition federal COVID relief funds to be distributed to Montana schools (ESSER II).
- In March 2021, the OPI received \$382,019,236 of federal COVID relief funds to be distributed to Montana Schools (ESSER III).
- In March of 2021 OPI also received \$19,816,931 under the Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools (EANS) to be distributed to Montana private and home schools.

Superintendent Arntzen's Initiatives to Make Montana Proud:



- Family, student, and community engagement
- Safety, Mental Health, and Suicide Prevention



- Celebrating teacher excellence and extending leadership opportunities
- Teacher Retention and Recruitment



- Closing achievement gaps
- Improving math and reading with a focus on middle schools.



- STEM, CTE, and workforce development emphasis beginning in middle school
- Expanding industry, military, and post secondary partnerships

The Board of Public Education



(Superintendent Arntzen, Executive Director McCall Flynn, and Senator Dan Salomon with two new BPE members; Mary Heller, and Jane Lee Hamon)

Mission Statement:

The Montana Constitution created and empowered the Board of Public Education to supervise, serve, maintain, and strengthen Montana's system of free quality public elementary and secondary schools.

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The OPI's Capitol Connections:

Education Caucus Meetings

Education Caucus meetings were held in Room 335 every other Tuesday of the session at 7:00AM. The meetings focused on legislation collaboration between the OPI, legislators, and other educational organizations.

Tribal Education Caucus Meetings

The Tribal Education Caucus met virtually via zoom at 4:00 PM each Thursday of the session. Attendees discussed and identified opportunities for education issues facing Montana Tribal communities. OPI experts in American Indian culture and heritage shared on available resources, current opportunities and informational presentations in support of Native American students.

Weekly Meetings with Legislative Pages

Every Tuesday morning from 8:00 to 8:30AM, Superintendent Arntzen met with Legislative Pages over hot apple fritters in Room 335 at the Montana capitol sharing about her role as State Superintendent and listening to the Pages' experiences in education and civic service.



(Superintendent Arntzen with Misty Kuhl, Governor Gianforte's Director of Indian Affairs.)



(Legislative pages with Representative Duram)



(Rep. Walsh, Sen. Temple, and Senator Lange with Superintendent Arntzen)

Superintendent Arntzen's Additional Capitol Events:

- December 30th Superintendent Arntzen hosted the ABC's of School Funding webinar here: <http://opi.mt.gov/Leadership/Finance-Grants/School-Finance/About-School-Finance>
- January 4th Superintendent Arntzen was sworn into her second term at the state capitol.
- January 4th Superintendent Arntzen held a virtual [Safely Reopening Schools Panel](#).
- January 28th Superintendent Arntzen attended Governor Gianforte's State of the State Address
- February 11th Superintendent Arntzen delivered the 2021 [State of Education Address](#).
- March 26th Superintendent Arntzen hosted a Montana Ready Rotunda Event, promoting industry partnerships with organizations like the Montana Contractors Association and the Montana Equipment Dealers Association's "Build Montana" Program and the Montana Chamber of Commerce's Youth Entrepreneurship Program.
- March 31st Superintendent Arntzen displayed a video documentary honoring [Women Leaders in Montana Government](#), created by the OPI's Digital Communications Team.
- Superintendent Arntzen hosted a National ROTC scholarship presentation ceremony in the Old Supreme Court for two Montana High School seniors, Claire Downing and Logan Vandenburg.
- April 16th Superintendent Arntzen coordinated a [Governor's Proclamation](#) with Governor Gianforte, proclaiming April as Month of the Military Child and April 16th Purple Up Day.



(Superintendent Arntzen and Governor Gianforte with Skills Montana Student Representatives)

(Superintendent Arntzen with the two Naval Reserve Officers' Training Corps Scholarship recipients.)



Montana Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission 2020 Purple Star Award Recipients

Principal Joel Auers
Glacier High School
375 Wolfpack Way
Kalispell, MT 59901

Principal Kim Ray
Loy Elementary
501 57th Street North
Great Falls, MT 59405

Principal Tara Rosipal
North Middle School
2601 8th Street NE
Great Falls, MT 59404

Principal Kerry Parsons
CMR High School
228 17th Avenue NW
Great Falls, MT 59404

Principal Healey Glessner
Valley Christian School
2526 Sunset Lane
Missoula, MT 59804

Purple Up! For Military Kids
Red + White + Blue = Purple
Friday, April 16, 2021

Military members and military-connected families make many sacrifices for the security and safety of our nation, specifically military-connected children during their K-12 careers. April is designated as the *Month of the Military Child* or **"Purple Up! For Military Kids."**

*Please join me in celebrating our military children and families this month by wearing the enclosed purple ribbon or a purple item of clothing on **Friday, April 16th**, and light up social media with **purple**.*



Stars and Stripes Initiative

As part of Superintendent Elsie Arntzen's revitalization of the state education standards, she has unrolled the stars and stripes program in conjunction with the updated social studies curriculum.

- A** Honors veterans and creates strong civic engagement in the classroom
- A** Nearly \$2,000 has been raised
- A** American Legion of Montana adopted the initiative at their 2020 annual meeting
- A** Visit <http://opi.mt.gov/Leadership/Management-Operations/Office-of-the-Superintendent/Stars-Stripes-Initiative> to honor our military by donating or learn more



SUPERINTENDENT'S AWARDS FOR INFLUENCE IN EDUCATION



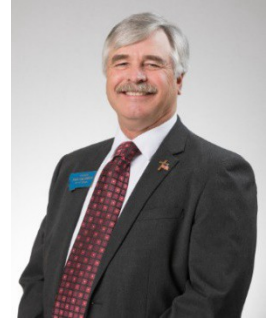
Rep. Seth Berglee
Joliet



Sen. Bob Keenan
Big Fork



Rep. David Bedey
Hamilton



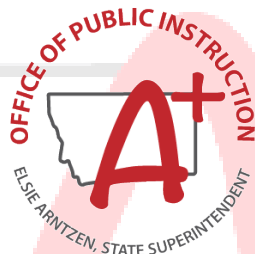
Sen. Dan Salomon
Ronan



Rep. Fred Anderson
Great Falls



Rep. Llew Jones
Conrad



*(L to R: Rep. Tom Welch, Sen. Jeff Welborn, Mr. Trent Gibson, Rep. Ken Walsh and Superintendent Arntzen **Front Row:** Montana Youth Challenge Academy Cadets following the bill signing for HB 556 authorizing alternative diplomas.)*

Montana Hope Awards



Rep. Neil Duram, Eureka

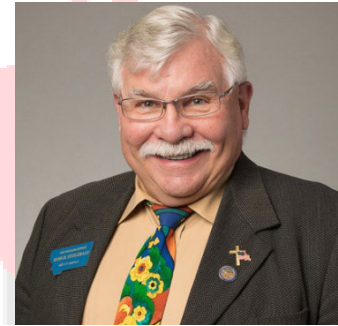


Rep. Sue Vinton, Billings

Montana Teach Awards



Rep. Bob Phalen, Glendive



Rep. Ross Fitzgerald, Fairfield

Montana Learn Awards



Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy,
Box Elder



Rep. Katie Zolnikov, Billings

Montana Ready Awards



Rep. Marta Bertoglio, Clancy



Rep. Ken Walsh, Twin Bridges

The Native American Caucus:

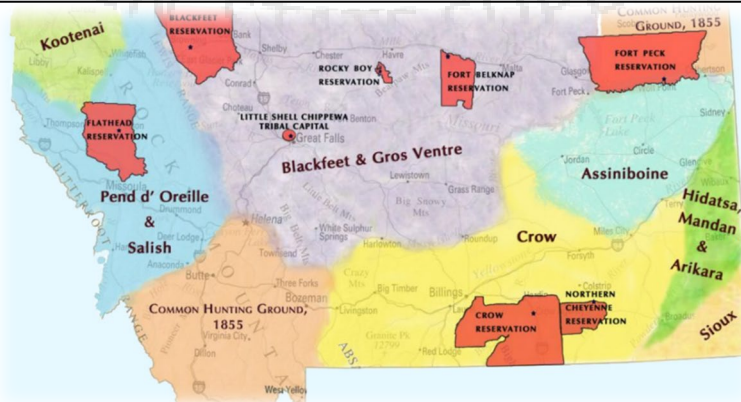


From Left to Right:

1st Row: Sen. Susan Webber (Browning), Sen. Mike Fox (Hays), Sen. Jason Small (Busby), Sen. Shane Morigeau (Missoula)

2nd Row: Rep. Marvin Weatherwax (Browning), Rep. Rynalea Whiteman Pena (Lame Deer), Rep. Frank Smith (Poplar), Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (Box Elder)

3rd Row: Rep. Rhonda Knudsen (Culbertson), Rep. Tyson Running Wolf (Browning), Rep. Donavon Hawk (Butte), Rep. Sharon Stewart-Peregoy.



General Fund Budget Overview:

OPI Funding in HB2 as of 4/15/2021

Program 6: State Level Expenditures

	<u>FY 2022</u>	<u>FY 2023</u>	<u>Total</u>
Starting Point	10,842,279	10,842,279	21,684,558
Statewide Present Law Adjustments	390,196	404,845	795,041
Fully Fund Audiological Services	25,460	36,129	61,589
Vacancy Savings	113,317	113,604	226,921
CTE FTE for HB351/HB387	86,764	86,827	173,591
SWPLA Fixed Cost Reductions	(2,501)	(4,026)	(6,527)
Move FFA to Funding for CTSO to Program 9	(53,000)	(53,000)	(106,000)
Reduce GF Budget for State Share Holiday	(129,075)	0	(129,075)
NRIS/GIS State Fixed Costs	517	517	1,034
MTDA Additional Titles (OTO)	130,000	0	130,000
MTDA Indian Language Titles (OTO)	80,000	0	80,000
MTDA Inflationary Increase for Technology	29,895	30,120	60,015
MT Indian Language Preservation (OTO)	<u>750,000</u>	<u>750,000</u>	<u>1,500,000</u>
HB 2 for OPI Program 6	<u>12,263,852</u>	<u>12,207,295</u>	<u>24,471,147</u>

The Subcommittee increased general fund FTE by 1.0 for Transformational Learning/Advanced Opportunities

Program 9: Funds distributed to school districts.

	<u>FY 2022</u>	<u>FY 2023</u>	<u>Total</u>
Starting Point	845,956,741	845,956,741	1,691,913,482
K-12 BASE Aid Inflationary Increase	14,289,819	54,959,895	69,249,714
NRD K12 Facilities Payment (Major Maintenance)	2,336,000	2,070,000	4,406,000
Comprehensive School & Community Treatment	2,235,578	0	2,235,578
State Transformational Learning Aid	2,123,916	2,155,760	4,279,676
State Advanced Opportunities Aid	1,673,558	2,547,973	4,221,531
In-State Treatment Appropriation Increase	309,107	336,276	645,383
State Tuition Appropriation Increase	157,956	152,251	310,207
At Risk Inflationary Increase	84,630	231,804	316,434
National Board Certification Stipends	75,000	100,000	175,000
State Lands Block Grants	75,000	75,000	150,000
CTE State Match	(500,000)	(500,000)	(1,000,000)
Separate CTSO Funding; Move FFA to Funding for CTSO	553,000	553,000	1,106,000
Indian Language Immersion Program	48,500	48,500	97,000
School Safety Grants	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>200,000</u>
HB 2 for OPI Program 9	<u>869,518,805</u>	<u>908,787,200</u>	<u>1,778,306,005</u>
HB 2 Total for OPI	<u>881,782,657</u>	<u>920,994,495</u>	<u>1,802,777,152</u>

LAND BOARD

The Land board oversees DNRC's management of Trust Land Resources

- 5.2 Million Surface Acres
- 6.2 Million Mineral Acres

2020

Active Timber Sales	64
Current Oil & Gas Leases	1,298
Current Coal Leases	31
Current Ag/Grazing Leases	8,926
Active Residential Leases	517
Active Commercial Leases	123
Cabin Sites Sold	41
Rights of Way Processed	238
Active Land Use Licenses	764
Land Banking Sites Sold	12
Tree Seedlings Planted	326,926
Timber Harvested (MMBF)	45.3

Revenues – Common Schools:

- Leases, Bonuses & Timber Sales: \$39,436,000 (approx.)
- Mineral royalties & Right of Way: \$23,575,800 (approx.)

**Source – Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Annual Report Fiscal Year 2020
Trust Lands Management Division**

Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief (ESSER)

Montana schools have received three waves of funding from the federal government to combat the effects of COVID-19. The funding has come through the Department of Education under the umbrella of the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) program. The three bills that appropriated this funding and the amount allocated to Montana for ESSER are

Act	Date Passed	MT ESSER Allocation
Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES)	March, 2020	\$ 41,295,230
Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA)	December, 2020	\$170,099,465
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)	March, 2021	\$382,019,236

These three funding streams are referred to as ESSER I, ESSER II, and ESSER III. For each grant, ninety percent of the funds must be allocated directly to school districts. An amount equal to one half percent of the grant amount can be used by the OPI for administration of the grant. The remaining nine and one half percent is assigned to the OPI to be used where it can do the most good in public schools to combat the pandemic. For ESSER I this determination was done by the agency, but for ESSER II and ESSER III, the general uses of the grant funds were addressed by the legislature. The OPI worked with MT PEC, the education advocates organizations in Montana, to arrive at a consensus recommendation to the legislature for these uses. The consensus recommendation was accepted by the Joint Education Subcommittee and included in HB 630 and HB 632 as shown in the following table:

ESSER Funding Summary for Montana K 12 Public Schools

	ESSER I	ESSER II /HB 630	ESSER III /HB 632	Total
Basic Allocation to School Districts	37,165,707	153,089,519	343,817,312	534,072,538
Special Education - Related Services	3,000,000	0	0	0
Supplemental Allocation to School Districts	593,402	3,400,000	3,400,000	7,393,402
Allocation to Other Educational Institutions	30,000	120,000	120,000	270,000
Special Needs Allocation	0	2,500,000	0	2,500,000
Targeted Support to School Districts	0	1,200,000	0	1,200,000
Education Leadership in Montana	0	939,449	555,234	1,494,683
OPI Database Modernization	0	8,000,000	5,475,248	13,475,248
Administration	206,476	850,497	1,910,096	2,967,069
State Learning Loss	0	0	19,100,962	19,100,962
State Summer Enrichment	0	0	3,820,192	3,820,192
State Afterschool Programs	0	0	3,820,192	3,820,192
Other	299,645	0	0	0
TOTAL	41,295,230	170,099,465	382,019,236	593,413,931

The end of the grant period is extended with each grant. For ESSER I, the funds must be spent by September, 2022. For ESSER II, the funds must be spent by September, 2023. For ESSER III, the funds must be spent by September, 2024.

All three grants require the funds be spent "to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus." In addition each grant has allowable uses that are broad and permissive, allowing discretion on the part of school districts to fund those projects most needed in their district.

HB 630 also contains language that restricts the ability of school districts to file for budget increases due to enrollment increases in FY 2022 and FY 2023. However, HB 630 also allows districts to use ESSER funding in place of the BASE Aid that would have been awarded without the new restriction.

Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools (EANS)

In ESSER I, public schools had to go through the equitable share process used in federal Title I funding to determine how much of the funding should go to non-public schools for the benefit of low income children at these schools. For ESSER II and ESSER III, the equitable share process was discontinued. In its place, Congress authorized Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools. CRRSA allocated \$12.8M to Montana, and ARPA added \$12.1M. For this program, the OPI has set up a system whereby non-public schools can apply to the OPI directly for these funds. The allowable uses for the funds are similar to public schools. In Montana home school children are considered to be part of the non-public school population.

Changes to the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Accountability System During the 2020-2021 School Year

On March 30, 2020, Montana OPI received a waiver from the U.S. Department of Education (USED) for specific assessment and accountability requirements for the 2019-2020 school year. The OPI applied for the waiver due to extraordinary circumstances created by the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting school closures. The waiver cancelled assessments in the 2019–2020 school year, suspended the accountability system, and removed specific elements related to assessments and accountability on the report card.

The waiving of these requirements, as well as the continued implications of COVID-19, have impacted how Montana has been able to implement its Consolidated State Plan under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) in the 2020-2021 school year. Thus, in February 2021, the Department created a streamlined process to request waivers for accountability, school identification, and related reporting requirements under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by ESSA.

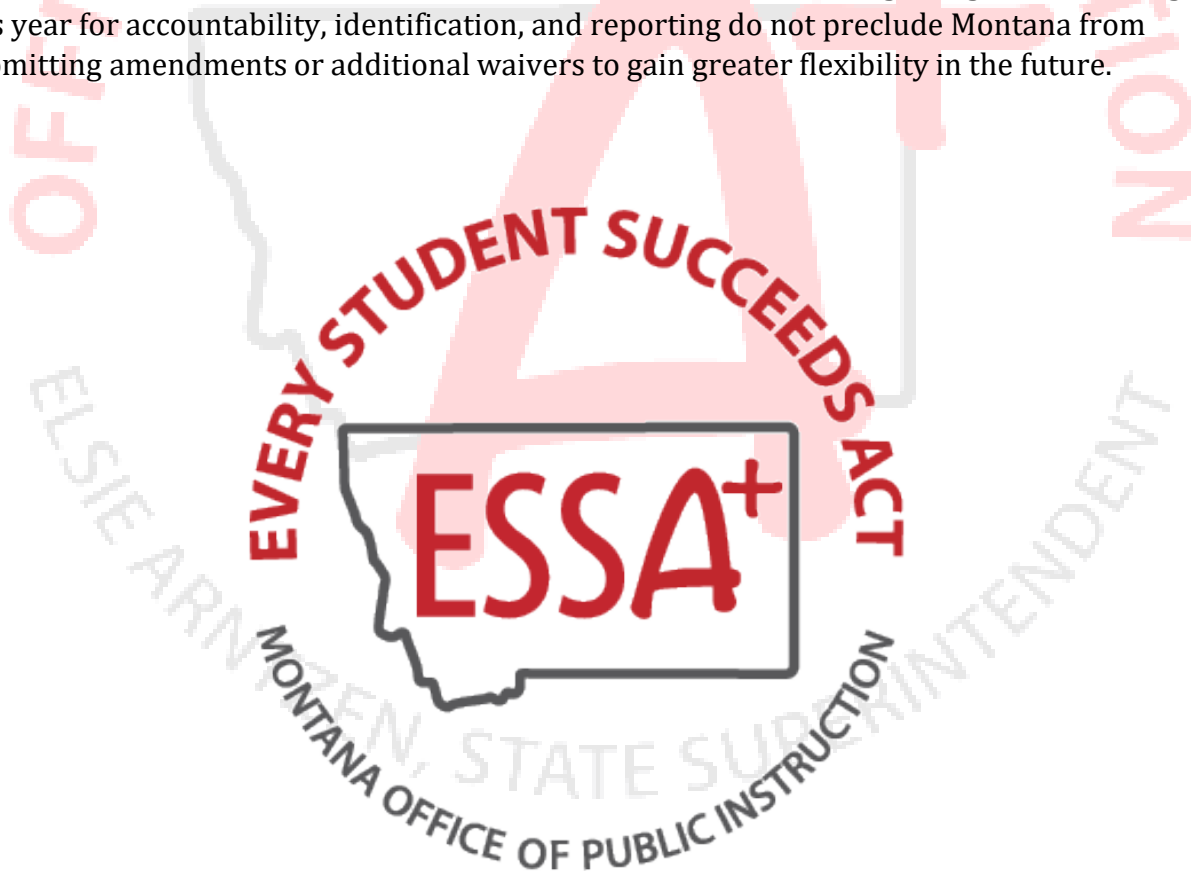
Montana applied and was granted these accountability and school identification waivers on March 26, 2021. They provide relief from the impact of COVID-19 on the accountability system for the 2020-2021 school year. In particular, they waive the requirements to:

- Measure progress toward long-term goals and measurement of interim progress;
- Meaningfully differentiate, on an annual basis, all public schools, including by adjusting the Academic Achievement indicator based on a participation rate below 95 percent;
- Identify schools for comprehensive, targeted, and additional targeted support and improvement based on data from the 2020- 2021 school year; and
- Report provisions related to accountability based on data from the 2020-2021 school year.

While the OPI is waiving accountability requirements, we are committed to providing technical assistance and professional learning to our schools to support transparency and reporting needs for students, families, and educators. The OPI will continue to maintain or improve transparency in reporting to parents and the public on student achievement and school performance in school year 2020-2021, including the achievement of subgroups of students. The OPI will make publicly available chronic absenteeism data on State and local report cards. The OPI will collect school data on opportunity to learn indicators to the greatest extent possible. This includes location of learning (e.g., in-person, fully remote, hybrid), level of access to technology, Internet availability and capacity, presence and access of instruction, curriculum, and professional development, and levels of student engagement. Additionally, the OPI will continue to collect data on graduation rates, college and career success indicators, attendance, and access to qualified educators data. This **opportunity to learn** data will be made public to ensure that the OPI and school districts can make informed decisions on resources and support for schools.

All schools identified for **comprehensive, targeted, and additional targeted support** and improvement will not only revise and implement the required annual Continuous School Improvement Plan (CSIP) based on the comprehensive needs assessment but will receive additional support from OPI improvement specialists for acceleration and renewal initiatives aligned to state and federal funding. Specific strategies for **comprehensive schools** include: building school board efficiency through a school board coach; providing wraparound services to students and their families (e.g., mental and physical health services, mentoring); engaging students in school improvement through youth voice and advocacy work; supporting culturally responsive practices, particularly for American Indian communities; implementing systemic literacy and math improvements; and use of the Montana Early Warning System to identify students at risk of dropping out of school, apply targeted interventions based on student needs, and track interventions over time to determine if the interventions are working.

The OPI will identify comprehensive, targeted, and additional targeted support and improvement schools using data from the 2021-2022 school year in the fall of 2022 to ensure school identification resumes as quickly as possible. **Overall, under ESSA, the OPI will continue to advocate for school communities and students**, recognizing that the changes this year for accountability, identification, and reporting do not preclude Montana from submitting amendments or additional waivers to gain greater flexibility in the future.



FEDERAL COVID RELIEF DOLLARS

ESSER I

Elementary and Secondary
School Emergency Relief

\$41,295,230

ESSER II

Elementary and Secondary
School Emergency Relief

\$170,099,465

ESSER III

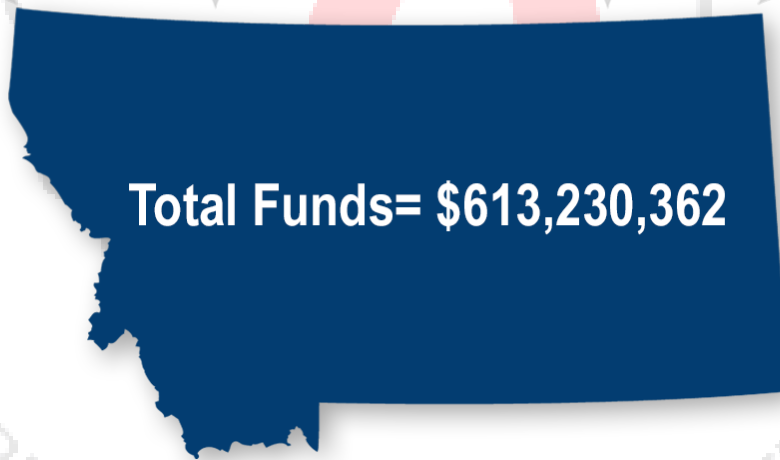
Elementary and Secondary
School Emergency Relief

\$382,019,236

EANS

Emergency Assistance
for Non-Public Schools

\$19,816,431



OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
ELSIE ARNTZEN, STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Overview of Budget and Policy Priorities:

HB 15: Implement K-12 Inflation

Sponsored by Representative Fred Anderson of Great Falls

Signed by the Governor. BASE Aid plus legislation ([HB15](#)) provides an inflationary addition *base amount for school equity – BASE Aid*. The BASE Aid calculation determines the state share of funding for Montana K-12 public schools and accounts for 69% of school district's general fund budget. Signed into law on February 25, 2021, the BASE Aid distributions to Montana's public schools are \$827 million for the next year, and \$866 million for the 2022-23 school year.

HB 46: Revise special education funding

Sponsored by Representative David Bedey of Hamilton

Signed by Governor. Related to HB15, Superintendent Arntzen testified on behalf of [HB46](#) to make public funding for special needs students more predictable. Specifically, the bill advocates for including the special education allowable cost payment in the state's BASE Aid funding formula. When combined with HB 15, this represents a 4.07% inflationary increase over the biennium for Montana schools, a critical increase to support all Montana's students.

HB 25 and HB 206: Revise education laws related to tuition and in-state treatment

HB25 was sponsored by Representative Moffie Funk of Helena

HB206 was sponsored by Representative David Bedey of Hamilton

[House Bill 25](#) and [House Bill 206](#) are related to clarifying and providing funding to in-state residential treatment for at risk students. Superintendent Arntzen has publicly supported both bills as necessary to help one of Montana's vulnerable student populations.

HB 181:

Sponsored by Katie Zolnikov of Billings

[HB 181](#) transfers the Broadband for Public Schools Program from the Department of Commerce to the OPI, the agency that works the most with schools. HB 181 is currently in committee.

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PLEASE NOTE: This document contains a listing of bills relating to K-12 education that were considered by the Montana Legislature during the 2021 Legislative Session as of April 24th 2021. A complete legislative summary with full analysis of passed education legislation will be compiled and distributed in June 2021.

Total number of bills in Education is 141 for the 67th Legislative Session.

LEGISLATION AFFECTING K-12 EDUCATION

APPROPRIATIONS (7)

[HB 2](#) -

General Appropriations Act
Rep. Jones

[HB 3](#) - PASS

Supplemental Appropriations Act
Rep. Bedey

[HB 4](#) -

Appropriations by Budget
Rep. Bartel

[HB 15](#) - PASS

BASE Aid K-12 Inflation
Rep. Anderson

[HB 630](#) -

Appropriate CARES II funds, supplemental, and temporarily revise ed fund
Rep. Bedey

[HB632](#) -

Implement receipt of and appropriate federal stimulus and COVID recovery funds
Rep. Garner

[HB671](#) -

Implement provisions of HB2 - Section E - education
Rep. Bedey

ELECTIONS (2)

[HB 107](#) - FAIL

Revise mill levy election laws
Rep. Marshall

[SB 15](#) - PASS

Revise election laws related to disabled electors
Sen. Ellis

EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS (11)

[HB 13](#) – PASS

State employee pay plan

Rep. Dooling

[HB 59](#) – FAIL

Revise funding provisions in PERS

Rep. Hamilton

[HB 81](#) – PASS

Generally revise laws on administration of MPERA retirement systems

Rep. Hamilton

[HB 88](#) – PASS

Generally revise administration of TRS

Rep. Bertoglio

[HB 143](#) – PASS

Provide incentives for increasing starting teacher pay, generally revise school funding laws

Rep. Jones

[HB 186](#) - FAIL

Generally revise laws related to teacher certification

Rep. Kerns

[HB 317](#) – FAIL

Generally revise state employee laws related to travel expenses

Rep. Marshall

[HB 403](#) – PASS

Create “grow your own” teacher grant program

Rep. Running Wolf

[SB 16](#) – FAIL

Confirm Governor’s appointee to the Public Employee’s Retirement System Board Sen. Kary

[SB 188](#) - FAIL

Revise school teacher retirement with pension

Sen. Lang

[SB 228](#) – FAIL

Generally revise employee union laws

Sen. Hertz

FACILITIES (5)

[HB 5](#) -

Long-range building appropriations

Rep. Jones

[HB 181](#) - PASS

Reauthorizing the E-rate broadband program

Rep. Zolnikov

[HB 192](#) - PASS

Providing for school capital improvement accounts

Rep. Reksten

[HB 422](#) - FAIL

Authorize municipalities to operate broadband utilities

Rep. Kortum

[SB 42](#) - FAIL

Allow use of school major maintenance funds for lead remediation

Sen. Boland

GOVERNANCE (26)

[HB 192](#) - PASS

Providing for school capital improvement accounts

Rep. Reksten

[HB 422](#) - FAIL

Authorize municipalities to operate broadband utilities

Rep. Kortum

[HB 343](#) - FAIL

Generally revise laws to dentistry and dental hygiene

Rep. Gillette

[HB 344](#) - FAIL

Revising laws relating to designation of public health facilities

Rep. Gillette

[HB 371](#) - FAIL

Revise qualifications to serve as a superintendent of public instruction

Rep. Bedey

[HB 441](#) - FAIL

Revise age requirements for election judges

Rep. Kortum

[HB 462](#) – PASS

Revise driver license laws for foster children
Rep. Stromswold

[HB 484](#) - FAIL

Require state programs to participate in a health information exchange Rep. Gillette

[HB 492](#) - FAIL

Protecting children on the Internet Act
Rep. Tshida

[HB 499](#) – PASS

Revise child abuse and neglect laws regarding reasonable efforts
Rep. Trebas

[HB 540](#) – FAIL

Revise high school and elementary school district laws
Rep. Berglee

[HB 543](#) – PASS

Revise laws related to school instruction on the Constitution and pledge
Rep. Phalen

[HB 556](#) – PASS

Provide alternative means of earning high school diploma
Rep. Walsh

[SB 4](#) – PASS

Extend the missing Indigenous Person Task Force
Sen. Small

[SB 18](#) – PASS

Establish graduation requirements for educationally disrupted youth
Sen. Salomon

[SB 42](#) – FAIL

Allow use of school major maintenance funds for lead remediation
Sen. Boland

[SB 94](#) – FAIL

Establishing Indigenous Peoples Day
Sen. Weber

[SB 199](#) – PASS

Provide for the Montana Local Food Choice
Sen. Hertz

[SB 206](#) – PASS

Revise report publication date for teacher loan forgiveness program

Sen. Sweeney

[SB 259](#) - FAIL

Restrict governmental entity from interfering with parental rights

Sen. Manzella

[SB 297](#) -

Connect MT Act to establish broadband deployment

Sen. Ellsworth

[SB 298](#) – FAIL

Establish right of conscience laws for K-12 public education

Sen. Regier

[SB 323](#) - FAIL

Generally revise Montana Administrative Procedure Act

Sen. Friedel

[SR 43](#) – FAIL

Confirm Governor’s appointee to Board of Public Education

Sen. Salomon

[SR 44](#) – PASS

Confirm Governor’s appointee to Board of Public Education

Sen. Salomon

[SR 83](#) – PASS

Confirm Governor’s appointee to Board of Public Education

Sen. Salomon

HIGHER EDUCATION (19)

[HR 6](#) – FAIL

Resolution opposing MUS requiring COVID vaccination

Rep. Kerns

[HB 67](#) – PASS

Generally revise community college funding laws

Rep. Jones

[HB 100](#) – PASS

Revise community college audit requirements

Rep. Hayman

[HB 129](#) – PASS

Revise the Family Education Savings Account
Rep. Bedey

[HB 179](#) – PASS

Generally revise laws related to community colleges
Rep. Bedey

[HB 262](#) – FAIL

Expand exemption from collections to include student loans
Rep. Farris-Olsen

[HB 626](#) – FAIL

Revise nonresident nonbeneficiary student reimbursement for tribal colleges
Rep. Running Wolf

[HB 654](#) - FAIL

Increase funding for higher education
Rep. Olsen

[SB 25](#) – PASS

Revise duties of Education Interim Committee regarding MUS
Sen. Salomon

[SB 46](#) – FAIL

Increase MUS-RP supplemental contribution to TRS
Sen. Lynch

[SB 110](#) – PASS

Revise state employee and U-system health plan laws for temp state share holiday
Sen. Osmundson

[SB 124](#) – FAIL

Revise laws related to student loans
Sen. Morigeau

[SB 243](#) – PASS

Create presumption of domicile for students who join Montana National Guard
Sen. Bennett

[SB 247](#) – PASS

Generally revise alcohol state property/postsecondary education
Sen. Boldman

[SJ 15](#) – PASS

Approve organization of Bitterroot Valley community college district
Sen. Ellsworth

[SR 2](#) – FAIL

Approve organization of Bitterroot Valley Community College district
Sen. Ellsworth

[SR 42](#) – PASS

Confirm Governor appointees to Board of Regents of Higher Education
Sen. Salomon

[SR 45](#) – FAIL

Confirm Governor appointee to Board of Regents of Higher Education
Sen. Salomon

[SR 73](#) – PASS

Confirm Governor's appointee to the Board of Regents
Sen. Salomon

HEALTH AND SAFETY (23)

[HB 27](#) – FAIL

Authorize school districts to create “handle with care” programs
Rep. Funk

[HB 70](#) – PASS

Revise state suicide prevention program
Rep. Homeland/Funk

[HB 78](#) - FAIL

Require certain employees to report suspected child abuse and neglect
Rep. Mercer

[HB 105](#) - PASS

Generally revise unlawful transactions with children laws
Rep. Marshall

[HB 112](#) – PASS

Require interscholastic athletes to participate under gender assigned at birth
Rep. Fuller

[HB 171](#) – PASS

Adopt the Montana Abortion-Induction Risk Protocol Act
Rep. Greef

[HB 227](#) - FAIL

Establish student mental health screening pilot program
Rep. Dunwell

[HB 250](#) - FAIL

Revise immunization requirements for pharmacists
Rep. C. Knudsen

[HB 291](#) - PASS

Requiring coverage of amplification devices, service for kids with hearing loss
Rep. Funk

[HB 332](#) - FAIL

Revise school laws related to vaccines
Rep. Hill

[HB 339](#) - FAIL

Require child support cooperation for food stamp eligibility
Rep. Fleming

[HB 369](#) - FAIL

Support school-based prevention programs
Rep. Caferro

[HB 377](#) - FAIL

Revise criminal penalties for certain threats of violence
Rep. McKamey

[HB 415](#) - FAIL

Prohibit discrimination based on vaccination status
Rep. Carlson

[HB 467](#) - FAIL

Revise public education laws to ban lunch shaming
Rep. Karjala

[HB 557](#) - FAIL

Revise missing persons laws
Rep. Windy Boy

[SB 16](#) - FAIL

Allow minors to consent to emergency shelter and services
Sen. Gross

[SB 17](#) - PASS

Clarify minors' ability to disaffirm contracts for housing is restricted
Sen. Gross

[SB 72](#) - PASS

Revise school laws to participation in extracurricular activities
Sen. Reiger

[SB 74](#) - PASS

Revise school laws relating to participation in extracurricular activities
Sen. Salomon

[SB 157](#) - PASS

Generally revise laws related to school athletics
Sen. Hinebauch

[SB 248](#) - PASS

Establish student-athlete rights and protections
Sen. Boldman

[SB 282](#) - FAIL

Assert right of parent to direct child healthcare
Sen. Manzella

SCHOOL FINANCE (23)

[HB 16](#) - FAIL

Allow 3 and 4 year-olds with disabilities in ANB calculations
Rep. Anderson

[HB 32](#) - PASS

Repeal ending fund balance limits for school districts
Rep. Vinton

[HB 33](#) - PASS

Clarify school funding related to anticipated enrollment increase
Rep. Vinton

[HB 46](#) - PASS

Includes SPED funding in BASE Aid formula
Rep. Bedey

[HB 69](#) - FAIL

Eliminate reduced-price co-pays for school meals
Rep. McKamey

[HB 147](#) - FAIL

Establish Montana hunters and angler community fund

Rep. France

[HB 159](#) - PASS

Revise Governor's power to spend certain unanticipated federal funds

Rep. Jones

[HB 233](#) - PASS

Revise funding for students with disabilities

Rep. Anderson

[HB 279](#) -

Revise laws related to tax credits scholarship and innovation education programs

Rep. Berglee

[HB 303](#) -

Revise business equipment tax laws: Business Investment Grows (BIG) Act

Rep. Kassmier

[HB 329](#) - FAIL

Establish the Students with Special Needs Opportunity Act

Rep. Vinton

[HB 372](#) - FAIL

Eliminate business equipment tax

Rep. Ler

[HB 404](#) - FAIL

Generally revise education funding relating to oil and gas distribution

Rep. Patelis

[HB 454](#) - PASS

Revise school tuition laws

Rep. Ricci

[HB 465](#) - FAIL

Limit school district superintendent salaries

Rep. Kerns

[HJ 6](#) - PASS

Provide for study of natural resources trust fund

Rep. Fern

[SB 22](#) - PASS

Clarify amount of support for state-level CTSO programs
Sen. Salomon

[SB 23](#) - PASS

Eliminate state school flexibility account
Sen. Salomon

[SB 24](#) - PASS

Allow nonoperating school districts to retain oil gas revenue
Sen. Salomon

[SB 75](#) - PASS

Revise school funding laws related to unforeseen emergencies
Sen. Salomon

[SB 95](#) - FAIL

Revise school funding inflationary adjustment
Sen. McClafferty

[SB 293](#) - FAIL

Revising property tax laws related to electric generation
Sen. Pope

[SB 342](#) - FAIL

Generally revise laws related to preschool programs
Sen. O'Brien

STATE LANDS (7)

[HB 22](#) - PASS

Allow in-kind services for easements on state land for military facilities
Rep. Garner

[HB 49](#) - PASS

Revise recording fees to support county and state land information accounts
Rep. Bedey

[HB 131](#) - PASS

Generally revise state cabin leasing laws
Rep. Bedey

[HB 352](#) - FAIL

Revise laws related to conservation easements
Rep. Hinkle

[HB 418](#) - FAIL

Establish the Public Lands Access Act
Rep. Gunderson

[SB 270](#) - PASS

Revise valuation of commodities on state lands
Sen. Hoven

[SB 305](#) - PASS

Revise and extend state lands reimbursement block grant for schools
Sen. Lang

TEACHING AND LEARNING (13)

[HB 25](#) - FAIL

Clarifying funding for education of children in residential care
Rep. Funk

[HB 68](#) - PASS

Provide early school enrollment for children of relocated military
Rep. Bertoglio

[HB 89](#) - PASS

Revise transformational learning program
Rep. McKamey

[HB 166](#) - FAIL

Expanding the transformational learning program to include magnet schools
Rep. Fern

[HB 185](#) - FAIL

Revise laws related to basic instructional program in high schools
Rep. Kerns

[HB 219](#) - FAIL

Create computer coding student employment program
Rep. Windy Boy

[HB 282](#) - PASS

Revise labor laws relating to employment of minors
Rep. Anderson

[HB 286](#) - FAIL

Revise laws related to Montana Digital Academy
Rep. Windy Boy

[HB 328](#) - PASS

Create guidelines regarding early childhood education services
Rep. Keogh

[HB 392](#) - FAIL

Generally revise language immersion laws
Rep. Windy Boy

[SB 99](#) - PASS

Establish parameters for K-12 human sexuality education
Sen. Smith

[SB 109](#) - PASS

Revise laws related to gifted and talented education
Sen. Salomon

[SB 300](#) -

Generally revise laws related to driver education
Sen. Glimm

TRANSPORTATION (5)

[HB 207](#) - PASS

Generally revise school bus safety laws
Rep. Duram

[HB 256](#) - PASS

Revise child restraint laws
Rep. Binkley

[HB 267](#) -

Improve school bus safety laws
Rep. Duram

[HB 300](#) - PASS

Generally revise school transportation laws
Rep. Schillinger

[HB 350](#) - FAIL

Generally revise school bus laws
Rep. Putnam



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