



Education Advocates Meeting

AGENDA

October 20, 2020 at 9:30 AM

Call in information: 1 (406) 444-9999 Meeting ID: 928-5696-0168

Join from your computer, tablet or smartphone:

<https://mt-gov.zoom.us/j/92856960168>

- Update on 3 New Federal Grants – Tracy Moseman
 - Project AWARE: (SAMHSA)
 - School Wellness Initiative (MT Healthcare Foundation)
 - State Personnel Development Grant (USED)
- School Cyber Security Update – Michael Sweeney
- Equitable Services Guidance – Ken Bailey & Jack O’Connor
- Legislative Priorities – Tim Johnson & Montana Public Education Center (MT-PEC)
- Other business

Roundtable Discussion

BOPE (Board of Public Education)

Governor’s Office

LFD (Legislative Fiscal Division)

LSD (Legislative Services Division)

MASBO (Montana Association of School Business Officials)

MCDE (Montana Council of Deans of Education)

MFPE (Montana Federation of Public Employees)

MQEC (Montana Quality Education Coalition)

MREA (Montana Rural Education Association)

MSSA (Montana Small Schools Alliance)

MTSBA (Montana School Board Association)

OCHE (Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education)

SAM (School Administrators of Montana)

Others



2020 New Federal Grants

The **Montana Project AWARE** (Advancing Wellness and Resiliency in Education) Initiative will develop state infrastructure at Montana's Office of Public Instruction and Children's Mental Health Bureau to support school districts across Montana in developing Multi-Tiered Systems of Support for mental health promotion and response. This grant will also fund three Local Education Agencies (LEAs) in Montana to implement evidence-based and culturally competent school mental health practices. The participating LEAs include Billings Public Schools, Dillon K-8 School District and Rocky Boy Public Schools. The two major overarching goals of the grant are: **Goal 1:** Increase the awareness and capacity of Montana school systems and staff to prevent and respond to mental health issues using the Multi-Tiered Systems Framework. **Goal 2:** Increase the capacity of three Local Education Agencies in Montana to connect youth who have behavioral health issues and their families to needed services.

The Office of Public Instruction (OPI) will partner with the Montana Healthcare Foundation (MHCF) to support the **School Wellness Initiative** implementation. The School Wellness Initiative will support new partnerships between schools and high-performing health care providers (including federally qualified health centers, rural health centers, tribal health departments, and behavioral health providers) to implement school-based health centers. The initiative will target schools with the highest concentration of students most in need of services, as judged by academic and health data. These include roughly 70 schools, among them alternative schools and schools with the lowest academic performance. OPI staff will help enlist participation by priority schools; provide trauma-informed care training and coaching and support for academic data reporting; help schools plan and implement participation in OPI's Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) for students with behavioral issues; and identify and implement restorative discipline practices. Partnerships will include MHCF, OPI, local school districts, clinical service partners, public health, and the School-Based Health Alliance. The project's overall goal is to improve students' health and academic outcomes by providing in-school access to health care services and fostering a supportive school climate for students.

State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG) This project will increase LEA capacity to support and sustain the implementation of the Montana Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) through distance learning and web-based formats for professional development and coaching support focused on data-analytic problem solving at the systems level. The project will utilize implementation teams at the state, regional, district and building level to increase capacity for implementation and create an efficient infrastructure for professional development, technical assistance, coaching, and communication. This project will prioritize rural LEAs and indigenous majority LEAs. In addition, the project will increase opportunities for school personnel who work with student with disabilities to exercise choice in professional development.

2020 New Federal Grants

Summary overview:

- 5-year grant, November 1, 2020-October 31, 2025
- Grant focus-Improve and expand professional development and coaching support focused on data-analytic problem solving at the systems level
- Management structure-State, regional, district and building level implementation teams
- Subgrants to districts for PD-school personnel who work with students with disabilities
- Year 1 November 2020-October 2021-focus on training coaches, developing materials and working on hub courses
- Training/support begins Fall 2021 and will be piloted in Region 1 with 3 districts
- Expansion to other regions in subsequent years



2021 Office of Public Instruction Legislative Priorities

Stance	Bill	Sponsor	Committee	Title	Description	Fiscal impact
Support (#1)	PD001		LFC*	Special Education Funding	Ensure stable funding by including SPED in BASE Aid formula	Estimated Appropriation: \$5.2M; (2021-23)
Support (#2)	PD 0012 LC276	Funk	Education	Residential Treatment	Fix Medicaid exclusion; Fund OPI contribution to treatment facilities 20-7-435, MCA	Appropriation: \$1.5 Million (2021-23); Supplemental \$1.5 Million (2019-21)
Support (#3)	PD002		ETIC**	Broadband	Reappropriate annual \$1 million from Dept of Commerce to OPI	LANGUAGE ONLY

* Legislative Fiscal Committee (LFC)

** Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee (ETIC)