

68th Legislative Session

Transmittal Education Update

February 28, 2023

Travel safely and see you all on March 9, 2023!



MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

It has been an honor working with all of you during my tenure as Montana's Superintendent of Public Instruction. As the legislature prepares for transmittal, I have compiled informational updates on major activities from the Office of Public Instruction (OPI), Land Board Commission, and education-related legislation.

There have been many successes that put our Montana students, families, and school families first during the first half of this session. The Base Aid requirements ([HB 15](#)), the most basic promise to our schools is heading to the Governor's desk for his signature as of February 17, 2023. There was strong backing for our Montana teacher licensing fees used to support the TeachMontana licensing system during the joint subcommittee on education ([HB 2](#)). Our ask for one-time-only funding for audiology equipment has also been added to HB 2. Our Montana students will have more access to mental health treatment due to the unanimous support in the House for tuition reimbursement to mental health facilities ([HB 171](#)). This bill is now awaiting executive action in the Senate Education and Cultural Resources Committee as of February 17, 2023. I appreciate that as of today all four of my priority legislation have been given the green light.

I am grateful that there has been a conversation during this legislative session on important family and children-centric legislation. Our parents are our first teachers and that role combined with teachers and school leaders must be respected. Our children are our most precious treasures and Montana must continue to invest in them. I look forward to our continued work for the benefit of our students, our families, and our Montana schools.

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



Elsie Arntzen
State Superintendent

CONTACTS

Elsie Arntzen
Superintendent of Public Instruction
elsie.artnzen@mt.gov
406-444-5658

Legislative Inquiries:
Tara Boulanger
Government Liaison
tara.boulanger@mt.gov
406-444-2082

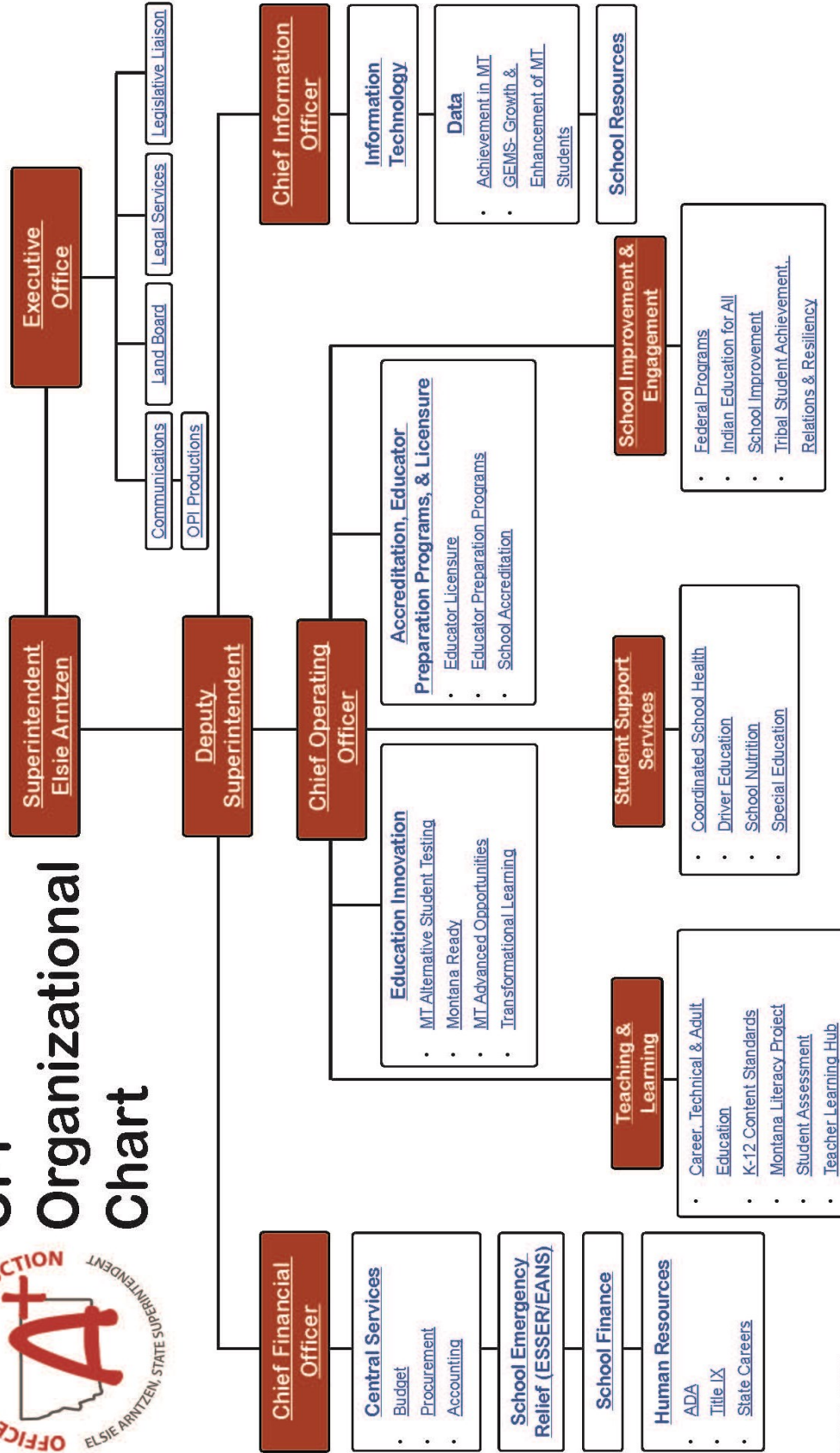
Education Inquiries:
Sharyl Allen
Deputy Superintendent
sharyl.allen@mt.gov
406-444-5856

Table of Contents

Office of Public Instruction Organizational Chart.....	4
Education in Montana.....	5
Superintendent Arntzen’s Initiatives.....	6
Superintendent Arntzen’s Capitol Connections.....	7
Superintendent Arntzen’s Capitol Events.....	8
Teacher of the Year.....	9
Images from this Session.....	10
Military Children’s Initiatives.....	16
2023 Budget Overview.....	18
Federal COVID Relief Dollars Overview.....	19
Land Board.....	20
Superintendent Arntzen’s Policy Priority Summary.....	21
Legislation Impacting Montana Education.....	22



OPI Organizational Chart



Updated: 1/19/23

EDUCATION IN MONTANA:

The below education information is a snapshot in time and the most up-to-date. For more detailed information please visit OPI's website, opi.mt.gov.

- A quality public education system is a value that is enshrined in Article X of Montana's Constitution.
- Funding for education is the single largest appropriation from Montana's general fund, which totals approximately \$2 billion per biennium. About 40% of a school's funding is derived from these general fund dollars.
- The federal government granted \$605,318,735 in Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) and Emergency Assistance to Non-public Schools (EANS) funds in 2020. These funds will be serving schools through 2024.
- Montana currently has 826 schools within 402 school districts.
- There are 311 (37.65%) Montana schools with less than 50 enrolled students, and two-thirds of Montana schools have less than 500 enrolled students.
- Montana has 165,200 students. This number includes 149,198 public school students, 8,634 private school students, and 7,368 homeschooled students.
- The largest demographics of Montana students are white 77.75%, American Indian 10.92%, Hispanic 5.38%, Asian 0.73%, Black 0.77%, Pacific Islander 0.2%, and others 4.25%.
- The four-year graduation rate for Montana high school students in 2022 was 85.7%. The Montana Native American four-year graduation rate in 2022 was 68.4%.
- Montana has 16,588 licensed K-12 educators, administrators, and paraprofessionals.
- The average student-to-teacher ratio in Montana is 13 to 1.
- State Trust Lands produced \$46,365,871 for Montana schools in 2022. An additional \$7,432,707 went to the School Facility and Technology Fund.
- The OPI has 2 buildings on the state complex (down from 4).
- The OPI has 225 regular employees, of which 79 are teleworking in 18 counties.

Superintendent Arntzen's Initiatives

Making Schools Montana Proud:



- Family, student, and community engagement
- Safety, mental health, and suicide prevention



- Celebrating teacher excellence and extending leadership opportunities
- Teacher recruitment and retention



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



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

Superintendent Arntzen's Capitol Connections:

Education Caucus Meetings

This session, the Education Caucus meetings take place in **Room 335** every other Tuesday morning at **7:00 am**. These meetings focus on legislation and collaboration between legislators, education organizations, and the Office of Public Instruction. Join us for hot coffee and apple fritters!

Upcoming Education Caucus Dates:

- March: 10th and 28th
- April: 4th and 18th
- May: 2nd

Education Caucus
Every other Tuesday - Capitol Room 335
7:00 AM - 7:30 AM

**68th Legislative Session
Senate Education Committee**

Chair: Dave Sabatini (R) SD 47 Bozeman, MT	Vice Chair: Taryn Papp (R) SD 14 Choteau, MT	Vice Chair: Nick Turley (D) SD 36 Butte, MT	Theresa Enrich (R) SD 11 Great Falls, MT
Steve Fitzgerald (R) SD 19 Great Falls, MT	John Fisher (R) SD 4 Kalispell, MT	Greg Harris (D) SD 4 Helena, MT	Sharon O'Hara (D) SD 40 Missoula, MT
Andrew Olson (D) SD 30 Missoula, MT	Kurt Rogers (D) SD 3 Kalispell, MT	Steve Wilbur (D) SD 8 Browning, MT	

**68th Legislative Session
House Education Committee**

Chair: Fred Anderson (D) SD 20 Great Falls, MT	Vice Chair: Robbin (D) SD 12 Helena, MT	Vice Chair: Kaitlyn Wolf (D) SD 16 Browning, MT	James Engstrom (D) SD 36 Butte, MT
Maria Deringer (D) SD 75 Choteau, MT	Lee Dinning (R) SD 77 Laurel, MT	Sherry Hansen (D) SD 12 Billings, MT	Shirley Lee (D) SD 19 Bozeman, MT
Devon Mitchell (D) SD 9 Columbia Falls, MT	Michelle Romano (D) SD 41 Helena, MT	Karen Rodden-Crowe (D) SD 49 Billings, MT	Mark Thorne (D) SD 19 Bozeman, MT

Tribal Education Caucus

Every Thursday at 4:00 pm the Tribal Education Caucus meets in **Room 350**. Attendees discuss important education issues our tribal communities are facing and identify solutions. The Office of Public Instruction experts present resources and updated informational opportunities to better serve our American Indian students.

Tribal Education Caucus

Every Thursday
Capitol Room 350
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

68th Legislative Session
Tribal Education Caucus Members



Sen. Mike Fox
SD 16
Hays, MT



Sen. Shane Morigeau
SD 48
Missoula, MT



Sen. Jason Small
SD 21
Butte, MT



Sen. Susan Webber
SD 4
Browning, MT



Rep. Donovan Hawk
HD 76
Butte, MT



Rep. Rhonda Knudsen
HD 34
Culbertson, MT



Rep. Tyson Running Wolf
HD 16
Browning, MT



Rep. Sharon Stewart Perego
HD 42
Crow Agency, MT



Rep. Frank Smith
HD 31
Poplar, MT



Rep. Marvin Weatherman
HD 15
Browning, MT



Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy
HD 32
Box Elder, MT



Tony Brockman
HD 9
Evergreen, MT

Here is the zoom link, please join us for the next meeting.

<https://mt-gov.zoom.us/j/82717873312?pwd=SWpZSXpYUithemk3Um5WK3UxWGdHZz09>

Weekly Meeting with Legislative Pages

Every Tuesday morning Superintendent Arntzen meets with the Legislative Pages to discuss education in Montana, legislation, education-related opportunities, and answer questions.



Pages and Superintendent Arntzen meeting during the 68th Legislative Session

Capitol Events:

- January 2nd Superintendent Arntzen hosted an event Celebrating Parents as the First Teachers for legislators and families.
- January 3rd Superintendent Arntzen held an Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Panel discussion.
- January 25th Superintendent Arntzen attended Governor Gianforte's State of the State
- February 13th Superintendent Arntzen hosted an Indian Education for All (IEFA) event for legislators
- February 24th Superintendent Arntzen hosted a discussion on customizing education
- Superintendent Arntzen has testified and attended numerous hearings pertinent to education nearly every day this session.

Upcoming OPI Events:

Superintendent Arntzen will be hosting events to **Bridge Communication Between Families and Schools** during the transmittal break in the following communities:

- Miles City
 - March 6 at 1:00 PM in the Community Room (106) of Miles City Community College. Please park in lot 3 and use door E.
- Sidney
 - March 6 at 4:30 PM in the gymnasium of Sydney Middle School
- Havre
 - March 7 at 12:00 PM in the Student Union Ballroom of MSU Northern.
- Lewistown
 - March 7 at 4:30 PM in the gymnasium of Lewistown Middle School
- Butte
 - March 8 at 12:00 PM in the Copper Lounge in the Student Union Building of Montana Tech

Upcoming Capitol Events:

- March 22nd, Superintendent Arntzen will host an event Celebrating Women in Government in the Capitol Rotunda. Light refreshments will be provided.
- March 28th, Superintendent Arntzen will be co-hosting an event honoring Special Olympics in the Capitol Rotunda. Please come to learn more about Montana Special Olympics and the champion schools throughout our state.

- April 12th, Superintendent Arntzen will be hosting a Montana Ready event in the Capitol Rotunda. Join us to learn more about preparing Montana students for their future.
- Superintendent Arntzen and the Office of Public Instruction staff will continue to testify and attend hearings pertinent to education throughout the rest of the session. She will continue to make herself and her agency staff available to the legislature as the top education authorities in the state.

Teacher of the Year

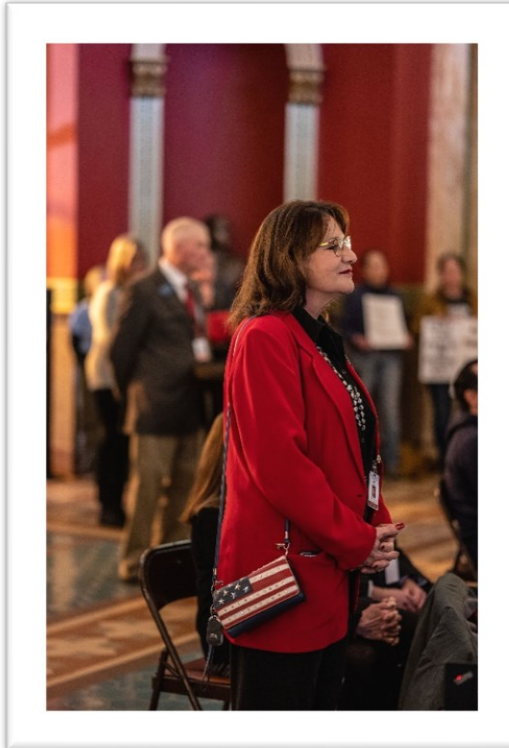
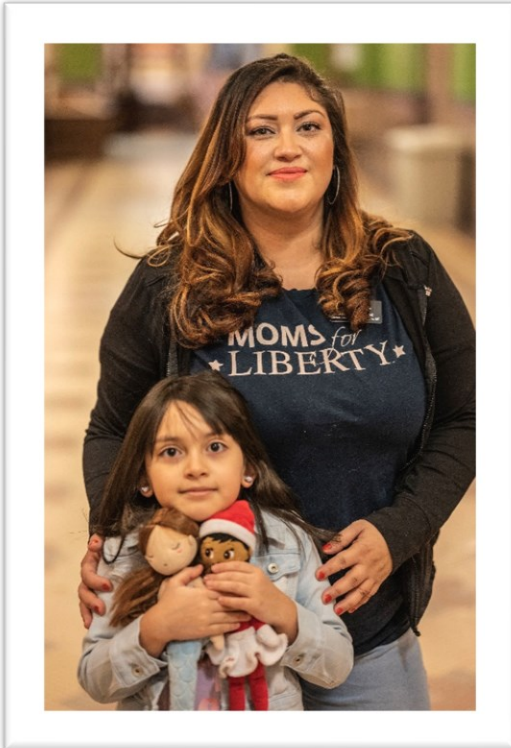
Superintendent Arntzen presented **Catherine Matthews** with the **2023 Montana Teacher of the Year** award. Catherine is a preschool special education teacher at **Hyalite Elementary School in Bozeman**. A record number of 57 teachers were nominated from around the state to receive this award. The four finalists were:

- Sheila Devins, Kindergarten teacher from Seeley Lake
- Kris Gulman, Middle School English teacher from Hamilton
- Catherine Matthews, Preschool Special Education teacher from Bozeman
- Jake Warner, High School Math teacher from Helena

Congratulations Catherine! Read the press release [here](#).



Images from this Session



*Superintendent Arntzen celebrates Parents as the First Teachers at a Capitol Rotunda event
the opening day of the session*



Superintendent Arntzen hosts an informational presentation on Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds for legislators



Superintendent Arntzen and Doug Reisig, Executive Director of Montana Quality Education Coalition



Superintendent Arntzen hosts the Tribal Education Caucus every Thursday at 4 pm in Room 350



Superintendent Arntzen attended the Governor's Prayer Breakfast and offered a prayer for education in Montana on January 19, 2023



From left to right: Gene Dudley from OPI, Representative Fiona Nave, and Mary Heller, MT Ready Coordinator with OPI at the Education Caucus.



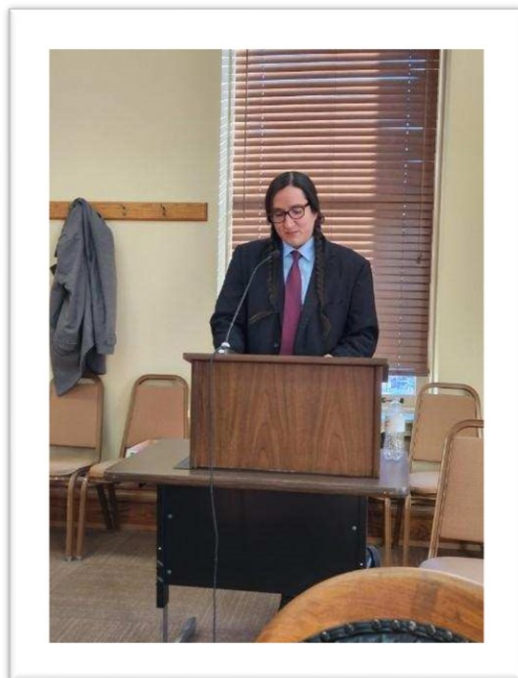
Todd O'Hair, Montana Chamber of Commerce, and Senator Wendy McKamey following Education Caucus



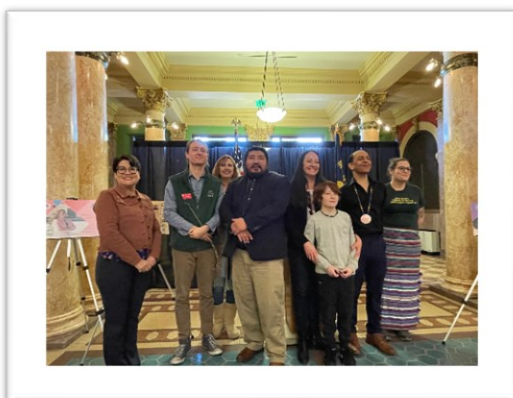
Governor Gianforte's State of the State Address on January 25th.



Governor Gianforte's CTE Proclamation on February 6th



Matthew Bell, Language and Culture Specialist, presents to the Tribal Education Caucus



OPI hosted an Indian Education for All Rotunda event on February 13

Military Children's Initiatives

Montana Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3)

The Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) was adopted by the Montana legislature through [SB203](#) which resulted in [20-1-230](#) & [20-1-231](#) MCA. MIC3 is part of the National Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission with the purpose to remove barriers to educational success imposed on children of military families. Through the Interstate Compact key educational transition issues encountered by children of military families are addressed.

The Montana Office of Public Instruction and the Montana Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission adopted the Purple Star School Program. The Purple Star School Designation for military-friendly schools recognizes the schools that show a major commitment to students and families connected to our nation's military. Schools that earn the award will receive a special Purple Star recognition to display on site in honor of students of Military families. This designation is for three years.



2022-2023 Purple Star Schools:

Montana School for the Deaf and Blind – Principal Julie-Dee Alt
Great Falls High School – Principal Geoff Habel
Chief Joseph Elementary School – Principal Brian Miller
Meadow Lark Elementary School – Principal Theresa Sprague
Early Learning Family Center – Superintendent Tom Moore

Stars and Stripes in Every Classroom

State law requires Flags in every school classroom but only if schools can afford them or have them donated. Superintendent Arntzen spearheaded the partnership with the American Legion Department of Montana to help raise funds for Montana classrooms in need of a U.S. Flag. The program is about honoring Montana's veterans and fostering strong civics education. The new Montana civics education standards are strengthening student understanding of the American pledge of allegiance and are revitalizing Indian Education for All in concert with state Constitutional requirements.

To find out how you can sponsor a U.S. Flag for a Montana classroom:

Please contact Jenna McKinney, Family Engagement Specialist, Office of Public Instruction, at 406-438-3400 to find out how to donate toward the purchase of an American-made U.S. flag for your local school.

Your entire donation goes directly to the purchase of an American-made classroom-sized, 16'x24" flag. Each donation also includes a flagstaff and a wall mount bracket. You can designate the school of your choice as a recipient of the flag you donate.



Superintendent Arntzen and Ray Shaw, Ret. Sergeant (USAF), recognize Great Falls Central Catholic as a Purple Star School



Jenna McKinney, Family Engagement Specialist, wears an MIC3 Purple Up pin

2023 General Fund Budget Overview:

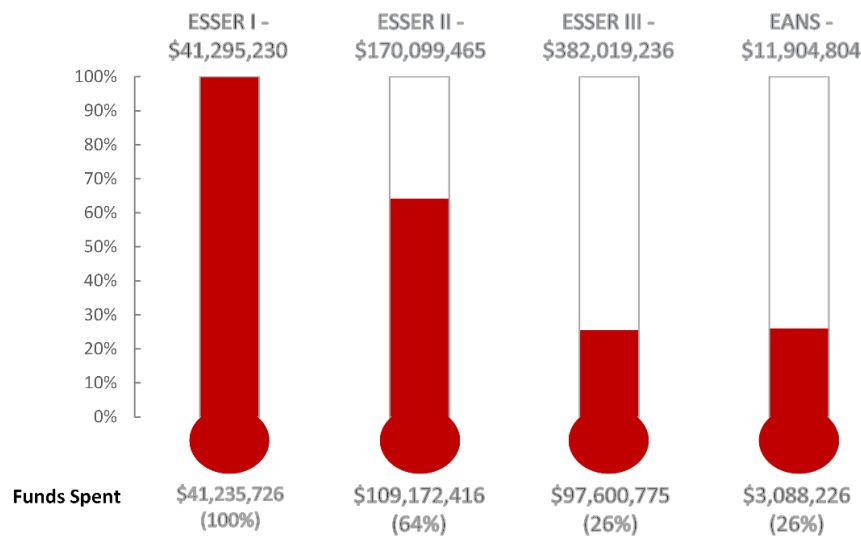
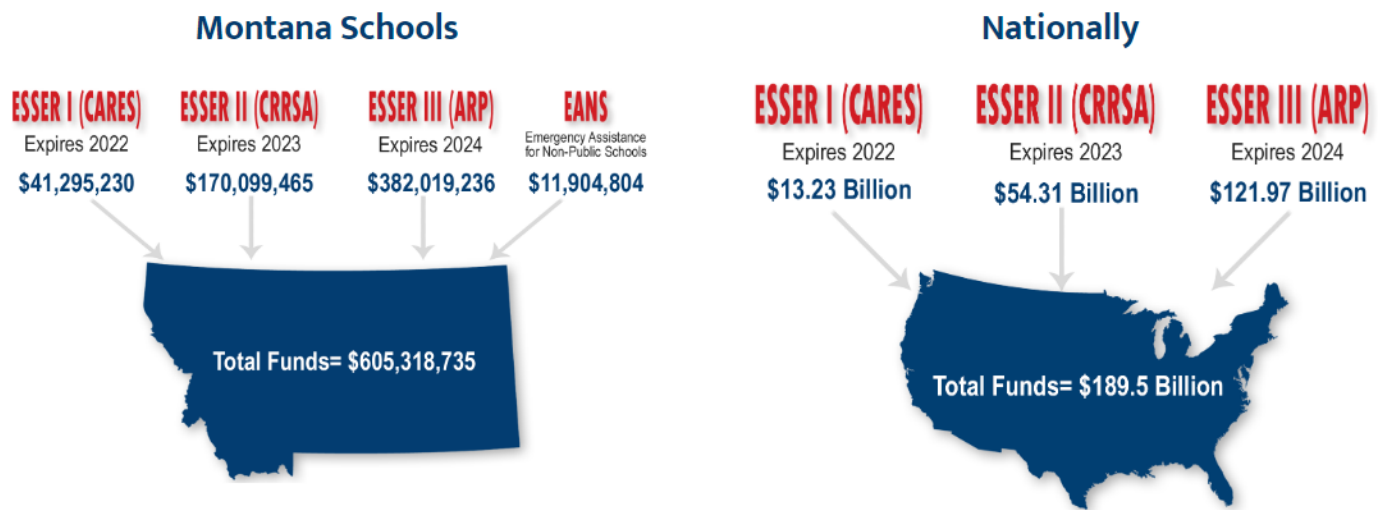
OPI's Budget Request to the Joint Subcommittee on Education for the Biennium

<u>Program 6: Personal Service and Operating Expenses of the Agency</u>	<u>FY2024</u>	<u>FY2025</u>	<u>Total</u>
Starting Point	\$ 11,584,179	\$ 11,584,179	\$ 23,168,358
Statewide Present Law Adjustments	\$ 346,541	\$ 413,617	\$ 760,158
Audiological Services Equipment Replacement OTO	\$ 333,692	\$ -	\$ 333,692
Tribal Boost Scholarship Program	\$ 32,000	\$ 32,000	\$ 64,000
CSCT FTE Reduction	\$ (36,750)	\$ (36,831)	\$ (73,581)
Indian Language Preservation Program	\$ 750,000	\$ 750,000	\$ 1,500,000
Teacher Licensure Fund Switch	\$ (166,348)	\$ (166,333)	\$ (332,681)
Total Decision Packages for Subcommittee	\$ 1,259,135	\$ 992,453	\$ 2,251,588
HB2 for OPI before Subcommittee	\$ 12,843,314	\$ 12,576,632	\$ 25,419,946
<u>Program 9: Funds Distributed to School Districts</u>	<u>FY2024</u>	<u>FY2025</u>	<u>Total</u>
Starting Point	\$ 920,761,126	\$ 920,761,126	\$ 1,841,522,252
Statewide Present Law Adjustments	\$ 73,876	\$ 98,409	\$ 172,285
K-12 BASE Aid Inflationary Increase	\$ 16,007,882	\$ 69,594,142	\$ 85,602,024
At Risk Inflationary Increase	\$ 158,592	\$ 339,563	\$ 498,155
National Board Certification Stipends	\$ 75,760	\$ 74,352	\$ 150,112
NRD K12 Facilities Payment	\$ 2,809,000	\$ 3,117,100	\$ 5,926,100
State Transformational Learning Aid	\$ 193,257	\$ 256,854	\$ 450,111
State Advanced Opportunities Aid	\$ 1,151,514	\$ 1,251,673	\$ 2,403,187
Guarantee Account Adjustment Alignment with HJ2	\$ (5,464,252)	\$ (8,860,907)	\$ (14,325,159)
95 Mills to Guarantee Account Adjustment	\$ (430,310,000)	\$ (436,050,000)	\$ (866,360,000)
Total Decision Packages for Subcommittee	\$ (415,304,371)	\$ (370,178,814)	\$ (785,483,185)
HB2 for OPI before Subcommittee	\$ 505,456,755	\$ 550,582,312	\$ 1,056,039,067

<u>Elected Official Requests</u>		<u>FY2024</u>		<u>FY2025</u>		<u>Total</u>
Teacher Licensure System	\$	-	\$	166,348	\$	166,348
Maintenance						
Tribal Relations & Resiliency Unit	\$	-	\$	100,000	\$	100,000
Total Elected Official Requests	\$	-	\$	266,348	\$	266,348

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Funds to Montana Schools:

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER)



As of January 31, 2023

Land Board:

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation – Trust Lands Management Division (TLMD)

Mission Statement: Manage the State of Montana’s trust land resources to produce revenues for the trust beneficiaries while considering environmental factors and protecting the future income-generating capacity of the land.

The TLMD operates in conjunction with and under the direction of the Board of Land Commissioners, known as the “Land Board,” comprised of the Governor, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Attorney General, Secretary of State, and Commissioner of Securities and Insurance.

During the 2022 year, the Land Board has dutifully exercised its oversight responsibilities with regard to the management of the varied Trust properties.

Overview of 2022

Management of 5.2 million surface acres
 6.2 million mineral acres

Trust Lands Common Schools Distribution for 2022 was \$46,365,871

Trust Lands Contributed approximately 5.2% to the OPI Budget

2022

Active Timber Sales	56
Current Oil & Gas Leases	1,337
Current Coal Leases	30
Current Agriculture/Grazing Leases	8,927
Active Residential Leases	467
Cabin Sites Sold	33
Rights of Way Processed	195
Active Land Use Licenses	837
Land Banking Sites Sold	2
Tree Seedlings Planted	254,677
Timber Harvested (MMBF: million board feet)	51
Commercial Leases	121
Net Distributable Revenues to Common Schools:	\$49,505,050

Policy Priority Summary

HB 15: BASE Aid K-12 Inflation Act

Building stability into school funding has been and will continue to be Superintendent Arntzen's number one legislative priority. Having the legislature recognize equity by the responsible use of precious tax dollars in fulfilling the promise to our Montana students is the importance this bill brings. Representative David Bedey of Hamilton introduced HB 15 to the House Education Committee, in recognition of the importance of school state BASE Aid funding in relation to the state budget. BASE Aid is a calculation that determines the state share of funding for Montana K-12 public schools and accounts for 44.7% of school districts' budget. Local property taxes largely compose the remainder of district budgets.

HB 2: Revising the use of Revenue from Teacher License Fees

Superintendent Arntzen is committed to ensuring that teacher license fees are working directly for our educators, not for anyone else. The decision package from the joint subcommittee on education ensures the maintenance of the new teacher licensing system that dramatically reduces the time it takes to become a licensed teacher in Montana.

HB 171: Revising Education Laws Related to Residential Treatment Facilities

Not all of Montana's students are enrolled in public schools, and some of those students are receiving education in mental health care facilities. Superintendent Arntzen is committed to supporting quality education for all of Montana's students. This bill expands the current laws, allowing for education funding to flow for children in psychiatric hospitals, residential treatment facilities, *and* therapeutic youth group homes. Representative David Bedey of Hamilton introduced HB 171, recognizing that the current flow of education funding for children in treatment for serious emotional disturbances does not provide funding for all of Montana's students receiving treatment.

HB 2: General Appropriations for the Next Biennium

HB 2 provides for the appropriation of funding for state agencies for the next biennium, ending June 30, 2025. This bill, introduced by Representative Llew Jones of Conrad, closely mirrors the Governor's budget as well as the priorities of state agencies like the Office of Public Instruction. One of the specific priorities for this biennium from Superintendent Arntzen is to request specific one-time-only (OTO) funding to update audiology equipment in schools throughout the state. After receiving feedback from audiologists working in schools that our current equipment is outdated, Superintendent Arntzen made sure that getting OTO funding for new equipment was one of her top priorities for this legislative session.

Legislation (135 Total)

**priority legislation supported by the Office of Public Instruction*

General Education (45)

SB 1

Align payment schedule of school block grants
Sen. Salomon

SB 8

Revise transformational learning program
Sen. O'Brien

SB 9

Prohibit school districts operating schools outside district boundaries
Sen. Salomon

SB 10

Clarify school finance laws related to general fund levies
Sen. O'Brien

SB 70

Revise the Quality Educator Loan Assistance Program
Sen. O'Brien

SB 118

Revise education scholarship tax exemption law
Sen. Fuller

SB 129

Revise laws related to compulsory attendance
Sen. Tempel

SB 132

Revise agricultural education laws
Sen. Beard

SB 200

Revise use of party affiliation for nonpartisan races
Sen. Hertz

SB 232

Provide for deadlines to respond to public information requests
Sen. Ellis

SB 235

Establish the Education Fact Act
Sen. Emrich

SB 251

Sunset or reapprove existing voter-approved property tax levies
Sen. Hertz

SB 289

Allow tuition waivers for qualified survivors of firefighters and peace officers
Sen. Friedel

SB 358

Require disclosure of taxpayer funds for lobbying by local governments/schools
Sen. Hertz

SR 33

Confirm governor's appointees for the Board of Public Education
Sen. Salomon

***HB 15**

BASE Aid K-12 Inflation
Rep. Bedey

HB 21

Revising process for adoption of school accreditation standards
Rep. Bedey

HB 22

Revising use of revenue from teacher licensure fees
Rep. Bedey

HB 23

Revise student scholarship organization and innovative education tax credits
Rep. Thane

HB 36

Revise school funding laws related to enrollment increases
Rep. Bedey

HB 181

Revise education laws related to the Superintendent of Public Instruction
Rep. Reksten

HB 197

Constitutional amendment on Article X, Section 9
Rep. Carlson

HB 203

Generally revise education laws to enhance educational opportunities

Rep. Bedey

HB 214

Clarify the definition of remote versus offsite students

Rep. Bertoglio

HB 231

Remove the Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council (CSPAC)

Rep. Ler

HB 240

Revise family education savings program laws

Rep. Thane

HB 257

Generally revise education funding

Rep. Sprunger

HB 259

Revise teacher license laws

Rep. Deming

HB 288

Revise laws related to tuition waivers for American Indian Students

Rep. Windy Boy

HB 294

Revise laws related to education tax credits

Rep. Vinton

HB 338

Revise laws related to Indian Education for All

Rep. Windy Boy

HB 346

Revise the tribal computer programming scholarship program

Rep. Windy Boy

HB 352

Provide targeting interventions to support 3rd Grade reading proficiency

Rep. Barker

HB 394

Require examination of creation of state-tribal education accord schools

Rep. Windy Boy

HB 395

Improve school district consultation with American Indian tribes
Rep. Windy Boy

HB 396

Require school trustees to admit resident children on a part-time basis
Rep. Hastings

HB 408

Revise student scholarship organization and innovative education tax credits
Rep. Vinton

HB 441

Implement report cards for nonpublic schools receiving tax credit scholarships
Rep. Stafman

HB 442

Require testing for nonpublic schools receiving tax credit scholarships
Rep. Stafman

HB 482

Provide access to education and supports for children aging out of foster care
Rep. Gillette

HB 501

Revise school textbook laws
Rep. Seekins-Crowe

HB 502

Revise education laws related to human sexuality instruction
Rep. Seekins-Crowe

HB 504

Revise school laws to require trustees to adopt a grievance policy
Rep. Hastings

HB 517

Constitutional amendment regarding Board of Regents
Rep. Hopkins

HB 533

Prohibit discrimination by nonpublic school receiving tax credit scholarships
Rep. Stafman

Language and Arts (1)

HB 287

Revise laws related to Indian language preservation
Rep. Windy Boy

Mental Health (5)

HB 116

Strengthen qualified provider pool statute for children's mental health services
Rep. Gillette

HB 147

Enhance Medicaid rates for certain children's mental health services
Rep. Gillette/Children, Families, Health, and Human Services Interim Committee

***HB 171**

Revise education laws related to residential treatment facilities
Rep. Bedey

HB 252

Youth behavioral health screening
Rep. Dunwell

HB 334

Revise school attendance laws to address student mental health needs
Rep. Bishop

School Transportation (3)

SB 69

Clarify school transportation related to passenger vehicles
Sen. O'Brien

HB 344

Require new school buses to be equipped with lap-shoulder belts
Rep. Thane

HB 366

Increase penalties for passing school buses
Rep. Hawk

Work-Based Learning/Career Technical Education (2)

HB 382

Revise education laws related to career and technology student organizations
Rep. Kassmier

HB 458

Generally revise regulations governing the eligibility of career coaches
Rep. Anderson

Election (8)**SB 61**

Clarify definition of election officials
Sen. Ellis

SB 123

Revise information that appears on ballot for levy elections
Sen. Hertz

SB 267

Revise laws related to State Fund and government agencies
Sen. Hertz

SB 292

Revising the threshold for approval of a mill levy election
Sen. Hertz

HB 205

Generally revise mill levy election laws
Rep. Marshall

HB 206

Generally revise mill levy election laws
Rep. Marshall

HB 508

Allow option to vote in school district elections
Rep. J. Hinkle

HB 543

Revise laws for ballot wording for bonds and levies
Rep. J. Hinkle

Facilities (4)**HB 5**

Long-range building appropriations
Rep. Hopkins

HB 126

Generally revise laws related to Montana facility finance authority
Rep. Anderson

HB 321

Address school facility funding

Rep. Reksten

HB 514

Increase the inflationary adjustment cap related to school funding

Rep. Romano

Special Education (2)**HB 355**

Appropriate funds for local government infrastructure projects

Rep. Fitzpatrick

HB 393

Establish the Students with Special Needs Equal Opportunity Act

Rep. Vinton

Tax (6)**SB 97**

Implement renewable portfolio standard production tax for property tax relief

Sen. Regier

SB 125

Limit certain property tax levies to 5 years without reapproval

Sen. Hertz

HB 192

Use surplus revenue for income tax and property tax refunds and payment of bonds

Rep. Mercer

HB 212

Increase business equipment tax exemption

Rep. Kassmier

HB 587

Generally revise school finance laws related to property taxes

Rep. Jones

HB 613

Using excess revenue to fund local property tax relief

Rep. Thane

Teacher Recruitment and Retention (11)

SB 373

Provide for alternative teacher credentialing
Sen. Salomon

HB 117

Generally revise working retiree laws under TRS
Rep. Bertoglio

HB 135

Revise administrative provisions of TRS
Rep. Bertoglio

HB 226

Generally revise pension laws
Rep. Moore

HB 332

Generally revise laws related to school employee health benefits
Rep. Bedey

HB 403

Generally revise laws concerning fees for teacher and specialist certificates
Rep. Bedey

HB 445

Establish mentoring program for new teachers
Rep. Romano

HB 503

Generally Revise education laws related to teacher certification
Rep. Hastings

HB 583

Revise occupations and education laws for military license reciprocity
Rep. Barker

HB 588

Revise TEACH Act incentives to increase starting teacher salary
Rep. Jones

HB 633

Provide means to raise teacher pay in school districts with high cost of living
Rep. Matthews

School and Child Safety (21)

SB 99

Provide for a youth health protection act
Sen. Fuller

SB 116

Revise confidentiality provisions related to child protective services cases
Sen. Lenz

SB 213

Revise laws related to school safety teams
Sen. McClafferty

SB 315

Provide for comprehensive sex, gender, and sexuality education in public schools
Sen. Dunwell

SB 337

Generally revise parental rights laws
Sen. Manzella

SB 350

Generally revise privacy laws related to student data
Sen. Zolnikov

SB 389

Revising education laws to add a definition of "civics"
Sen. Emrich

SB 390

Provide freedom in school choice
Sen. Emrich

HB 37

Generally revise child abuse and neglect laws
Rep. Carlson

HB 137

Generally revise laws related to the board of behavioral health
Rep. Oblander

HB 234

Revise dissemination of obscene material to minors laws
Rep. Phalen

HB 323

Revise laws related to child protective teams

Rep. C. Hinkle

HB 361

Provide that use of legal name and sex by a student is not discrimination

Rep. Ler

HB 450

Protect physical self-defense in K-12 schools

Rep. J. Hinkle

HB 498

Establish a Menstrual Equity Act

Rep. Kerr-Carpenter

HB 535

Revising education laws to provide a definition of "financial literacy"

Rep. Mitchell

HB 538

Revise constitutional and pledge of allegiance student instruction laws

Rep. Phalen

HB 549

Authorizing establishment of public charter schools

Rep. Anderson

HB 549

Authorize establishment of community choice schools

Rep. Vinton

HB 566

Revise notice requirements for human sexuality instruction

Rep. Anderson

HB 619

Generally language assessment laws for deaf and hard of hearing children

Rep. Keogh

State Employees (7)**SB29**

Increase and extend the PERS Supplemental Employer Contribution

Sen. McKamey

SB 74

Revise administrative provisions of MPERA
Sen. McKamey

SJ 4

Provide for interim study of PERS and TRS
Sen. McKamey/State Administration and Veteran's Affairs Interim Committee

HB 314

Revise compensation for members of boards, commissions, and councils
Rep. Brockman

HB 316

Generally revise laws related to advisory councils
Rep. Brockman

HB 400

Require agency reports to legislature to be in writing
Rep. Mercer

HB 407

Provide for affordable housing abatements
Rep. Fern

Marijuana (1)**HB 128**

Generally revise marijuana laws
Rep. Kassmier

General Bills that Relate to Education (19)**SB 18**

Add benefit policy statement to pension systems
Sen. Cuffe

SB 41

Revise state land banking laws
Sen. Welborn

SB 46

Remove new industry property classification
Sen. McKamey

SB 47

Revise commercial drivers license laws to comply with federal requirements
Sen. Manzella

SB 306

Revise education laws related to extracurricular activities
Sen. Molnar

HB 2

General Appropriations Act
Rep. Jones

HB 10

Long-range information technology financings and appropriations
Rep. Hopkins

HB 47

Generally revise the Montana Information Technology Act
Rep. Dooling

HB 152

Revise laws related to professional and occupational licensure
Rep. Mercer

HB 163

Revise and extend Missing Indigenous Persons Taskforce
Rep. Running Wolf

HB 174

Require certain costs paid to detention centers to be based on actual costs
Rep. Seekins-Crowe

HB 253

Provide for homestead exemption for primary residences
Rep. Stafman

HB 262

Revise local government financial reporting and audit requirements
Rep. Schillinger

HB 328

Require certain government boards to record public meetings in audio and video format
Rep. Barker

HB 359

Prohibit minors from attending drag shows
Rep. Mitchell

HB 367

Providing clarification for use of federal funds for data modernization
Rep. Mercer

HB 377

Create a 250th Commission for Montana

Rep. Reksten

HB 383

Establish the Montana hunters and anglers community fund

Rep. France

HB 531

Establish annual combined meeting of the board of education

Rep. Brockman



For More Information Follow Me On:



<https://twitter.com/SuptArntzen>



<https://www.facebook.com/SuperintendentElsieArntzen>



YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpF9k3BnJj29LwYIzYmtNMQ>

Legislation: Addendum (34 Total)

Additional bills between February 17 and February 28, 2023

General Education (16)

SB 413

Prohibit sex education instruction below sixth grade in public schools
Sen. Glimm

SB 450

Personal Freedom/Right of Conscience Act related to immunizations and drugs
Sen. Emrich

SB 480

Remove opt-in requirement for student contact information on ACT test
Sen. Dunwell

HB 648

Provide for the best beginnings scholarship program
Rep. Buckley

HB 667

Generally revise education laws related to children under 5 years of age
Rep. Bedey

HB 688

Revise laws related to social-emotional learning
Rep. Sheldon-Galloway

HB 690

Generally revise pupil data privacy protections
Rep. Sullivan

HB 707

Allow certain elementary districts to create new high school districts
Rep. Etchart

HB 715

Revise school immunization laws
Rep. Carlson

HB 744

Revise laws to protect religious expression for students and teachers
Rep. Kmetz

HB 745

Revise laws related to religious materials and prayer in schools
Rep. Kmetz

HB 749

Revise Montana digital academy laws
Rep. Jones

HB 759

Revise education laws related to health instruction
Rep. Hastings

HB 796

Require school district trustee candidates to pass criminal background checks
Rep. Falk

HB 814

Revise laws related to intellectual diversity on college campuses
Rep. Sheldon-Galloway

HB 811

Create online repository for information on school district boards of trustees
Rep. Bertoglio

Mental Health (2)**HB 740**

Revise laws relating to out-of-state placement of youth with mental health needs
Rep. L. Smith

HB 777

Adopt the interstate counseling compact
Rep. Buttrey

School Transportation (1)**HB 679**

Require certain vehicles to carry traction control devices
Rep. Loge

Work-Based Learning/Career Technical Education (1)**SB 444**

Generally revise labor laws related to work-based learning
Sen. Small

Election (5)

SB 248

Revise laws related to retention of election records
Sen. Manzella

SB 291

Revise threshold for approval for certain bond elections
Sen. Hertz

HB 774

Generally revise election laws
Rep. Hopkins

HB 784

Revise laws related to school elections
Rep. Nave

HB 807

Generally revise election laws
Rep. Hellegaard

Tax (1)

HB 481

Increase rate of inflation limit for calculating property tax levies
Rep. Fitzgerald

General Bills that Relate to Education (8)

SB 436

Revise labor law adding certain elected officials in collective bargaining
Sen. Hinebauch

SB 458

Define sex in Montana Law
Sen. Glimm

HB 580

Impose reporting requirements for state agencies and departments
Rep. Mercer

HB 651

Establish the Montana family and medical leave insurance act
Rep. Harvey

HB 663

Establish a Montana veterans hall of fame

Rep. Kerns

HB 676

Revise laws to clarify fundamental parental rights

Rep. Seekins-Crowe

HB 752

Require the national anthem to be performed at sporting events

Rep. Mitchell

HB 789

Revise laws related to the alteration of county boundaries

Rep. Hellegaard