

MASS REGION UPDATES

Assessment Pilot:

A [big thank you](#) to the many districts that are partnering in the assessment pilot.

We have nearly 50 districts and have surpassed the minimum numbers of students needed.

October will be professional development and details month. The first administration window will open November 7, 2022. Participating districts are being sent a comprehensive package.

Accreditation – Chapter 55 Rule Change Recommendations

CHAPTER 55 – Q&A SESSION FOR TRUSTEES

Date: October 13, 2022

Time: 5:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Superintendent Q&A Session

Date: October 19th

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Live Facebook Event – More details around the Superintendent’s ratio recommendations

Date: October 24, 2022

Time: 5:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

The October OPI COMPASS was sent on September 30 to you. If you did not get the Compass, please let your MASS Representative know and it will be sent to you and your email put in the bulk email system.

IMPROVED OUTREACH FOR MASS UPDATES FROM THE OPI:

The OPI is providing a checklist from which you can select specific topics be presented for your region. Provided is the checklist link for your use. The goal is that we are able to provide expertise from the agency to address specific question areas.

<https://forms.gle/bdXV2L1VRtgcd1mo7>

Directory Information: The OPI provides a statewide directory of school district key personnel. For this information to be accurate, it requires clerks to update to enter updated information in OPI Contacts. This is a portal that only clerks have access. **Please be sure your district information is updated here.**

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Residency Project – Recruitment for the Fall of 2023 residents will be underway in October. If you want to be considered for a residency placement, please email [Crystal Andrews](mailto:Crystal.Andrews@opi.mt.gov), by October 31, 2022. The target for cohort II is 60 residents.

The 18 residents in Montana Schools will gather in Helena October 20th to engage in a learning lab on personalizing math in a self-directed student environment. The challenge – implement by January 2023.

Math Standards: have been approved for review by the Board of Public Education. The following steps are underway.

- Research on current effective practices
- Development of a steering committee
- Review and selection of a Task Force
- Evaluation of effective instructional strategies for mathematics
- National Math partners identification
 - Dr. Jo Boaler, Stanford University
 - Dr. Peter Liljedahl, Simon Fraser University
 - Conrad Wolfram, Math Fixes & computerbasedmath.org
 - TBD

More to come as we all work together to ensure:

- ↳ Every time a student makes a mistake in math, they grow a synapse. – Jo Boaler
- ↳ The goal of building thinking classrooms is not to find engaging tasks for students to think about. The goal of thinking classrooms is to build engaged students that are willing to think about any task. – Peter Liljedahl
- ↳ Shift the mindset that computers “dumb” down student learning. – Conrad Wolfram

WORKFORCE REDESIGN WORK TEAM:

October 5th will be the third working session of the team that includes teachers, principals, superintendents, legislators, BOPE, SAM, MTSBA, MREA and the OPI.

The group has narrowed solutions down to five buckets:

- Compensation
- Working Conditions including benefits
- Marketing the value of public education and our teachers
- Grow your own initiatives around the State of Montana
- Redefine the role of teachers

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The October 5th session will be focused on creating a roadmap for each bucket and work to integrate the needs and resources that will be necessary to address Montana's critical needs.

A summary of the work will be provided to MASS Presidents, where your feedback can be provided.

UPCOMING SUMMITS: Mark your calendars now for these learning opportunities

Mental Health & Wellbeing of the Children (in-person)

Dr. Dan Popov and Linda Kavelin-Popov

Learn strategies that Dr. Popov has applied throughout the world to heal our children and families.

November 1-2 Student Mental Health & Suicide Prevention -Adult Retreat

November 3-4 Student Mental Health & Suicide Prevention -Student Retreat

Limited Participation and by invitation only. If you want to learn more/ be invited contact [Deputy Superintendent Allen](#)

Profile of a Graduate – One day virtual Summit coming in February

John Clements & Mary Anne Moran, practicing principals will lead the Summit.

October Leadership Academies:



Faculty: - Dr. Liz City, Harvard University

Topic: Leading Great Instruction

Course Description: Amidst the ongoing challenges of the pandemic and multiple distractions of schools, how can you actually improve learning? What does it look like and sound like to be a teacher leader around learning, both for children and adults? In this course, we will focus on the instructional core, task as a key driver of learning, and on strategic leadership more broadly, including an exploration of meetings as a place to integrate learning, task, and strategy. You will leave the course with a combination of practical skills and tools, as well as theory and research to help you apply your learning to your context.

Recommended Reading: Immunity to Change, by Laskow, Lahey and Kegan