

OPI Summary of Activities July 2018

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Office of the Superintendent

Updates in Montana Education

The 2018-2019 school year is just around the corner! The Office of Public Instruction looks forward to another year of serving all of Montana's students and schools. Below are recent updates in our ongoing school safety conversations as well as recent state budget news which is having a positive impact on education funding.

School Safety

1. The Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for emergency response plans has been [created](#).
2. The OPI has submitted a STOP School Violence Prevention and Response Act grant application.
3. Superintendent Arntzen is [participating](#) in an upcoming Federal Commission on School Safety listening session in Cheyenne, Wyoming.
4. Homeland Security released their 2018 K-12 school [security guide](#) which provides preventive and protective measures to address the threat of gun violence in schools.

State Budget

Due to more positive state revenue outlooks, K-12 education in Montana will have about [\\$1.1 million in funding restored](#) as outline in [Senate Bill 9](#). It will be allocated proportionately in the following three areas. This does not impact GTB funding.

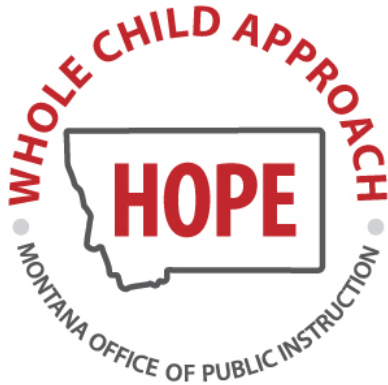
1. \$510,000 for secondary vo-ed funding
2. \$217,547 for special education cooperatives
3. \$413,814 for support services to local districts through OPI

Superintendent's July Events

- CCSSO School Safety Steering Committee meeting
- CCSSO Summer Leadership Convention in Salt Lake
- Board of Public Education [meeting](#)
- Land Board [meeting](#)
- Meeting with statewide education advocacy groups
- Meeting with Superintendent of Montana's Catholic Schools, Dr. Uhl
- Meeting with Commissioner of Higher Education, Clay Christian

Follow Superintendent Arntzen on social media:  

For more information, contact dylan.klapmeier@mt.gov or 406-444-3559



- **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 school**



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

Accreditation Division

TEAMS (Terms of Employment, Accreditation, and Master Schedule) Work Sessions & Opening

The Montana Office of Public Instruction (OPI) is happy to announce we are providing TEAMS Work Sessions once again this fall! During these sessions, participants will bring and enter their own data into the TEAMS database with face-to-face assistance from OPI staff.

Check the [TEAMS website](#) for a list of locations and a registration link.

TEAMS will open September 3, 2018, and close on November 1, 2018. If a district changed an authorized representative (AR) or other administration personnel, submit this information to CentralUpdates@mt.gov. A district must complete a [TEAMS Security Form](#), signed by the new AR, and submitted to OPITEAMS@mt.gov for access to TEAMS. The district should indicate which personnel need to be inactivated and add new personnel and assigned roles.

For more information, contact [Patty Muir](#) 406-444-4317 or [Nathan Miller](#) 406-444-2410

CSIP

The Continuous School Improvement Plan (CSIP) will open September 3, 2018. The Comprehensive Needs Assessment (CNA) is a required element of the new CSIP. All districts must complete the OPI CNA before the new CSIP can be started. This assessment is used to assess local needs to develop a plan based on both student and educator data. The assessment should be completed by administrators, staff, and parents. The CNA will be open on August 1, 2018. Click [HERE](#) for the CNA.

For more information, contact [Patty Muir](#) 406-444-4317.

FY2019 Montana Course Code Changes

Montana state course code changes have been made for the 2018-2019 school year. A complete listing of [FY2019 Course Codes with endorsements](#) is on the OPI website.

For more information, contact [Patty Muir](#) 406-444-4317, or [Nathan Miller](#) 406-444-2410, or OPITEAMS@mt.gov.

Educational Opportunity and Equity Division

2018 Summer E-Grants Training

The Montana Office of Public Instruction will be hosting E-grants training. This will be an opportunity for staff members who work in the E-grants system to gain more knowledge and insight into the program and to go over some of the new changes that have occurred to the E-grants system. Bring your E-grants login information, enrollment and free/reduced lunch count by school, community eligibility data, homeless student data, private school enrollment, and low-income numbers (if necessary) so that you will be able to fill out your ESEA Consolidated Application and Title programs for which your district receives federal funding.

The training session will start at 8:30 a.m. and end at 2 p.m.

**August 9—Helena High School Computer Lab 1300 Billings Avenue, Helena, Montana
Programs: Title I, II, III (July 9), Carl Perkins**

No registration is necessary. For more information, contact Jack O'Connor at joconnor2@mt.gov or 406-444-3083

Finance Division

Salary and Compensation Expenditure Reporting

MAEFAIRS is currently available for the salary and compensation expenditure reporting. The Salary and Compensation Expenditure Report requires that all employees who received a paycheck during 2017-2018 fiscal year be entered in the district's 2017-2018 TOE data first. The deadline to submit the Salary and Compensation Expenditure Report is **December 10, 2018**.

For more information, contact [Kara Sperle](mailto:Kara.Sperle@opi.mt.gov), 4064443249

TFS/Budget - Due to OPI September 15th

Trustee Financial Summary Report and Final Adopted Budgets are due to OPI **on or before September 15**.

For more information, contact [Kara Sperle](mailto:Kara.Sperle@opi.mt.gov), 406-444-3249

Health Enhancement and Safety Division

School Nutrition

OPI School Nutrition Programs is ready for SY2018-19. Make sure you complete your online agreement in [MAPS](#). [Meal eligibility material](#) and [administrative guidance](#) are posted on the opi.mt.gov website. Join us for an in-person workshop or for one of several online [education opportunities](#) this year.

For more information, contact [Chris Emerson](#), 406-444-2501

Indian Education Division

“Montana Proud” American Indian Poster Series

The Office of Public Instruction’s Indian Education Division is doing a second round of “Montana Proud” American Indian poster series. The posters showcase young Montana American Indians and tell their success stories.

Posters of these 14 individuals will be sent to every Montana middle and high school. They are meant to promote American Indian culture and inspire all Montana students to succeed. **The poster series will be showcased at an event in the Montana Capitol Rotunda on Wednesday, August 8th. The event is open to the public and will begin at 11:00am.**

For more information, contact [Stephen Morsette](#), 406-444-0754

Information Technology (IT) Division

Free Mapping and GIS Software Available to Montana Schools and Students

ESRI is a leading publisher of mapping and geographic information system (GIS) software tools. The company is now offering special no-cost licensing terms to qualified educational institutions and individuals for use in learning and scholarly research. Of interest to Montana schools and educators is the free [Schools Mapping Software Bundle](#). [ArcGIS for Student Use](#) software is also free and available for students to use for personal, noncommercial projects.

For more information, please visit [ESRI’s GIS for Schools website](#) or contact Michael Sweeney at the OPI at msweeney@mt.gov or 406-444-4411.

Legal Division

Licensure

Administrators, if you have been actively advertising and recruiting to fill open positions, but have been unsuccessful in finding a licensed educator, requesting emergency authorization of employment may be an option. Please review [Administrative Rule 10.57.107, Emergency Authorization of Employment](#). If you have questions regarding this process and or need an application, contact [Kristine Thatcher](#), with the Licensure division.

Also, for those running a little behind on license renewals, there is a grace period allowing for renewal through August 31st. Renewals are done through our online licensure system, Montana State Educator Information System (MSEIS).

For more information, contact [Kristine Thatcher](#) or call 406-444-2580.

Measurement and Accountability Division

Assessment

The negotiated rulemaking process is required by §20-7-101, Montana Code Annotated (MCA). The OPI has convened a committee to review the proposed amendments to student assessment rules (or ARM 10.56.101). For more information on this process, please visit the [Student Assessment Negotiated Rulemaking Committee](#) page.

If you have any questions about the negotiated rulemaking committee, please contact the OPI Assessment Help Desk at 1.844.867.2569 or OPIAssessmentHelpDesk@mt.gov.