

Ch. 58 Feedback Group Summary

**Agenda
June 21, 2021
8:00 a.m.**

Hot topics in CH 57 are centered around Counselor licensing and their progression to administration. There is recognition that it is important to keep Montana folks in Montana. Especially because of the shortage of educators we are experiencing.

What does a quality educator prep program look like? Conversation revolved around quality EPP developing a foundation of pedagogy, providing diverse field experience and early sustained experience, P20 orientation, the value in coaching, understanding that students will never learn everything they are going to need, the importance of building relationships, and the constitutional mandate in Article X.

Classroom management has been identified as something that students need more help with. Classroom management seems to hardly be mentioned in CH58. The aspect of time in EPP and the realistic expectations of the field are difficult for students to grasp as they are completing their degrees. The reaction and management of trauma in the classroom is important for Montana teachers to understand, especially with the high Indian Student population of Montana.

The 2021 MT Legislative session resulted in a couple of departments being moved into OPI jurisdiction. Community Based Treatment Services from DPHHS and Language and Cultural Preservation of Tribes from the Department of Commerce.

The CEEDAR Grant initiative proposes 19 high leverage practices, of which, the Big Sky 5 identifies five of those to focus in EPP. There is no way to prepare students 100%, so what should the focus be to prepare them in the best way? Student teaching and a more gradual transition into permanent teaching. Could student teaching become a paid experience? Could there be a fifth year added to EPP? The group felt that unpaid internships are becoming a thing of the past, yet there will be red tape to consider and work around to change how internships are done.