Chapter 58 Research and Review Task Force Meeting Summary  
Thursday, July 22, 2021  
8:00 AM – 9:30 AM

The Task Force came to consensus that there would be time given for public comment before the group votes on recommendations to the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The Task Force will have recommendations prepared to present to the OPI by August 5th to allow the OPI time to prepare language, send it back to the task force, and finally receive the final recommendation to the Superintendent.

The Task Force first reviewed the suggested recommendations made to 10.58.501. The group discussed the incorporation of the Danielson Model. It would not be appropriate to incorporate specific models in such a way that would force educators to use it. Education is consistently shifting, the model being used to evaluate or teach should be able to shift as well. Incorporating the Danielson Model into the current ARM was tabled for further discussion.

A vote was taken to recommend to the Superintendent of OPI the following suggestions in 10.58.501:

1. (a) demonstrate understanding of how learners grow and develop, recognizing that patterns of learning and development vary individually within and across the cognitive, linguistic, social, emotional, behavioral health continuum, and physical areas, and differentiate developmentally appropriate instruction for learners of all abilities based on evidence-based practice and individualize developmentally appropriate and challenging learning experiences for learners of all cognitive abilities;
2. (b) use understanding of individual differences and diverse cultures, languages, and communities, including American Indians and tribes in Montana and English Language Learners (ELL), to ensure inclusive environments that enable each learner to meet high standards;
3. (l) demonstrate understanding of and ability to integrate history, cultural heritage, language, and contemporary status of American Indians and tribes in Montana.

Of the Task Force members present, the vote was unanimous to send these recommendations to the Superintendent of the OPI.

The Task Force then began discussion around the suggestion of addition of subchapters in chapter 58 around English as a Second Language and Indigenous language Endorsements. The group brought up the addition of American Sign Language and Exact Sign Language as something Montana schools currently have a need for improvement. Task Force members did not feel ready to vote on the addition of ASL and ESL, but would like to have more discussion around the topic.

A vote was taken on the suggested recommendations of additional subchapters being written around:

1. English as a Second language
2. Indigenous Language Endorsements

Of the Task Force members present, the vote was unanimous to send these recommendations to the Superintendent of the OPI.