



School Funding Interim Commission

64th Montana Legislature

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PAD McCRACKEN, RESEARCH ANALYST
LAURA SANKEY, ATTORNEY
KATYA GROVER, SECRETARY

AGENDA

School Funding Interim Commission

April 4-5, 2016

Room 137, State Capitol

Note: Agenda times are approximate. Some agenda items may require more or less time than indicated.

Monday, April 4

- 8:30 **Call to order, roll call** - Sen. Facey, Chair
- 8:35 **Administrative matters** - Pad McCracken, Commission Staff
- Budget update and agenda review
- 8:45 **Work Session on District Structure and Equity Issues**
1. Review of previously distributed materials; questions -- Pad
 2. Overview of nonlevy revenue -- Pad
 3. Use of permissive and voted levies; county levies -- Rob Miller, LFD Fiscal Analyst
 4. Options for equalizing BASE mills -- Pad
 5. Overview of tuition laws, ramifications, options -- Laura Sankey, Commission Staff Attorney
 6. Public input
- 10:45 **Recess for small group breakout** (Rooms 137 and 102)
The commission will split into two groups with stakeholders and public encouraged to discuss with commissioners options for addressing district structure and equity issues.
- 11:30 **Reconvene for report back and commission discussion of next steps**
1. What recommendations would the commission like to consider for inclusion in its report?
 2. What, if any, draft legislation would the commission like staff to prepare for May meeting?
- 12:30 **Lunch**

- 1:30 **Work Session on School Facilities**
1. Review of previously distributed materials; questions -- Pad
 2. Facility expenditures: analysis by district characteristics, fund, etc -- Rob Miller, LFD
 3. Bond election passage and failure -- Bridget Ekstrom, Senior VP, Public Finance Banker, D.A. Davidson & Co.
 4. INTERCAP loan program -- Julie Flynn, Board of Investments
 5. Facilities funding options -- Pad
 6. Options for reliable revenue stream for state support -- Nick VanBrown and Sam Schaefer, LFD Fiscal Analysts
 7. Public input
- 3:15 **Recess for small group breakout** (Rooms 137 and 102)
The commission will split into two groups with stakeholders and public encouraged to discuss with commissioners options for addressing school facility funding issues.
- 4:00 **Reconvene for report back and commission discussion of next steps**
1. What recommendations would the commission like to consider for inclusion in its report?
 2. What, if any, draft legislation would the commission like staff to prepare for May meeting?
- 5:00 **Recess for day**

Tuesday, April 5

- 8:00 **Work Session on Recruitment and Retention**
1. Review of previously distributed materials; questions -- Pad
 2. Panel discussion on current statewide efforts: Kirk Miller, School Administrators of Montana; Representatives of RISE4MT; Patty Muir, Accreditation Program Director, OPI
 3. Options for defining "isolated" district/school and providing targeted support -- Pad
 4. Panel discussion on K-12 health benefits -- Lance Melton, Montana School Boards Association; Diane Fladmo, MEA-MFT
 5. Public input
 6. Commission discussion/forum
 - a. What recommendations would the commission like to consider for inclusion in its report?
 - b. What, if any, draft legislation would the commission like staff to prepare for May meeting?

12:00

Lunch

1:00

Work Session on Special Education and other topics

1. Review of previously distributed materials; questions -- Pad
2. Proposal from Special Education Cooperative Funding Task Force -- Frank Podobnik, Director of Special Education, OPI; Verne Beffert, Park County Cooperative; Chris Rice, Central Montana Learning Resource Center; Dale Lambert, Great Falls Public Schools; Kirk Miller, School Administrators of Montana
3. Panel on transition programs and possibilities -- Frank Podobnik, OPI; Jim Marks, Administrator for Vocational Rehabilitation and Disability Transition Services, DPHHS; Christy Sofianek, Project SEARCH, Bozeman Deaconess Health Services; Dale Lambert, Director of Student Services, Great Falls Public Schools
4. State funding for special education students age 19-21; overview of HB 451 (2015; Pope) -- Pad
5. Public input on special education topic
6. Commission discussion/forum
 - a. What recommendations would the commission like to consider for inclusion in its report?
 - b. What, if any, draft legislation would the commission like staff to prepare for May meeting?
7. Current funding and programming for G&T -- Michael Hall, Director of Professional Learning and Tech. Support, OPI; Lisa Heitt, Clancy School; Shirley Lindburg, Missoula County Schools (video)
8. Public input on G&T or any other topic related to K-12 funding
9. Commission discussion/forum
 - a. What recommendations would the commission like to consider for inclusion in its report?
 - b. What, if any, draft legislation would the commission like staff to prepare for May meeting?

4:00

Commission discussion of next steps, instructions to staff

5:00

Adjourn

*Public comment provided in person to the commission is a public record that is videotaped, archived, and available on the Internet. Public comment submitted in writing at a commission meeting is a public record that will be posted to the legislative Web site as part of the minutes log for the commission meeting.

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