

Exhibit Number: 6

The following exhibit is a booklet that exceeds the 5-page limit therefore it cannot be scanned. The booklets' cover has been scanned to help you when requesting information. The exhibit is on file at the Montana Historical Society and can be viewed there.

**ARTICLE X
EDUCATION AND PUBLIC LANDS**

Section 1. Educational goals and duties. (1) It is the goal of the people to establish a system of education which will develop the full educational potential of each person. Equality of educational opportunity is guaranteed to each person of the state.

(2) The state recognizes the distinct and unique cultural heritage of the American Indians and is committed in its educational goals to the preservation of their cultural integrity.

(3) The legislature shall provide a basic system of free quality public elementary and secondary schools. The legislature may provide such other educational institutions, public libraries, and educational programs as it deems desirable. It shall fund and distribute in an equitable manner to the school districts the state's share of the cost of the basic elementary and secondary school system.

Section 2. Public school fund. The public school fund of the state shall consist of:

- (1) Proceeds from the school lands which have been or may hereafter be granted by the United States,**
- (2) Lands granted in lieu thereof,**
- (3) Lands given or granted by any person or corporation under any law or grant of the United States,**
- (4) All other grants of land or money made from the United States for general educational purposes or without special purpose,**
- (5) All interests in estates that escheat to the state,**
- (6) All unclaimed shares and dividends of any corporation incorporated in the state,**
- (7) All other grants, gifts, devises or bequests made to the state for general educational purposes.**

Convention Notes:

No change except in grammar. Gives constitutional recognition to the public school fund.

Section 3. Public school fund inviolate. The public school fund shall forever remain inviolate, guaranteed by the state against loss or diversion.

Convention Notes:

No change except in grammar.

Section 8. School district trustees. The supervision and control of schools in each school district shall be vested in a board of trustees to be elected as provided by law.

Section 9. Boards of education. (1) There is a state board of education composed of the board of regents of higher education and the board of public education. It is responsible for long-range planning, and for coordinating and evaluating policies and programs for the state's educational systems. It shall submit unified budget requests. A tie vote at any meeting may be broken by the governor, who is an ex officio member of each component board.

(2) (a) The government and control of the Montana university system is vested in a board of regents of higher education which shall have full power, responsibility, and authority to supervise, coordinate, manage and control the Montana university system and shall supervise and coordinate other public educational institutions assigned by law.

(b) The board consists of seven members appointed by the governor, and confirmed by the senate, to overlapping terms, as provided by law. The governor and superintendent of public instruction are ex officio non-voting members of the board.

(c) The board shall appoint a commissioner of higher education and prescribe his term and duties.

(d) The funds and appropriations under the control of the board of regents are subject to the same audit provisions as are all other state funds.

(3) (a) There is a board of public education to exercise general supervision over the public school system and such other public educational institutions as may be assigned by law. Other duties of the board shall be provided by law.

(b) The board consists of seven members appointed by the governor, and confirmed by the senate, to overlapping terms as provided by law. The governor, commissioner of higher education and state superintendent of public instruction shall be ex officio non-voting members of the board.

Montana Board of Public Education

The Board of Public Education was created by the Montana Constitution of 1972 to exercise general supervision over the elementary and secondary schools of the state. The Board consists of seven members appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate to staggered seven-year terms. By statute the Governor must appoint members to the Board so that no more than two are from any of the four geographic districts. The Governor, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the Commissioner of Higher Education are ex-officio, non-voting members of the Board. In 1978 the Board added a student representative who is elected by the executive committee of the Montana Association of Student Councils to a one year term. The Board maintains offices in Helena with a staff of four people headed by an executive secretary.

In addition to the constitutional mandate to exercise general supervision of the schools, the Board is assigned specific responsibilities by the Montana Legislature. A partial list of duties requires the Board to:

- adopt standards of accreditation for Montana schools and establish the accreditation status of each school;
- effect a system of teacher certification, including the accreditation of the teacher and administrator training program;
- consider the suspension or revocation of teacher certificates and hear appeals from the denial of teacher certificates;
- administer and order the distribution of state equalization aid;
- adopt policies for the special education of handicapped and gifted and talented students;
- act as the governing agency for the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind.

**BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION
CHAPTER 55
STANDARDS OF ACCREDITATION
ADMINISTRATIVE RULES OF MONTANA 6/30/89 10-771
ACCREDITATION 10.55.601**

General Provisions

10.55.601 ACCREDITATION STANDARDS: PROCEDURES (1) The board of public education adopts standards of accreditation upon the recommendation of the state superintendent of public instruction.

(2) The board and the office of public instruction establish procedures and schedules for reviewing the accreditation status of each school.

(3) To ensure continuous education improvement, the school