Montana State Legislature

Exhibit Number: 1.

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Joint Select Subcommittee on Education [redacted] Funding FES

EXHIBIT NO. 2
DATE 3-31-05
BILL NO. Discussion

Outside the Box Thinking…

[redacted]

Premise:

We build programs first and then we construct our facilities – thus space needs…Budget Accordingly

Current Practice for State Funding

- Maximum Budget Based Upon…
  - Per School Entitlement
  - Per Student Entitlement
  - Special Education Component

Current Practice for State Funding…Continued

- Base Budget (80% of Maximum)
  - –44.7% of Per School & Student Entitlement
  - –Special Education Allowable Cost
  - –Guaranteed Tax Base (ANB, Tax Evaluation)
  - –Local Tax Levies
  - –Non-Tax Revenue
- Over Base Budget (Excess of 80% of Maximum)
  - –Local Tax Levy

State Requirements Accreditation Administrative Rules

- 10.55.709 - Librarian per school building
  - 126-250 0.5 FTE
  - 251-500 1.0 FTE
  - 501-1000 1.5 FTE
- 10.55.710 – Counselor Grades 1-12…1 counselor per 400 students
- 10.55709 – Admin
  - 9-17 Cert's 0.5 Admin
  - 18-29 1.0 Admin
  - 250-550 1.0 Admin
  - 551-1050 2.0 Admin
- 10.55.713 – Teacher
  - K-2 20 Students
  - 3-4 28 Students
  - 5-12 30 Students

RECD MAR 2 0 2005

OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
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Linda McCulloch
Superintendent

March 21, 2005

Linda Maetzold, Chairperson
Whitefish Public Schools
600 East Second Street
Whitefish, MT 59937

Subject: **FINAL DETERMINATIONS - ACCREDITATION STATUS**

Dear Board Chairperson:

The accreditation process that each school completes annually is one way of measuring a school's efforts to provide a sound educational program for its students. This process alone cannot ensure the overall quality of that educational program. In addition to the annual review process relating to these minimum accreditation standards, districts are encouraged to assess the overall effectiveness of their educational programs relative to their own philosophies, goals and objectives.

In accordance with the accreditation standards and information provided to this office, and acting on the recommendations of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Board of Public Education has granted the following accreditation status to the school(s) in your district.

School	Accreditation Status
LA Muldown School	**Advice**

10.55.705.1(c) LA Muldown School does not employ two principals who devote full time to supervision and administration. (School's current enrollment is 615.) Second occurrence.
10.55.710.2 LA Muldown School does not provide the minimum equivalent of one full-time counselor for each 400 students. The school currently needs 1.5 FTE for 615 students.

Whitefish Central 5-6	**Deficiency**

10.55.709.1(a) Whitefish Central 5-6 School does not provide a full-time (1.0 FTE) certified librarian for a student population of 251-500 students. Fourth occurrence.

Whitefish Central 7-8	**Deficiency**

10.55.709.1(a) Whitefish Central 7-8 School does not provide a full-time (1.0 FTE) certified librarian for a student population of 251-500 students. Fourth occurrence.

Whitefish High School	**Regular**

Note: Due to the advice or deficiency status of one or more of the schools in the district, the district must submit an improvement plan to correct accreditation deviations to the Office of Public Instruction, Accreditation Division, by **August 1, 2005**. The Board of Public Education may request that the Administrator and Board Chairperson appear before the Board at a regular scheduled meeting.

It is the intent of this office to help correct any problems since accreditation is intended to be primarily a process that encourages improvement in our schools. If I can provide any further assistance, please let me know.

Cordially yours,

Gary Warhank

Gary Warhank, Accreditation Specialist
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cc: District Administrator
County Superintendent
File