MINUTES LOG
March 22nd, 2018
Room 137, Capitol Building
Helena, Montana

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Please contact the Legislative Services Division at 406-444-3064 for more information.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT
SEN. EDIE MCCLAFFERTY, Chair
REP. FRED ANDERSON, Vice Chair
SEN. TOM FACEY
SEN. DANIEL SALOMON
SEN. RUSSEL TEMPEL
REP. JACOB BACHMEIER
REP. MOFFIE FUNK
REP. DONALD JONES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED

STAFF PRESENT
PAD MCCCRACKEN, Lead Staff
LAURA SANKEY KEIP, Staff Attorney
JENNII CARR, Secretary
VISITORS’ LIST (Attachment 1)

AGENDA (Attachment 2)

COMMITTEE ACTIONS
The committee directed staff to prepare several bill drafts and gather more information on various topics for the June meeting. The committee also formed a subcommittee on State Financial Aid Programs. Sen. Facey will chair the subcommittee and Sen. Salomon and Reps. Anderson and Bachmeier will participate.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL
00:00:03 Sen. McClafferty called the meeting to order; the committee secretary took roll. (Attachment 3)

REVIEW AGENDA - Pad McCracken, Committee Staff
00:00:48 Mr. McCracken clarified items on the agenda.

ADMINISTRATIVE RULE REVIEW - Laura Sankey Keip, Staff Attorney
00:03:00 Ms. Sankey Keip discussed rule reviews. (Exhibit 1)

AGENCY MONITORING
Montana Arts Council - Tatiana Gant, Executive Director
00:04:19 Ms. Gant began her presentation on the importance of arts in Montana.
00:14:24 Sen. Facey asked how much money comes from the state versus federal funds.

STAFF UPDATES
Policy overview of chronic absenteeism and truancy - Mr. McCracken
00:16:21 Mr. McCracken presented an overview of truancy and absentee issues in the state. (Exhibit 2)
00:22:39 Sen. Tempel asked what options a school with a high rate of truancy and absenteeism would have.
00:24:08 Sen. Facey suggested changing "days" to "hours" in defining the issue.

School safety memorandum - Ms. Sankey Keip
00:28:35 Ms. Sankey Keip discussed legislation for school safety and security for Montana schools. (Exhibit 3)
00:40:55 Rep. Funk asked what the educational obligations are to a student who is suspended for an extended amount of time.
00:41:43 Sen. Facey asked if the county interdisciplinary child information and school safety team was mandatory.
00:44:08 Rep. Bachmeier asked for clarification whether the Board of Trustees could allow persons of interest to carry a firearm.
00:46:06 Rep. Bachmeier asked what types of people were granted express permission to carry firearms in certain districts.
00:46:47 Sen. McClafferty asked if there was a state law on how close someone could be to a school district with a firearm.
Dr. Tharp gave OPI's position on truancy and absenteeism, and school safety plans around the state.

Rep. Funk asked if OPI monitors districts to help them understand best practices, and if there are consequences for districts who do not have an adequate safety plan.

Ms. Hedalen began her presentation on the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). (Exhibit 4)

Sen. Facey asked for clarification on the military component.

Rep. Bachmeier asked if the Montana University System (MUS) considers the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) scores in testing out of certain college classes.

Rep. Funk asked for clarification on defining an ineffective teacher.

Sen. Salomon asked for clarification on effective teachers and ineffective teachers for the state as well as other states.

Rep. Bachmeier asked what percentage of teachers would need to be considered effective or ineffective.

Sen. Facey asked for clarification on E-Grants.

Sen. Tempel asked for more information on "the team."

Sen. Facey asked what type of programs there are to help secondary schools to guide students into becoming college and career ready.

Rep. Funk asked if ethnicity was student self-identifying.

Ms. Moseman began her presentation on school safety and emergency planning. (Exhibit 5) (Exhibit 6) Note: Exhibit 5 is available in the Legislative Services Division's office upon request.

Ms. Bartow began her presentation. (Exhibit 7)

Rep. Jones asked if access had to be paid for each time the program is used.

Marco Ferro, Montana Education Association-Montana Federation of Teachers (MEA-MFT).

Sen. McClafferty brought the meeting back to order.

Dr. Weyer began his presentation from NCSL. (Exhibit 8) (Exhibit 9) (Exhibit 10) (Exhibit 11)

Rep. Bachmeier asked for specifics on the increase in skills.
02:50:40 Rep. Bachmeier asked for age appropriate examples for teaching social and emotional skills to kindergartners and pre-k students.

02:52:10 Rep. Anderson asked if there was an intersection point between students who have had pre-k and those who have not.

02:54:28 Rep. Jones asked if income is a factor in student readiness.

Update on STARS Preschool Grant Pilot Program - Siri Smillie, Education Policy Advisor to Governor Bullock

02:55:46 Ms. Smillie began her update on the STARS program. (Exhibit 12) (Exhibit 13) (Exhibit 14)

Committee questions and discussion

03:00:15 Rep. Funk asked for clarification on funding differences between private and public preschools.

03:02:19 Sen. Salomon asked how the funds were distributed.


03:12:48 Sen. Tempel asked for the demographics on one of the slides.

03:15:29 Rep. Funk asked for clarification on the length of the grants.

03:17:00 Rep. Jones asked if the biggest factors are low income and minority groups, and why higher income groups are qualifying for subsidized preschool.


Public Comment

No comment

LUNCH (reconvene at 1:20)

SCHOOL FUNDING 101 AND 201 WORKSHOP - Mr. McCracken; Nick VanBrown, LFD

04:23:39 Mr. McCracken began his presentation. (Exhibit 15) (Exhibit 16) (Exhibit 17) Sen. McClafferty approved an “open discussion” so that legislators could informally ask questions throughout Mr. McCracken’s and Mr. VanBrown’s presentation.

HJ1 STUDY - FUNDING PROGRAMS SERVING STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Review HJ1 and previous committee work - Mr. McCracken

05:26:28 Mr. McCracken gave an overview on HJ1.

Review of Special Education Funding Basics and recap of Special Education Cooperative Funding Task Force (2016) - Frank Podobnik, Special Education Director, OPI

05:28:08 Mr. Podobnik began to recap Special Education Funding. (Exhibit 18) (Exhibit 19) (Exhibit 20)

05:39:58 Sen. Facey asked which districts left the co-op.

05:43:44 Sen. Tempel asked for more information on Bear Paw cooperative.

05:45:24 Rep. Bachmeier asked for clarification on what services needed to be provided.

05:45:45 Sen. Facey asked if any positive adjustments have been made for the co-ops

05:49:09 Rep. Funk asked for clarification on what is needed to include special education in the inflation.

-4-
Possible changes to current funding - Mr. McCracken
05:55:35 Mr. McCracken discussed a memorandum on options for changing funding for special needs. (Exhibit 21)
06:01:28 Rep. Funk asked for clarification on why districts wouldn’t apply.
06:02:19 Sen. Facey asked for clarification on the permissive levy.

Public comment
06:03:27 Abigail St. Lawrence, Montana AGATE.
06:05:55 Kirk Miller, administrators of Montana.
06:09:55 Dennis Parman, Executive Director of the Rural Montana Education Association.
06:11:02 Marco Ferro, MEA-MFT.
06:11:37 Dianne Burke, Montana Quality Education Coalition.

BREAK (reconvene at 3:25)

INNOVATIONS IN CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) AND WORK-BASED LEARNING (WBL) PANEL
Introduction - Mr. McCracken
06:26:27 Mr. McCracken introduced the panel.

Overview of K-12 CTE programs and funding; K-12/CTL/WBL partnerships with MUS and Department of Labor and Industry - TJ Eyer, OPI; Amy Williams, OCHE; Casey Schreiner, DLI
06:29:16 Mr. Eyer began his presentation. (Exhibit 22)
06:37:07 Ms. Williams began her presentation. (Exhibit 23)
06:45:26 Mr. Eyer discussed what OPI is doing in regards to work-based learning. (Exhibit 24)
06:49:58 Mr. Schreiner began his presentation.

Helena Public Schools - Greg Upham, Asst. Superintendent
06:56:39 Mr. Upham began his presentation. (Exhibit 25) (Exhibit 26)
07:06:33 Sen. Salomon asked for clarification on Dick Anderson Construction.
07:06:58 Sen. Facey asked how Dick Anderson handled unemployment insurance.

Billings Career Center - Scott Anderson, Principal
07:09:49 Mr. Anderson began his presentation.

Three Forks Schools - Dr. Robert DoBell, Superintendent
07:17:51 Dr. DoBell began his presentation.
07:20:49 Justin Helvik, Three Forks principal, added his testimony.

Committee questions and discussion
07:25:14 Sen. Facey asked how to reach out to include smaller communities in work-based learning programs.
07:27:50 Sen. Salomon asked if Three Forks had issues with dual credit teachings.
07:29:39 Rep. Jones asked what kind of restrictions there were on funding.
07:30:54 Rep. Jones asked if Billings was utilizing City College facilities.
07:36:36 Sen. Facey asked if adult ed was a permissive levy.
07:38:16 Rep. Jones asked if students were utilizing Helena College facilities.
07:42:22 Sen. Salomon asked what it would take to develop benchmarks for what the student is going to learn.
07:45:31 Rep. Jones asked for clarification on a previous question.
07:47:10 Sen. Tempel asked how involved parents are in the program.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY MATTER WITHIN THE COMMITTEE’S JURISDICTION
07:50:02 Bridger Mahlum, Montana Chamber of Commerce.
07:52:37 Mario Martinez, Pacific Northwest Regional Council of Carpenters, Montana-Wyoming Carpenter Apprenticeship Chair.
07:55:44 Mr. Parman, executive director MREA. (Exhibit 27)
08:00:38 Mr. Ferro, MEA-MFT.
08:03:29 Ms. Burke, Montana Quality Education Coalition.
08:05:12 Mr. Miller, School Administrators of Montana.

REVIEW FRIDAY AGENDA AND RELATED MATERIALS
08:12:08 Sen. McClafferty reminded the committee to meet at Shodair on March 23rd for a tour.

RECESS
The committee recessed at 5:15pm, scheduled to reconvene in room 137 on March 23rd, 2018 at 10:00am.
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VISITORS’ LIST (Attachment 4)

AGENDA (See Attachment 2)

RECONVENE AND ROLL CALL
00:00:05 Sen. McClafferty reconvened the meeting. The committee secretary took roll. (Attachment 5)

MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM AND DISCUSSION OF STATE FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS
Commissioner’s Updates - Commissioner of Higher Education Clay Christian
00:01:00 Comm. Christian began his update.
00:01:19 Sen. McClafferty asked which school was going to have the eight week blocks.
00:01:45 Sen. McClafferty asked if any more schools would go into the block.
00:02:22 Sen. Salomon asked if the co-requisite design works as well in the smaller schools.
00:03:42 Sen. Facey asked for clarification on the common course numbering culture.
00:04:13 Rep. Funk asked if some of the university’s budget was set aside for research, or if it was all paid for with grants.
00:05:54 Rep. Jones asked why the model was different from Western.

Why are we talking about financial aid? - Ms. Sankey Keip
00:08:42 Ms. Sankey Keip began her presentation on student financial aid.

Financial Aid overview - Deputy Commissioner Tyler Trevor
00:32:41 Mr. Trevor began his presentation. (Exhibit 28)
00:44:45 Rep. Funk asked if Mr. Trevor had any figures on the communities.
00:45:52 Sen. Facey asked for clarification on the $44 million.

Review of State Financial Aid programs - Mr. Trevor; Shauna Albrecht, LFD Analyst
00:51:14 Ms. Albrecht began her presentation. (Exhibit 29)
00:54:20 Sen. Facey asked what the leverage is for supplemental education grants and the work program.
00:56:22 Sen. Facey asked about a document provided by Ms. Sankey Keip. (Exhibit 30)
00:59:18 Ms. Sankey Keip clarified terminology. (Exhibit 31)
01:00:42 Rep. Anderson asked Ms. Albrecht if there was effective communication to high schools about the scholarships that are funded each year.
01:01:46 Sen. Facey asked Mr. Trevor if costs can be broken down to just tuition and fees, leaving room and board off of the total.
01:04:15 Sen. Facey asked Regent Lozar how difficult it is to design a policy that would limit the money to go to tuition and fees without including other expenditures.
01:08:44 Sen. McClafferty asked if any of the grants provided on the chart have not been funded for the last two years.
01:09:19 Rep. Funk asked if athletics scholarships would be categorized under “private-other.”
01:10:05 Rep. Funk asked if athletic scholarships going to out of state students hurts Montana’s growth.
Options for changes to state financial aid programs - Ms. Sankey Keip
01:12:13 Ms. Sankey Keip explained the handout previously discussed. (see Exhibit 30)
01:13:41 Sen. McClafferty asked if there's a reason to move the administration for the
program from OCHE to OPI.
01:14:58 Sen. Facey stated that the committee should look for a dedicated, consistent
reliable source for funds.
01:20:04 Committee discussion on funding.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY MATTER WITHIN THE COMMITTEE'S JURISDICTION
No comment.

BREAK (reconvened at 11:46pm)

COMMITTEE WORK SESSION
School funding (continued) - Mr. McCracken; Nick VanBrown, LFD
01:45:51 Mr. McCracken and Mr. VanBrown finished up the school funding presentation
from the March 22nd meeting. (see Exhibit 15) (see Exhibit 16) (see Exhibit 17)

Moving towards wrapping up the interim - Mr. McCracken; Ms. Sankey Keip
02:21:01 Sen. McClafferty started working session. (Exhibit 32)
02:29:19 Sen. McClafferty initiated discussion of forming a subcommittee on State
Financial Aid Programs. Following committee discussion, she appointed Sen.
members.

Motion
02:39:24 Sen. Facey makes motion to request a bill draft to adding special education to
the inflation adjusted formulas.

Discussion on motion
02:40:35 Committee discussed motion.

Vote
02:42:15 The motion passed unanimously with a voice vote.
02:42:25 Sen. Facey asked for clarification on option 1(d) from Exhibit 32.
02:49:48 At the request of the committee, Dennis Parman gave input.

Motion
02:52:31 Sen. Facey moves to create bill draft that would allow local districts to have a
levy to cover high-needs student costs for the co-op.

Vote
02:53:10 The motion passed unanimously with a voice vote.
02:54:20 Sen. Facey asked that Mr. McCracken looks at HB32 to analyze the costs and
whether actions from last session are in the base budget.
Committee discussion.

Motion
03:03:55 Sen. Facey requested that Mr. McCracken move forward with committee cleanup bills 1 through 4.

Discussion on motion
03:04:44 Sen. McClafferty began discussion on SB 307.

Vote
03:07:51 Sen. Facey's motion passed with unanimous yes vote.

Motion
03:07:56 Sen. McClafferty moved to adjust language in SB 307 in a way that the school districts could use the funds towards improving their school safety.

Vote
03:08:10 The motion passed unanimously with a voice vote.

03:08:40 Sen. Facey began topic of apprenticeships.

03:11:35 Committee discussion.

03:20:00 Sen. McClafferty began topic of the definition of "pupil."

03:20:20 Committee discussion.


03:28:59 Committee discussion.

03:33:05 Rep. Bachmeier began discussion on HB 446 and CSCT services.

03:35:28 Committee discussion.

03:47:40 Mr. McCracken began discussion on the next meeting and wrap up. (Exhibit 33)

ADJOURNMENT
04:00:53 With no further business before the committee, Sen. McClafferty adjourned the meeting at 2:05pm.