



Superintendent's Update

September 6, 2018

School Safety

- The OPI is applying for a new federal safety grant called *Grants to States for School Emergency Management Programs*. This is a 5-year/\$350,000 annual grant which would allow OPI to hire one federal FTE to assist school districts in building school safety capacity and assisting in school emergency planning and management.
- We will hear if our STOP grant application is successful by the end of September. The STOP grant provides for professional development and would complement the new grant. It is \$500,000/year for 3 years.
- The OPI is beginning to approve Title IV, Part A funding applications. Each district will get at least \$10,000 with our largest districts receiving over \$100,000. Funds can be used in three areas:
 - Well-rounded education
 - Supporting healthy and safe students
 - Supporting the effective use of technology
- The Negotiated Rulemaking Committee on School Emergency Management Planning held its first meeting on August 14th and will meet again in December.
- A representative from the Department of Homeland Security who is based in Montana is beginning to work with local school districts to provide best practices training to staff for emergency preparedness. Superintendent Arntzen attended a training in Philipsburg in August.
- Safety Commissions:
 - Superintendent Arntzen participated in the third listening session of President Trump's Federal School Safety Commission earlier this month in Cheyenne, WY. The Commission will host one more listening session this fall before making recommendations to the President.
 - Superintendent Arntzen continues to be a leader on the Council of Chief State School Officer's School Safety Steering Committee which works closely with the Federal School Safety Commission.

- The Montana School Emergency Management and Planning Advisory Committee continues to grow and the Montana Safe Schools Center at UM has been brought in as a partner.

Education Funding

- \$1.1 million in education funding restored due to higher than expected state revenues and SB 9 rollbacks:
 - \$510,000 for CTE programs
 - \$217,547 to Special Education Cooperatives
 - \$413,814 for targeted state support services to schools

Teacher of the Year

- A diverse committee met on August 28th to narrow our applicant field from 14 down to 3 semi-finalists. A new committee will meet on September 11th to select the 2019 Montana Teacher of the Year. The winner will be announced and celebrated in the coming weeks

ESSA Report Card

- The latest version will be presented.