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## **EDUCATION INTERIM COMMITTEE**

### **67th Montana Legislature**

#### **SENATE MEMBERS**

Carlie Boland  
Edith (Edie) McClafferty  
Daniel Salomon  
Russel (Russ) Tempel

#### **HOUSE MEMBERS**

Fred Anderson  
Moffie Funk  
Bruce Grubbs  
Connie Keogh  
Sue Vinton  
Tom Woods

#### **COMMITTEE STAFF**

Pad McCracken - Research  
Analyst  
Bri Nordhagen - Secretary  
Laura Sankey - Attorney

### **MINUTES LOG**

January 16, 2020

8:05 AM

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Please note: This document is a Minutes Log and provides annotation of the time elapsed between the beginning of the meeting and the time at which the item was presented or discussed, a motion was made, or a vote was taken. The narrative presented here is provided only as a guide to the audio or video recording of the meeting. The official discussion, motion, or vote is available on the audio or video archive of this meeting. The Legislature does not prepare a transcript of the meeting activities. The time designation may be used to locate the referenced discussion on the audio or video recording of this meeting.

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### **ROLL CALL**

#### **Members Present:**

Rep. Fred Anderson, Chair (R)  
Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty, Vice Chair (D)  
Sen. Carlie Boland (D)  
Rep. Moffie Funk (D)  
Rep. Bruce Grubbs (R)  
Rep. Connie Keogh (D)  
Sen. Daniel Salomon (R)  
Rep. Sue Vinton (R)  
Rep. Tom Woods (D)

**Members Excused:**

Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R)

**Members Absent:****Staff Present:**

Pad McCracken, Research  
Analyst  
Bri Nordhagen, Secretary  
Laura Sankey, Attorney

[\(Attachment 1\)](#) [\(Attachment2\)](#)  
[\(Attachment 3\)](#)

**Committee Business Summary**

08:05:43	Pad McCracken gave a debriefing of yesterday's site visits.
08:07:01	Rep. Grubbs stated he was very impressed with the Bryant Elementary School's design.
08:07:28	Rep. Vinton stated the culture within the building was apparent in the halls and in speaking with the educators.
08:08:04	Sen. Boland stated it was great seeing the high school in East Helena being a community effort and getting the young community's input.
08:09:27	Rep. Keogh discussed the Access Program at the Helena College and supported learning more about what's going on across the state for dropouts.
08:10:55	Sen. McClafferty was impressed with the enthusiasm from the community and students regarding the high school in East Helena.
08:11:39	Rep. Funk asked why they can't get an A & B funding for the high school.
08:12:50	Mr. McCracken stated Bryant Elementary School was safe and secure, but also welcoming. <a href="#">(Exhibit 1)</a> <a href="#">(Exhibit 2)</a> <a href="#">(Exhibit 3)</a>

**Administrative Rule Review**

08:14:15	Laura Sankey-Keip <a href="#">(Exhibit 4)</a> <a href="#">(Exhibit 5)</a>
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**Questions and  
discussion from  
the committee**

08:23:41	Rep. Funk stated having reports due at the same time makes for a less robust overview of these reports, specifically the ones that are due to the committee.
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**Agency monitoring - Montana State Library**

08:26:25 Jennie Stapp, State Librarian ([Exhibit 6](#))

**Questions from the committee**

08:40:13 Rep. Woods asked Ms. Stapp to speak to the changing rule that libraries have in terms of supporting our homeless population and whether the opportunity has been explored to get funding through DPHHS to help in that role.

08:41:16 Sen. McClafferty asked Ms. Stapp to elaborate on what the state is doing in regard to the STEM Program.

**Public comment**

08:43:43 Nina Gilbertson, Montana Library Association

08:47:19 Elsie Arnstzen, Montana Superintendent of Public Instruction

**Montana Digital Academy (MTDA) update**

08:49:31 Robert Currie, MTDA Director ([Exhibit 7](#))

**Questions from the committee**

09:26:58 Sen. Boland asked Mr. Currie if there was an additional charge other than the appropriation money that's given, and if the school system pays.

09:27:56 Rep. Keogh asked Mr. Currie if there were any issues he knew about regarding broadband access and connectivity problems. Rep. Keogh asked about alternatives programs, competency based model, and asked if that had that been explored when this pathway was created.

09:33:39 Vinton asked Mr. Currie about what kind of CTE courses were being requested or if the schools might have indicated an interest that their students have that could be fulfilled.

09:33:50 Rep. Funk asked Mr. Currie if he saw the appropriation as needing to grow moving forward.

09:40:47 Sen. Boland asked what the "unique students" are.

**Public Comment**

09:42:11 Marko Ferro, MFPE

09:44:08 Peter Donovan, BPE/CSPAC

09:47:08 Dennis Parman, MREA

**Agency monitoring - Office of Public Instruction**

09:50:59 Elsie Arnstzen Superintendent Updates

**Questions from  
the committee**

10:03:38 Rep. Funk asked Ms. Arnstzen about the process OPI monitors the online programs to early learning standards and how they identify families.

**Agency monitoring - Office of Public Instruction**

10:09:35 School Climate, Julie Murgel, OPI ([Exhibit 8](#))

10:13:47 Tracy Moseman , OPI

**Questions from  
the committee**

10:18:30 Rep. Funk asked if schools will have to have completed a survey before they can give you what their plan is to address school climate.

10:24:17 Sen. McClafferty asked how much input do the schools have in the questions and how much. How often do the questions change in the youth risk behavior survey, if they ever change, and how do the students feel about all the questions and testing.

10:30:13 Rep. Keogh asked what school boards across the state are doing, how they are spending their time and what the connection might be in student performance and outcomes.

**Agency monitoring - Office of Public Instruction**

10:34:11 Sharyl Allen, OPI ([Exhibit 9](#)) ([Exhibit 10](#))

**Questions from  
the committee**

10:45:37 Vinton asked Ms. Allen if there was a specific software program used for the application process and what that was.

10:47:33 Rep. Funk asked Ms. Allen about funding and the concern about being able to add any other school in on the 4-year plan.

10:50:09 Rep. Woods asked if OPI can either proceed in where they are evaluating programs, or make it a lottery system instead of a first come first serve basis. Rep. Woods asked if the committee could take a look at this issue moving forward.

**Break**

10:52:05

**Reconvene**

11:03:34

**Agency monitoring - Board of Regents/OCHE**

11:03:53 Tyler Trevor, Deputy Commissioner for Budget & Planning

**Questions from the committee**

11:09:22 Rep. Woods asked Mr. Trevor if the university has a written policy regarding how IDC's are handled.

11:10:10 Sen. Salomon asked Mr. Trevor about meeting with counselors and how that was received. Sen. Solomon asked about a student receiving a Pell Grant scholarship and how that interacts with other scholarships.

11:16:12 Rep. Woods asked Mr. Trevor when/if the clawback provisions for WIGI and WAMI were to go into effect.

**Agency monitoring - Board of Regents/OCHE**

11:18:49 Mr. Trevor

**Questions from the committee**

11:27:01 Sen. McClafferty asked Mr. Trevor if all information was kept confidential even though it was shared.

11:28:27 Rep. Woods asked Mr. Trevor if the current system was transparent. Rep. Woods asked if it was transparent in each department. Rep. Woods asked what could be done to make these processes more transparent and more able to talk to each other.

**Public comment**

11:36:53 none

**Music Education Student panel**

11:38:15 Christina Dahl, MSU Bozeman

11:41:43 Lauren Vandette, MSU Bozeman

11:46:52 Rory Anderson, University of Montana

**Questions from the committee**

11:55:21 Rep. Funk asked the panel if they knew how many qualified teachers were in the music classrooms. Rep. Funk asked what the panel suggested the committee do to assist in getting these rural positions filled. Rep. Funk asked if a student can get an MA at one of the 2-year universities.

12:03:22 Rep. Vinton asked if students were getting any credit for the ROAM project.

**Public comment**

12:04:35 Dennis Parman, Montana Rural Education Association

12:07:21 Unknown

12:07:48 Skyler Genazzi, Senior, University of Montana

12:10:53 Kirk Miller, School Administrators of Montana

**Lunch**  
12:13:33

**Reconvened**  
13:01:08

**Recruitment and Retention updates and panel discussion**

13:05:06 Dr. Tricia Seifert, MSU, Rural R&R Task Force

13:06:34 Kirk Miller, presentation, PowerPoint ([Exhibit](#)

13:28:38 [11](#)) Dr. Seifert ([Exhibit 12](#))

**Questions from the committee**

13:51:14 Rep. Keogh asked Mr. Miller about the reciprocity of license's.

13:55:23 Rep. Woods asked what the committee could do better during the next session to improve this program.

14:05:14 Mr. Farro and Mr. Parman presentation ([Exhibit 13](#)) ([Exhibit 14](#)) ([Exhibit 15](#)) ([Exhibit 16](#))

**Questions from  
the committee**

14:25:36 Sen. Boland asked Ken Bailey, OPI, if for the years 2018-2019 was there any money appropriated through HB 2 for that funding. Sen. Boland asked if in 2020 \$107,000 was appropriated, with \$29,000 being used.

14:27:49 Rep. Woods asked for a definition on perpetual stipend.

**Public comment**

14:29:03  
none

**Break**

**Reconvene**

14:42:05  
14:44:00 Mr. McCracken ([Exhibit 17](#))

**Pre-kindergarten Work Session and Stakeholder Input**

14:47:19 Peter Donovan, Executive Director of the Board of Education

14:49:21 Superintendent Arntzen

14:50:36 Paul Taylor

**Questions from  
the committee**

14:53:42 Rep. Funk asked if Mr. Taylor thought this might be progressive movement.

**Pre-kindergarten  
Work Session  
and Stakeholder  
Input continued**

14:56:26 Danielle McCarthy, OPI Early Learning Unit Manager  
14:58:16 Jamie Palagi ([Exhibit 18](#)) ([Exhibit 19](#))  
15:03:26 Emily Deen, Director of Advocacy on the Montana School Board - get more here ([Exhibit 20](#))  
15:06:15 Ninette Gilberston, Montana Advocates for Children  
15:10:18 Bev Matsko, Headstart Director in Great Falls

**Questions from the committee**

15:15:24 Rep. Woods asked if Ms. Matsko could describe the mixed delivery system.  
15:17:23 Mr. Parman ([Exhibit 21](#))

**Questions from the committee**

15:22:55 Sen. McClafferty asked Mr. Parman who was applying for the pilot program. She asked how often do the coaches go into the home and if they train the parents. She also asked how they evaluate the child, how long before you re-evaluate them to see the growth of the child.  
15:25:51 Rep. Funk asked Mr. Parman where they get help.  
15:27:18 Sen. McClafferty asked Mr. Parman once the 200 students are found, who will be reported to.

**Public comment**

15:28:43 Kristi Wilson, Kristi's Kiddie Korner

**Questions from the committee**

15:34:32 Rep. Funk asked Ms. Wilson if she went through the Stars Program. She asked if Ms. Wilson felt the community valued expertise in early childcare.  
15:38:14 Brandi Thomas, Childcare Connections ([Exhibit 22](#))

**Pre-kindergarten Work Session and Stakeholder Input continued**



15:44:14 Kaitlyn Jensen, Director of the state wise office  
15:51:25 Kirk Miller, School Administrators of Montana  
15:56:34 Casey Schryner

**Public Comment on any topic within the EDIC committee's jurisdiction**

15:59:54 Kirk Miller ([Exhibit 23](#))  
16:06:11 Issac Nehring, Montana Youth Action

**Wrap up - update work plan**

16:10:19 Mr. McCracken ([Exhibit 24](#))

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 16:33:43