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Education Interim Committee

66th Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS

EDIE MCCLAFFERTY--Vice Chair
CARLIE BOLAND
DAN SALOMON
RUSSEL TEMPEL

HOUSE MEMBERS

FRED ANDERSON--Chair
MOFFIE FUNK
BRUCE GRUBBS
CONNIE KEOGH
SUE VINTON
TOM WOODS

COMMITTEE STAFF

PAD MCCracken, Research Analyst
LAURA SANKEY KEIP, Staff Attorney
BRI NORDHAGEN, Secretary

MINUTES LOG

November 21-22, 2019

Alumni Legacy Lounge, Strand Union Building (SUB), MSU-Bozeman

Please note: This document is a Minutes Log and provides a notation 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 record 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 meeting activities. The time designation may be used to locate the referenced discussion on the audio or video recording of this meeting.

Access to an electronic copy of these minutes and the audio or video recording is provided from the Legislative Branch home page at <http://leg.mt.gov>. From the homepage, select the "Committees" drop down menu at the top, then select Administrative or Interim, and the appropriate committee. The written minutes log can be located by expanding the accordion menu, Meeting Minutes. Links to the audio/video files can be located by selecting the Video/Audio button on the same page, then the "past/current recordings" button. From here, use the calendar to select the date of the meeting you wish to view/listen to.

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

REP. FRED ANDERSON, Chair
SEN. EDIE MCCLAFFERTY, Vice Chair

SEN. CARLIE BOLAND
SEN. DAN SALOMON
SEN. RUSSEL TEMPEL

REP. MOFFIE FUNK
REP. BRUCE GRUBBS
REP. CONNIE KEOGH
REP. SUE VINTON
REP. TOM WOODS

COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED

STAFF PRESENT

PAD MCCrackEN, Research Analyst
LAURA SANKEY KEIP, Staff Attorney
BRI NORDHAGEN, Secretary

VISITORS' LIST [\(Attachment 1\)](#) [\(Attachment 4\)](#)

AGENDA [\(Attachment 2\)](#)

COMMITTEE ACTIONS

- The committee took no formal action, but provided direction to staff on further refinements to the committee work plan and on the committee's priorities for the January 16th meeting in Helena.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

14:17:02 Chair Anderson called the meeting to order at 2:17 p.m. The committee secretary called roll. [\(Attachment 3\)](#) [\(Attachment 5\)](#)

SITE VISITS

14:17:48 Mr. McCracken, reviewed committee visits to educational sites around Bozeman. This itinerary [\(Exhibit 1\)](#) describes the visits. [\(Gallatin College Handout 1\)](#) [\(Gallatin College Handout 2\)](#) [\(Zoot Handout\)](#) [\(Bozeman High School Presentation\)](#)

Committee questions and discussion

14:20:25 Rep. Vinton stated there was a line between childcare and early education, and the committee needed to stay focused on education.

14:21:05 Sen. McClafferty discussed the trauma informed presentation and if the committee could keep an eye on future presentations similar to that in MBI so they could attend. Sen. McClafferty asked how many schools had incorporated that program and how it's working.

14:28:32 Rep. Woods stated focusing on staff turnover and why there was so much in certain districts.

14:28:44 Rep. Funk asked for clarification regarding paraeducator turnover.

14:29:03 Rep. Woods stated the stability of having the same person who deals with students is very important especially in the special needs classes.

Recruitment and Retention Initiatives and Rural Education

14:29:49 Dr. Alison Harmon, Dean, College of Education, Health and Human

Development, MSU ([Exhibit 2](#))
14:30:19 Dr. Ann Ewbank, Associate Professor, College of Education, MSU ([Exhibit 3](#))

Committee questions and discussion

14:40:15 Rep. Grubbs asked if the application process would be a district that already had a candidate lined up. Rep. Grubbs asked about local people staying in their communities and being able to become teachers.
14:43:35 Sen. Salomon asked where the student teacher mentors would come from, who would select them and other procedures involved.

Recruitment and Retention Initiatives and Rural Education Continued

14:46:54 Dr. Harmon ([Exhibit 4](#)) ([Exhibit 5](#))
14:54:28 Dr. Jayne Downey, Director, Center for Research on Rural Education, MSU ([Exhibit 6](#)) ([Exhibit 7](#))

Public Comment

15:12:55 Marco Ferro, MFPE
15:13:27 Dennis Parman, MPERA
15:19:02 Gary Lasin, Bozeman School Board
15:22:36 Elsie Arntzen, Superintendent of Public Instruction of the State of Montana

Committee questions and discussion

15:23:17 None

BREAK

15:23:25

Reconvened

15:38:00

Center for Mental Health Research and Recovery and Youth Aware of Mental Health (YAM)

15:40:12 Matt Kuntz, Executive Director at the Center for Mental Health Research and Recovery (CMHRR) ([Exhibit 8](#))
15:52:03 Kathleen Shea, LCSW - YAM trainer and veteran YAM facilitator
16:00:15 Dr. Ruth Striegel Weissman - YAM Researcher ([Exhibit 9](#))
16:33:10 Jenna Rahn - student participant in YAM
16:36:35 Kelley Edwards M.S. Ed. - YAM program coordinator

Committee questions and discussion

16:40:30 Sen. McClafferty asked about programs for parents.
16:44:25 Rep. Funk asked about the role playing with the students and if that helps

identify students who may need extra services.

16:49:43 Rep. Keogh asked about the implementation of YAM in schools.

16:57:28 Rep. Woods asked Director Kuntz if there were any shared grants with neuroscience that would affect the Center for Mental Health Research.

17:00:42 Sen. Boland asked Director Kuntz if there was anything in YAM that get the school itself (principals, counselors, teachers) to know what the stressors are, how to pick up on them and assistance if help is needed.

Public Comment

17:03:45 Douglas Fischer, Trustee at Bozeman School District

BREAK

17:03:54

Financial literacy for students

17:09:12 Ron Muffick, OCHE ([Video Presentation](#))

17:18:09 Keith Hamburg, Senior Financial Coach, MSU ([Exhibit 10](#))

17:27:47 Brian French, Director, Office for Student Success, UM ([Exhibit 11](#))

Public Comment

17:35:08 none

Committee questions and discussion

17:35:12 Rep. Funk asked about student loan forgiveness for defaulted loans. Rep. Funk asked if students checked the correct boxes when defaulting on loans to get help.

17:40:08 Sen. Salomon asked if there was a database where students can go to see if there's loan repayment to go with said job.

17:42:14 Rep. Keogh asked Mr. French about the average debt after obtaining a BA and the average number of years it takes students to get that degree.

Veteran financial aid and support services

17:44:45 Joseph Schumacher, Director of Veteran Services, MSU ([Exhibit 12](#))

Committee questions and discussion

17:56:19 Rep. Funk asked for clarification regarding the National Guard and deployment statuses.

Public Comment

17:58:02 None

Review Wednesday agenda - recess for the day

17:58:15 Mr. McCracken
18:04:01 Rep. Anderson adjourned the meeting at 6:04 p.m

Friday, November 22, 2019

RECONVENE - CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

14:12:52 Chair Anderson called the meeting to order at 2:12 p.m. The committee secretary called roll.

Public comment

14:14:22 none

Committee discussion and questions

14:14:44 Rep. Grubbs stated the committee should make the meeting with the Regents a regular occurrence.

14:15:02 Rep. Funk stated that might only being feasible in odd numbered years.

14:15:37 Sen. Salomon mentioned having certain Regents come present on certain topics.

14:16:34 Rep. Keogh mentioned the committee go to Missoula or other campuses around the state on the next traveling meeting.

14:17:11 Rep. Vinton stated getting out of Helena, Montana gives a chance for the committee members to interact.

14:17:49 Rep. Woods stated the committee needs to think about what they want to accomplish in this interim and how they do that.

14:18:27 Rep. Funk stated the need for the committee to look at funding the opportunities presented and spreading awareness in those areas.

14:19:30 Rep. Vinton stated in the last MUS 2 year commission meeting the committee discussed the importance of getting information into the hands of students, teachers and parents.

14:20:11 Sen. Salomon asked if the school counselors meet to discuss all options available to students.

14:20:53 Sen. Tempel mentioned issues in finding teachers for rural schools.

14:21:51 Rep. Grubbs stated online portals could be key for rural areas.

14:22:40 Rep. Anderson stated the benefit of getting all possible resources together for meetings where highschool counselors get together annually.

14:24:13 Rep. Keogh stated the need for more space for students.

14:25:34 Rep. Grubbs stated the importance of a partnership between employers and the colleges within communities.

14:30:24 Rep. Anderson stated the need for university systems to communicate to each other instead of being separate.

14:31:55 Rep. Grubbs asked how much control the committee had over the Regents.
14:32:12 Rep. Anderson suggested the committee go to some Board of Regents meetings to establish relationship.
14:33:35 Mr. McCracken stated regret for not bringing the education interim committee statute issue to the regents.

Work Plan

14:36:28 Mr. McCracken and the committee discussed the work plan.

Rule Review

15:14:51 Ms. Sankey-Keip ([Exhibit 13](#))

Adjourn

15:17:15 Rep. Anderson adjourned the meeting at 3:17 p.m.