

Elsie Arntzen, Superintendent

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OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
STATE OF MONTANA



Putting Montana Students First **A+**

August 11, 2020

Dear Mr. Donovan:

Presented is information related to Montana Advanced Opportunities Act and the update requested by the Education Interim Committee (EDIC) for their September 14, 2020 meeting.

The purpose of Montana Advanced Opportunity Act is to:

- **expand personalized career and technical education opportunities** for middle school and high school pupils.
- **reduce out-of-pocket costs for pupils and families** in support of a pupil's postsecondary success.
- **empower pupils** to actively engage in forming their **postsecondary success path**.
- provide **expanded flexibility to districts** in supporting each pupil's postsecondary success path to align with each pupil's individual interests, passions, strengths, needs, and culture.

On January 17, 2020, the Board of Public Education **qualified thirty-three Montana school districts** under House Bill 387, Montana Advanced Opportunities Act, for a total of \$750,000.00. Of these thirty-three districts, **ten were funded** for the 2020-21 school year. These districts are:

- Conrad High School - \$8,237.94
- Conrad Elementary School - \$2,730.96
- Billings High School - \$239,991.35
- Billings Elementary Schools - \$88,367.92
- Glendive Elementary School - \$6,775.91
- Dawson High School - \$19,343.46
- Great Falls Elementary Schools - \$56,272.88
- Great Falls High Schools - \$143,885.16
- Missoula Elementary Schools - \$42,059.45
- Missoula High Schools (partially funded) - \$142,334.97

Funded districts payments will be sent from the OPI by October 1, 2020. The districts will have just begun implementing their plans when the fall EDIC meeting occurs. Each funded district will submit an annual report on or before January 11, 2021 highlighting their district's use of these funds.

The other twenty-three districts qualified by the Board of Public Education, but not funded due to limited funding, were placed on the **priority waitlist**. This grant like Transformational Learning was **structured to be a first-come, first-served model**.

Cheerfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sharyl Allen".

Sharyl Allen, Deputy Superintendent