



HB 754 MUS 2-Year Commission

66th Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS

EDIE MCCLAFFERTY - Vice Chair
DEE BROWN
MARGIE MACDONALD
FRED THOMAS

HOUSE MEMBERS

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JACOB BACHMEIER
JOHN FULLER
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PUBLIC MEMBERS

JOE BILLION
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SANDRA BOHAM
CASEY LOZAR

PUBLIC MEMBERS

JOHN MERCER
MADALYN
PAUL TUSS

COMMITTEE STAFF

PAD MCCRACKEN, Lead Staff
LAURA SANKEY KEIP, Attorney
KATIE GUENTHER, Fiscal Analyst
VERONICA SULLIVAN, Secretary

MINUTES LOG

November 4th, 2019
Room # 317, Capitol Building
Helena, Montana

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Sen. Dee Brown
Sen. Margie MacDonald
Sen. Edie McClafferty
Rep. Jacob Bachmeier (by phone)
Rep. John Fuller
Rep. Bradley Hamlett
Rep. Sue Vinton
Comm. Paul Tuss
Comm. Casey Lozar
Comm. Madalyn Quinlan
Comm. Taylor Blossom
Comm. Sandra Boham
Comm. Joe Billion
Comm. John Mercer

COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED

Sen. Fred Thomas

Rep. Llew Jones

STAFF PRESENT

Pad McCracken, Research Analyst

Laura Sankey Keip, Staff Attorney

Veronica Sullivan, Commission Secretary

VISITORS' LIST(Attachment 1)

AGENDA(Attachment 2)

COMMITTEE ACTIONS

The commission determined to focus less on governance structure and more on improvements to 2-year education within the existing governance structure. The commission suggested a number of different topics for future agendas and instructed staff to poll members to determine priorities.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

10:06:28 Rep Vinton called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. The commission secretary took roll (Attachment 3). Sen Thomas and Rep. Jones were excused.

10:08:04 Comm. Quinlan introduced herself.

10:08:37 Comm. Mercer introduced himself.

REVIEW OF 2-YEAR RESTRUCTURE AND HISTORY

10:09:23 Pad McCracken (**Exhibit 1**) (**Exhibit 2**) (**Exhibit 3**)

Committee questions

10:19:28 Sen. Brown asked who allocates the percentages of the colleges.

10:20:39 Tyler Trevor, Deputy Commissioner of Higher Education.

10:21:18 Comm. Quinlan asked Mr. McCracken how new 2- year colleges are created and who all has a role in that.

10:23:04 Comm. Quinlan asked if funding is allocated by enrollment count.

10:23:59 Comm. Quinlan asked Mr. Trevor if when Gallatin College was created did that change the funding of Montana State University, Bozeman.

10:24:13 Comm. Blossom asked Mr. Trevor how funding was allocated to the campuses.

10:25:30 Comm. Blossom asked Mr. Trevor if that was a change made by legislation or the regents.

10:25:56 Mr. McCracken continued with his presentation.

2-YEAR EDUCATION IN MONTANA: WHERE WE'RE AT AND WHERE WE'VE BEEN

10:38:21 Tyler Trevor and Brock Tessman, Deputy Commissioners of Higher Education (**Exhibit 4**).

Commission questions/Commission discussion

10:43:39 Rep. Vinton asked Mr. Trevor to define open access admissions.

10:50:21 Rep. Vinton asked Mr. Tessman about the downturn. (see exhibit 4)

10:51:30 Rep. Vinton asked Mr. Tessman about the increasing dual enrollment and would it also affect the FTE and head count.

10:52:08 Sen. Brown asked Mr. Tessman about who looks over the course of study at the 2- year and technical institutions and how are they effective in getting the students out in 2- years.

10:55:14 Sen. Brown asked Mr. Tessman about budgets and getting students out in the workforce.

10:56:17 Comm. Mercer asked Mr. Tessman about the charts of headcounts of FTE and CTE.

10:57:24 Comm. Mercer asked a follow up on CTE headcount.

10:57:32 Rep. Hamlett asked about the CTE profile chart (see exhibit 4).

10:59:07 Comm. Lozar asked commissioners Trevor and Tessman about high school graduation rates and enrollment numbers.

11:00:26 Rep. Hamlett discussed the increase in students over the years. (see exhibit 4)

11:01:05 Mr. Trevor continued with the presentation.

11:07:53 Sen. Brown asked Mr. Trevor what the Precision Production program was.

11:09:34 Comm. Blossom asked Mr. Tessman was the time line and process for approvals of new majors.

11:10:54 Rep. Fuller asked Mr. Trevor about transferability to each institution.

11:12:49 Rep. Fuller asked Mr. Trevor how long have they been using the common course numbering.

11:14:10 Rep. Vinton asked Mr. Tessman if he could clarify the Education Studies program.

11:14:30 Mr. Tessman continued with the presentation.

11:15:22 Comm. Quinlan asked Mr. Tessman about Montana Career pathways and the collaboration with the high schools.

11:16:40 Mr. Trevor continued with slide 20 (see exhibit 4).

11:20:34 Sen. McClafferty asked about the University of Montana Western's classes.

11:21:16 Rep. Vinton asked Mr. Tessman what type of communication and collaboration is going on with high schools and middle schools regarding the potential pathways that are available.

11:23:10 Mr. Trevor continued with the presentation.

11:30:09 Comm. Blossom asked Mr. Trevor if slide 26 shows total cost per student.

11:30:56 Rep. Vinton asked Mr. Trevor about the costs of vocational courses versus academic courses.

11:33:03 Rep. Vinton added that she would like to know the employment opportunities and the cost of the 2- year degrees versus 4-year degrees.

11:35:41 Sen. Brown asked Mr. Trevor if there was an economy of scale for the education system.

11:36:56 Comm. Quinlan asked Deputy commissioners what the local sources of funding are and about dual enrollment revenue.

11:39:28 Sen. McClafferty asked for an estimate of students that are taking the courses throughout the state of Montana.

11:40:07 Rep. Hamlett asked Mr. Trevor where the 1.5 mills was sent to.

11:40:27 Rep. Hamlett asked which fund that goes into.

11:40:55 Mr. Trevor continued with the presentation.

12:00:42 Rep. Vinton asked Mr. Trevor to clarify if a registered nurse could obtain an associated degree during their 4 years. (see exhibit 4, slide 34).
12:01:51 Sen. Brown asked Mr. Tessman is there is an opportunity for the city colleges to work with the university system to obtain a 4-year degree.
12:03:00 Sen. Brown asked Mr. Tessman about funding and costs.
12:04:11 Sen. Brown discussed the success of the audit done on community colleges.
12:04:34 Sen. MacDonald asked Mr. Tessman about capacity in the RN program in Billings.
12:06:13 Sen. MacDonald extended the question to other campuses in Montana that have a nursing program.
12:06:30 Comm. Blossom asked opportunity of transitions to other colleges in the RN program.
12:07:28 Rep. Hamlett asked Mr. Tessman asked about more information on the nursing degree.
11:08:51 Mr. Trevor continued with the presentation.

LUNCH

12:10:16

RECONVENED

13:06:48

PANEL DISCUSSION WITH 2-YEAR CAMPUS LEADERS

13:07:22 Mr. McCracken introduced the panel.
13:09:25 The panel introduced themselves.
13:10:04 Sen. Brown asked about the qualifications for Dean versus President.
13:11:51 Susan Wolff, CEO Dean of Great Falls College MSU (**Exhibit 5**)(**Exhibit 6**)

Committee questions/ Commission Discussion

13:25:34 Rep. Fuller asked Ms. Wolff about military training in a CTE program.
13:26:42 Rep. Fuller asked Ms. Wolff asked about time limits on degree programs.
13:28:16 Rep. Vinton asked Ms. Wolff if there are several programs that are online for students to utilize.
13:29:29 Tom Gallagher, Dean of Missoula College (**Exhibit 7**)
13:44:50 Rep. Hamlett asked the panel how the Montana Digital Academy fits into the college system.
13:45:53 Rep. Hamlett asked the panel if there were other courses that could get brought in that would be beneficial.
13:46:30 Rep. Fuller asked Mr. Gallagher if there could be possibilities in expanding the courses.
13:49:37 Jane Karas, President of Flathead Valley Community College (**Exhibit 8**). Sen.
14:04:55 Brown discussed the importance of collaboration with businesses for students.
14:05:51 Comm. Tuss asked the panel what was the best mixture of CTE and traditional academic classes.
14:15:00 Comm. Mercer discussed the governance of the programs and asked the panel about integrating the community colleges with the universities.
14:19:52 Comm. Mercer asked about governing all the 2-year schools the same.

14:22:28 Comm. Mercer asked about governance.
14:28:16 Comm. Mercer discussed the governance of the programs and focusing on Montana over other states
14:31:12 Rep. Vinton discussed the focus of the commission on the efficiency of the Montana University System and to review where we were and where we are going.
14:32:34 Comm. Lozar discussed the importance of communication and showcasing the programs that are offered to students.
14:36:35 Ms. Wolff and Mr. Gallagher discussed the importance of other institutions and shared services.
14:41:04 Commission discussion on promoting CTE programs.
14:45:06 Comm. Billion asked the panel what suggestions they have about promoting the CTE programs.
14:55:20 Sen. MacDonald asked the panel about staff and start up funds for programs.
14:59:54 Comm. Boham discussed funding and the expenses with programs.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

COMMISSION DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION TO STAFF

15:04:45 Commission discussion on getting a panel of businesses to the commission meetings.
15:08:18 Comm. Blossom discussed bringing a panel of high school counselors to discuss their needs in getting the word out to their students.
15:09:58 Comm. Billion discussed focusing on improving what is already available.
15:10:08 Comm. Lozar discussed looking more into the career and college studies.
15:10:47 Comm. Mercer discussed spending time focusing on the future of education and more stable funding.
15:19:56 Rep. Fuller discussed coming up with a way to tie educational funding that is not connected to student enrollment.
15:20:27 Comm. Quinlan discussed knowing bearers and successes that the 2-year colleges have.
15:21:28 Rep. Hamlett asked if Mr. McCracken could find out the student loan debt from CTE programs.
15:23:46 Comm. Billion asked about getting the top 2-5 challenges and corrections that the commission can make.
15:25:19 Rep. Hamlett discussed exploring the digital academy.
15:26:17 Comm. Mercer asked if Mr. McCracken could compile a list of challenges and corrections for the commissioners to look at.
15:27:46 Mr. McCracken (see exhibit 1)

WRAP-UP/NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

15:27:29 Mr. McCracken clarified what would be compiled for the next meeting.

ADJOURN

15:30:57

