

## Chapter 55 Update

The OPI is working in partnership with Region 17 Comprehensive Center to update ARM Chapter 55 on the 10-year revision cycle. Representing the OPI are Julie Murgel (Chief Operating Officer), Nathan Miller (Accreditation Program Director), and Tristen Loveridge (Project Manager). After engaging in a research phase, two working groups, **Quality School Task Force** and the **Negotiated Rule Making Committee** have been formed to complete the review and revision phase. Below are details and key dates for the two working groups.

**Standards of accreditation** are outlined in the Montana Code Annotated (MCA) 20-7-101: Standards of accreditation for all schools must be adopted by the board of public education upon the recommendations of the superintendent of public instruction.

### Quality School Taskforce:

The task force will be charged with making recommendations for ARM Chapter 55 revisions to the superintendent of public instruction and the negotiated rule committee. The task force orientation meeting was held on January 11, 2022 at 4:00-5:00pm via Zoom. We are hosting an in-person kick off meeting in Helena at the Capitol in Room 455 on January 25<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 5:00pm and 26<sup>th</sup> from 8:00am to 2:00pm. It is anticipated that the task force will need to meet at least seven times before April 2022 in order to complete its work. The purposed scheduled is as follows, exact times/dates will be set by the task force on January 25<sup>th</sup>:

- February 7-11 (2 hour Zoom)
- February 22-25 (2 hour Zoom)
- March 8 (10 am to 5pm) & March 9 (8:00am to 2:00pm) (in person, Helena)
- March 21-25 (2 hour Zoom)
- April 4-April 8 (2 hour Zoom)

### **Critical documents that the Task Force must create to meet its charge:**

- Develop a field survey document (To be deployed in early February)
- Write a Concept Memorandum (current rule, proposed red-lined rule, proposed conceptual changes, rationale); needs to be completed by March 11th)

### **Task Force Members:**

Dan Lee	University of Montana	Associate Dean of Education
Russ McDaniel	Ulm Elementary	Principal K-8
David Pafford	Noxon Public Schools	Board Chairperson
Billi Taylor	Harrison K-12 Schools	District Supt
Heather Jarrett	Reed Point Public Schools	District Supt
Heather Hoyer	Great Falls Public Schools	Assistant Superintendent 7- 12
Jon Konen	Corvallis K-12 Schools	District Supt
Janelle Beers	MT Small Schools Alliance	Interim Director

**Negotiated Rule Making Committee:**

**We will be launching the Negotiated Rule Making Committee on February 24<sup>th</sup>.**

The Chapter 55 Negotiated Rule Making Committee will review and revise the recommendations from the Chapter 55 Task Force. The recommendations presented to the Board of Public Education must include an economic impact statement that the negotiated rulemaking committee prepares. An orientation meeting for the Negotiated Rule Making Committee is scheduled for February 24 3:00-5:00pm via Zoom. We will host an in-person kick off meeting in Helena on March 17<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 5:00pm and 18<sup>th</sup> from 8:00am to noon.

It is anticipated that this committee will need to meet at least ten times before July 2022 in order to complete its work. The purposed scheduled is as follows:

- February 24 3:00-5:00pm (2 hour Zoom)
- March 17 (10am to 5pm) & March 18<sup>th</sup> (8am to 2pm)-(in person, Helena)
- April 6 3:30-5:00pm (1.5 hour Zoom)
- April 13 3:30-5:00pm (1.5 hour Zoom)
- April 20 3:30-5:00pm (1.5 hour Zoom)
- May 2 (10 am to 5pm) & May 3 (8:00am to 2:00pm) (in person, Helena)
- May 18 3:30-5:00pm (1.5 hour Zoom)
- May 25 3:30-5:00pm (1.5 hour Zoom)
- June 1 3:30-5:00pm (1.5 hour Zoom)
- June 16 (10 am to 5pm) & June 17 (8:00am to 2:00pm) (in person, Helena)

**Proposed Timeline for Revisions to ARM 55 (Shared as information item at BPE on 11/18/21)**

Research	Revisions to ARM	Negotiated Rule Making Committee	Board of Public Education	Education Interim Committee	Board of Public Education	Implementation
November 2020 – April 2021 OPI Internal Work	November 2021 – April 2022 OPI Work	January – June 2022	July 2022 Proposed Amendments & Economic Impact	September 2022	MAPA Process	July 2023
		Facilitator: Dr. Murgel, Nathan Miller				

**Communication:**

- Meeting minutes, zoom links, and agendas, task force members can be found on top left of the OPI main webpage at <https://opi.mt.gov/>
- Stakeholders can attend the meetings via zoom.
- Public comments will be taken at the end of each meeting. Each speaker will be provided 3 minutes for their comments. Public comments for the task force are scheduled for: January 25<sup>th</sup>: 4:30 to 5:00pm and January 26<sup>th</sup> 1:45 to 2:00pm.