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EDUCATION INTERIM COMMITTEE

67th Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS

Shannon O'Brien
Edith (Edie) McClafferty
Daniel Salomon
Russel (Russ) Tempel

HOUSE MEMBERS

Fred Anderson
Moffie Funk
Sara Novak
Ed Hill
Linda Reksten
Tyson Running Wolf

COMMITTEE STAFF

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

MINUTES LOG

November 18, 2021
Missoula, Montana
Helena, Montana

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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MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty, Chair
Rep. Fred Anderson, Vice Chair
Rep. Ed Hill
Rep. Moffie Funk
Rep. Sara Novak
Rep. Linda Reksten
Sen. Daniel Salomon
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel
Sen. Shannon O'Brien
Rep. Running Wolf

MEMBERS EXCUSED

STAFF PRESENT

Pad McCracken, Research Analyst
Jameson Walker, Attorney

Bri Nordhagen, Secretary

AGENDA (Attachment 1)

VISITOR'S LIST

COMMITTEE ACTION

The committee modified its rules to accommodate potential ballot issue review requirements and provided directions to staff related to the committee's work plan.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

13:53:00 Madam chair McClafferty called the Education Interim Committee to order. The committee secretary took roll.

Administrative Rule Review

13:56:02 Jameson Walker, Legislative Services Division attorney, began his overview of the "Interim Review of Ballot Issues" handout. **(Exhibit 1)**

Motion

14:01:19 Rep. Anderson made a motion regarding accepting the other two interim committee's amendments to committee rules.

Questions from the committee

14:01:42 Rep. Funk asked Mr. Walker if the 10 days was not the usual notice of days versus the 14, and if leadership gave the appropriate interim committee direction.

14:03:25 Sen. Salomon asked Mr. Walker if they were calendar or working days for the 14/10 days, should it be defined or go with the default.

14:06:18 Madam chair McClafferty asked if the committee could add the three days definition.

14:11:08 Sen. Salomon asked if the language of the days should be defined or go with the default.

14:11:44 Madam chair McClafferty asked Mr. McCracken if he could draft a letter stating this change.

14:12:30 Rep. Reksten asked if three days were sufficient for notice.

Motion

14:12:30 Madam chair McClafferty made a motion to change the three days definition.

Vote

14:12:30 The motion to change the three days definition passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Questions from the committee

14:13:38 Rep. Funk asked Mr. Jameson if the statutory 14 days were business days.

14:14 Sen. O'Brien asked Mr. Walker if all other committee's abided by the 14 days and was it consistent with the policies regarding notification.

Motion

14:16:00 Madam chair McClafferty made a motion the committee change "less than three days" in the language.

Vote

14:16:14 The motion to change “less than three days” in the language passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Office of Public Instruction Updates (OPI)

14:17:07 Superintendent Elsie Arntzen began her overview of the “OPI updates”, “youth risk behavior survey”, and “CSCT Update” handouts. [\(Exhibit 2\)](#) [\(Exhibit 3\)](#) [\(Exhibit 4\)](#)

Questions from the committee

14:42:29 Rep. Novak asked Superintendent Arntzen if she had any numbers as far as programs available today with the CSCT, and services rendered.

14:43:44 Sen. O'Brien asked Supt. Arntzen if there was more clarification regarding this program in the future, and were they surveying the students as much as last year as the funding was uncertain.

14:47:06 Rep. Funk asked Supt. Arntzen if there was a better program or another way to help the students.

14:57:04 Rep. Novak asked Supt. Arntzen what happens when it's early in the school year and they score high, and how is the assessment going to drive the instruction.

15:02:01 Madam chair McClafferty asked if they had started entrance testing, when will they do the second one, and how long does the renaissance test take as well as other ones.

15:06:50 Rep. Hill asked Supt. Arntzen asked if she could explain the loss of learning, different learning opportunities and to expand on that.

15:11:01 Rep. Funk asked Supt. Arntzen if the K-12 task force could be restarted and would that help with the situation.

15:15:30 Rep. Reksten asked if they were doing anything for teachers leaving the job force to adjust and was there enough going on in the state through OPI that can help new teachers to want to stay in Montana.

Review “No Time to Lose”

15:20:01 Mr. McCracken began his overview of the “NCSL – No Time to Lose” booklet. [\(Exhibit 5\)](#)

Questions from the committee

15:31:27 Rep. Funk asked if she was there in person, does she need to do anything else.

BREAK

15:32:05

Review MUS 2-Year Commission final report and materials

15:45:00 Mr. McCracken began his overview of the “ORPA – MUS 2-Year Commission”, and “HB 754” handouts. [\(Exhibit 6\)](#) [\(Exhibit 7\)](#)

Committee discussion

15:50:01 The committee discussed the MUS 2-Year Commission final report.

Bitterroot Valley Community College update

16:01:54 Marci Smith, Board Chair for the Bitterroot Community College, began her overview of the "Transition Plan: BC to BVCC" and "BC to BVCC Transition Plan – Fall 2023 Opening" handouts. [\(Exhibit 8\)](#) [\(Exhibit 9\)](#)

Questions from the committee

16:21:02 Sen. Salomon asked Ms. Smith if they were going to present this plan to save money.

16:22:22 Sen. O'Brien asked Ms. Smith if they've established what they are going to ask regarding levy mills.

16:23:30 Rep. Reksten asked if they have a facility right now.

Public comment

16:25:08 Dennis Parman, Montana Rural Education Association

16:30:44 Kirk Miller, Executive Director of SAM [\(Exhibit 10\)](#) Dianne

16:37:58 Fladmo, Montana Federation of Public Employees

Work session to review work plan and upcoming meeting agendas

16:40:05 Mr. McCracken began his review of the "Work Plan Outline", the "2023 Biennial budget", and the "Child Care and Pre-Kindergarten in the Build Back Better Act" handouts and the committee discussed. [\(Exhibit 11\)](#) [\(Exhibit 12\)](#) [\(Exhibit 13\)](#)

ADJOURNMENT

17:10:31 Madam chair McClafferty adjourned the Education Interim Committee at 5:10 P.M.