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# Education Interim Committee

68th Montana Legislature

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PAD MCCRACKEN, Lead Staff  
LAURA SANKEY KEIP, Staff Attorney  
ANIA ALDUENDA, Secretary

Constitutional Players Convening  
Monday, June 17, 2024  
Room 317, Montana Capitol

Purpose – As the entities under the Montana Constitution with governance roles over the education system, to continue working together in striving to meet the goal outlined in Article X, Section 1: *It is the goal of the people to establish a system of education which will develop the full educational potential of each person.*

These constitutional entities are:

- The Legislature
- The Governor
- The Superintendent of Public Instruction and Office of Public Instruction (OPI)
- Local School Boards and the Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA)
- The Board of Public Education (BPE)
- The Board of Regents of Higher Education and the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE)

This convening is jointly organized by the Education Interim Committee and the Education Interim Budget Committee.

Michelle Exstrom, Education Program Director with the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) and Janice Case, West Region Director with the Nation Center on Education and the Economy (NCEE) will participate and help enrich/facilitate the conversation around the four priorities.

8:30 a.m. Call to order and welcome – Rep. David Bedey, Chair of the Education Interim Budget Committee and Sen. Dan Salomon, Chair of the Education Interim Committee

Opening remarks – Governor Greg Gianforte

Introductions

8:45 Review of previous convenings – The “Case for Change” and Pulling Together on

## Four Priorities – Rep. Llew Jones

- 9:00 Investing in effective early childhood education
- a) National perspectives and successful state strategies – NCSL/NCEE
  - b) Lessons from Alabama – Rep. Terri Collins, Alabama House of Representatives
  - c) HB 352 and Early Literacy Targeted Interventions – where are we at? – McCall Flynn, BPE; Christy Mock-Stutz, OPI
  - d) Moving forward – potential next steps by entities
- 10:15 Break
- 10:30 Strengthening the teaching profession
- a) National perspectives and successful state strategies – NCSL/NCEE
  - b) Leveraging instructional leaders – Janice Case, NCEE
  - c) Teacher Residency program – Dr. Julie Murgel, OPI
  - d) Strengthening mentorship for new teachers – McCall Flynn, BPE; Dr. Julie Murgel, OPI
  - e) Teacher compensation
    - i. Preliminary data on teacher pay study – Amy Watson, State Economist, Department of Labor & Industry
    - ii. NCEE/NCSL input
    - iii. Ideas for enhancing TEACH Act – Rep. Jones
  - f) Moving forward – potential next steps by entities
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch (provided for representatives of the constitutional entities)
- 1:00 Enhancing Career and Technical Education
- a) National perspectives and successful state strategies – NCSL/NCEE
  - b) Advanced Opportunities – where are we at? – McCall Flynn, BPE; Krystal Smith, Education Innovation Manager, OPI (via Zoom)
  - c) Business and Education Engagement Teams – Commissioner Swanson and Jay Phillips, Division Administrator, DLI
  - d) Leveraging CTE dual enrollment and micropathways – Tyler Trevor, Deputy Commissioner for Budget & Planning, OCHE
  - e) Moving forward – potential next steps by entities
- 2:00 Moving towards a proficiency model
- a) National perspectives and successful state strategies – NCSL/NCEE
  - b) What’s working in other states – Laurie Gagnon, CompetencyWorks Program Director, Aurora Institute
  - b) Nevada’s model for change – Janice Case, NCEE

- c) Chapter 55 implementation: graduate profiles, proficiency-based and personalized learning, integrated strategic action plans
  - i. State-level support – McCall Flynn, BPE; Dr. Julie Murgel, OPI
  - ii. District progress and challenges – Lance Melton, MTSBA
- d) HB 549 and Public Charter Schools as vehicle for innovation – McCall Flynn, BPE
- e) Moving forward – potential next steps by entities

3:30 Other updates/new topics

- a) Postsecondary remediation – need and rates over time – MUS strategies – Crystine Miller, Director of Student Affairs and Student Engagement, OCHE
- b) Update on the Education and Workforce Data Governing Board (HB 949) – Department of Administration
- c) School Funding Interim Commission in 2025-2026 (aka "The Decennial Study") – Pad McCracken
- d) District/administrative structure – are there efficiencies to be gained? – Rep. Jones

5:00 Public Comment

5:30 Adjourn

\*Public comment provided in person to the committee is a public record that is videotaped, archived, and available on the Internet. Public comment submitted in writing at a committee meeting is a public record that will be posted to the legislative website as part of the minutes log for the committee meeting.

\*The Montana Legislative Services Division will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities who wish to participate in this public meeting. For questions about accessibility or to request accommodations, please contact Jessica James at 406-444-3267 or [jessica.james@legmt.gov](mailto:jessica.james@legmt.gov) as soon as possible before the meeting date.