



## EDUCATION INTERIM COMMITTEE 68th Montana Legislature

### SENATE MEMBERS

Daniel Emrich  
John Fuller  
Edith (Edie) McClafferty  
Daniel Salomon

### HOUSE MEMBERS

Linda Reksten  
Melissa Romano  
Kerri Seekins-Crowe  
Sue Vinton

### COMMITTEE STAFF

Pad McCracken - Research Analyst  
Bethany McDowell - Secretary  
Laura Sankey Keip - Attorney

# MINUTES LOG

March 11, 2024  
Capitol Room 317  
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. Daniel Salomon, Chair (R)  
Sen. Daniel Emrich (R)  
Sen. John Fuller (R)  
Rep. Linda Reksten (R)  
Rep. Melissa Romano (D)  
Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe (R)  
Rep. Sue Vinton (R)

### MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D)

### MEMBERS ABSENT:

### STAFF PRESENT:

Pad McCracken, Research Analyst  
LaVanda Jennings, Secretary  
Laura Sankey Keip, Attorney

### AGENDA ([Attachment 1](#))

## **VISITORS' LIST ([Attachment 2](#))**

### **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

13:04:24 Presiding Officer Daniel Salomon called the meeting to order at 1:04 PM. The committee secretary took roll.

### **MEETING OVERVIEW**

13:05:38 Pad McCracken, Lead Staff, LSD

13:05:46 Vice Presiding Officer Edith (Edie) McClafferty joined the meeting.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE RULE REVIEW**

13:07:36 Laura Sankey Keip  
[EXHIBIT1](#)

### **Committee Discussion/Questions**

13:18:06 Sen. John Fuller

13:19:09 Presiding Officer Daniel Salomon

### **Public Comment on Administrative Rule**

13:19:47 McCall Flynn, Executive Director, Board of Public Education

### **MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM UPDATES**

13:20:20 Galen Hollenbaugh, Deputy Commissioner for Government Relations and Communications, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education, (OCHE)

13:21:57 Crystine Miller, Director of Student Affairs and Student Engagement, OCHE  
[EXHIBIT2](#)

### **Committee Discussion/Questions**

13:32:53 Sen. John Fuller

13:32:59 Redirected to Joe Thiel, Interim Deputy Commissioner, Academic Research & Student Affairs, OCHE

### **Montana University System Updates- Cont'd**

13:34:20 Joe Thiel  
[EXHIBIT3](#)

### **Committee Discussion/Questions**

13:47:47 Rep. Linda Reksten

13:48:50 Presiding Officer Daniel Salomon

13:53:50 Sen. John Fuller

13:55:20 Rep. Linda Reksten

13:57:44 Rep. Sue Vinton

### **4-DAY SCHOOL WEEK**

14:03:16 Dr. Julie Murgel, Chief Operating Officer, Office of Public Instruction, (OPI)  
[EXHIBIT4](#)

**Committee Discussion/Questions**

14:08:53 Presiding Officer Daniel Salomon

**4-Day School Week- Cont'd**

14:09:03 Dr. Julie Murgel

**Committee Discussion/Questions**

14:11:34 Rep. Linda Reksten

**4-Day School Week- Cont'd**

14:12:04 Dr. Julie Murgel

**Committee Discussion/Questions**

14:19:26 Sen. John Fuller

14:20:50 Presiding Officer Daniel Salomon

14:23:31 Vice Presiding Officer Edith (Edie) McClafferty

14:24:25 Sen. Daniel Emrich

14:24:52 Rep. Linda Reksten

**4-Day School Week- Cont'd**

14:27:21 Ashley Wallace, Associate Director, Education Program, National Conference of State Legislatures, (NCSL)

[EXHIBIT5](#)

**Committee Discussion/Questions**

14:46:50 Presiding Officer Daniel Salomon

**Panel Discussion**

14:48:51 Luke Kloker, Superintendent, Fairview School

14:49:29 Rob Pederson, Superintendent, Plentywood Schools

14:50:27 Larry Crowder, Executive Director, Montana Rural Association, (MREA)

14:51:02 Presiding Officer Daniel Salomon

14:51:41 Luke Kloker

14:53:04 Rob Pederson

14:58:06 Luke Kloker

15:00:05 Rob Pederson

15:01:02 Presiding Officer Daniel Salomon

15:03:07 Luke Kloker

15:03:13 Rob Pederson

15:04:14 Pad McCracken

15:06:06 Presiding Officer Daniel Salomon

**RECESS**

15:06:57 Reconvened at 15:25:09

## **RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION**

### **Mentoring/Induction and Teacher Apprenticeships**

- 15:25:33 Gabriela Rodriguez, Liaison for Montana for Education Commission for the States, (ECS)  
[EXHIBIT6](#)
- 15:31:41 Lauren Peisach, ECS (see exhibit 6)
- 15:32:20 Ben Erwin, ECS (see exhibit6)
- 15:36:19 Lauren Peisach, ECS (see exhibit 6)
- 15:37:24 Ben Erwin, ECS (see exhibit6)

### **Committee Discussion/Questions**

- 15:56:52 Presiding Officer Daniel Salomon

### **Department of Labor Exploration of Registered Teacher Apprenticeship**

- 15:57:35 Sarah Swanson, Commissioner, Department of Labor and Industry, (DLI)
- 16:06:28 Glen Disque, State Apprenticeship Director, DLI

### **Committee Discussion/Questions**

- 16:12:12 Sarah Swanson, Commissioner
- 16:13:42 Rep. Linda Reksten
- 16:16:10 Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe
- 16:18:03 Sen. Daniel Emrich
- 16:19:56 Vice Presiding Officer Edith (Edie) McClafferty
- 16:20:56 Redirected to Glen Disque
- 16:21:50 Presiding Officer Daniel Salomon
- 16:26:00 Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe
- 16:29:49 Presiding Officer Daniel Salomon
- 16:32:11 Sen. John Fuller
- 16:32:34 Pad McCracken
- 16:32:52 Sen. Daniel Emrich
- 16:33:40 Redirected to Glen Disque
- 16:36:12 Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe

### **House Bill 833 Teacher Residency Program Update**

- 16:37:11 Krystal Smith, Education Innovation Manager, Office of Public Instruction, (OPI)  
[EXHIBIT7](#)
- 16:39:26 Kirsten Minnick, UM Western
- 16:40:45 Krystal Smith  
[EXHIBIT8](#)

### **Committee Discussion/Questions**

- 17:01:28 Presiding Officer Daniel Salomon

**Public Comment on Recruitment and Retention**

17:03:28 Trisha Seifert, Dean, College of Education, Health & Human Development  
Education, Montana State University, (MSU)

[EXHIBIT9](#)  
[EXHIBIT10](#)

**HOUSE BILL 408 – EDUCATION TAX CREDITS UPDATES**

**Department of Revenue Updates**

17:10:20 Tony Zammit, Deputy Chief, Legal Counsel, Department of Revenue, (DOR)

[EXHIBIT11](#)

**Committee Discussion/Questions**

17:12:10 Presiding Officer Daniel Salomon

**House Bill 408 – Education Tax Credits Updates- Cont'd**

17:13:24 Autumn Belmont, Budget Analyst, OPI

[EXHIBIT12](#)

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ITEM WITHIN THE COMMITTEE'S JURISDICTION**

17:16:36 NONE

**RECESS**

17:18:01 Presiding Officer Salomon recessed the meeting until 8 am.