



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
Laura Sankey Keip - Attorney
Bethany McDowell - Secretary

MINUTES LOG

September 11, 2023
Capitol Room 317 / Zoom
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.

Access to an electronic copy of these minutes and the audio or video recording is provided from the Legislative Branch home page at <https://leg.mt.gov>. From the home page, select the "Committees" drop down menu at the top, then select Administrative or Interim, and the appropriate committee. The written minutes log can be located by expanding the accordion menu for the date of the meeting. Links to the audio/video files can be located by selecting the Video/Audio button on the same page, then the "past/current recordings" button. From there, use the calendar to select the date of the meeting you wish to view/listen to. The written Minutes Log, along with links to the audio and video recordings, is listed by meeting date on the interim committee's web page. Each of the Exhibits is linked and can be viewed by clicking on the Exhibit of interest. All Exhibits are public information and may be printed. Please contact the Legislative Services Division at 406-444-3064 for more information.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. Daniel Salomon, Chair (R)
Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Daniel Emrich (R)
Rep. Linda Reksten (R)
Rep. Melissa Romano (D)
Rep. Kerri Seekins-Crowe (R)
Rep. Sue Vinton (R)

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Sen. John Fuller (R)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Pad McCracken, Research
Analyst
Laura Sankey Keip, Attorney
Bethany McDowell James, Secretary

AGENDA ([Attachment 1](#))

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

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

12:59:52 Chair Salomon called the meeting to order at 12:59 PM. The committee secretary took roll.

OPENING REMARKS

13:00:39 Pad McCracken, Lead Staff

ADMINISTRATIVE RULE REVIEW

13:02:13 Laura Sankey Keip, Staff Attorney
[EXHIBIT1](#)

Committee Questions/Discussion

13:03:34 Chair Salomon

MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM (MUS)

MUS Success Plan Update

13:05:17 The panelists introduced themselves.

13:05:35 Tyler Trevor, Deputy Commissioner, Budget and Planning
[EXHIBIT2](#)

13:11:46 Joe Thiel, Interim Deputy Commissioner, Academic, Research, and Student Affairs

Committee Questions/Discussion

13:19:38 Rep. Seekins-Crowe

13:19:44 Chair Salomon

13:21:59 Sen. Emrich

13:26:52 Joe Thiel continued the presentation. (See exhibit 2)

13:30:16 Rep. Reksten

13:32:19 Joe Thiel continued the presentation. (See exhibit2)

13:35:09 Sen. Emrich

13:42:07 Tyler Trevor continued the presentation. (See exhibit 2)

Committee Questions/Discussion

13:44:28 Chair Salomon

13:44:45 Rep. Vinton

Perkins v. State Plan Update

13:46:55 Joe Thiel

Committee Questions/Discussion

13:50:46 Chair Salomon

13:51:42 Joe Thiel deferred Chair Salomon's question to Jacque Treaster, Director of Dual Enrollment and Career and Technical Education, OCHE

Public Comment on MUS

13:52:39 None

DISCUSSION ON POSSIBLE TOPICS FOR JOINT SESSION WITH BOARD OF REGENTS (BOR) IN MISSOULA

13:53:08 Chair Salomon

13:53:32 Rep. Reksten

13:54:59 Sen. McClafferty

HJ 47 DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS (DOC) FOLLOW-UP

13:55:32 Pad McCracken

[EXHIBIT3](#)

13:57:21 Cynthia Wolken, Deputy Director

13:59:39 Scott Eychner, Chief Executive Officer, Rehabilitation and Programs Division

[EXHIBIT4](#)

[EXHIBIT5](#)

14:03:28 Chair Salomon

14:04:12 Scott Eychner (See exhibit 4)

Committee Questions/Discussion

14:13:18 Sen. McClafferty

14:14:20 Rep. Seekins-Crowe

14:15:36 Chair Salomon

14:16:08 Rep. Reksten

14:18:42 Rep. Seekins-Crowe

14:20:09 Rep. Reksten

RECESS

14:21:37 Reconvened at 14:22:01

2023 LEGISLATION IMPLEMENTATION UPDATES

14:27:39 McCall Flynn, Executive Director, Board of Public Education (BPE)

HB 393: Special Needs Equal Opportunity Education Savings Account

14:29:21 Rob Stutz, Chief Legal Counsel, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Committee Questions/Discussion

14:32:28 Rep. Vinton

14:34:46 Sen. Emrich

HB 352: Targeted Interventions to Support Early Literacy

14:38:38 McCall Flynn

14:41:44 Rob Stutz

Committee Questions/Discussion

14:42:15 Rep. Reksten

HB 549: Public Charter Schools

14:45:54 McCall Flynn

HB 562: Community Choice Schools; Commission Appointments

14:48:37 Rob Stutz

14:50:15 McCall Flynn

14:51:47 Rob Stutz

Committee Questions/Discussion

14:52:17 Chair Salomon

14:53:05 Rep. Vinton

14:54:18 Rep. Reksten

14:55:44 Rep. Vinton

14:56:33 Rep. Reksten

14:57:14 Rep. Seekins-Crowe

14:58:00 Rep. Vinton

14:58:57 Rob Stutz

BPE UPDATE

14:59:33 McCall Flynn

Committee Questions/Discussion

15:00:55 Rep. Reksten

15:01:24 Chair Salomon

Public Comment on 2023 Legislation Implementation Updates

15:02:07 None

CHAPTER 55 IMPLEMENTATION**Summary of Changes**

15:02:24 Pad McCracken

[EXHIBIT6](#)

Implementation Plan and School District Support

15:05:05 McCall Flynn

15:07:35 Julie Murgel, Chief Program Officer, OPI

[EXHIBIT7](#)

Committee Questions/Discussion

15:14:28 Rep. Reksten

15:16:59 Sen. Emrich

Implementation Plan and School District Support Continued

15:21:28 Emily Dean, Director of Advocacy, Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA)

[EXHIBIT8](#)

15:25:08 Rob Watson, Executive Director, School Administrators of Montana (SAM)

[EXHIBIT9](#)

[EXHIBIT10](#)

Committee Questions/Discussion

15:33:07 Rep. Reksten

15:36:23 Rep. Seekins-Crowe

15:40:39 Sen. Emrich

15:44:31 Rep. Seekins-Crowe

Public Comment on Chapter 55 Implementation**OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION (OPI) UPDATES****Content Standards**

15:45:29 Superintendent Elsie Arntzen

15:46:18 Marie Judisch, Senior Manager of Teaching and Learning

[EXHIBIT11](#)

Committee Questions/Discussion

15:48:09 Rep. Reksten

15:49:13 Supt. Arntzen

HB 214 Implementation and Districts Operating Outside District Boundaries

15:50:14 Pad McCracken

[EXHIBIT12](#)

15:54:40 Rob Stutz (See exhibit 12)

Committee Questions/Discussion

16:00:00 Chair Salomon

16:02:55 Rep. Seekins-Crowe

16:04:33 Pad McCracken (See exhibit 12)

16:07:59 Rep. Reksten

16:10:27 Supt. Arntzen

16:11:31 Sen. Emrich

16:12:52 Rep. Seekins-Crowe

Public Comment on OPI Updates

16:15:21 Luke Haggerty, Superintendent at CJI Schools, Chester, MT

16:16:19 Todd Hanson, Four Poles Consulting

ADJOURNMENT

16:22:26 Chair Salomon adjourned the meeting at 4:22 PM.