



PO BOX 201706
Helena, MT 59620-1706
(406) 444-3064
FAX (406) 444-3036

Education Interim Committee

68th Montana Legislature

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LAURA SANKEY KEIP, Staff Attorney
BETHANY MCDOWELL JAMES, Secretary

FINAL AGENDA (updated 9/10)
Education Interim Committee
(including joint meeting with the Education Interim Budget Committee)
September 11-12, 2023 Room 317, State Capitol

Note: Agenda times are approximate. Some agenda items may require more or less time than indicated.

Monday, September 11

- 1:00 p.m. Call to order - roll call - Sen. Salomon
- 1:05 Administrative rule review – Laura Sankey Keip, Staff Attorney
- 1:15 Montana University System – Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE)
- MUS Success Agenda – Tyler Trevor, Deputy Commissioner, Budget and Planning, and Joe Thiel, Interim Deputy Commissioner, Academic, Research & Student Affairs
 - Perkins V State Plan update – Joe Thiel and Shannon Boswell, Director, Career, Technical, and Adult Education, OPI
 - Public comment, if any
 - Discuss possible topics for joint session with Board of Regents in Missoula on November 17
- 1:45 HJ 47 Corrections follow-up
- Review HJ 47 study summary – Pad
 - DOC education initiatives – Cynthia Wolken, Deputy Director; Scott Eychner, Rehabilitation & Programs Division Administrator; Travis Anderson, Education Services Bureau Chief
 - Public comment, if any
 - Committee questions and discussion
- 2:15 2023 Legislation implementation updates – McCall Flynn, Executive Director, Board of Public Education (BPE) and Rob Stutz, Chief Legal, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)
- HB 393 – special needs equal opportunity education savings accounts
 - HB 352 – targeted interventions to support early literacy
 - HB 549 – public charter schools
 - HB 562 – community choice schools; Commission appointments
 - Additional updates from BPE
 - Public comment, if any
 - Committee questions and discussion

- 3:00 Chapter 55 implementation – school accreditation standards
- Summary of changes – Pad
 - Implementation plan and school district support – McCall Flynn, BPE, Julie Murgel, Chief Operating Officer, OPI, Emily Dean, Director of Advocacy, MTSBA, Rob Watson, Executive Director, School Administrators of Montana (SAM)
 - Public comment, if any
 - Committee questions and discussion
- 3:30 OPI updates – Superintendent of Public Instruction Elsie Arntzen
- Content Standards – Marie Judisch, Teaching and Learning Senior Manager
 - HB 214 implementation and districts operating outside district boundaries – Rob Stutz, Chief Legal, OPI
 - Public comment, if any
 - Committee questions and discussion
- 4:00 Public Comment* on any other topic within the committee's jurisdiction
- 4:15 Recess; Tour Montana Heritage Center (committee members only; 4:30 start – firm)

Tuesday, September 12

- 8:30 a.m. Reconvene
- 8:35 What do Montana Legislators Need to Know about the "Science of Reading" and Is Montana on Top of This?
- Patrick Lyons, Senior Policy Specialist, Pre-K to 3rd Grade, National Conference of State Legislatures (via Zoom)
 - Panel with Tricia Seifert, Dean, School of Education, MSU; Kate Brayko, Associate Professor, UM; McCall Flynn, Executive Director, Board of Public Education; Marie Judisch, Teaching and Learning Senior Manager, OPI Rachel Gott, Literacy Development Program Manager, OPI; and Rob Watson, Executive Director, SAM
 - Public comment, if any
 - Committee questions and discussion
- 9:30 Teacher Recruitment and Retention
- The State of the Teacher Workforce: How Does Montana Rate? – Tara Kini, Chief of Policy and Program, and Susan Patrick, Senior Researcher, Learning Policy Institute (via Zoom)
 - What We Know and What We Need to Know: Montana data and indicators – Crystal Andrews, Accreditation and Licensure Director, OPI
 - Montana's Current R&R Toolbox - Pad
 - Public comment, if any
 - Committee questions and discussion
- 10:45 School funding 101 – Pad and Julia Pattin, LFD
- 11:15 Public Comment* on any other topic within the committee's jurisdiction
- 11:30 Work plan review and adoption
- 11:45 Wrap up - next meeting date and agenda items – adjourn (Joint meeting starts 1:00 pm)

Joint meeting with the Education Interim Budget Committee – Tuesday, September 12 – Room 317

- 1:00 p.m. Convene joint meeting – roll call
- 1:05 Education and Workforce initiatives of the Department of Labor and Industry – Sarah Swanson, Commissioner of Labor and Industry
- 1:15 OPI assessment updates
- MAST – Krystal Smith, Education Innovation Manager
 - Summative assessment results for 2022-2023 – Cedar Rose, Assessment Director
- 1:35 HB 949 update – Education and Workforce Data Governance – Misty Ann Giles, Director, Department of Administration
- 1:40 HB 332 update – school employee health benefits
- Review bill basics – Pad
 - State Auditor role – Frank Cote, Government Affairs, State Auditor's Office
 - School district efforts to date – Rex Wertz, Helena Superintendent; Brad Moore, Havre Assistant Superintendent; Mike Waterman, Business Manager, Bozeman
- 2:00 Review new program reporting requirements under HB 946 (Sec E companion bill)
- Compare existing and new reporting requirements for Transformational Learning, Advanced Opportunities, Innovative Educational Program Tax Credit, and the Student Scholarship Organization Tax Credit – Pad
 - Discussion of HB 946 reporting requirements with OPI – Jay Phillips, Chief Financial Officer, and Krystal Smith, Education Innovation Manager
- 2:30 OPI update on implementation of HB 287 – revisions to Montana Indian Language Preservation Program – Brenton Craggs, Legal, OPI and Matthew Bell, Language and Culture Specialist, OPI
- 2:45 Break
- 3:00 The Future of Education in Montana
- Review work of "Constitutional Players" and related 2023 legislation – Pad
 - Outcomes of Proficiency-based Education appropriation to MSU – Tricia Seifert, Dean, School of Education, MSU
 - Pivoting to PBE amidst the Pandemic – Leanne Lorenz, Middle School Science Teacher, Bozeman Public Schools
 - A transformational vision for education in the US – Kelly Young, President and Founder, and Sarah Bishop-Root, Partner for Policy Leadership, Education Reimagined
 - Committee questions and discussion
- 4:45 Committee discussion of ongoing collaboration for the interim
- 5:00 p.m. 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 as soon as possible before the meeting date.