



*The Treasure State*  
MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**Representative David Bedey**  
House District 86

November 22, 2023

The Honorable Elsie Arntzen  
Montana Superintendent of Public Instruction  
Office of Public Instruction  
1227 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Helena, MT 59601

via electronic delivery

Dear Superintendent Arntzen,

It has come to my attention that the Office of Public Instruction may have several concerns about the implementation of the OPI Database Modernization project, which—if substantiated—might impede or even foreclose delivery of a project that meets legislative intent expressed in HB 367 and HB 949. If this is indeed the case, it is imperative that these issues be addressed as soon as possible. To that end, I will be placing this subject on the agenda for the upcoming meeting of the Education Interim Budget Committee, which is scheduled for December 13, 2023, at the State Capitol.

So that the matter can be addressed effectively and expeditiously, I ask that the following information be provided to my lead LFD analyst, Julia Pattin, no later than December 6, 2023:

1. OPI's specific concerns regarding how provisions in HB 949 might inhibit or preclude collecting student data and sharing it with the system being provided by PowerSchool,
2. OPI's specific concerns regarding limitations that FERPA may place on collecting and sharing student data necessary for full implementation of the PowerSchool system,
3. limitations that OPI's current statewide student information system, "Achievement in Montana (AIM)," places on the transmission to the PowerSchool system of all education data necessary to implement the full capability of the PowerSchool system including analytics, and
4. a copy of the contract (including modifications) between OPI and Infinite Campus, which was extended for five years in 2021.

Your timely response to this request will be much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of David F. Bedey in cursive.

Chairman, Education Interim Budget Committee