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Education Interim Committee

69th Montana Legislature

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AGENDA **Education Interim Committee** **June 15-16, 2026** **Room 317, Montana State Capitol**

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

Monday, June 15

- 10:00 a.m. Call to order – roll call – Chair Reksten
- 10:05 Administrative Rule Review – Laura Sankey Keip, Committee Staff Attorney
- 10:15 HJ 53 – School safety study
- Survey wrap-up – MSSC
 - Review potential report findings and recommendations and provisional bill draft (PD 7) – MSSC and EDIC staff
 - Public comment
 - Committee discussion and direction to staff
- 12:00 Recess for Lunch
- 1:00 Mental Health Landscape
- Longitudinal Mental Health Overview – Becca Brown, Committee Staff
 - Early Intervention Systems (EIS) – Wendy Ekegren, Director, School Mental Health, Center for Children, Families and Workforce Development (CCFWD)
 - Resource Guide for School Administrators – Rob Watson, Executive Director, School Administrators of Montana (SAM)
 - Overview of the Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (BHDD) Services Division of DPHHS – Meghan Peel, Administrator
- 2:30 Office of Public Instruction (OPI) updates – Dylan Klapmeier, Chief of Staff, and Katie Bloodgood, Deputy Chief of Staff, OPI
- OPI Summer Institute
 - Agency-requested bill concepts
 - Statewide assessment
 - Math content standard revision (algebra pathway focus)
- 3:15 Break

- 3:30 Review clean-up provisional bill drafts – Committee and OPI staff
- PD 01 – FAPE to age 22
 - PD 02 – HB 483 and HB 156 adjustments in statute
 - PD 03 – Advanced Opportunity Aid distribution
 - PD 05 – “cash balance” changed to “fund balance”
 - PD 06 – eliminate requirement for printed budget forms
 - PD 08 – repeal METNET statutes
 - Public comment (will be invited for each provisional bill draft)
 - Committee discussion and direction to staff
- 4:30 Public comment on any topic within the committee’s jurisdiction
- 4:45 Recess for the day

Tuesday, June 16

- 8:30 a.m. IEEWG Phase I follow-up – Career and Technical Education
- Empower Schools presentation on rural CTE collaboration
 - Matt Matera, Partner, Empower Schools
 - Eliza Davis, Director, Empower Schools
 - Aaron Black, Superintendent, Liberty Perry School Corporation, Indiana
 - Jarrett Vickers, Regional Director, BB-Rise, Texas
 - HB 357 (Tilleman, 2025) implementation – Shannon Boswell, Director, Career, Technical, and Adult Education, OPI
 - Spotlight on Middle School CTE
 - Kellan Standley, Bainville Public School, Agriculture Education (Zoom)
 - Abe Ewing, Polson Middle School, Industrial Arts (Zoom)
 - Greg Cejka, Helena Middle School, Industrial Arts
 - Grace Johns, Student, Kalispell Middle School, Family and Consumer Sciences, and Matt Jensen, Superintendent, Kalispell Public Schools
- 9:45 Break
- 10:00 IEEWG Phase I follow-up – Strategic Staffing and Proficiency-Based Learning Terminology
- Krystal Smith, Opportunities and Innovative Learning Senior Manager, OPI
 - McCall Flynn, Executive Director, Board of Public Education (BPE)
 - Heather Hoyer, Superintendent, Great Falls Public Schools
 - Matt Jensen, Superintendent, Kalispell Public Schools
 - Pam Wright, Director of Transformational Learning, Missoula County Public Schools
 - Todd Wester, Curriculum Director, Livingston Public Schools

- 11:00 IEEWG Phase I follow-up – Early Targeted Interventions
- Dr. Julie Murgel, Chief Program Officer; and Christy Mock-Stutz, Assistant Chief Program Officer, OPI (via Zoom)
 - Doug Rossberg, Title I Instructional Coach, Missoula County Public Schools, and Member, Early Literacy and Numeracy Advisory Council
 - McCall Flynn, Executive Director, BPE
 - Caitlin Jensen, Executive Director, ZeroToFive Montana
 - Dr. Allison Wilson, Associate Professor and Director of the Institute for Early Childhood Education, UM
 - Mike Waterman, Director, Business and Operations, Bozeman Public Schools
- Noon Recess for Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. Montana Tribal Colleges
- Economic impact of Montana tribal colleges; federal policy landscape; promising state policies – Ahniwake Rose, President & CEO, American Indian Higher Education Consortium; and Dr. Sean Chandler, President, Aaniiih Nakoda College
 - Panel discussion with Montana Tribal College presidents
 - Cory Sangrey-Billy, President, Stone Child College
 - Dr. Michael Munson, President, Salish Kootenai College
 - Dr. Brad Hall, President, Blackfeet Community College
 - Dr. Sean Chandler, President, Aaniiih Nakoda College
- 3:00 Break
- 3:15 Public comment on any topic within the committee’s jurisdiction
- 3:30 Committee work session
- Unfinished business/follow-up from previous agenda items (if needed)
 - Review work plan chart and agenda items for Sept
 - Identify reports for presentations at September meeting
- 4:00 Adjourn

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