



# School Funding Interim Commission

69th Montana Legislature

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## COMMISSION STAFF

PAD MCCRACKEN, Lead Staff  
LAURA SANKEY KEIP, Staff Attorney  
JULIA PATTIN, Fiscal Analyst  
KATE JOHNSON, Fiscal Analyst  
BECCA BROWN, Staff  
JOLANDA SONGER, Secretary

## AGENDA

School Funding Interim Commission  
April 7-8, 2026 Room 317, Montana Capitol and Zoom

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

### Tuesday April 7

- 8:00 a.m. Call to order – roll call – *Chairman Bedey*
- 8:05 Review Commission charge, updated work plan, and meeting agenda – *Commission staff*
- 8:30 Analysis of Montana school funding formula and comparison to other states – *Justin Silverstein, Co-CEO, and Dr. Amanda Brown, Vice President, APA Consulting*
- 10:30 Break
- 10:45 School facilities
- Major Maintenance program recap – *Commission staff*
  - INTERCAP loans – overview and usage trends – *Dan Villa, Executive Director, Montana Board of Investments*
  - MARA work and possible SFIC interplay – *Joe Triem, Deputy Fiscal Analyst, Legislative Fiscal Division*
- 11:45 Public comment
- 12:00 p.m. Recess for lunch
- 1:00 Phase I follow-up – *Janice Case, Regional Director-West, and Matt Bachand, Senior Policy Designer, National Center for Education and the Economy*
- Latest learnings from NCEE
  - Phase I recommendations and alignment with Phase II work and the funding formula
- 3:00 Break
- 3:15 School funding various topics – *Commission staff*

4:45 Public comment  
5:00 Recess for the day

### **Wednesday April 8**

8:00 a.m. Successful School Districts Study update and options for SFIC – *Justin Silverstein, Co-CEO, and Dr. Amanda Brown, Vice President, APA Consulting*

- Public comment
- Commission discussion and direction for June

10:15 Break

10:30 Coalition of Advocates for Montana Public Schools (CAMPS) school funding proposal – *Rob Watson, Executive Director, SAM; Lance Melton, Executive Director, MTSBA; Shelley Turner, Executive Director, MASBO; Larry Crowder, Executive Director, MREA; Doug Reisig, Executive Director, MQEC*

11:45 Public comment

12:00 p.m. Recess for lunch

1:00 Commission work session on potential findings and recommendations – *Commission staff*

- Review of staff memo
- Public comment
- Commission discussion and direction to staff for June

3:30 Final public comment

4:00 Review work plan and June 17-18 agenda items

4:15 Adjourn

#### **Public Participation**

The public may attend the meeting and offer public comment in the Capitol or provide public comment either using remote meeting technology or in writing.

**To offer public comment** via remote meeting technology, please submit the online form for remote participation at least 2 hours before the scheduled start of the meeting: <https://participate.legmt.gov/>.

**Written public comment** may be submitted either through the [online form](#) for written comment or by mailing the comments to School Funding Interim Commission, PO Box 201706, Helena, MT 59620.

*\*Public comment provided in person or remotely at a legislative meeting is a public record that is videotaped, archived, and available on the internet. Public comment submitted in writing at a meeting is a public record that will be posted to the legislative website as part of the minutes log for the meeting.*

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