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## Education and Local Government Interim Committee

### 61st Montana Legislature

#### SENATE MEMBERS

KELLY GEBHARDT--Vice Chair  
GARY BRANAE  
KIM GILLAN  
BOB HAWKS  
DANIEL MCGEE  
JIM PETERSON

#### HOUSE MEMBERS

WANDA GRINDE--Chair  
ELSIE ARNTZEN  
RUSSELL BEAN  
JOHN FLEMING  
BOB LAKE  
EDITH MCCLAFFERTY

#### COMMITTEE STAFF

LEANNE KURTZ, Research Analyst  
JEREMY GERSOVITZ, Staff Attorney  
CLAUDIA (CJ) JOHNSON, Secretary

# MINUTES

## Subcommittee on Legislative Resolutions

Room 137, State Capitol Building, Helena  
Wednesday, June 9, 2010

Please note: These minutes provide abbreviated information about committee discussion, public testimony, action taken, and other activities. The minutes are accompanied by an audio recording. For each action listed, the minutes indicate the approximate amount of time in hours, minutes, and seconds that has elapsed since the start of the meeting. This time may be used to locate the activity on the audio recording.

An electronic copy of these minutes and the audio recording may be accessed from the Legislative Branch home page at <http://leg.mt.gov>. On the left-side column of the home page, select *Committees*, then *Interim*, and then the appropriate committee.

To view the minutes, locate the meeting date and click on minutes. To hear the audio recording, click on the Real Player icon. Note: You must have Real Player to listen to the audio recording.

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

REP. BOB LAKE, Chair  
REP. WANDA GRINDE  
SEN. GARY BRANAE  
SEN. JIM PETERSON

#### **EX OFFICIO PARTICIPANTS**

SHEILA STEARNS, OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION (OCHE)  
TYLER TREVOR, OCHE  
MADALYN QUINLAN, OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION  
STEVE MELOY, BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED**

REP. EDITH MCCLAFFERTY  
SEN. BOB HAWKS

#### **STAFF PRESENT**

CASEY BARRS, Research Analyst  
JEREMY GERSOVITZ, Staff Attorney  
CLAUDIA (CJ) JOHNSON, Secretary

## Visitors/Agenda

Visitors' list, Attachment #1.  
Agenda, Attachment #2.

## COMMITTEE ACTION

The ELG subcommittee approved:

- the ELG subcommittee minutes from March 11, 2010.
- adding the Montana University System (MUS) goals to the shared policy goals agreement.
- the changed language of option 1, page 5 of Exhibit 8.
- the shared policy goals and accountability measures for K-12, K-20, and the MUS.

## CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

00:00:02 Rep. Lake called the committee to order at 1:33 p.m. He informed the committee that Sen. Branae and Rep. Grinde are filling in for Sen. Hawks and Rep. McClafferty respectively. The secretary called the roll. Attachment #3

## AGENDA

### **Approval of Minutes**

00:04:04 The committee approved the minutes from March 11, 2010.

00:12:44 Mr. Barrs gave an update regarding the signing of the shared policy goals agreement. He talked about presenting the goals, objectives, and measures to the full committee.

Ms. Wilkinson gave an update on the ELG work group stating that everyone is in agreement on the wording of shared policy goals and accountability measures.

00:18:54 Rep. Lake discussed the authority already given the subcommittee to go ahead with the resolution, but he suggested that instead of using the word "agreement" to use "memorandum of understanding."

00:22:45 Sen. Peterson talked about the financial situation facing the next Legislature, and emphasized that there needs to be clear agreement on accountability emerging from this process.

00:27:06 Mr. Meloy said this committee has faced issues and has come to an understanding of the pursuit of education for the children of Montana. He talked about the good work being done in the subcommittee, whether there is an agreement or not.

00:29:28 Rep. Lake addressed resolution HJR 6. **(Exhibit 1)** He said it is the charge of this subcommittee to work with the Board of Public Education (BPE) and the Office of Public Instruction (OPI) to develop shared policy goals and

accountability measures that can be used by legislators, the education community, and by the public to evaluate progress. He said that the Legislature will use these guidelines to form some of their opinions. Rep. Grinde added that there is no language in HJR 6 that requires the ELG committee signatures.

00:43:13 Dr. Stearns commented that the subcommittee has spent significant time working toward these shared policy goals, stating it is not a binding document but a document that represents good work, and should not be portrayed as a contract.

**K-12 Panel (HJR-6): Shared Policy Goals and Accountability Measures**

- **Madalyn Quinlan, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)**
- **Steve Meloy, Board of Public Education (BPE)**

00:47:25 Ms. Quinlan referred to a handout showing a chart of K-12 shared policy goals and accountability measures for the K-12 Public Education System. **(Exhibit 2)**

00:50:48 Mr. Meloy suggested that shared policy goal #4 (Exhibit 2) could be part of a resolution to present to the Legislature.

00:53:01 Andy Boehm, OPI, gave a PowerPoint presentation of the Montana Statewide Dropout and Graduate Report. **(Exhibit 3)**

01:02:46 Ms. Quinlan said the OPI is using a graduation rate that correlates nationally. She said there is new baseline data in place where correlation for each piece is used.

01:08:13 Ms. Quinlan distributed and explained a handout showing a PowerPoint presentation about the data systems project. She explained the five main objectives. **(Exhibit 4)**

**Postsecondary Panel: Shared Policy Goals and Accountability Measures**

- **Sheila Stearns, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE)**
- **Tyler Trevor, OCHE**

01:16:01 Mr. Trevor distributed and explained several handouts showing:

- the Montana University System (MUS) goals, objectives and measures are the same as the Board of Regents. **(Exhibit 5)**
- a table identifying the shared goals for the OCHE and the BoR. **(Exhibit 6)**
- the MUS Strategic Plan for Graduate Education. **(Exhibit 7)**

01:23:46 Rep. Lake asked for a motion to approve the MUS shared policy goals and objectives.

**Motion**

01:26:04 The motion was made to add the MUS goals to the shared policy goals agreement. The motion **passed**.

01:45:45 **Break**

**K-20 Panel (SJR-8): Shared Policy Goals and Accountability Measures**

- **Madalyn Quinlan, OPI**
- **Steve Meloy, BPE**
- **Sheila Stearns, OCHE**
- **Tyler Trevor, OCHE**

01:55:05 Mr. Trevor distributed and discussed a handout called "Shared Policy Goals and Accountability Measures of the K-20 Public Education System for 2013".  
**(Exhibit 8)**

02:00:59 The committee talked about using remediation rates instead of high school graduates. They also discussed MUS' attempt to track home school students and the students' ability to go on to college.

02:04:34 The committee talked about the digital/virtual academy and the impact due to the economy and how it will affect education. They discussed how distance learning will play an extremely important part in the future of Montana.

02:26:44 Ms. Quinlan suggested language for remediation rates of incoming students into the MUS.

**Motion**

02:29:15 Sen. Branae made the motion to accept the changed language in option 1, page 5 of Exhibit 8. The motion **passed**.

**Motion**

02:29:42 Rep. Grinde moved to approve the Shared Policy Goals and Accountability Measures for K-12, K-20, and MUS. The motion **passed**.

02:31:26 Mr. Barrs distributed a revised option of the K-12 Shared Policy Goals and Accountability Measures, and explained the changes. **(Exhibit 9)**

02:36:20 Mr. Meloy talked about the signed document stating it is only to identify and develop goals. He said the signatures will verify who worked on the document.

02:37:40 Rep. Lake stated that the signatures will add more credibility to the document. He said using the word "goals" takes away the binding part of the agreement. He asked if the members want to work on this in the full committee tomorrow. The committee agreed.

02:39:18 Ms. Wilkinson and Ms. Joehler will assist Mr. Barrs with suggested language to K-20 and the MUS goals to be consistent with K-12 goals on the recommendation that the subcommittee submit signatures only as participants.

**Adjourn**

02:41:12 Rep. Lake adjourned the subcommittee at 4:11 p.m.

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