



School Funding Interim Commission

69th Montana Legislature

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

SENATE MEMBERS

BECKY BEARD
FORREST MANDEVILLE
JACINDA MORIGEAU
SARA NOVAK
SUE VINTON
JONATHAN WINDY BOY

HOUSE MEMBERS

BRAD BARKER
DAVID BEDEY – Chair
LEE DEMING
ERIC MATTHEWS – Vice Chair
LUKE MUSZKIEWICZ
MELISSA ROMANO

OTHER MEMBERS

TOM BURNETT
CLAYTON CHRISTIAN
RACHEL GREEN
SUSIE HEDALEN
MARTHA POTTER
MATT SCHREIBER
DR. TIM THARP
MIKE WATERMAN

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

FINAL AGENDA

School Funding Interim Commission August 14, 2025 - ZOOM ONLY

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

Thursday, August 14

- 1:00 p.m. Call to order – roll call – *Chairman Bedey*
- 1:05 Review Commission Work Plan – *Commission staff*
- 1:15 Innovation and Excellence in Education Working Group – facilitator introduction – *Nathan Driskell, Chief Policy Officer, and Janice Case, Regional Director West, National Center on Education and the Economy (NCEE)*
- NCEE background, work in other states, suggested approach, outreach
 - Questions, discussion, input from Commission
- 2:15 School Funding Foundations presentation and discussion – *Dan Thatcher, National Conference of State Legislatures and Mike Griffith, Learning Policy Institute*
- Principles of sound state school funding systems
 - School funding formula designs and recent trends in state revisions
 - Understanding and measuring Equity
 - Adequacy studies
- 3:15 Previous study summaries/highlights – *Commission staff*
- 3:45 Public Comment
- 4:15 Commission work session
- Working group membership/representation
 - Commission Work Plan, Calendar
 - Optional homework/local outreach
 - Review plans for September 15-16 meeting – directions to staff
- 4:45 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.*

Accessibility

The Montana Legislative Services Division makes reasonable accommodations for persons who wish to participate in this public meeting. For questions about accessibility or to request accommodations, please contact the ADA coordinator, Leah Hibbs, at 406-444-3073 or leah.hibbs@legmt.gov as soon as possible before the meeting date.