

Shared Policy Goals for K-12, K-20, and MUS

brief prepared for ELG meeting 9/23/13 by Pad McCracken, ELG staff

Following two resolutions ([HJ 6](#) and [SJ 8](#)) of the 61st Legislature, a subcommittee of the 2009-2010 ELG joined with representatives of the Office of Public Instruction, the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education, the Board of Public Education, and other education-related agencies to develop Shared Policy Goals and Accountability Measures (SPGs) for the Montana University System, K-20 education system, and K-12 education system. The resolutions aimed to “advance interagency cooperation and the quality of education policymaking.” The 2011-2012 ELG briefly reviewed and reaffirmed these non-binding agreements, but recommended an in-depth review of the SPGs by the 2013-2014 ELG early in the interim, involving all of the stakeholders who developed the original documents.

How would ELG like to act upon this recommendation?

This brief, the linked documents, and committee discussion with representatives from the involved entities are intended to provide ELG members with the information needed to address this question.

The [K-12 Shared Policy Goals and Accountability Measures](#) is an understanding between ELG, the Board of Public Education, and the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The goals are to:

1. Prepare students with the knowledge and skills necessary for success in the 21st century global society;
2. Improve teaching and student learning by promoting data-driven policy decisions and increasing access to educational information;
3. Improve student achievement in struggling schools; and
4. Increase public awareness of and engagement in the K-12 educational system recognizing the roles and responsibilities of the state and local educational agencies and the legislature.

More specific objectives and accountability measures are listed in the document. The agreement also requires a report to be prepared, presented, and posted according to a timeline.

The [K-20 Shared Policy Goals and Accountability Measures](#) is an understanding between ELG, the Commissioner of Higher Education, the Board of Regents, the Board of Public Education, and the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The goals are to:

1. Align high school outcomes with college readiness expectations to facilitate the transition from high school to college;
2. Increase college participation of Montana high school graduates;
3. Expand distance learning opportunities; and
4. Utilize K-20 data to improve student access and achievement.

More specific objectives and accountability measures are listed in the document. The agreement also requires a report to be prepared, presented, and posted according to a timeline.

The [MUS Shared Policy Goals and Accountability Measures](#) is an understanding between ELG, the Commissioner of Higher Education, and the Board of Regents. The goals are to:

1. Increase the overall educational attainment of Montanans through increased participation, retention and completion rates in Montana University System;
2. Assist in the expansion and improvement of the state's economy through the development of high value jobs and the diversification of the economic base; and
3. Improve institutional and system efficiency and effectiveness.

More specific objectives and accountability measures are listed in the document. The agreement also requires a report to be prepared, presented, and posted according to a timeline.