



EDUCATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATES

School Funding Interim Commission Helena, Montana

Michael Griffith
School Finance Strategist
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Your education policy team.

School District Consolidation

- Issues with consolidation:
 - Unpopular with the public
 - Can result in elimination of neighborhood schools
 - Does not always result in reduced costs
 - Often issues with employees salaries/benefits and work rules
- If school district consolidation does not include school closure – districts can only expect savings in certain programs including: administration, food services, purchasing and transportation



School District Consolidation

- States that have mandated school district consolidation over the past decade (Arkansas and Maine) with mixed results
- The belief by some states is that you can produce cost savings by mandating shared services (Maine's new program and Vermont)



School District Consolidation

- Montana's school district system (Elementary, High School and unified K-12 districts) makes the issue of consolidation even more complicated
- The majority of states make use of only unified districts – the exceptions are New England states and Arizona, California, Illinois, Montana and New Jersey



Contact Us

Michael Griffith
School Finance Consultant
Education Commission of the States
700 Broadway, Suite 810
Denver, CO 80203
mgriffith@ecs.org | www.ecs.org

@Edcommission



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