



Joint Subcommittee On K-12/Postsecondary Education Policy and Budget

60th Montana Legislature

Room 110 Capitol Building * P.O. Box 201711 * Helena, MT 59620-1711 * (406) 444-2986 * FAX (406) 444-3036

SENATE MEMBERS

BOB HAWKS, CHAIRMAN

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ROBIN HAMILTON

BOB LAKE

JOHN WARD

WANDA GRINDE

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EXECUTIVE APPOINTEE

JAN LOMBARDI (Ex-Officio)

LFD Staff: Alan Peura

LSF Staff: Jeremy Gersovitz

LSD Staff: Casey Barrs

June 12, 2008

Room 102 Capitol Building

Please note: These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed. Committee tapes are on file in the offices of the Legislative Services Division.

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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.

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

SEN. BOB HAWKS

SEN. DAVE LEWIS

SEN. JIM PETERSON

REP. ROBIN HAMILTON

REP. BOB LAKE

REP. JOHN WARD

REP. WANDA GRINDE

BOARD OF REGENTS MEMBERS

REGENT STEPHEN BARRETT

REGENT CLAYTON CHRISTIAN

MEMBERS FROM EDUCATION COMMUNITY

LINDA MCCULLOCH, Superintendent of Public Instruction

DR. KIRK MILLER, Montana Board of Public Education

PATTY MYERS, Montana Board of Public Education

SHEILA STEARNS, Commissioner of Higher Education

EXECUTIVE APPOINTEE

JAN LOMBARDI, Office of the Governor

STAFF PRESENT

JEREMY GERSOVITZ, Esq., LSD Staff
ALAN PEURA, LFD Staff
CASEY BARRS, LSD Staff
LINDA J. KEIM, Interim Committee Secretary

Agenda

Attachment #1.

Visitors List

Attachment #2.

Roll Call List

Attachment #3

COMMITTEE ACTION

The Joint K-12/PEPB SubCommittee on Postsecondary Education Policy and Budget discussed the following agenda:
ELG Staff Report "Shared Policy Goals" Project Review
Alan Peura, LFD
History/Rationale of Interim Committee on Education and Local Government
Casey Barrs, LSD
Overview of Kindergarten to College Work Group
Jan Lombardi, Governor's Office
SubCommittee Discussion of ELG "Shared Policy Goals" Project Report

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

00:00:59 **SEN. HAWKS, CHAIR** called the Joint K-12/PEPB SubCommittee to order at 2:30 P.M. and welcomed members of the K-12 SubCommittee to the table. Members made their own introductions around the room.

SHARED POLICY GOALS ACROSS ALL EDUCATION

00:04:51 Alan Peura, Fiscal Analyst, reviewed "Staff Report on ELG Project Request of 'Shared Policy Goals' Across All Education (K-12 and Postsecondary)."

Exhibit 1

00:11:06 **REP. LAKE** noted this will set the stage for the education of our young people, with a continuity from Kindergarten through the University System.

00:14:03 **SEN. HAWKS** noted the primary reason behind the project was to further the legislature's understanding of the higher education system and create a working relationship that is in everyone's interest. This proposal is a first major step in the coordination step. **SEN. HAWKS** welcomed **SEN. LAIBLE** to the table.

00:15:27 **SEN. LAIBLE** commented that this treats education as a seamless transition from Kindergarten on up, not as separate components.

00:16:09 **SEN. HAWKS** determined there was no further discussion and asked Alan Peura

to continue by giving the PEPB Shared Goals.

00:16:24 Mr. Peura reviewed "Shared Policy Goals and Accountability Measures for the Montana University System" which includes those discussed and approved earlier today. He noted that the idea is to use this document as a model. Also handed out and discussed was "Performance Measurement Report, Transferability and Student Data".

Exhibit 2
Exhibit 3

00:23:36 **SEN. HAWKS** said they hope to find common ground and common understanding by forming a partnership with the education community. **SEN. HAWKS** asked Jan Lombardi to give her presentation next, as it will give a sense of the K-20 process and how that ties into the continuity of education.

OVERVIEW OF KINDERGARTEN TO COLLEGE WORK GROUP

00:26:14 Jan Lombardi, Governor's Education Adviser, gave a presentation, "Overview of Kindergarten to College Workgroup". She had planned to use a video, "Did You Know?", but gave a short explanation of the power point instead. She said the link is on the website.

Exhibit 4

00:53:26 **SEN. HAWKS** commented that he attended a "Making Opportunity Affordable" conference in North Carolina last week. A take-home point from that conference is that the senior year in high school is typically a coast-through year, and why not test students in their junior year to see if they are prepared for college. If they are not, they have a year to make that up by taking remedial classes.

00:55:47 **SEN. LAIBLE** asked Jan Lombardi about dual credit/dual enrollment on Slide 16 (Exhibit 4). Jan said it is not completed. It will be up to local schools and they have created a framework for schools to follow. **SEN. LAIBLE** noted a student in his district who graduated as a sophomore, but had a lot of trouble getting a dual enrollment. He noted it should not be so hard to do, and should be automatic.

00:57:58 Dr. Kirk Miller, Montana Board of Public Education, explained that Distance Learning Task Force 1 and Task Force 2 has met for two years. He said that their recommendation was forwarded to the Board of Public Education for acceptance. This would make revisions to the rule that makes changes to the dual credit enrollment sections and establish the Class 8 license for the university system. The goal is that the Board will approve revisions to the dual enrollment/dual credit in September.

01:00:03 Jan Lombardi said the goal of the work group was to eliminate the barrier. However it will be up to a local school district and the trustees to make sure the barriers are removed and do not return.

01:00:47 **SEN. HAWKS** invited discussion from the K-12 group that supports or does not support the "Shared Policy Goals" Project.

Discussion of ELG Staff "Shared Policy Goals" Project Report

01:03:38 Dr. Miller gave the Board of Public Education view: He said that it has always been important to communicate effectively with the education community, the legislature, and the executive office on long range planning in order to make progress on seamless education. He added that any time another door can be opened to build relationships and communication, it should be made to happen.

01:06:28 **SEN. HAWKS** determined there was no further discussion and introduced the next item. He said that up to this point, there has been a discussion of the potential of finding more time for education, and the need for better coordination between K-12 and the PEPB committees. The question is whether that would happen better outside the present structure, which includes local government. It may be there are other committees in which local government could be a subcommittee. **SEN. HAWKS** commented that the Administration and Veteran's Affairs Committee has no subcommittees, so it wouldn't add a lot of workload in that committee.

01:07:59 **SEN. LAIBLE** noted it is as good a fit as any, and felt that having a full committee of just education makes sense. If the Local Government part had been busy during the interim they would have been short of people.

HISTORY AND RATIONALE OF INTERIM COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

01:09:25 Casey Barrs, LSD Staff, reviewed "History and Rationale for the Creation of an Education 'And' Local Government Interim Committee".

Exhibit 5

Subcommittee Discussion

01:15:17 **SEN. HAWKS** initiated discussion by asking if there is a general inclination to further the movement to separate local government from education. **REP. HAMILTON** stressed that he wants to continue the effort of separation. **REP. LAKE** suggested that the separation issue is premature. It is an issue that should come back in the form of a bill at the next session. He felt that a motion sending them off at this time is not in order.

01:17:30 **SEN. HAWKS** explained that they are dealing with the question of whether to forward a recommendation from this committee to the full Education and Local Government Committee tomorrow to move this issue ahead so that legislation would be considered next session. This would just be moving the report forward.

01:18:47 **REP. LAKE** expressed disagreement. He said that in the middle of an interim period, for one part of a committee to suggest that the other half of the committee be moved somewhere else may not sit well with the Local Government people.

01:18:52 **SEN. LAIBLE** said the education component is an important issue, and the

interim process is where the best efforts take place. He explained that the way to address this issue is to consider that education is growing in importance, and local government is not getting the attention they need. Local government next session will be a big issue with a lot of planning and zoning bill activity, and there is a need for legislation that is effective upon passage.

- 01:22:05 **REP. LAKE** stressed he is not against the idea, he is only against passing a motion that local government won't be part of the committee any longer. He felt it should be brought up in Friday's full committee meeting. **REP. WARD** said he supports **REP. LAKE**; the issue is important, but not that critical.
- 01:23:24 **REP. GRINDE** thought of it as having a separate committee for education and a separate committee for local government, and that each have many issues to deal with. **REP. GRINDE** said she would like to discontinue the discussion and decide whether to go ahead and allow two separate committees.
- 01:24:15 Regent Barrett commented that it is time to make them survive on their own.
- 01:24:46 **REP. HAMILTON** asked if they can have this discussion Friday during a full committee meeting without a vote. **SEN. LAIBLE** suggested a motion to refer this to Friday's full committee for a full Committee review.
- 01:25:36 **SEN. HAWKS** asked if there were any objections to referring discussion to tomorrow's meeting. There were none. **SEN. HAWKS** asked Mr. Peura what result he wants from the discussion on Shared Policy Goals.
- 01:26:08 Alan Peura explained the reason staff recommended structuring the starting of this discussion through this report and having the Regents, the Board of Public Education, the Board of Public Instruction and the Executive participate in the potential form of a Motion was so everyone would be heard. The Motion is that this merits the consideration of the Education and Local Government Committee.
- 01:27:15 **MOTION & VOTE: REP. HAMILTON MOVED TO TAKE THE ACTION OF FURTHERING THE SHARED GOALS DISCUSSION IN SUPPORT OF SUCH WITH THE EDUCATION AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE FOR A FULL COMMITTEE REVIEW. MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY. SEN. PETERSON VOTED BY PROXY.**
- 01:28:14 **SEN. HAWKS** asked if there was further comment. There was none. **SEN. HAWKS** adjourned the meeting at 4:00 PM.

SEN. BOB HAWKS, CHAIRMAN