Education and Local Government Interim Cc

62nd Montana Legislature

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SHARED POLICY GOALS AND ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES FOR THE K-20 PUBLIC EDUCATION SYSTEM ~~2013~~ 2015 BIENNIUM

This document on shared policy goals and accountability measures represents a merging of the following efforts that ~~have~~ involved leaders from the legislature, the executive, the K-12 education system and the university system during the ~~2011~~ 2009-2010 interim:

- Board of Regents strategic goals and objectives
- Board of Public Education strategic goals and objectives
- Superintendent of Public Instruction strategic goals and objectives
- Shared policy goals and accountability measures developed by the Education and Local Government Interim Committee (ELG) Subcommittee on Shared Policy Goals

The shared policy goals developed collaboratively between the ELG Subcommittee and the state education agencies reflect a shared commitment to:

1. Aligning high school outcomes with college readiness expectations to facilitate the transition from high school to college
2. Increasing college participation of Montana high school graduates
3. Expanding distance learning opportunities
4. Utilizing K-20 data to improve student access and achievement

The document was reviewed by the 2011-2012 ELG and the relevant agencies.

This document is nonbinding. The ELG shall review, update, approve, and renew this understanding each biennium with the Montana Board of Regents, the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education, the Board of Public Education, and the Superintendent of Public Instruction so that it may become the basis of state public policy in regard to the K-20 education system.

As a statement of public policy goals for public education in Montana, this document reflects the ELG's commitment to a basic system of free quality public elementary and secondary schools and to academic quality throughout the Montana University. System such that funding a high quality public K-20 education system is a critical goal of the State of Montana. This document, in

conjunction with the definition of a basic system of free quality public elementary and secondary schools established in section 20-9-309, MCA, will provide the policy direction needed to maintain a quality public K-20 education system in Montana.

The authors of this document urge that it, along with 20-9-309, MCA, be used by the legislature in the ~~2011~~ 2013 legislative session to frame education budget initiatives and other policy recommendations for the ~~2013~~ 2015 biennium.

Table 1
K-20 Shared Policy Goals, Objectives, and Accountability Measures
~~2013~~ 2015 Biennium

Shared Policy Goals	Objectives	Accountability Measure
1. Align high school outcomes with college readiness expectations to facilitate the transition from high school to college	1.0 Decrease remediation rates of freshman entering the Montana University System from Montana public high schools	Remediation rates of freshman entering the Montana University System from Montana public high schools steadily decrease. [Measure - 5 year trend data]
2. Increase college participation of Montana high school graduates	1.0 Increase the percentage of Montana high school graduates who participate in accredited postsecondary education	Increase the percentage of Montana high school graduates enrolling in college. -All postsecondary -All Montana postsecondary -MUS [Measure - 5 year trend data]
3. Expand distance learning opportunities	1.0 Create easy access to distance learning opportunities through the development of a virtual academy and through improvements to current virtual college capabilities	Increase the percentage of Montana high school students who participate in distance learning. -Higher Ed baseline distance learning enrollment currently available. -High School baseline distance learning enrollment not currently available, but will be collected starting Fall ~~2010~~ 2012 [Measure - 5 year trend data]
4. Utilize K-20 data to improve student access and achievement	1.0 Link K-12 and Higher Education data systems	By June 30, 2013, the electronic link between MUS data and OPI data will be established.

K-20 SHARED POLICY GOALS

WHEREAS, Article VIII, section 12, of the Montana Constitution vests in the Legislature the responsibility to ensure strict accountability of all revenue received and spent by the state, counties, cities, and towns and all other local governmental entities, and Article X, section 1, requires the Legislature to fund and distribute in an equitable manner to the school districts the state's share of the cost of the basic elementary and secondary school system; and

WHEREAS, Article X, section 9, of the Montana Constitution vests in the Board of Regents of Higher Education the full power, responsibility, and authority to supervise, coordinate, manage, and control the Montana University System and to supervise and coordinate other public institutions assigned to it by law; and

WHEREAS, Article X, section 9, of the Montana Constitution states that the Board of Public Education shall exercise general supervision over the public school system; and

WHEREAS, section 20-3-106, MCA, grants supervision of certain aspects of the public schools and districts of the state to the Superintendent of Public Instruction; and

WHEREAS, Article X, section 8, of the Montana Constitution states that the elected board of trustees in each school district shall exercise supervision and control of schools in the district; and

WHEREAS, economic challenges facing the state require prioritizing a K-20 education system that serves economic development and job creation; and

WHEREAS, agencies of the education community have increasingly, and to positive effect, shared leadership with the Education and Local Government Interim Committee; and

WHEREAS, an understanding of shared policy goals and accountability measures for the entire K-20 public education system, shared by the Board of Regents, Commissioner of Higher Education, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Board of Public Education, and Education and Local Government Interim Committee, would represent an important advance in interagency cooperation and in the quality of education policymaking; and

WHEREAS, shared policy goals must be systematically tied to accountability measures in order to ensure timely and effective implementation of policy; and

WHEREAS, the ELG Subcommittee on Shared Policy Goals, comprised of four legislators and representatives from the Board of Regents, the Board of Public Education, the Office of Public Instruction, and the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education, has identified statewide public education policy goals and accountability measures for the K-20 public education system, with the collaboration of the state

education agencies.

This UNDERSTANDING crafted by the Education and Local Government Interim Committee and the Board of Regents, the Board of Public Education, the Office of Public Instruction, and the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education, identifies the statewide public education policy goals and related accountability measures (see Table 1) that will be used as a policy goal setting and assessment tool for policymakers, the state education boards and agencies, and the general public in evaluating the achievement of the policy goals; and that will be used, in conjunction with 20-9-309, MCA, as a guide to drive decision packages and funding mechanisms for the state funding that is appropriated to the K-20 public education system by the Montana State Legislature.

Futhermore:

1. The Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education and the Office of Public Instruction shall prepare a shared Policy Goals and Accountability Measures Report presenting appropriate and current data for these goals and accountability measure in an easy-to-read format.

2. This report shall be presented to the House and Senate Education committees and the Joint Appropriation Subcommittee on Education by the 10th legislative day of the ~~62nd~~ 63rd Legislature ~~(2011 legislative session)~~.

3. This report shall be posted to the Board of Regents, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education, Board of Public Education, and the Office of Public Instruction, and the Education and Local Government Interim Committee websites by January 1 of each-odd numbered year.

The signatures below denote that the signatories fully participated in and support the shared policy goals and accountability measures cited herein.
This document expires June 30, ~~2013~~ 2015.
Dated this ~~17th day of August 2010~~ 18th day of June, 2012.

Representative Elsie Arntzen, Chair	Angela McLean, Chair Board of Regents
Senator Gary Branae, Vice Chair	Clayton Christian, Commissioner Office of Higher Education
Patty Myers, Chair Board of Public Education	Denise Juneau, Superintendent Office of Public Instruction