EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT

the Montana plan

The Every Student Succeeds Act allows Montana educators the flexibility needed to continue raising graduation rates, improve teaching and learning, identify and support schools of greatest need, and improve non-academic outcomes for all Montana students.

Montana's guiding principles...

Support all students in and out of the classroom

Establish high academic standards

Support improvement for all educators and schools

...for continued success

- **Continue raising graduation rates**
- **Improve teaching, learning, achievement**
- **Engage educators, parents, trustees**
- **Always forward-thinking**

Find more information at opi.mt.gov

opi.mt.gov

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Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)
the Montana plan

More Montana students are graduating from high school than ever before, creating a multimillion dollar boost to our state's economy and ensuring that all students have the ability to build a bright future for themselves and their families.

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) will keep Montana students and schools moving forward by:

- Continuing to raise graduation rates
- Continuing to improve teaching, learning, and student achievement in all of Montana's public schools
- Continuing to identify and support schools of greatest need
- Continuing to improve non-academic student outcomes in all of Montana's public schools

Superintendent Denise Juneau's guiding principles for developing Montana's ESSA Consolidated State Plan:

- Ensure that all future efforts at the Office of Public Instruction are developed to support the goals of raising graduation rates, improving teaching, learning and student achievement in and out of the classroom, and supporting schools of greatest need.
- Ensure the process for developing a state plan is "bottom up." That's why we've brought together stakeholder groups of parents, educators and school board trustees to guide the Office of Public Instruction in creating its state plan.
- Ensure the state plan is forward-thinking, not a return to the failed practices and policies of No Child Left Behind

Background

- On December 10, 2015, President Obama signed into law the *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)*, reauthorizing the Elementary/Secondary Education Act of 1965. States have been operating under the guidance of the *No Child Left Behind* amendment since 2007. This amendment included measures for grading student success and performance as measured on annual standardized tests. ESSA redirects former NCLB requirements in giving states the ability to develop their own accountability plans. ESSA also places a stronger emphasis on child wellbeing and recognizes there are many ways to measure performance.
- In March, Superintendent Juneau appointed 33 educators, parents and district trustees from a cross-section of Montana communities to two work groups that will guide the agency in developing its State Plan.
- The work groups have met once with plans to meet Sept 26 and Oct 24.
- Montana state plan draft will go to Governor Bullock and out for public comment Nov. 10
- Public comment period closes Dec. 9
- Montana will submit its plan to U.S. Dept. of Education Dec. 20.
- Montana will transition from No Child Left Behind to ESSA during the 2017/2018 school year.

Timeline

For submitting Montana's ESSA Consolidated Application to the U.S. Department of Education

Stakeholders Meeting	Sept. 26, 2016	**10 a.m.-4 p.m. | Radisson Hotel Helena, Mont.**
Stakeholders Meeting	Oct. 24, 2016	TBD
Draft submitted to Gov. Bullock and public for comment	Nov. 10, 2016	
Close of public comment period	Dec. 9, 2016	
Submit Application to U.S. Dept. of Education	**Dec. 20, 2016**	