



Board of Education Resolution to Continue the Kindergarten to College Workgroup

WHEREAS, Article X, Section 9, of the Montana Constitution provides that the State Board of Education – composed of the Board of Regents of Higher Education and the Board of Public Education – is responsible for long-range planning and for coordinating and evaluating policies and programs for the state’s educational system; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Board of Education as set forth in Montana’s Constitution reaches the education and economic well-being of all Montanans, including:

- Life-long learning that begins with early childhood and continues throughout adulthood
- Early childhood education, which is essential for children to be ready for first grade and beyond
- Provision of a quality K-12 public education for all students
- Access to affordable and relevant higher education opportunities that elevate Montana’s economy; and

WHEREAS, Montana’s education system needs to be responsive and accountable to its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, by virtue of the authority vested in it under the laws and the Constitution of the State of Montana, hereby continue the Kindergarten to College Workgroup (“Workgroup”).

I. PURPOSE AND DUTIES

The Workgroup will assist the Board of Education with planning and coordination to build a strong education system in Montana. The Workgroup will meet four times a year to assist the Board of Education in meeting deliverables (completing their homework assignments), coordinating strategic plans of the Board of Public Education and the Board of Regents, gathering information, and providing advice. The Workgroup will oversee the Board of Education’s current and future task forces and other subgroups which may be created.

II. COMPOSITION

The Workgroup shall consist of 9 voting members, appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Governor, as follows:

- A representative of the Board of Regents
- A representative of the Board of Public Education
- The State Superintendent of Public Instruction or designee
- The Commissioner of Higher Education or designee

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- A Student Assistance Foundation representative
- A Montana School for the Deaf and Blind representative
- The Governor or designee
- A public at-large member (student)
- A public at-large member (parent)

Ex-officio non-voting members of the Workgroup will be:

- The Director of the Department of Public Health and Human Services or designee
- The Commissioner of Labor and Industry or designee
- The Director of the Department of Commerce or designee
- The Governor's Chief Business Development Officer or designee
- The Governor's Budget Director or designee
- The Chief Information Officer or designee

The Governor shall name one of the voting members as Chair.

The Workgroup is attached to the Governor's Office for administrative purposes within the meaning of § 2-15-121, MCA. The education agencies (Board of Public Education, the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education and the Office of Public Instruction) shall provide reasonable staff support and resources as necessary to carry out the Workgroup's purpose.

III. COMPENSATION

Workgroup members eligible for compensation under 2-15-122(5), MCA, shall be compensated by the Governor's Office and reimbursed for travel expenses in accordance with 2-15-122(5), MCA.

IV. DURATION

The Workgroup shall exist for a period of two years from the effective date of this Resolution. This Resolution is effective on passage and approval by the Board of Education.