

**School Districts, Numbering Of. Numbering, of School Districts. New Counties, Power Of to Number School Districts. County Commissioners, Power to Number Districts.**

County authorities have the power to renumber school districts in case of the formation of new counties so that the numbers thereof shall not conflict or be duplicated.

January 9, 1912.

Hon. Desmond J. O'Neill,  
County Attorney,  
Roundup, Montana.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter submitting the question as to the power of the authorities to change the numbering of school districts within a county, where it is found that two or more districts have the same number. It appears that in the creation of Musselshell county, territory was taken from other counties which had theretofore been organized as school districts bearing certain numbers; that after such territory became a part of Musselshell county it was found that in some instances two or more districts had the same number.

This office, as you state in your letter, once had under consideration the question of changing the numbers of districts, and it was there held, for the reasons therein stated, that it was at least inadvisable to change the numbering of the district.

Opinions Atty. Gen'l, 1908-10, page 258.

That, however, can have no application to the proper organization of the new county or the original numbering of districts therein. Districts are known and designated by their number, and if two or more have the same number confusion must result. The numbering of school districts is a matter which rests with the proper county authorities, and the adjustment, or changing, of these numbers in case of the formation of new counties, so that the same will not conflict, is clearly within the power of such authorities.

Very truly yours,

ALBERT J. GALEN.

Attorney General.