

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE JOINT APPROPRIATION SUBCOMMITTEE
ON EDUCATION

February 2, 1981

The Office of Public Instruction meeting of the Joint Appropriation Subcommittee on Education was called to order at 8:05 a.m. on Monday, February 2, 1981 by Chairman Donaldson in Room 104, Capitol Bldg., Helena, Montana.

All members were present including John Bebee, Fiscal Analyst.

Prior to the meeting John Bebee gave the committee a briefing on the current level funding and the modifications requested by the Office of Public Instruction and as recommended by the LFA. (EXHIBIT A)

ED ARGENBRIGHT, Superintendent of Public Schools gave his presentation assisted by Tom Chesbro, Chief Accountant. Superintendent Argenbright explained that the approach they are taking is more curriculum oriented. The modified requests would be to replace Federal Funds they anticipate losing and in order to use this approach they would need General Fund money. The request is for \$245,000 for FY 82 and \$290,000 for FY 83 which is a 15.3% increase. He stated that he would not increase expenditures over the current level, but would maintain the current level of services. The full time staff equivalence is approximately 165.1 that are authorized and under the Governors budget recommendation there are approximately 170 and that he would settle for 160.

SUPERINTENDENT ARGENBRIGHT explained the reason for each modification. These modifications are:

- Audio Visual Film Library
- Math Consultant
- Reading Consultant
- Music Consultant
- Guidance Consultant
- Indian Education
- ESEA Title V Discretionary Funds
- Gifted and Talented Program

See EXHIBIT B.

TOM CROSSER gave the Executive Office recommendation. He explained that some of the modifications are already in process and are federally funded so it would be a matter of switching General Funds.

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REP. BENGTON asked if the modifications are additional or are they already going on and if they don't get the funding what would happen.

SUPERINTENDENT ARGENBRIGHT stated that they have a Math Consultant, Reading Consultant, Music Consultant, Indian Education, and the Gifted and Talented Program. He explained that the Music Consultant has been filled by the Art Consultant and that they can't expect them to keep it up. He said that they do not have the Guidance Consultant. The Indian Education Program is only funded now by two tribes. The other tribes do their own functions and drop the funding for this. But also they have a state obligation to the tribes. The positions that are already going are federally funded through a grant and at the end of this year the grant will run out. There will be \$3,000 or \$4,000 extra that will go for the administration.

ALVEY THOMAS explained the funding of the Visual Film Library. There are approximately 40,000 requests for films per year and brought in \$200,000 last year.

TOM CHESBRO stated that after the prices are raised from \$5 to \$6.50 they will bring in about \$180,000.

SUPERINTENDENT ARGENBRIGHT stated that the teachers spend the same amount of money and reduce the amount of services.

ALVEY THOMAS stated that this is the only type of film offered and that it serves a purpose in the larger schools but that there is a bigger need in the smaller schools.

TOM CHESBRO stated that films have gone from \$200/film to \$600/film making less films available. He told the committee that they have looked into new techniques of video discs. These are approximately \$25 to \$30 and they do not wear out. This is one direction that we are possibly looking for. The districts would only need projectors. However, this technology is a few years away.

The committee requested that the LFA, Executive Office and the Office of Public Instruction get together and develop along the six areas so that each is in comparison to the other.

SENATOR HAFNEY requested that they also show on the modifications if the FTE are new or being replaced.

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The Office of Public Instruction hearing was closed and John Bebee distributed a handout on the Administration Program, Board of Public Education, Fire Services Training School and the Voed Advisory Council. (EXHIBIT C)

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.



REP. GENE DONALDSON, Chairman

pb

Feb. 2, 1981 ^A

Office of Public Instruction OPI

I. Superintendent Argenbright has made changes not reflected in the LFA Recommendation.

II. For Budget purposes divide OPI into 6 program areas.

1. Chief State School Officer
2. Basic Instructional Skills
3. Vocational Education
4. Financial Services
5. Administrative Services
6. Special Education

OPI would submit operational plans by these 6 programs.

III. OPI maintains many of its federal funds are decreasing. They want the legislature to pick up decreasing federal funds with general fund. We want to make it very clear which federal funds are declining so the legislature can make the decision to replace them with general funds.

B



OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

STATE CAPITOL
HELENA, MONTANA 59601
(406) 449-3095

Ed Argenbright
Superintendent

February 2, 1981

Honorable Gene Donaldson, Chairman
House Education Subcommittee
House of Representatives
State Capitol
Helena, MT 59620

Dear Representative Donaldson:

Listed below are budget modifications for the Office of Public Instruction for the 1982-83 biennium. Some of these items have already been presented for consideration through the Executive Planning Process (EPP) and several of these were approved by the Office of Budget and Program Planning. The remainder of the proposals are being presented at this committee hearing for the first time for your consideration.

In the Executive Budget of the Governor and the Budget Analysis of the Fiscal Analyst there appear to be several discrepancies in the funding of current level services amounting to over \$225,000. These variances are currently in the process of being analyzed and recomputed so that all services presently performed by the office will continue to be done. The Office of Public Instruction recommends that the Office of Budget and Program Planning, the Legislative Fiscal Analyst and our office get together to agree on the current level funding figures for the five program areas that have been suggested.

AUDIO VISUAL FILM LIBRARY--A general fund modification of \$50,000 per year is requested for the film library. Four years ago the state general fund support was withdrawn and a rental fee of \$5 per film was established to support a revolving account. In FY '81 this rate was raised to \$6.50 in order to prevent the library from deficit spending. It is now evident that this fee increase resulted only in fewer films being ordered and not increased revenue mainly because the local school districts' budgets were not increased to allow a higher spending level. Since it appears that the library unit can no longer function at a reasonable level of efficiency and still be able to replace older films and order more current films (which have doubled in cost the past two years), the request for \$50,000 is essential if the library is to continue operation.

If this request is denied by the Legislature, the Office of Public Instruction is requesting that permission be granted to eliminate this function from the office as is currently required by law (Section 20-7-201, MCA, 1978) and direction should be given as to the disposal of the films and equipment in inventory.

HAVE
MATH CONSULTANT--General fund support of \$35,000 is requested so that separate math and science consultants may be hired. At the present time one person is responsible for both programs. Currently, all students are required to have 10 years of math and nine years of science. At this time nearly 60% of the requests from classroom teachers for technical assistance from the Office of Public Instruction have to be denied because of lack of personnel available for the help.

This request for 1½ FTE has been approved as a modification by the Office of Budget and Program Planning but was denied by the Legislative Fiscal Analyst.

HAVE
READING CONSULTANT--General fund support of \$35,000 is requested for a reading consultant and ½ secretary. This program has been funded with a federal grant for several years which ended on June 30, 1980. This current year a consultant is being paid from Vocational Education funds which are intended to be used primarily in vocational areas and not for general education purposes.

The Office of Budget and Program Planning has recommended approval of this modification but the Legislative Fiscal Analyst has denied it.

Have
MUSIC CONSULTANT--General fund support of \$35,000 is requested for adding a music consultant to the staff. The functions of the music supervisor have been handled by the Arts Education consultant since FY '79 when budget reductions forced the position of music consultant to be discontinued.

This proposal has not been taken under consideration by either the Legislative Fiscal Analyst or the Office of Budget and Program Planning.

Don't have
GUIDANCE CONSULTANT--General fund support of \$35,000 is requested for a guidance consultant. Until FY '79 this position was funded with federal grants (50% from ESEA Title IV and 50% from Vo-Ed) but was discontinued because of a lack of federal funds. This program provides the technical assistance to aid guidance counselors and assists them with their duties in academic and curriculum development. At the present time none of this assistance is available through the Office of Public Instruction.

This proposal has not been approved by either the Legislative Fiscal Analyst or the Office of Budget and Program Planning.

INDIAN EDUCATION--General fund support in FY '82 is requested to support one new additional Indian education consultant. This position will be used to assist the present Indian education program manager and replace a position that was dropped in FY '78 due to budget restrictions. This funding request is for \$20,000 in FY '82. The balance of the program for FY '82 will be paid for from FY '81 federal funds. Since no new federal funds are expected to be made available, the request for general fund support in FY '83 is for funding the current program plus the additional new consultant. The estimated cost of this program will be \$65,000.

This proposed modification has been partially presented to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst and the Office of Budget and Program Planning but was not accepted.

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Representative Donaldson

ESEA TITLE V DISCRETIONARY FUNDS--Consideration is also requested for general fund support for operations currently being funded by ESEA Title V Part B federal funds in the likely event that these funds are reduced. The functions served by these funds are such activities as data processing, resource center, public information, regional workshops, and legal services. Prior to July 1, 1972, all of these functions were funded with state general funds. When the federal grant for \$503,410 per year became available, it was used to supplant an equal amount of state funds.

At this time the status of the FY '82 and FY '83 grants is uncertain. If these funds are reduced it will then become necessary for this office to seek general fund support to replace the lost federal revenue to continue to do work for which the state is responsible.

done
GIFTED AND TALENTED--General fund support for this program is requested in the amount of \$35,000 for the support of one consultant and $\frac{1}{2}$ secretary FTE. This program has been supported with a federal grant for several years and funding is expected to end in June 1981. This program assists districts in initiating, planning, developing and expanding services to identified gifted and talented children. At the present time it is estimated that 4-6% of Montana students are gifted and talented but less than $\frac{1}{2}$ % of these students are being served.

This modification has been approved by the Office of Budget and Program Planning but was not recommended by the Legislative Fiscal Analyst.

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AGENCY Board of Public Education
 PROGRAM 01 Administration
 SubProgram _____
 Name _____

Executive Budget Page _____
 Fiscal Analyst's Page _____

	1982 BUDGET			1983 BUDGET			
	EXPEND. 1980 Actual	Exec. Budget	Fiscal Analyst	Exec-LFA Variance	Exec. Budget	Fiscal Analyst	Exec.-LFA Variance
FTE		2	2	0	2	2	0
Personal Svcs.	47619	52184	52401	<217>	52199	52401	<202>
Operating Svcs.							
21 Contr. Svc.	665	14227	790	13437	14286	853	13433
22 Supplies	1944	2662	3883	<1221>	2844	2043	801
23 Commun.	2989	3834	3682	152	4120	3994	126
24 Travel	9623	21915	14550	7365	24122	15713	8409
25 Rent	32	35	32	3	38	32	6
26 Utilities							
27 Repairs							
28 Other	2120	3434	2565	869	3434	2783	651
SubTotal, Oper. Exp.	17373	4607	25502		48844	25418	23426
31 Equipment							
Subtotal	64992	98291	77903	20388	101043	77819	23224
NonOperating							
1.							
2.							
3.							
4.							
5.							
TOTAL EXPEND.	64992	98291	77903		101043	77819	
Funding							
General Fund	64992	98291	77903		101043	77819	
Other Funds							
1.							
2.							
3.							
4.							
5.							

AGENCY Board of Public Ed.
 PROGRAM Fire Service Training
 SubProgram _____
 Name _____

Executive Budget Page _____
 Fiscal Analyst's Page _____

EXPEND.	1982 BUDGET			1983 BUDGET			
	1980 Actual	Exec. Budget	Fiscal Analyst	Exec-LFA Variance	Exec. Budget	Fiscal Analyst	Exec.-LFA Variance
FTE	5	6	5	1	6	5	1
Personal Svcs.	106197	132714	113251	19463	132714	113251	19463

Operating Svcs.							
21 Contr. Svc.	4077	1600	1600	0	1750	1750	0
22 Supplies	8256	9181	7371	1810	9851	7996	1855
23 Commun.	4065	4664	4479	185	5035	4860	175
24 Travel	11375	16877	11334	5543	18943	12241	6702
25 Rent	141	154	0	154	166	0	166
26 Utilities							
27 Repairs	839	1105	1033	72	1264	1120	144
28 Other	166	166	166	0	166	166	0
SubTotal,							
Oper. Exp.	28919	33747	25983	7764	37175	28133	9042
31 Equipment	3368	12017	3117	8900	3517	2913	604
Subtotal	32287	45764	29100	16664	40692	31046	9646

NonOperating							
1.							
2.							
3.							
4.							
5.							

TOTAL EXPEND.	138484	178478	142351		173406	144297	29109
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Funding							
General Fund	130837	143647	142351	1296	147075	144297	2778
Other Funds	7646	34831	0		26331	0	
1.							
2.							
3.							
4.							
5.	138484	178478	142351		173406	144297	

AGENCY Vred Advisory Council

PROGRAM _____

SubProgram _____ Name _____

Executive Budget Page _____
Fiscal Analyst's Page _____

	EXPEND.	1982 BUDGET			1983 BUDGET		
	1980 Actual	Exec. Budget	Fiscal Analyst	Exec-LFA Variance	Exec. Budget	Fiscal Analyst	Exec. Variance
FTE	2	2	2	0	2	2	0
Personal Svcs.	49195	51895	50623	1272	51998	50623	1375
Operating Svcs.							
21 Contr. Svc.	10322	11263	9807	1456	8932	10590	<1658
22 Supplies	2184	2391	2615	<224>	2592	2837	<245
23 Commun.	555	3854	3667	187	4050	3979	71
24 Travel	17242	22236	16519	5717	24057	18003	6054
25 Rent	15	16	17	<1>	17	18	<1>
26 Utilities	0	0		0			0
27 Repairs	0	150	150	0	164	164	0
28 Other	740	1040	895	145	740	971	<231
SubTotal,							
Oper. Exp.	31058	40950	33670	7280	40552	36562	3990
31 Equipment	1155	1155	500	655	1450	0	1450
Subtotal	32213	42105	34170	7935	42002	36562	5440
NonOperating							
1.							
2.							
3.							
4.							
5.							
TOTAL EXPEND.	81408	94000	84793	9207	94000	87185	6815
Funding							
General Fund							
Other Funds							
1. Federal	81408	94000	84793		94000	87185	
2.							
3.							
4.							
5.							