

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
EDUCATION AND CULTURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
MONTANA STATE SENATE

April 6, 1983

The meeting of the Senate Education and Cultural Resources Committee was called to order by Chairman Bob Brown on April 6, 1983, at 1:00 p.m. in Room 325, State Capitol.

ROLL CALL: All committee members were present.

HOUSE BILL 544: Representative Ray Peck, District 8, sponsor of the bill, said House Bill 544 establishes the schedules for the Foundation Program.

PROPOSERS

Ed Argenbright, Superintendent of Public Instruction, said he was disappointed the state's commitment to education was not supported by the House of Representatives. He said he appreciated the difficulties the budget dilemma presents but noted a majority of school levies passed in school elections April 5 across the state which he felt indicated support for and a priority established for school support. He urged the committee to put higher funding of the Foundation Program ahead of Governor's Build Montana program noting without well-educated young people coming up there will be no need for Build Montana.

Dave Sexton, Executive Director, Montana Education Association, presented his testimony in support of the bill (exhibit #1).

Owen Nelson, Montana Education Association, reviewed the attached budget and tax schedules with the committee (exhibits #2 and #3). He noted the difference between a 4% and 0% figure equals approximately \$10 million. He pointed out the appropriations bill, HB 919, quotes the total figure to be appropriated from the general fund to support a 4% and 0% program would be \$24.737 million. Mr. Nelson said HB 919 does not take into account the results of SB 94 which would make several more million dollars available. But, he said, the effects of SB 95 would have to be subtracted. He said he did not have the exact figures but it should run in the neighborhood of SB 94 - \$9 million, SB 95 - \$3 million, for a net gain of \$6 million which would be only \$4 million short of a 4% and 4% schedule. He noted the possibility of some money being made available through determining the account balance from this year to next year which could also have an effect in increasing the monies available.

Wayne Buchanan, Montana School Boards Association, said in eight years as a teacher he saw no examples of waste and inefficiency in the school system. He pointed out approximately 70% of a school's budget is salaries with beginning teachers receiving between \$13,000-\$14,000. He said teachers are underpaid, buildings are not extravagant, textbooks are 2-5 years old, and there are certainly no excesses in supplies and equipment. Using the fact that levies in Billings were voted down, Mr. Buchanan said it appears obvious that the voters are taking care of situations they feel are extravagant. He said Montana's Foundation Program is good and serves as a model for school funding and equalization nationwide and it works beautifully when it is adequately funded. He warned the courts will settle the problem of adequate funding if the legislature doesn't and asked the committee not to let that happen. He said a 4% and 4% funding is an absolute minimum.

Representative John Vincent, District 78, responded to Superintendent Argenbright by saying timing had nothing to do with the level of funding of the Foundation Program in the House. He said everyone had a chance to vote on the 4% and 4% and the results speak for themselves. He felt references to the Build Montana program were politicizing something that shouldn't be. At present, the state pays about 70% of school funding and local property taxes cover the remaining 30%. Approximately the same ratio applied in Washington state and the courts said this created an inadequate situation re property taxes with the result being the state now pays 95% with 5% being paid locally. With that much being paid by the state, local control was lost and a statewide pay plan for public school teachers is being initiated.

Rep. Vincent pointed out Montana has \$31 million in reserve which falls about \$4 million short of financing a 0% and 0% school Foundation Program. Without the \$31 million reserve the state would have to raise \$35 million just to reach the 0% and 0% level. He said he felt the argument of declining enrollments is not valid unless the decline is very very large as utility costs and teacher costs remain constant unless there is sufficient decline to warrant closing whole schools.

Representative Vincent quoted from an article in the Great Falls Tribune entitled "Schools as Building Blocks" re Governor Schwinden's stance on public school funding for this session. He closed by saying he felt a 4% and 4% increase is the bare minimum acceptable and urged the Senate to increase funding beyond the level set by the House of Representatives.

Representative Joe Hammond, District 24, urged the committee to increase funding saying even the 4% and 4% level is a sham. He said parents take their children to the best doctors, dentists, music teachers, and other professionals and are willing to pay for those services because these are important to the health and full development of the child. He said children spend more time in school than they do at home, including summer vacations, and education is the greatest influence in their lives. He pointed out twice as much knowledge is available now as there was 10 years ago. The computer age is with us, media influences are very strong, and teachers can no longer rely on straight academics as they once did.

He said education has changed drastically in the past 20 years and we can't afford to bury our heads and hope to play catch up every 10 or 12 years. He urged the committee to increase the funding level to 6% and 6%.

Jess Long, Executive Secretary, School Administrators of Montana, presented his testimony to the committee (exhibit #4).

Harry Erickson, Superintendent of Schools, Belgrade, said Belgrade passed levels of 19% on the high school level and 17% elementary. He said they anticipate a large enrollment increase next year necessitating $6 \frac{1}{2}$ new teachers.

Terry Minow, Montana Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO, said the Foundation Program is truly the foundation of education in Montana and if it begins to get unstable everything will crumble around it. She stated 4% and 0% won't even keep up with inflation and would be disastrous the second year. She urged the committee to fund at the highest possible level.

Bob Laumeyer, Superintendent of Schools, Boulder, said at the House hearing it was pointed out that funding the Foundation Program at a 9% increase would mean a 6.3% budget increase.

A 4% increase would mean a 3.8% budget increase. He said schools cannot realistically be expected to live with the minimal increases being proposed what with phone and fuel bill increases expected to eat up over half that amount. He said taxes will have to go up either locally or on a state level or we will see waste - waste this country cannot afford - that of our most valuable resource - development of our young people's minds and talent. He said it is a challenge, but one that must be met.

Carl McCallum, Superintendent of Schools, Phillipsburg, asked the committee to increase the funding level to at least 4% and 4%. He said it isn't fair to have to increase taxes on the local level and certainly by asking we are jeopardizing quality education for students.

Harold Wenaus, Superintendent of Schools, Great Falls, said if the bill passes at 4% and 0% level, with the loss of the inventory tax money, and declining enrollments, he anticipates an increase of 16 mills just to maintain as is with no increase in budget (based on 5 mills enrollment loss, 11 mills taxable valuation). At a 7% increase in the Foundation Program they would be able to have a 44 mill increase in the 2nd year.

Dale Zorn, Superintendent of Schools, Shelby, said they lost their school levies in the election yesterday when they have passed in recent years at over two to one. He said they had reduced their mill levy last year by 12 mills and urged the committee to increase funding as at the 0% level he had to ask for all 12 mills back and even at a 4% level he would need 9 mills just to maintain current level.

Craig Burlington, Superintendent, Fort Benton, said he cut his budget by \$7,800 and eliminated 4 teachers due to drastically declining enrollment. He said even with these decreases he can just break even on 4%, on 0% he'll have to go back to the taxpayers.

Darlene Maddock, School Trustee, Great Falls, said the Great Falls levies passed but adequate and equitable funding is needed across the state. She urged the committee to take a good hard look at the Foundation Program and increase it as much as possible.

Herb Smith, Superintendent, West Yellowstone, presented his testimony in support of the bill (exhibit #5).

Representative Paula Darko, District 20, said school districts have cut expenses and tried their best but the ultimate losers are the kids. She urged the committee to increase funding as much as possible.

Chuck Ennis, a teacher in Bozeman, said the Bozeman levies failed, and if they fail twice more they will lose 70 teachers. He said they are at a bare bones level right now and that budget is predicated on the Foundation Program. He urged the committee to look out for the best interests of the children.

Representative Verner Bertelsen, District 27, said he was speaking for all the little places like Ovando. He has been receiving many calls and they all say the same thing...we are in real trouble and cannot cut anymore or anywhere. He stated 4% and 0% is inadequate and needs to be higher. He said there are times when we have to see that an increase is necessary and there has to be a fairer way than to make the local taxpayer do it.

Tim Racicot, Frenchtown, said the issue of morale in the educational system had not yet been addressed. He said we are losing the high quality people out of the educational system into more lucrative positions. He said it is hard to teach with low morale as a result of a lack of commitment from the taxpayers.

Jack Byer, teacher, parent, and taxpayer, West Yellowstone, said 4% is a bare minimum. He said funding at a minimum level is funding mediocrity and we are condemning kids to mediocrity if we don't get an increase and some help on the local level.

Keith Chambers, Superintendent, Bozeman, said their levies had been victims of a taxpayers revolt. He quoted Governor Charles Robb, Virginia, saying, "no society can prevail if its leaders believe that public education is an investment to be sustained only when times are easy". He said times are not easy and asked the committee to support education even in these times.

There being no further proponents and no opponents, the Chairman asked for questions from the committee.

Senator Berg asked Tom Prosser, Governor's Office, for his figures re dollars from the general fund to support the various levels of funding.

Mr. Prosser replied that Senate Bills 94, 95, and 413, House Bills 227 and 685 will all affect the revenues available for public schools. The Governor's Office is also reviewing HB 809, which was killed by the Senate, and the effect it would have on available cash the state has. The bottom line is to reappropriate the \$32 million as per HB 919 plus \$4 million of general fund money to fund the 4% and 0% figure. 4% and 4% would require approximately \$14 million. If the other issues are resolved it could be lowered to \$9 million. (Senate Bill 94 +\$9.34 million, Senate Bill 413 +\$7.1 million, Senate Bill 95 -\$1.5 million, House Bill 227 -\$550,000, House Bill 685 -\$150,000. These are all biennial figures. If the state could get the cash in from the county surpluses before the end of the fiscal year, that money could be used for distribution from the equalization account which relates to House Bill 809. If we don't have it, he said, general fund money will have to be appropriated to cover it.)

Representative Peck said in closing he feels 4% and 4% is attainable as well as 6% and 6%.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned.



Senator Bob Brown, Chairman

jdr

VISITORS' REGISTER

NAME	REPRESENTING	BILL #	Check One	
			Support	Oppose
Mr. W. M. McCallum	Sch. Dist #1, Phillipsburg, Mo.	544	✓	
JAMES M. SNIDER	SCHOOL DIST #44 BELGRADE	544	X	
Harry D. Enslin	School Dist #44 Belgrade	544	X	4 and 44
Fred J. Ranner	" "	544	X	INCREASE TO 444
Jack Barker	" "	544	X	4 and 4
Gene Comes	Dist #1, Deer Lodge	544	X	
Gerry Vandegran	Dist #44 Belgrade	544	X	42 1/2 42 1/2 INCREASE
Jack Buier	Dist #69 W. Yellowstone	544	X	44 1/2 44 1/2 INCREASE
Ronald L. Neill	Dist #69 W. Yellowstone	544	4+4	
Herb Smith	Dist #69 W. Yellowstone	544	4x4	
John R. Long	S. A. M.	544	X	
Wayne Meddick	Dist #14A GREAT FALLS	544	X	
David Wiggins	Hi Falls Public Schools	544	INCREASE	
James H. Bennett	Mendenhall, MT			
Don Ryan	Sunburst Schools	544	✓	
Don Waldron	Hellgate, Tenn. #4 male	544	✓	with increase to 62 3/4
Paul Zorn	Shelby Dist. #14	544	Rebate	INCREASE 9-9
Jim Koke	East Helena #9	544	✓?	
ED Beagle	Sch. D. #23 Missoula	544	✓	
Robert Laumeyer	Boulder Pub. Sch.	544	✓?	
Robert D. Smith	Lincoln Public Schs	544	✓	INCREASE TO 48 1/2
Robert B. Johnston	Lawell Co. Supt of Sch.	544	✓	INCREASE TO 42 1/2 42 1/2
Frank Murray	School Dist #7	544	✓	
Frank Nelson	Twin Bridges School Dist #7	544	✓	INCREASE TO 42 1/2 42 1/2
Paul Zorn	Willow Creek	544	INC.	67- 46 7/10
John Taylor	Harmon	544	INC	to 82 8/10

DATE _____

COMMITTEE ON _____

VISITORS' REGISTER

NAME	REPRESENTING	BILL #	Check One	
			Support	Oppose
M. Vachurch	Cty Supt Jeff Co	544	X	
Dwen Nelson	MEA	"	amend	
Dave Sexton	MEA	"	amend	
Tom Crosser	OBPP			
Ed Brubinger	OPI	544	amend	
Wayne Buchanan	MSB 1A	544	✓	
Ernie Newington	Fort Benton	544	✓	
John Waley	O.A.F.T.	544	✓	
W. J. Mearns		544	✓	
W. J. Mearns	M E T	544		
W. J. Mearns	Dist 24	544	✓	
Paula Clarko	Dist #22	544	✓	
W. J. Mearns	DIST 40	544	✓	
W. J. Mearns	Supt Manhattan	544	✓	
W. J. Mearns	M E T	544	✓	
W. J. Mearns	Principal Manhattan	544	✓	
W. J. Mearns	Supt. Three Forks	544	✓	
W. J. Mearns	MEA	544	✓	

(Please leave prepared statement with Secretary)

*Exhibit #1
April 6, 1983*

TESTIMONY OF MONTANA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

ON HB 544

Two years ago this legislature passed substantial increases in the Foundation Program schedules for the purpose of holding down local tax increases. Local levies had become an increasingly larger share of school funding and the voters were starting to vote down levies. The legislature responded in a responsible and statesmanlike manner and reversed that trend. The Foundation Program increases did *for the recent triennium* in fact do what they were supposed to do--voted levy increases were reduced substantially; after adjustment for inflation we actually saw a decrease in the voted levy. The result was predictable--the voters approved levies easily these past two years.

Now we are taking a giant step backward. School districts, anticipating schedule increases of zero to 4%, had to put on yesterdays ballot huge voted levy requests. For example, Helena had to ask for levy increases of 34% in the high school and 44% in the elementary just to keep up with inflation (the teachers agreed to a raise of only 5.4%) and to make up the anticipated decline in state funding.

The results are once again predictable. The Helena levies failed, as did others in Billings, Bozeman, Big Timber, Deer Lodge, Glendive, Frenchtown, and Helena Valley, to name some. We predict the results next year will be much worse when the taxpayers actually feel the full impact of the property tax increases that are necessary because of the *mobile* failure of the legislature to meet its constitutional obligation this session. I urge you to reread Article X which pretty clearly spells out

the obligation to fund basic quality education which districts are required to offer by accreditation standards.

No school of any size can operate solely on the foundation program. Permissive and voted levies are a virtual necessity to meet accreditation standards for a basic quality program. If we lose a voted levy permanently in just one district, we have allowed a terrible injustice to occur. Those children whose futures are thus jeopardized are helpless victims. If the legislature doesn't provide adequate funding and voters refuse to increase property taxes substantially, expect the following long-term damage to occur.

1. Cutbacks in program offerings and elimination of such subjects as music, art, athletics.
2. Overcrowded classes.
3. Fewer teachers teaching more subjects whether qualified or not
4. Less incentive to enter and remain in the profession -- Montana is already only 28th in teacher salaries nationwide. Qualified math and science teachers are almost impossible to hire in this state. The shortages will extend to other fields such as vocational and foreign languages.
5. The new teachers we do get will be of lower caliber -- those who can get employment in another field will.
6. A decline in student quality will inevitably result -- fewer offerings, less individual attention and less competent teachers will mean poorer preparation for graduation. Presently Montana is above the national norms in standardized tests. Will this continue?
7. Graduates of schools which lower ^{men} standards or lose

then accreditation will be less competitive for both jobs and colleges.

Down the road we're likely to see lawsuits to have the courts order the funding the Constitution requires at some point. The legislature may on its own see the need for a massive infusion of money to undo the harm to education quality that will have occurred, but the longer we wait the harder it will be *to correct the mistakes of the past*

This legislature still has the opportunity to do the right thing by increasing this schedules to allow districts to at least keep their heads above water. We believe these schedules can and must be increased; we urge this committee to amend this bill to at least 4% - 4% as an absolute minimum. Even 4%-4% is woefully inadequate but it is affordable *in the context of the budget we're dealing with*

My Associate, Owen Nelson, will show you in more concrete figures the impact of this legislation.

David Sexton

Exhibit #2
4/6/83

MONTANA PUBLIC SCHOOL GENERAL FUND BUDGETS
(Special Education Funding Excluded)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Increase in Budget Schedules	General Fund Foundation Program	Without-a-Vote Permissive	Voted Levy	General Fund Budget Total	Foundation Program	% of GFB Permissive	Voted Levy	ANB (Previous Year)	GFB Per ANB	CPI (W) (Dec.)	Tchr. Salaries Mont. Average Rank	
	Elem. H.S.												
1974-75	7.4% 6.8%	\$ 97,866,000 +14.0%	\$24,428,000 +13.9%	\$41,317,000 +19.0%	\$163,611,000 +15.2%	59.8%	14.9%	25.3%	177,028 -1.5%	\$ 924 +17.0%	155.4 +7.0%	\$10,230 +9.0%	28
1975-76	15.9% 12.5%	111,548,000 +11.2%	27,826,000 +11.3%	49,153,000 +9.2%	188,527,000 +10.7%	59.2%	14.8%	26.1%	174,451 -1.4%	1,081 +12.3%	166.3 +4.8%	11,150 +8.1%	29
1976-77	12.7%	124,068,000 +5.9%	30,969,000 +5.9%	53,652,000 +13.3%	208,689,000 +7.8%	59.5%	14.8%	25.7%	171,944 -1.1%	1,214 +9.0%	174.3 +6.8%	12,053 +5.1%	27
1977-78	6.9% 7.0%	131,422,000 +5.9%	32,791,000 +5.9%	60,790,000 +8.6%	225,003,000 +6.6%	58.4%	14.6%	27.0%	170,117 -1.4%	1,323 +8.2%	186.1 +9.0%	12,668 +7.8%	30
1978-79	7.0% 6.9%	139,160,300 +4.8%	34,733,600 +4.8%	66,021,000 +21.8%	239,914,900 +9.5%	58.0%	14.5%	27.5%	167,664 -2.6%	1,431 +12.4%	202.9 +13.4%	13,651 +7.5%	29
1979-80	8.0%	145,821,700 +6.6%	36,390,200 +6.7%	80,387,000 +22.0%	262,598,800 +11.3%	55.5%	13.9%	30.6%	163,276 -3.1%	1,608 +14.9%	230.0 +12.5%	14,680 +8.8%	27
1980-81	10.0%	155,389,000 +15.0%	38,821,500 +14.9%	98,084,000 +4.9%	292,294,500 +11.6%	53.2%	13.3%	33.5%	158,185 -2.5%	1,848 +14.4%	258.7 +8.7%	15,967 +11.3%	29
1981-82	18.0%	178,633,000 +13.6%	44,610,000 +13.6%	102,938,000 +4.2%	326,181,000 +10.7%	54.8%	13.7%	31.5%	154,256 -1.4%	2,115 +12.0%	281.1 +3.9%	17,770 +9.5%	28
1982-83	15.0%	202,986,000	50,696,000	107,289,000	360,971,000	56.2%	14.0%	29.7%	152,386	2,369	292.0	19,463	
Projected													
1983-84	0.0%	-1.0% 200,932,000	-1.0% 50,183,000	+25.9% 135,124,000	+7.0% 386,239,000			35.0%	-0.8% 150,844	+8.1% 2,561	These projections are based on 1) OPI enrollment (ANB) projection for 1983-84 and 1984-85 - Column 9; and 2) a conservative estimate that general fund budget needs will increase 7% in 1983-84 and 7% in 1984-85 - Column 5.		
1984-85	0.0%	-0.4% 200,174,000	-0.4% 49,994,000	+20.7% 163,108,000	+7.0% 413,276,000			39.5%	-0.4% 150,275	+7.4% 2,750			
1983-84	4.0%	+2.9% 208,969,000	+2.6% 51,994,000	+16.8% 125,276,000	+7.0% 386,239,000			32.4%	150,844	2,561			
1984-85	0.0%	+2.9% 208,181,000	+2.6% 51,798,000	+22.4% 153,297,000	+7.0% 413,276,000			37.1%	150,275	2,750			
1983-84	4.0%	+2.9% 208,969,000	+2.6% 51,994,000	+16.8% 125,276,000	+7.0% 386,239,000			32.4%	150,844	2,561			
1984-85	4.0%	+3.6% 208,969,000	+3.6% 51,994,000	+14.1% 125,276,000	+7.0% 386,239,000			34.6%	150,844	2,561			
1983-84	8.1%	+7.0% 217,195,000	+7.0% 54,245,000	+7.0% 114,799,000	+7.0% 386,239,000			29.7%	150,844	2,561			
1984-85	7.4%	+7.0% 232,399,000	+7.0% 58,042,000	+7.0% 122,835,000	+7.0% 413,276,000			29.7%	150,275	2,750			

Examples of Additional Property Tax Required on Homes

Due to Inadequate Foundation Program Funding

1983-84

	Sample Percent Increase In Foundation Program Schedule	Added Mills	Assessed Value of Home		
			\$25,000 (Taxable Valuation \$2,137.5)	\$50,000 (Taxable Valuation \$4,275)	\$100,000 (Taxable Valuation \$8,550)
Anaconda	0%	29.1	\$62.20	\$124.40	\$248.81
	2%	23.5	50.23	100.46	200.93
	4%	17.9	38.26	76.52	153.05
Billings	0%	18.0	38.48	76.95	153.90
	2%	14.5	30.99	61.99	123.98
	4%	11.0	23.51	47.03	94.05
Bozeman	0%	20.1	42.96	85.93	171.86
	2%	16.2	34.63	69.26	138.51
	4%	12.4	26.51	53.01	106.02
Butte	0%	26.2	56.00	112.01	224.01
	2%	21.4	45.74	91.49	182.97
	4%	17.0	36.34	72.68	145.35
Clancy	0%	26.3	56.22	112.43	224.87
	2%	20.6	44.03	88.07	176.13
	4%	15.0	32.06	64.13	128.25
Glasgow	0%	19.6	41.90	83.79	167.58
	2%	16.3	34.84	69.68	139.37
	4%	12.9	27.57	55.15	110.30
Great Falls	0%	25.6	54.72	109.44	218.88
	2%	20.3	43.39	86.78	173.57
	4%	15.4	32.92	65.84	131.67
Harlem	0%	31.2	66.69	133.38	266.76
	2%	26.0	55.58	111.15	222.30
	4%	20.6	44.03	88.07	176.13
Helena	0%	27.3	58.35	116.71	233.42
	2%	21.8	46.60	93.20	186.39
	4%	16.3	34.84	69.68	139.37
Kalispell	0%	19.7	42.11	84.22	168.44
	2%	15.2	32.49	64.98	129.96
	4%	10.6	22.66	45.32	90.63
Livingston	0%	21.9	46.81	93.62	187.25
	2%	17.2	36.77	73.53	147.06
	4%	12.5	26.72	53.44	106.88
Missoula	0%	18.3	39.12	78.23	156.47
	2%	14.7	31.42	62.84	125.69
	4%	11.0	23.51	47.03	94.05
Shepherd	0%	21.8	46.60	93.20	186.39
	2%	15.7	33.56	67.12	134.24
	4%	9.7	20.73	41.47	82.94

These examples are based on 7% increases in total general funds and level enrollment.

If public school enrollment decreases, the dollar figures would be larger.

For 1984-85 the dollar figures would be about 7% larger than for 1983-84.

Research Department
Owen Nelson, Director

4/6/83

**S
A
M**

School Administrators of Montana

501 North Sanders
Helena, MT 59601
(406) 442-2510

April 6, 1983

TO: Chairman Bob Brown
Senate Education & Cultural Resource Committee

FROM: Jesse W. Long, Executive Secretary
School Administrators of Montana

RE: House Bill #544 "An Act To Increase The Maximum General Fund Budget
Schedules For Elementary Schools and High Schools."

The School Administrators of Montana are in support of H.B. 544.

During the 47th Legislative session, the funding of the Foundation Program schedules allowed school districts to reduce voted levies. The percent of budget voted has dropped significantly from over 33% to 28% across the state.

As you look at the results of yesterday's levy elections, it is apparent the people of Montana are supportive of education at the local level. It would appear that this Legislature should get in step and properly fund the Foundation Program and not throw the burden on the property taxpayer. (The loss of the levy in Billings was not related to the basic question of providing proper funding for students, but rather a reaction between the local board and the community over the chief executive officer's salary.)

Funding schools at the 4% level for 1983-84 is not going to meet the inflation rate and the continued decline in enrollment. Schools have taken a hard look at their programs even in spite of the wild accusations that you read in the media. They are tightening their belts and still providing a good education for the students. I urge each one of you to spend some time in your schools after this Legislative session is finished to be assured the 4% funding is well spent. The 0% funding for 1984-85 is without a doubt going to reduce the programs in schools. I would encourage you to consider amending the Foundation Program schedules to 3% as a hedge against inflation.

We ask that you concur with H.B. 544.

4/6/83

**S
A
M**

School Administrators of Montana
501 North Sanders
Helena, MT 59601
(406) 442-2510

APRIL 6, 1983 SCHOOL LEVY ELECTION RESULTS

Passed	Belgrade	Failed	Big Timber Elementary
Passed	Belt	Failed	Billings
Passed	Cascade	Failed	Bozeman
Passed	Charlo	Failed	Deer Lodge - Elementary
Passed	Chinook	Failed	Deer Lodge - Powell Co. H.S.
Passed	Columbia Falls	Failed	Forsyth
Passed	Darby	Failed	Frazer
Passed	Eureka	Failed	Helena
Passed	Fort Benton	Failed	Ronan
Passed	Geraldine	Failed	Simms
Passed	Glasgow		
Passed	Great Falls		
Passed	Hamilton		
Passed	Havre		
Passed	Highwood		
Passed	Hinsdale		
Passed	Kalispell		
Passed	Kalispell - Evergreen		
Passed	Lewistown		
Passed	Missoula - Hellgate		
Passed	Missoula - County High School		
Passed	Missoula - Elementary		
Passed	Nashua		
Passed	Noxon		
Passed	Opheim		
Passed	Polson		
Passed	Power		
Passed	St. Regis		
Passed	Superior		
Passed	Thompson Falls		

NAME Terry Munow BILL NO. 544
ADDRESS P.O. Box 513, Boulder DATE _____
WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT MFT
SUPPORT ☒ OPPOSE _____ AMEND _____

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

NAME Herb Smith BILL NO. 544
ADDRESS POB 460 W. Yellowstone, MT. DATE 4/6/83
WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT School District #69
SUPPORT ☒ OPPOSE ☐ AMEND ☒

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

found 9/8/83

West Yellowstone School Dist. #69
West Yellowstone, Montana
Herb Smith, Supt.

Budget established on a 3.5% increase

Elementary	\$421,698.	Mill 54.32 = \$126,297 = 30%
Secondary	\$323,397.	Mill 34.72 = \$ 80,722 = 25%
Total Budget	\$745,095.	Mill 89.04 = \$207,019 = 28%
Total Budget 1982-83 = \$695,547		

Loss on funding due to drop in enrollment = .0522
or .05% loss on foundation program alone.

	<u>1982-83</u>	<u>1983-84</u>	<u>Loss</u>
Elementary	\$265,111.	\$246,312.	\$18,799.
High School	238,207.	232,015.	6,192.
Net loss elementary & secondary			\$24,991.

Amount needed to be raised by levy & foundation = \$232,010.

In a small high school and elementary RIF's impractical, one teacher one grade, or subject.

Large fixed cost increases

Utilities 17%
Medical Ins. 20%
Taxes & Interest 87.5%

Large decreases

Instr. equipment	18.6
Adm. expense	11.6
Maint & Operation	20.
Equipment	88.8

W.W.P.S. costs District approximately 1% of total budget - which is in addition to our electrical bill.