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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SERVICES

The Department of Education Services provides leadership and supervision to the five divisions of the department.

- **Accreditation**

Linda Vrooman Peterson (406) 444-5726

Division Administrator [lypeterson@mt.gov](mailto:lypeterson@mt.gov)

Michael Hall (406) 444-4422

Assistant Division Administrator [mhall@mt.gov](mailto:mhall@mt.gov)

- **Career, Technical and Adult Education**

TJ Eyer (406) 444-7915

Division Administrator [teyer@mt.gov](mailto:teyer@mt.gov)

- **Educational Opportunity and Equity**

BJ Granbery (406) 444-4420

Division Administrator [bgranbery@mt.gov](mailto:bgranbery@mt.gov)

- **Health Enhancement and Safety**

Cathy Kendall (406) 444-0829

Division Administrator [cakendall@mt.gov](mailto:cakendall@mt.gov)

- **Special Education**

Tim Harris (406) 444-4429

Division Administrator [tharris@mt.gov](mailto:tharris@mt.gov)

In addition to directing the activities and personnel of the five divisions, the following programs are administered by the Department of Education Services:

- Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarships

<http://www.opi.mt.gov/scholarships/index.html>

- U.S. Senate Youth Scholarships

<http://www.opi.mt.gov/scholarships/index.html>

Staff of the Education Services Department include the following:

- Nancy Coopersmith, Assistant Superintendent

(406) 444-5541; [ncoopersmith@mt.gov](mailto:ncoopersmith@mt.gov)

- Bob Runkel, Assistant Superintendent

(406) 444-4434; [brunkel@mt.gov](mailto:brunkel@mt.gov)

- Linda Almas, Administrative Clerk

(406) 444-3693; [lalmas@mt.gov](mailto:lalmas@mt.gov)

- Carol Gneckow, Administrative Specialist

(406) 444-2417; [cgneckow@mt.gov](mailto:cgneckow@mt.gov)

### The Accreditation Division

The Accreditation Division assists school districts in the implementation of the Montana Accreditation Standards and monitors district and school progress to meet or exceed these rules. The Division supports continuous education improvement in all Montana schools to improve teaching and learning for all. The Division reviews school program offerings, staffing, classroom loads, and other school practices for compliance with the Montana School Accreditation Standards and recommends school accreditation status to the Board of Public Education. The Division provides assistance to schools, districts, and teacher education programs to align standards, curriculum, instruction, assessment, and professional development.

The Division staff coordinates, develops, implements, evaluates, and reports continuous education improvement efforts to help ensure that all Montana children meet or exceed high learning expectations, and that all educators meet high professional learning expectations. The Division provides training and technical assistance for regional onsite peer accreditation reviews. The Accreditation Division supports several education programs that enhance the quality of education in Montana. Some of these programs are: Learn and Serve Montana, Technology Literacy Challenge Fund Grants, Eisenhower Professional Development, Character Education, Literacy and Read Montana Initiative.

Home Page: [www.opi.mt.gov/Accred/](http://www.opi.mt.gov/Accred/)

#### Career, Technical and Adult Education

The Division of Career, Technical and Adult Education provides professional development, technical assistance and program expertise to instructors and administrators for:

- Adult Basic and Literacy Education
- Career and Technical Education
- General Education Development (GED)
- Office for Civil Rights
- Veteran's Education

Home Page: [www.opi.mt.gov/CareerTechEd/](http://www.opi.mt.gov/CareerTechEd/)

#### Educational Opportunity & Equity

The Division of Educational Opportunity and Equity (EOE) consists of a variety of federal grant programs and one function funded by the state general fund. The focus of all the programs is opportunity and equity for all students.

#### **Federal funded programs in EOE Division include:**

ESEA Title I, Parts A, B, C, D, F and G

Reading First (Part B, Subpart 1)

Even Start (Part B Subpart 3)

Migrant (Part C)

Neglected/Delinquent (Part D)

Comprehensive School Reform (Part F)

Advanced Placement (Part G): Testing & Reimbursement, Incentive Program

ESEA Title II Part A, Teacher and Principal Training and Recruiting Fund

ESEA Title V, Part A, Innovative Programs

Homeless Education Program

Student Loan Cancellations

#### **State funded programs:**

## Gifted and Talented State Grants

### **Other:**

#### Teacher Exchange

Home Page: [www.opi.mt.gov/EdOpportunity/](http://www.opi.mt.gov/EdOpportunity/)

#### Health Enhancement

The Health Enhancement Division includes most of OPI's "health-related" programs. Units within the Division include School Nutrition Programs, Traffic Education, and Coordinated School Health. This Division encourages school programs designed to prevent major health problems and health-risk behaviors among youth and to facilitate students achieving their maximum potential.

#### Division's Vision Statement & Goals

#### Division Program Descriptions

#### Division Programs

#### Division Staff

Home Page: [www.opi.mt.gov/Health/](http://www.opi.mt.gov/Health/)

#### Special Education

The Division of Special Education has responsibility for assuring that children with disabilities receive a free and appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment. Division staff provide training, technical assistance and monitor special education services provided by public schools and state-operated programs. The Division is also responsible for managing the flow of state and federal dollars for special education programs. We support schools in their efforts to adopt exemplary teaching practices that lead to improved teaching and learning experiences for children with disabilities.

Home Page: [www.opi.mt.gov/SpecEd/](http://www.opi.mt.gov/SpecEd/)