



STATE of WYOMING LEGISLATURE

Memorandum

DATE March 18, 2020

TO Members, Management Council

FROM Senator Henry H.R. "Hank" Coe, Co-chairman, Joint Education Interim Committee
Representative David Northrup, Co-chairman, Joint Education Interim Committee

SUBJECT 2020 Interim Topics for Consideration for the Joint Education Interim Committee

The Joint Education Interim Committee (Committee) met on March 6 and 9, to discuss proposed study topics for the 2020 interim. The Committee's proposed topics have been grouped into five categories: 1) 2020 recalibration; 2) K-12 Education Program; 3) Postsecondary Education Governance; 4) School Safety; and 5) K-12 Absenteeism.

The Committee requests \$45,000 to hold three two-day meetings to accomplish its work. The meetings are tentatively scheduled for June 4-5 in Casper, September 3-4 in Laramie, and November 17-18 in Cheyenne. Each topic is described below and includes supporting information.

2020 INTERIM TOPICS

The following topics, as prioritized by the Committee's co-chairmen, are requested to be approved by the Management Council for study and consideration during the 2020 interim.

Priority #1 2020 Recalibration

The Committee members will attend the meetings of and monitor the activities of the Select Committee on School Finance Recalibration. Committee members not appointed to the Select Committee on School Finance Recalibration request authorization to receive per diem and mileage to attend these meetings, as has been previous Management Council policy. The appropriation contained in 2020 House Bill 40 – School finance – model recalibration, contemplates the Committee's attendance.

Priority #2 K-12 Education Program

The Committee will study the K-12 education program, including the common core of knowledge and skills, student content and performance standards, graduation standards, district assessment systems, work-based learning programs, and reading assessment and intervention programs. The Committee anticipates this topic will be a two-year endeavor to fully grasp how each item is interwoven throughout the K-12 education program.

Priority #3 Postsecondary Education Governance

The Committee will study postsecondary governance, both the University of Wyoming and Community Colleges. The Joint Education Interim Committee is to oversee the University of Wyoming's governance study authorized by 2020 Senate File 1, Section 337 (Budget Bill). The Committee believes it is appropriate

to include Community Colleges within this topic. The Committee anticipates this topic will be a two-year study as is contemplated in the Budget Bill. Further, the Committee requests Management Council authorization to proceed in contracting with the appropriate expertise to assist the Committee in this work.

Under this topic, the Committee will continue to monitor the implementation of the Wyoming Works and Community College Bachelor of Applied Science programs that were implemented during the 2019 General Session.

Priority #4 School Safety

The Committee will study K-12 and postsecondary school safety and security measures. This topic would continue to build upon the work of 2020 Senate File 79 – School safety and security, which related to K-12 school safety and security policies. The topic would also review ideas contained in 2020 House Bill 179 – Student hazing and try to identify uniform policies that can be put into place to address identification, prevention and reporting of hazing for K-20 education.

Priority #5 K-12 Absenteeism and Truancy

The Committee will study K-12 absenteeism and truancy. This topic would continue to build upon the work of 2020 Senate File 15 – Absenteeism and truancy to try to address responsibilities for enforcing attendance requirements among school districts, district attorneys, parents and others, including notification of the Wind River Tribal Court system when appropriate.

Thank you for your consideration of these important issues. We look forward to discussing these proposed topics with the members of Management Council.



Senator Henry H.R. “Hank” Coe, Co-chairman



Representative David Northrup, Co-chairman