

Browning Public Schools
Board Agenda Request
Meeting To Be Held: 7/16/24



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- Recognition:** Students Staff Parents
Information: Building Report Old Business Superintendent's Report
Action: Resignation Hiring Contract Service Agreements
 Travel Out-of-State Travel In State Approvals
 Termination Legal Matters Other:
This action request pertains to Elementary (only) High School/District Wide

Date: 5/7/24

To: Board of Trustees
 Browning Public Schools

From: Rebecca Rappold
Title: Superintendent

Subject: **Approve MQEC Membership Dues 2024-2025**

Description: Recommendation for the school board to continue their membership to Montana Quality Education Coalition.

Financial Impact: \$2,500.00 (Impact Aid funds)

Attachment(s): Letter/Invoice

Approval: Superintendent's Office/Finance/Personnel as applicable (Initial) _____

Comment: _____

Board Action: N/A (Info) Approved Denied Tabled to: _____

From: <dreisig@mqec.org>
Date: Mon, Apr 29, 2024 at 9:10 AM
Subject: MQEC Membership Outreach
To: <corrinag@bps.k12.mt.us>

Good morning.

On behalf of the Montana Quality Education Coalition (MQEC) Board of Directors, I am, respectfully, asking your school district/statewide education advocacy organization to consider becoming a MQEC member for the 2024-2025 school year. MQEC needs you.

Over the past year, MQEC has been described, by those wishing to damage the Coalition, as an “unaccountable woke organization” or as a “stuck in the mud organization”. Some detractors, including some legislators, have even gone so far as to actively lobby local school districts to not become MQEC members to financially starve the Coalition and force it out of existence.

Through it all, MQEC has stood strong, proud, and committed to the mission of fulfilling the Montana Constitutional promise of equality of educational opportunity for each person in Montana and to provide the funding support to preserve the constitutional/educational rights of each person, found in Article X of the Montana Constitution.

As the next legislative session nears, there can be no question that there will be intense pressure to “roll back” the gains public schools have made over the past twenty years, including pressure to potentially redefine the school funding formula to free public funds to promote an expansion of privatized school voucher systems.

Over the past year, in support of Montana K-12 public schools, MQEC has successfully challenged several harmful pieces of legislation from the 68th legislative session, through the legal process, despite the external pressures directed toward MQEC in hopes of forcing MQEC to back down. MQEC successfully challenged HB 562 (the Community Choice Charter School Act); challenged the 95 statewide school equalization funding formula adjustment; and challenged the alternative OPI interpretation on the opening of the HB 549 public school/charter schools (Public Charter School Act).

Just the other day, MQEC filed a motion to challenge HB 393 (the Students with Special Needs Equal Opportunity Act) that would deny FAPE protection to special needs students and would take funding from your local school district accounts and hold it in state-controlled accounts before distributing it to private individuals to buy private educational resources.

MQEC has been, and will continue to be, the tip of the spear” leading the charge to support your school district, your statewide education advocacy organization, and Montana students. But, here is where the “rubber meets the road” – to do that, MQEC needs your school district to become a member. It costs money to fight the fight that needs to be fought. And, the 69th legislative session will be a “fight”. For MQEC, there is political and financial strength in numbers.

In closing, I am, respectfully, asking that you stand with MQEC, join MQEC, and as a valued

member of MQEC help create the collective/unified voice MQEC needs to successfully support Montana K-12 public education.

A MQEC membership invoice is attached. Please join with your colleagues and become MQEC members.

Thank you.

Dr. Douglas Reisig, Executive Director
Montana Quality Education Coalition
Box 17311
Missoula, Montana 59808



MQEC

PO Box 17311
Missoula, Montana 59808
Phone: (406) 544-4335
dreisig@mqec.org



INVOICE

INVOICE #	DATE
114	April 29, 2024

BILL TO

Corrina Guardipee-Hall
Browning Public Schools
corrinag@bps.k12.mt.us
Browning, MT 59417

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
<p>MQEC Membership Dues</p> <p>** MQEC is ensuring your voice at the table when important decisions are made implicating the Constitutional rights of students and communities pursuant to Article X of the Montana Constitution.**</p> <p>_____</p> <p><i>If you believe the invoiced amount is incorrect, please feel free to submit your membership dues based on the 2023/2024 school year assessment.</i></p>	\$2500.00
<p><i>Thank you for your support!</i></p>	<p>TOTAL \$2500.00</p>

Please Return a Copy of This Document with Payment

- **Make Checks Payable to: Montana Quality Education Coalition or MQEC**
- **Please call (406) 544-4335 with any questions regarding this invoice.**