



**MFEC**  
Montana Financial  
Education Coalition

**MFEC Quarterly Board Meeting**  
**301 S Park Ave, Rm. #342 Helena MT**  
**March 7, 2023, 1-3 p.m.**

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## Meeting Agenda

- 1:00 p.m. Call to Order to Establish Quorum
- Board of Directors/Delegates List
- 1:05 p.m. Approval of December 2022 Meeting Minutes (**Voting Item**)
- 1:10 p.m. Treasurer's Report
- Bank Account Check Register
- 1:15 p.m. General Business
- Recruitment of New Board Members and Pending Board Changes (Voting Item)
    - Mary Palkovich – MT Board of Housing
  - Social media and website updates
    - Skyler Manley
  - Mini-Grants 2023
  - Other Business
- 1:40 p.m. Elder Fraud and Financial Exploitation Prevention Committee Update
- 1:50 p.m. Native American Committee Update
- 2:00 p.m. K-12 Committee Update
- 2:10 p.m. Outreach Committee Update
- 2:20 p.m. Conference Committee Update
- 2:30 p.m. Member Go-Around: Share Success/Challenge

**Adjourn by 3 p.m.**

**Next Meeting: June 6, 2023**



**Board of Directors (As of 3/7/2023)**

No.	Name	Organization	Title
1	Jennell Huff, President	Bank of the Rockies	Community Outreach Coordinator
2	Sean Thomas, Vice President	EverFi	Senior Schools Manager
3	Bruce Brensdal, Treasurer	Retired - Montana Board of Housing	
4	Karissa Trujillo, Secretary	Homeward, Inc.	Operations and Program Director
5	Chris Romano, Immediate Past President	Division of Banking and Financial Institutions	Non-Depository Bureau Chief
6	Rhonda Krieger, Secretary	Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, Helena Branch	Business Analyst – Regional Outreach & Operations
7	Ryan Egebrecht	Chase	Private Client Banker
8	Troy Downing	Office of the Montana State Auditor	Commissioner of Securities and Insurance
9	Tim Summers	AARP	State Director
10	Summer Red	Association for Financial Counseling & Planning Education	Professional Development Manager
11	Tonya Plummer	Montana Native Growth Fund	Executive Director
12	Cheryl Cohen	Montana Board of Housing	Division Administrator
13	Guinevere Ayers	First Interstate BancSystem Foundation	Senior Program Officer
14	Joel Schumacher	MSU Extension - Bozeman	Extension Economic Associate Specialist
15	Dax Schieffer	Montana Council on Economic Education	Executive Director
16	Gayla Randel	Office of Public Instruction	Family & Consumer Sciences Education Specialist
17	Rosie Kiernan	NeighborWorks	Homeownership Director
18	Jacob Griffith	MT Office of the Attorney General, DOJ, Office of Consumer Protection (Helena)	Supervising Attorney, OCP
19	Lianna Waller	Montana Department of Public Health & Human Services	Interim Adult Protective Services Bureau Chief
20	Skyler Manley	Member At-Large	

## **MFEC Quarterly Board Meeting**

**December 13, 2022, 1-3 p.m.**

### Directors on Zoom Call:

- Jennell Huff (Bank of the Rockies), President
- Sean Thomas (EverFi), Vice President
- Bruce Brensdal (Retired, Montana Housing), Treasurer
- Karissa Trujillo (Homeward, Inc.), Secretary
- Chris Romano (State of Montana, Division of Banking and Financial Institutions)
- Rhonda Krieger (Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, Helena Branch)
- Gayla Randel (Office of Public Instruction-OPI)
- Dax Schieffer (Montana Council on Economic Education)
- Rosie Kiernan (NeighborWorks)
- Ryan Egebrecht (Chase)
- Joel Schumacher (MSU Extension)
- Tim Summers (AARP)
- Summer Red (AFCPE)

### Proxies and Guests on Zoom Call:

- Sam Loveridge, proxy for Troy Downing (State Auditor and Commissioner of Securities and Insurance)

### Directors Absent:

- Pam O'Reilly (Montana Bankers Association)
- Cheryl Cohen (Montana Board of Housing)
- Skyler Manley
- Tonya Plummer (Island Mountain Development Group)
- Brittani Hissom (First Interstate Bank Foundation)
- Jacob Griffith (MT Office of the Attorney General)

## **Meeting Agenda/Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 1:01 p.m. Directors introduced themselves and a quorum was established. Bruce made a motion to approve the minutes and Ryan E. seconded. Motion carried with no changes the minutes were approved.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Bruce gave an update on the current finances. There is about \$10,753 in checking after all bills paid and checks have cleared in 2022. CD is at about \$20,450, for a total of \$31,204.

He then provided a review of the bank account check register, reviewing the events, grants, calendar, etc. All reconciled to bank statement. No questions

### **General Business**

Discussion about recruitment of new board members and pending board changes:

- Guinevere Ayers – First Interstate Bank introduced herself
  - Senior Program Officer, responsible for 14-state Financial Education program

- Sean asked Guinevere if she oversees Everfi and she responded that yes, it is her responsibility. Sean then connected his work on the K-12 initiative to her work.
- Jennell motioned to accept Guinevere as new MFEC Board Member, Chris second. Motion passed unanimously.
- Troy Downing – Commissioner of Securities and Insurance
  - Sam Loveridge attended as his proxy.
  - Discussion about how it may be better to vote in March meeting for his membership.
  - Jennell relayed that proxies do not have voting rights in bylaws.
  - Jennell motioned to move vote to March meeting, Bruce seconded. Discussion:
    - Dax explained that Commissioner Downing is an active participant and hands-on on Dax's Board. Questioning why there would be a delay if we know he would be a good fit given his alignment with the MFEC Board.
    - Chris explained precedent to have people present at the meeting when they are voted on.
    - Sean said he doesn't really see the difference between either meeting.
    - Chris agreed that usually we do this because not everyone knows each applicant, but Commissioner Downing has more of a presence.
    - Karissa asked Sam to provide more information about the Commissioner's interest in the Board, and Sean asked about specific financial education work.
    - Sam discussed that this has been a priority since Commissioner Downing's campaign. Specifically outreach around financial education is a critical focus for his team.
    - Schieffer shared one more insight working with the Commissioner on the k-12 side of financial education, but also has seen his focus on elder abuse.
  - Jennell withdrew motion to wait until March.
  - Dax moved to accept Commissioner Downing as new Board Member, Sean seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **Social media and website updates -Skyler Manley**

- Skyler is no longer with the MT Bankers Association, and may be moving to a new institution that could still be a good fit. She is interested in maintaining ties with the MFEC Board.
- Chris discussed precedent and agreed if she is interested, we could consider keeping her engaged.
- Jennell recapped a meeting with Skyler recently where she had mentioned she was interested in supporting social media, which is a need.
- There is still space available on the Board, as we have 19 out of the 25 allowed.
- Sean explained that membership is by individual, although conversations have been had about business membership but mostly with the motivation to have a source for members. Agreed with keeping her on given her interest.
- Jennell will reach out to Skyler to be sure she wants to remain on Board. No need for a formal vote.

- Guinevere wants to support the web project
- **2023 Board Meeting Dates**
  - (We will shift back to in-person meetings with our usual option to conference call in.)
  - March 7, June 6, September 5, December 5
- **Other Business**
  - Future Conference/Planning
    - Conversation about annual conference. The Conference Committee needs a co-chair.
    - Joel voiced that he sees a benefit to doing it every year, although a little late for Spring 2023. He stated a concern about hosting in Helena during the Legislative session.
    - Discussion about capacity for Conference, some folks have administrative staff that could help.
    - Sean supported to shifting Conference to every year and is committed to being an active committee member. He enjoys the panel discussion, especially.
    - Bruce agreed that an annual event is fine, but folks need to commit to time necessary to implement it. Just getting conference space would need to be done way ahead of time.
    - Summers liked the idea of being in Helena in off-session years and in other communities during Legislative years.
    - Rhonda said she is happy to stay on committee.
    - Dax thinks annual makes more sense for momentum and consistency.
  - Conference Committee membership & Co-chair
    - During the March or June meetings we will ask for support on member are interested they should reach out to Joel and Jennell.

#### **Elder Fraud and Financial Exploitation Prevention Committee Update**

- Jennell plans to reach out to Commissioner Downing's office. There is a shared appreciation for changing the meeting time. Jennell recapped a trip to Washington DC to attend a national conference on elder fraud. She believes she may have been the only one from Montana there. She welcomes folks to join the committee.

#### **Native American Committee Update**

- Tabled

#### **K-12 Committee Update**

- Dax discussed efforts within OPI to include finance or economics education to graduation requirements. This effort is going through the regulatory process in front of Board of Education. Discussion around what curriculum would entail without adding extra burden on educators in schools where this content isn't already taught.
- Efforts to create national personal finance standards in this realm. Seem to encapsulate priorities for peoples' lives, to be successful with personal finance.
- Timing will be intentional with legislative priorities.

- January 12-13 notice of adopted is posted online, so it seems this will occur and July 2023 will be in effect.
- Jennell stated that right now MT is one of the only states that doesn't have the financial education graduation requirement. Sean said it was a major topic of conversation at the JumpStart conference.
- Dax wanted to acknowledge winners of competition with cash prizes to top 5 teams. Students did well in investment decisions in a volatile market. They had six junior high schools participate, and two placed.
- Big Sky BizSim – top three teams (came from behind at the last quarter) all from Sidney HS.

#### **Outreach Committee Update**

- Chris was not able to get the calendar completed this year, with capacity challenges. First Interstate Bank provided pics as in past, but most had kids' faces and we didn't have consent.
- Hoping Skylar will add to this committee to help with website and social media. Guinevere is also ready to join.
- Plan to put together ideas prior to March meeting. Goal to target middle to high schoolers.

#### **Member Go-Around: Share Success/Challenge**

- Karissa –Plan to shorten Financial Skill Building class to better fit Zoom best practices, still have IDA matched savings program.
- Dax –again going to host Personal Finance Challenge, which means state winners can compete regionally and possibly nationally. MFEC has been a partner in the past.
- Joel –added three new county faculty positions (2/3 filled).
- Sean –new courses coming up in savings, credit, accounting, crypto education.
- Tim –just signed a new partnership with ABC Fox, sponsoring “Help Me Ben” series, which often focuses on fraud prevention. Holding second in series of tele-town halls on estate planning with Marsha Goetting. Please if you see anything in the legislature in the realm of consumer protection, let them know. New state president Sandy Bailey from Pony.
- Gayla –Not many changes from a few months ago, will know more with legislative session.
- Rosie– NW sent homebuyer educators to Fairfield HS to present financial education to their outgoing seniors, and they are anticipating that will continue. Taught financial fitness, budgeting and rental. Have been working with youth probation, asking them to provide financial and rental education. Plan to reduce their homebuyer education costs to \$50.
- Sam –FAS Team (finance abuse specialist) goal is to meet every 48 hours when they hear about exploitation. Gearing up for legislative session.
- Ryan –headed to Capital HS to speak to their students taking financial literacy class. Tomorrow is the 1-year anniversary of the branch opening in Helena.
- Jennell –one of the newest scams is Pig Butchering, specifically with crypto. Bank is in process of developing and implementing robust internal training program, in addition to lunch and learn sessions.

Adjourned 2:15 p.m.

Next Meeting: March 7, virtual and in-person







**MFEC Quarterly Board Meeting**  
**301 S Park Ave, Rm. #342 Helena MT**  
**June 6, 2023, 1-3:30p.m.**

**Join Microsoft Teams meeting**  
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### Meeting Agenda

- 1:00 p.m. Call to Order to Establish Quorum
- Introductions
  - Board of Directors/Delegates List
- 1:10 p.m. Approval of March 2023 Meeting Minutes (**Voting Item**)
- 1:15 p.m. Treasurer's Report
- Bank Account Check Register
- 1:20 p.m. General Business
- Strategic Planning
    - Review mission, goals and objectives and by-laws (**Voting Item**)
    - Native American Committee (**Voting Item**)
  - Conflict of Interest Policy (must be signed by all directors)
  - Mini-grant applications
  - Jump\$tart State Coalition Leaders meeting recap
  - Jump\$tart teacher scholarships
  - House Bill 535 – Revising education laws to provide a definition of “financial literacy.”
- 2:15 p.m. Break
- 2:30 p.m. Conference Committee Update
- 2:40 p.m. Elder Fraud and Financial Exploitation Prevention Committee Update
- 2:50 p.m. K-12 Committee Update
- 3:00 p.m. Outreach Committee Update
- 3:10 p.m. member Go-Around: Share Success/Challenge

**Adjourn by 3:30 p.m.**

**Next Meeting:** September 5, 2023



**Board of Directors  
(As of 4/14/23)**

No.	Name	Organization/Location	Title	Committees	Phone/Email
1	Jennell Huff, President	Bank of the Rockies (Wilsall)	Community Outreach Coordinator	Elder Fraud Prevention (Chair), Financial Review (Chair) and K-12	406-686-4204 <a href="mailto:jhuff@botr.bank">jhuff@botr.bank</a>
2	Sean Thomas, Vice President	EverFi (Arlee)	Senior Schools Manager	K-12	208-731-7746 <a href="mailto:stthomas@everfi.com">stthomas@everfi.com</a>
3	Bruce Brensdal, Treasurer	Retired Montana Board of Housing (Jefferson City)		Conference and Financial Review	406-459-1215 <a href="mailto:bbrensdal@gmail.com">bbrensdal@gmail.com</a>
4	Karissa Trujillo, Secretary	Homeword, Inc. (Missoula)	Operations and Program Director	Conference	406-532-4663 x 12 <a href="mailto:karissa@homeword.org">karissa@homeword.org</a>
5	Chris Romano, Immediate Past President	Division of Banking and Financial Institutions (Helena)	Non-Depository Bureau Chief	Outreach (Chair) and Financial Review	406-841-2928 <a href="mailto:cromano@mt.gov">cromano@mt.gov</a>
6	Rhonda Krieger	Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, Helena Branch (Helena)	Business Analyst – Regional Outreach & Operations	K-12, Financial Review, Conference and Native American	406-447-3864 <a href="mailto:rhonda.krieger@mpls.frb.org">rhonda.krieger@mpls.frb.org</a>
7	Ryan Egebrecht	Chase (Helena)	Private Client Banker	Elder Fraud Prevention	406-209-1858 <a href="mailto:ryan.egebrecht@chase.com">ryan.egebrecht@chase.com</a>
8	Troy Downing	Office of the Montana State Auditor (Helena)	Commissioner of Securities and Insurance		406-444-2040 <a href="mailto:troy.downing@mt.gov">troy.downing@mt.gov</a>
9	Tim Summers	AARP (Helena)	State Director	Elder Fraud Prevention	406-457-4701 <a href="mailto:tsummers@aarp.org">tsummers@aarp.org</a>
10	Mary Palkovich	Montana Board of Housing (Helena)	Mortgage Servicing Program Manager		406-841-2857 <a href="mailto:mpalkovich@mt.gov">mpalkovich@mt.gov</a>

11	Guinevere Ayers	First Interstate BancSystem Foundation (Billings)	Senior Program Officer		406-255-5284 <a href="mailto:guinevere.ayers@fib.com">guinevere.ayers@fib.com</a>
12	Joel Schumacher	MSU Extension – (Bozeman)	Extension Economic Associate Specialist	Conference (Chair)	406-994-6637 <a href="mailto:jschumacher@montana.edu">jschumacher@montana.edu</a>
13	Dax Schieffer	Montana Council on Economic Education (Helena)	Executive Director	Conference, K-12	406-624-6617 <a href="mailto:mcee@montana.edu">mcee@montana.edu</a>
14	Gayla Randel	Office of Public Instruction (Helena)	Family & Consumer Sciences Education Specialist	K-12	406-431-2117 <a href="mailto:gayla.randel@mt.gov">gayla.randel@mt.gov</a>
15	Rosie Kiernan	NeighborWorks (Great Falls)	Homeownership Director		406-761-5861 <a href="mailto:rkiernan@nwgf.org">rkiernan@nwgf.org</a>
16	Jacob Griffith	MT Office of the Attorney General, DOJ, Office of Consumer Protection (Helena)	Supervising Attorney, OCP		406-444-1968 <a href="mailto:jacob.griffith2@mt.gov">jacob.griffith2@mt.gov</a>
17	Lianna Waller	DPHHS – Adult Protective Services (Missoula)	Interim Bureau Chief	Elder Fraud Prevention	406-830-5304 <a href="mailto:lwaller@mt.gov">lwaller@mt.gov</a>
18	Skyler Manley	Rural Dynamics	Volunteer Coordinator	Outreach	406-441-4704 <a href="mailto:smanley@ruraldynamics.org">smanley@ruraldynamics.org</a>

## Delegations

Name	Organization/Location	Title	Committee	Phone/Email
Amberly Pahut	First Interstate Bank Foundation (Billings)	Executive Director		406-255-5302 <a href="mailto:amberly.pahut@fib.com">amberly.pahut@fib.com</a>
Joe DeFilippis	Montana Board of Housing (Helena)	Operations Manager		406-841-2826 <a href="mailto:joseph.defilippis@mt.gov">joseph.defilippis@mt.gov</a>
Linda Leffler	Division of Banking and Financial Institutions (Helena)		Conference and Outreach	406-841-2932 <a href="mailto:lleffler@mt.gov">lleffler@mt.gov</a>
Al Ward	AARP (Billings)	Volunteer	Elder Fraud and Native American	406-422-9759 <a href="mailto:award.aw@gmail.com">award.aw@gmail.com</a>
Pam O'Reilly	Montana Bankers Association (Helena)	V.P. of Operations and Member Services	Elder Fraud Prevention and Native American	406-441-4703 <a href="mailto:pam@montanabankers.com">pam@montanabankers.com</a>
Mark Mattioli	Office of the Montana State Auditor	Deputy Chief Legal Counsel		406-444-2406 <a href="mailto:mark.mattioli@mt.gov">mark.mattioli@mt.gov</a>

## Committee Assignments

**Conference:** Joel Schumacher (Chair), Bruce Brensdal, Karissa Trujillo, Rhonda Krieger, Cheryl Cohen, Chris Romano, Dax Schieffer, and Linda Leffler

**Elder Fraud Prevention:** Jennell Huff (Chair), Marsha Goetting, Ryan Egebrecht, Tim Summers, Pam O'Reilly, and Liana Waller

**Financial Review:** Jennell Huff (Chair), Chris Romano, Bruce Brensdal, and Rhonda Krieger

**K-12:** Gayla Randel (Co-Chair), Sean Thomas (Co-Chair), Rhonda Krieger, and Jennell Huff

**Native American:** Tonya Plummer (Chair), Rhonda Krieger, Pam O'Reilly, Al Ward, Linda Leffler, and Shawn Spruce

**Outreach (Marketing):** Chris Romano (Chair), Skyler Manley, and Linda Leffler

## **MFEC Quarterly Board Meeting**

**March 7, 2023, 1-4 p.m.**

### Directors on Teams Call:

- Jennell Huff (Bank of the Rockies), President
- Sean Thomas (EverFi), Vice President
- Bruce Brensda (Retired, Montana Board of Housing), Treasurer
- Karissa Trujillo (Homeward, Inc.), Secretary
- Chris Romano (State of Montana, Division of Banking and Financial Institutions)
- Troy Downing (Commissioner of Securities and Insurance)
- Rhonda Krieger (Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, Helena Branch)
- Gayla Randel (Office of Public Instruction-OPI)
- Dax Schieffer (Montana Council on Economic Education)
- Rosie Kiernan (NeighborWorks)
- Ryan Egebrecht (Chase)
- Joel Schumacher (MSU Extension)
- Tim Summers (AARP)
- Summer Red (AFCPE)
- Guinevere Ayers (First Interstate Bank Foundation)

### Proxies and Guests on Zoom Call:

- Mary Palkovich (Montana Board of Housing)

### Directors Absent:

- Skyler Manley (Rural Dynamics)
- Tonya Plummer (Island Mountain Development Group)
- Jacob Griffith (MT Office of the Attorney General)

## **Meeting Agenda/Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 1:08 p.m. Directors introduced themselves and a quorum was established. An amendment to the minutes was noted with changing Bruce's organization name and correcting the attendance at the meeting include Summer Red. Joel made a motion to approve the minutes as amended and Ryan seconded. Motion carried to approve the minutes as amended.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Bruce gave an update on the current finances. There is \$8,139 in checking after all bills paid and checks have cleared in 2022. The balance in the CD is at about \$20,450, for a total of \$28,590. He provided a review of the bank account check register and noted that all transactions have been reconciled to the bank statement. Bruce stated that the CD has been renewed for a 13-month term at 3.5%. He attempted to file Form 990-N with the IRS but received an error message. Chris stated that he would reach out to JumpStart to inquire if any other affiliates have had problems filing the 990. There were no questions.

## **General Business**

Discussion about recruitment of new board members and pending board changes:

- Mary Palkovich - Montana Board of Housing – Mortgage Servicing Program Manager
  - Bruce motioned to accept Mary as new MFEC Board Member, Dax seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- Summer Red resigned from the board of directors.
- Jennell stated that she would reach out to Tonya Plummer because she is no longer working with the Montana Native Growth Fund.

### **Recruitment of New Board Members**

There was general discussion amongst the board regarding individuals and/or organizations to target for representation on the MFEC Board which included:

- Montana’s Credit Unions
- Montana Bankers Association – Replacement for Skyler
- OPI – Indian Education Division

### **Social Media and Website Updates**

Skyler Manley was unable to attend the meeting and did not provide an update on MFEC’s social media and website. Chris asked if anyone else would be willing to help update the website and social media accounts. Guinevere volunteered to assist.

### **Mini-Grants**

There was general discussion amongst the board regarding when to open applications for mini grants. It was decided that the MFEC will update the website and send out a communication to accept mini grants through April 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **Other Business**

- **Strategic planning**
  - Sean raised a question regarding the future and direction of the MFEC. After some board discussion, the Executive Leadership team stated that it would focus on conducting a strategic planning session during the next board meeting in June.
- **Financial Education Program Directory**
  - Gayla raised the idea of creating a Financial Education Program Directory on the MFEC website. This would be a resource for events going on state-wide. This topic should be discussed again during K-12 Committee Meetings and/or future Board meetings.
- **Personal Finance Challenge (MCEE)**
  - Dax will send a proposal to the MFEC to help send the winning team to Cleveland for the national competition in June. It is expected that the MFEC’s contribution will be about \$2,500.

### **Elder Fraud and Financial Exploitation Prevention Committee Update**

- Jennell mentioned that she will be planning an event for Bank of the Rockies on World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (June 15<sup>th</sup>).

- [AARP Prepare to Care](#) is a great resource with family caregiving guides.
- The Montana Aging Services Bureau will be hosting the [Legal Document Clinic Season](#) again this year; the program serves older adults aged 60+ as well as any enrolled tribal members. At the Legal Document Clinics, trained legal professionals assist participants in completing their estate planning documents at no cost to the participant; legal professionals assist older adults draft, review, notarize and copy each document.
- Jennell stated that [HB 421](#) was tabled in committee. The was titled, Revise laws related to reporting financial abuse of elderly and disabled persons.

#### **Native American Committee Update**

- The committee update was tabled since the Committee Chair was unable to dial into the meeting.

#### **Conference Committee**

- Joel stated that we will work on scheduling a conference committee meeting and noted that a priority will be setting a date for the 2024 Conference and identifying a keynote speaker.

#### **K-12 Committee Update**

- Gayla previously spoke to need for a consolidated Financial Education Program Directory.
- House Bill 535 titled, Revising education laws to provide a definition of "financial literacy. Passed house and is being transmitted to the Senate. Continue to monitor and provide update for June meeting.
- Google search for Montana financial literacy. Should we explore how to own this and related searches?

#### **Outreach Committee Update**

- Chris discussed launching another contest in the spring or fall for high school and/or middle school students that can be leveraged as art for the MFEC's 2024 calendar.
- He will work with Skyler and Guinevere on updates to the MFEC website and social media feeds.

#### **Member Go-Around: Share Success/Challenge**

- Dax – Highlighted the Personal Finance Challenge and partnership with the MFEC on sending the winning team to the national competition. Dax spoke to success reaching students with the stock market game and personal finance challenge. He noted the challenge of determining how to optimize resources to assist high schools with potential unfunded mandate to implement financial education class.
- Joel – Marsha is still conducting her estate planning sessions. Extension offices are well staffed after recent hiring.
- Sean – Noted new course offerings from EverFi in cryptocurrency and for middle school students. He shared that EverFi was acquired by Blackbaud, but there will be no changes to their daily operations.
- Mary – Foreclosures have been low. There is a Montana Homeowner Assistance Fund that can help struggling homeowners.
- Troy – Success: Work on NASAA Senior Issues Committee. Great resources on [NASAA Serve our Seniors webpage](#). Participation on NAIC American Indian and Alaska Native Liaison Committee. This committee has helped produce well-crafted communications targeted at our Native populations. Recruiting an outreach coordinator. Cryptocurrency education is critical for

consumers. Challenges: Recruitment and retention of staff. Using an internship program to help cultivate talented students.

- Gayla – OPI: Resource lists for teachers would be ideal. This is a local decision, so curriculum promotion is not permitted. FCS: Project grants for student projects. Financial Fitness Program CD purchase would be nice for FCCLA teachers. Other: Create financial literacy program directory.
- Guinevere – First Interstate Bank is working on activities for Teach Children to Save Day. She also volunteered to help update the MFEC website and social media feeds.
- Rhonda – Noted that the Federal Reserve has ended its Covid-19 visitor policy which will make it easier for the Fed to host meetings again.
- Jennell – Working on youth ag outreach which is part of the Bank’s activities in April during Financial Literacy Month and for Teach Children to Save Day. Collected 425 books as part of I love to read month/day. Books were distributed to local schools. Personal challenge losing my grandmother to dementia and seeing issues with cognitive decline and seeing importance of estate planning. Planning for World Elder Abuse Day event (June 15<sup>th</sup>).

Adjourned 3:28 p.m.

Next Meeting: June 6, virtual and in-person (301. S. Park, Helena)





# Montana Financial Education Coalition

## Conflict of Interest Policy

### General Policy

The Board of Directors (Directors) of the Montana Financial Education Coalition (MFEC) must read and sign the Conflict of Interest Policy, agreeing to abide by the policy.

Directors shall refrain from engaging in any activity that may create a conflict of interest between themselves and the goals and mission of the MFEC. We recognize that throughout the ongoing course of carrying out our individual business or the business of our employer, we may encounter times when we are in conflict. At the earliest point of recognizing a conflict, the Board member must disclose in writing (e-mail is acceptable) to the President and/or Vice President any such conflict of interest and refrain from voting on matters that may result in a benefit to the member, their company, or their organization.

Conflicts of interest may fall into many categories. The following incomplete list identifies several examples:

1. Business conflicts – conducting business in the name of the MFEC that results in direct benefit to the individual or their business, etc.
2. Ethical conflicts – using the MFEC name to gain access to individuals or businesses, etc.
3. Relationships with others who may receive benefit – while representing the MFEC you refer business to others with whom you have a relationship and as a result they or you receive benefit, etc.
4. Non-adherence to the general principles of ethical behavior and by Robert's Rules of Order.

### Procedure for Managing Conflicts

1. Following disclosure of a possible conflict of interest, the Directors shall determine whether a conflict of interest exists and, if so the Directors shall vote to authorize or reject the transaction or take any other action deemed necessary to address the conflict and protect the MFEC's best interests. Votes shall be by a majority vote without counting the vote of any interested director, even if the disinterested directors are less than a quorum, provided that at least one consenting director is disinterested.
2. A Director shall not participate in any discussion or debate of the Board of Directors, or of any committee or subcommittee thereof in which the subject of discussion is a contract, transaction, or situation in which there may be a perceived or actual conflict of interest. However, they may be present to provide clarifying information in such a discussion or debate unless objected to by any present board or committee member.

3. Anyone in a position to make decisions about spending the MFEC’s resources (i.e., transactions such as purchase contracts) – who also stands to benefit from that decision – has a duty to disclose that conflict as soon as it arises (or becomes apparent); s/he should not participate in any final decisions.
4. A copy of this policy shall be given to all Directors, volunteers or other key stakeholders upon commencement of such person's relationship with the Coalition or at the official adoption of the policy. Each Director and volunteer shall sign and date the policy at the beginning of her/his term of service or employment with the Coalition. Failure to sign does not nullify the policy.
5. The fact that a conflict was managed and its outcome will be documented in the Coalition’s Board meeting minutes if the conflict was related to a Director.
6. The President of the Board will monitor proposed or ongoing transactions of the organization (e.g., contracts with vendors and collaborations with third parties) for conflicts of interest and disclose them to the Board as appropriate, whether discovered before or after the transaction has occurred.

### **Confidentiality**

Each Director or volunteer shall exercise care not to disclose confidential information acquired in connection with disclosures of conflicts of interest or potential conflicts, which might be averse to the interests of the MFEC. Furthermore, Directors and volunteers shall not disclose or use information relating to the business of the Coalition for their personal profit or advantage or the personal profit or advantage of their family member(s).

### **Acknowledgement**

By signing below, I hereby acknowledge that I have carefully read and agree to all the terms contained above in this Conflict of Interest Policy. If I have any such conflicts to declare, I shall attach them in writing to this signed policy.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## MFEC 2023 Mini-Grant Submissions

Organization	Requested Amount	Requested Funding Date	Summary/Target Population
Business Professionals of America, MT	\$750.00	10/1/2023	BPA will host a Fall Leadership Conference (October 1-2, 2023) in Fairmont, MT for middle school and high school students. BPA Montana Association is hoping the MFEC will once again be our sponsor for the BPA Biz Bowl Financial Literacy competition. We have encouraged our students to participate in this activity during the past five years. Our intent is to award scholarship monies to the top three teams. We hope that you will consider a donation of \$750, which would allow us to award scholarship monies for our Biz Bowl winners as well as for our Shark Tank winners. These monies will help the students with their registration fee to attend the 2024 State BPA Leadership Conference. This year we anticipate 330 BPA members to attend the 2023 Fall Leadership Conference.
East Helena High School	\$746.30	4/12/2023	For our High School to meet this mission, we are requesting grant funding to contribute towards a classroom set of calculators for our business classes. Students complete Career Planning, Marketing, Introduction to Business, Personal Finance, Small Business Management, Computer Programming, Technology Skills, and Accounting I and II. Each of these courses need calculators to assist with class assignments throughout each semester. Currently, students use their phones for assignments. However, we would like to increase the integrity of the assignments and assessments by requiring calculators. These calculators will potentially impact 120 Personal Finance students per year. There is also the potential of impacting up to approximately 400 students each semester throughout our department.
Stevensville High School	\$750.00	4/12/2023	I want to be able to give students a financial literacy book when they leave my personal finance class their junior year. I feel that students need additional financial information for future decisions and this can help them continue to learn about financial decisions as well as more information about investing and retirement. I'm looking at <i>How To Adult: Personal Finance for the Real World</i> , written by Jake Cousineau. He is a personal finance teacher as well as an author. I'm looking at 100 students per year (mostly Juniors) as Personal Finance is a graduation requirement at Stevensville High School.
	<b>Total: \$2,246.30</b>		

## 2023 Jump\$tart State Coalition Leaders Meeting

Washington, D.C.

April 24-26, 2023

*Re-igniting the flame and finding your North Star*

Twenty-five Jump\$tart state coalition leaders converged on Washington, D.C. April 24-26, 2023, for the annual state coalition leaders meeting and awards luncheon.

Founded in 1995, the Jump\$tart Coalition was based on an idea credited to Chairman and CEO of the Ford Motor Credit Corporation at the time, William E. Odom. The first meeting was organized by then President and CEO of the American Financial Services Association, H. Randy Lively, was intended to “develop a strategic plan for improving the quality and extent of curriculum modules for personal finance education in the nation’s schools, grades K-12”. Today Jump\$tart’s highest honor, the William E. Odom Visionary Leadership Award is awarded annually, and Mr. Odom remains a director emeritus of the national board.

In 1997, the Jump\$tart Coalition was incorporated as an independent non-profit organization. Realizing that they couldn’t do it alone, each state was encouraged to create their own state coalition under the Jump\$tart coalition. In Montana, that is the Montana Financial Education Coalition (MFEC). In 2016, Mike Grove encouraged me to join the MFEC board, and during my second meeting I pitched the idea to build an elder fraud detection and prevention network with the partners sitting around the table. During my third meeting, was asked to step forward as the Vice-President by Dr. Marsha Goetting, one of the founding members of the MFEC. In December 2022 I was elected president of the MFEC.

Earlier this week, I was able to travel to Washington, D.C. for the annual State Coalition Leaders and General Partners meetings, which culminates in an annual awards luncheon. This year, State Coalition of the Year was awarded to Alabama Jump\$tart for their strength and tenacity when they suddenly found themselves left with one board member. Michelle Singelton was awarded the William E. Odom Visionary Leadership Award. MFEC is a past State Coalition of the Year award winner, having won in 2015 under the leadership of Diana Holshue. I intend to make Montana the second coalition to win the award twice.

State Coalitions incur no cost for attendance, other than travel and lodging, which Mike has been gracious enough to cover for me. Meals were provided at no charge, other than anything that we chose to do on our own. I was fortunate to be invited to sit with the ABA leadership at the awards ceremony and met Lindsay Torrico and Kelsey Havemann, two individuals fiercely dedicated to financial education and empowerment.

Phenomenal speakers were enlisted to bring networking and brainstorming sessions of these state leaders to life. Dave Mancl, President of the Wisconsin coalition, lead the breakout session regarding operations, partner and board recruitment, retention, and succession. It was interesting to learn of the different states’ successes and challenges in these areas. Three big takeaways for me from this session:

- 1) It is vitally important to actively engage committees.
- 2) Teacher needs assessments are an important, yet often overlooked, tool to determine how we can better assist teachers in the realm of financial education. What do they need?
- 3) If we are going to BE something, we need to DO something.

Former ABA Foundation President Corey Carlisle, who is now the Jump\$tart national Board Chairman, next led a discussion titled, "Finding Your North Star as a State Coalition Leader". Again, key takeaways for me from this session:

- 1) Words have meaning. Mean what you say and do what you mean.
- 2) Understand your own responsibility.
- 3) Do something MEANINGFUL to help reignite your spark.

John Doyle, of Doyle McDonald, led an in-depth discussion and interactive session on how to lead, promote, and craft meetings. This was AMAZING! He went around the room and asked each person to tell their story of how they came to be with their state coalitions, or at least how they came to be advocates for financial empowerment. I told my story about witnessing two cases of elder fraud in our office with my own eyes and approaching Barb and Mike about what we can do to help. The rest, well, we all know that story now. It was during this discussion that I learned that Montana is one of only three state coalitions that focus on financial education from cradle to grave. I also met Louisiana's state coalition leader, Blaine Grimes, who I had a great conversation with about what each of our state's do in the elder fraud/abuse prevention space. We are going to schedule a time to visit with each other in the next few weeks and see what we can learn from each other. Key takeaways for me from this session:

- 1) Take the hit as a gift. Change your mindset from failure to learning.
- 2) How do we engage our students to become student mentors in financial education?
- 3) What is your calling? Find your passion, tell your story.
- 4) Change your messaging. When we improve our messaging, we empower.
- 5) Bring energy, don't just go along for the ride.
- 6) Everybody deserves to know the rules of the game.

Day two was as invigorating, if not more so than day one. Dr. Sarah Newcomb is a Behavioral Economist and founder of Thrive Financial Empowerment Center. MFEC was fortunate to have had her speak at one of our conferences in the past and she was just as phenomenal as before. She touched on the disparities that COVID uncovered, and interestingly enough had an entire section on increased suicidal ideation as a result of financial stress and doubt. The numbers were staggering. Mike Sheffer, retired teacher of 33 years and Director of Education for FoolProof Foundation was the next speaker. Again, great information and he spoke about how important it is to embrace technology and tell your story. It's important to meet the teachers where they are and to support them. Key takeaways:

- 1) We had no idea we were already on the right path with incorporating suicide awareness and prevention into our financial education programs, but we are ahead of the game here.
- 2) Another theme: Tell your story.
- 3) Collaborate, Collaborate, Collaborate
- 4) Improve your messaging and bring energy.
- 5) Do what you know how to do. If you stumble, get back up and rebuild.

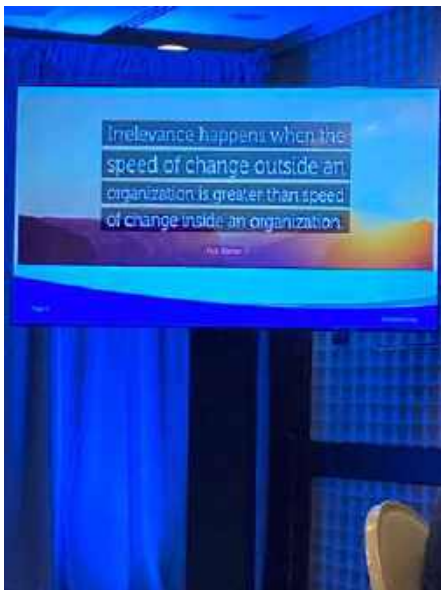
I am attaching a few photos from my days in D.C. I already have plans to meet with other state leaders and ask about their financial literacy requirements in their states. As a side note, legislation requiring financial literacy for graduation from Montana accredited high schools is awaiting the governor's signature. Once signed, Montana will be the 17<sup>th</sup> state in the union to adopt such requirements. I have thoughts as to how we can help support our teachers and offer to them what we do best, empower our communities and assist them with their overall health and wellbeing.



Variny opens the meeting



Build, Grow, Succeed.



Powerful statement



OR, CA, MT, and VA state coalition leaders



AN ACT GENERALLY REVISING EDUCATION LAWS; ESTABLISHING A LEGISLATIVE GOAL FOR PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS TO SUPPORT INSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL LITERACY; AND AMENDING SECTION 20-1-102, MCA.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**Section 1.** Section 20-1-102, MCA, is amended to read:

**"20-1-102. Legislative goals for public elementary and secondary schools.** It is the goal of the legislature that Montana's public elementary and secondary school system, in cooperation with parents or guardians, create a learning environment for each student that:

- (1) develops a sound foundation for literacy and numeracy during the early years that is built upon and reinforced throughout the educational experience;
- (2) furthers the ability to reason critically, creatively, and strategically;
- (3) fosters the ability to effectively understand and communicate ideas, knowledge, and thoughts;
- (4) develops a sense of personal and civic responsibility;
- (5) provides an in-depth understanding of the American political, social, and economic systems and the historical context from which they arose;
- (6) provides familiarization with political, social, and economic systems found elsewhere in the world;
- (7) develops a strong work ethic, postsecondary readiness, and employment skills; ~~and~~
- (8) encourages a healthy lifestyle; and
- (9) supports instruction of financial literacy, where students obtain the knowledge and skills required to succeed financially."

- END -

I hereby certify that the within bill,  
HB 535, originated in the House.

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Chief Clerk of the House

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Speaker of the House

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

---

President of the Senate

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

HOUSE BILL NO. 535

INTRODUCED BY B. MITCHELL, J. HAMILTON, J. COHENOUR, F. ANDERSON, D. FERN, M. BERTOGLIO,  
B. LER, K. SEEKINS-CROWE, J. FULLER, P. FLOWERS, G. HERTZ, D. SALOMON, J. ELLSWORTH, K.  
BOGNER, T. FALK, D. ZOLNIKOV, D. EMRICH, T. SMITH

AN ACT GENERALLY REVISING EDUCATION LAWS; ESTABLISHING A LEGISLATIVE GOAL FOR PUBLIC  
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS TO SUPPORT INSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL LITERACY; AND  
AMENDING SECTION 20-1-102, MCA.

## MFEC Planning

In attendance: Chris Romano, Joe DeFilippis, Mary Palkovich, Dax Schieffer, Joel Schumacher

Not in Attendance but Expressed an Interest in assisting: Tim Summers, Karissa Trujillo, Gayla Randel

**Basic Background:** The event has typically been held in February or March. Often in Helena but it has been in Bozeman and Billings before. In Helena we have typically used the Delta Hotel. The format is often plenary sessions in the morning with breakout sessions in the afternoon. Some years we have also offered an evening event the night before. Attendance is typically in the 60 to 100 range. I don't think we typically reserve hotel rooms (I'll have to look an old hotel contract) ...if we do reserve rooms it is simply a block and people pay on their own.

**Funding:** Typically MFEC Board Member Organizations provide sponsorship. The total in recent years has been about \$10,000. We also charge registration for attendees (\$75 last time), which raised about \$2,000. Some MFEC member organizations have also supported by purchasing lunch or printing the programs for the day. The proceeds have funded mini-grants.

### Dates:

The group started to discuss dates that might work. Tentatively we are looking at 3/18, 3/19, 3/5 or 3/6 as possible date. Dax was going to check that against some school related dates. We can discuss at the June MFEC Board Meeting.

### Location:

The Delta and the Great Northern were discussed. Joe D. and Joel S. will look into these options.

### Keynote Speakers and Themes:

Possible Theme would be Financial Ed in Schools partly due to recent legislation.

-Jenell suggested a few speakers: Sarah Newcomb and Michael Sheffer.

-Dax and Mary will explore this topic further. We can discuss further at the June board meeting.





**MFEC Quarterly Board Meeting**  
**301 S Park Ave, Rm. #342 Helena MT**  
**September 5, 2023, 1-3:30p.m.**

**Join Microsoft Teams meeting**  
**Join on your computer or mobile app**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

**Or call in (audio only)**

[+1 406-318-5487,,350579753#](#)

United States, Billings

Phone Conference ID: 350 579 753#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

[Learn More](#) | [Meeting options](#)

## Meeting Minutes

1:07 p.m. Call to Order to Establish Quorum

- Members Present

- Dax Sheppard
- Rhonda Krieger
- Linda Leffler
- Gayla Randel
- Troy Downing
- Guinevere Ayers
- Karissa Trujillo
- Sean Thomas
- Jennell Huff
- Tracey Etherton – guest
  - FCCLA, Montana Director
- Lianna Waller
- Joel Schumacher
- Rosalie Kiernan
- Jacob Griffith
- Chris Romano

1:10 p.m. Approval of June 2023 Meeting Minutes (**Voting Item**)

- Joel motions, Sean seconds, motion passes

1:15 p.m. Treasurer's Report

- Bank Account Check Register
  - \$29,698.24 unrestricted balance
  - Still don't see mini grants charged, Linda will email Bruce
  - Dax gave some feedback on the MFEC sponsorship of the Personal Financial Challenge

1:30 p.m. General Business

- Conflict of Interest reminder
  - Please sign and send to Karissa
- Skylar Manning Resignation
  - Need to think through recruiting new membership
- FCCLA potential partnership (**Voting Item**)
  - Presentation by Tracey regarding what FCCLA does
  - Discussion about various options for sponsorship

- Plan to review proposal and make vote at December meeting
- Strategic Planning
  - Executive Team report
  - Met earlier in day and are making proposed changes to Bylaws
- Jumpstart teacher scholarships report
  - Allow Executive Team to approve budgetary commitments up to \$600
  - Rhonda motion, Gayla seconds, motion passes
  - Gayla wondering if we have any reciprocity from teachers. Ask teachers to record a quick “what did you learn” video that could be shared throughout OPI.
  - Maybe a panel at the conference – ask them to save the date for it?
  - Also consider Facebook post with winners –Gayla also thinks save the date on conference and repost monthly
- State Employees Charitable Giving Campaign
  - September 27<sup>th</sup> in the Capitol Rotunda
  - Jennel will be there, Gayla is willing to be there, too
- Conference Save the Dates
  - Working to finalize. More discussion later during committee reports
- April is National Financial Literacy Month
  - Virtual event?
  - Governor’s Proclamation
  - Discussion about timing with Conference, not sure on how quickly this could be launched or perhaps focus at conference on what they can do in April
  - Perhaps update the website with content, social media outreach
  - Conversation shifted to “donate” button on website having specific focus, maybe mini grants

2:10 p.m. Break

2:30 p.m. Conference Committee Update –March 19

- Divided into sub committees
  - Keynote
  - Breakout Group
  - Marketing
  - Moved to Great Northern
- Discussion about possible speakers – Mike Sheffer with FoolProof  
<https://www.foolproofme.org/>

2:45 p.m. Elder Fraud and Financial Exploitation Prevention Committee Update  
 Discussion about elder fraud statewide, Commissioner Downing

- WEAAD 2023 recap
  - Members commented that momentum in Montana is building and are all excited to see more and more events happening throughout the state.

- Stockman Bank in Billings hosted the Attorney General and several members of his team along with the director of state investigators.
- Bank of the Rockies hosted their annual media event in Helena as an after-hours event with guest speakers Lt. Governor Juras, Lianna Waller, Commissioner Downing, Commissioner Hall, Nancy Anderson with AARP, and elder fraud survivor Susan Bivens.

#### K-12 Committee Update

- Not much happening, given the start of school. Continuing to seek and find partnerships and thinking forward on the statewide FE requirements.

#### 3:05 p.m. Outreach Committee Update

- Calendars
  - Around this time is when we solicit sponsorships for calendars, and then find topic that is aligned with that sponsor. Asking how many teachers we would have to send out to, Gayla will get info.
  - LinkedIn Profile (Potential)
  - MFEC Meme Contest

- Committee Chairs – updated committee list needed to update the website

#### 3:15 p.m. Member Go-Around: Share Success/Challenge

- Sean: Everfi restructured so he has new position, inbound support for teachers in 14 states.
- Dax: FIB has really stepped up to support program, early registration is already busy. Stock market game will be hosted again, also strong early registration. This year MCEE has really invested in marketing/branding.
- Rhonda:
- Guinevere: FIB state foundation, safe banking for seniors and then Get Smart about Credit. Had company wide financial education training in August
- Lianna: Trevor Tangen is back (deployed last year) – she is in an acting role, curious if he needs to be voted in (no). He will be at the next mtg. Sent 9 staff to adult protection services conference. In FY21 agency investigated 653 reports of exploitation, FY22 1833, FY23: 1862. Lianna's last mtg.
- Gayla: schools trying to figure out how to implement the FE requirement since it's unfunded. Back to school session about FCS. OPI doesn't provide or promote curriculum. How do we diversify education (parents, for example).
- Karissa: Homework is essentially status quo with class and counseling, wondering about MPSEOC partnership
- Rosie: seeing FE ramp up, but also increasing efforts around youth
- Chris:
- Jake: Continuing to do work. Gov conference on aging in Oct.
- Joel: Five educators are taking a certification course this winter.
- Jennel: Also taking coworkers to Gov's conference on aging
- Linda retiring! Thank you to Linda!
- Adjourned 3:25pm



**MFEC**  
Montana Financial  
Education Coalition

**MFEC Quarterly Board Meeting**  
**301 S. Park Ave, Rm. #342 Helena MT**  
**December 5, 2023, 1-3:30 p.m.**

**Join Microsoft Teams meeting**  
**Join on your computer or mobile app**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 280 013 298 691

Passcode: CHotdH

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

**Or call in (audio only)**

+1 406-318-5487, 951627317#

Phone Conference ID: 951 627 317#

### Meeting Agenda

- 1:00 p.m. Call to Order to Establish Quorum
- Introductions
  - Board of Directors/Delegates List
- 1:10 p.m. Approval of September 2023 Meeting Minutes (**Voting Item**)
- 1:15 p.m. Treasurer's Report
- Bank Account Check Register
- 1:30 p.m. General Business
- Board position resignations
    - Mary Palkovich – MT Board of Housing
    - Bruce Brensdal – Treasurer Replacement (**Voting Item**)
  - New Board Membership
    - Tanya Eychner – MBA (**Voting Item**)
    - Historic membership:
      - Montana's Credit Unions – Jennell has reached out to Donya Parrish
      - MT School Board Association
      - Rural Dynamics
      - Reach Higher MT
  - Conflict of Interest reminder – Must be signed and turned in BEFORE year end.
  - FCCLA potential partnership (**Voting Item**)
  - Montana Personal Finance Challenge (**Voting Item**)
  - Strategic Planning
    - Executive Team follow-up and bylaws review (**Voting Item**)
  - Jump\$tart teacher scholarships report
  - State Employees Charitable Giving Campaign recap
    - Newsletter – Jump\$tart Financial Fridays
  - April is National Financial Literacy Month
    - Virtual event?
    - Governor's Proclamation

- 2:15 p.m. Break
- 2:30 p.m. Conference Committee Update
- 2:45 p.m. Elder Fraud and Financial Exploitation Prevention Committee Update
- 2:55 p.m. K-12 Committee Update
- 3:05 p.m. Outreach Committee Update
- 3:15 p.m. Member Go-Around: Share Success/Challenge

**Adjourn by 3:30 p.m.**

**2024 Meeting Dates:** March 18; June 4, September 10, December 10



# MFEC

Montana Financial  
Education Coalition

**MFEC Quarterly Board Meeting**  
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# Montana Financial Education Coalition

## Check Register

### Description

Montana Financial Education Coalition - Bank Account

## 2023

Date	Description	Received	Payment	Balance	Reconciled	Account
<i>Break down by activity:</i>						
Date	Description	Received	Payment	Balance	Reconciled	Account
<i>General:</i>						
				\$10,853.87		
6/19/2019	CD Purchase	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,853.87		Gen
5/14/2020	CD Interest	\$413.01	\$0.00	\$31,266.88		Gen
4/14/2021	CD Interest	\$18.74	\$0.00	\$31,285.62		Gen
3/14/2022	CD Interest	\$18.70	\$0.00	\$31,304.32		Gen
2/14/2023	CD Interest	\$18.88	\$0.00	\$31,323.20		Gen
1/18/2023	Brittani Hissom Donation	\$105.00	\$0.00	\$31,428.20		Gen
1/18/2023	Ryan Egebrecht Donation	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$31,628.20		Gen
1/8/2023	1263 Bruce Brensdaal Reimb - SOS Ann Rpt Fee	\$0.00	\$20.00	\$31,608.20		Gen
1/31/2023		\$0.00	\$1,249.00	\$30,359.20		Gen
6/22/2023		\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$32,859.20		Gen
7/1/2023		\$0.00	\$40.00	\$32,819.20		Gen
7/26/2023		\$0.00	\$25.00	\$32,794.20		Gen
				\$32,794.20		
				\$32,794.20		
				\$32,794.20		
<i>Conference</i>						
				\$0.00		
8/18/2023	Helena Great Northern Hotel-Deposti	\$0.00	\$500.00	-\$500.00		Conf
11/2/2023	FIB - Conf	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$500.00		Conf
11/2/2023	NWMT - Conf	\$115.00	\$0.00	\$615.00		Conf
				\$615.00		
				\$615.00		
				\$615.00		
				\$615.00		
<i>Grants:</i>						
				\$0.00		
1/18/2023	MCEE - Personal Fin Challenge	\$0.00	\$1,750.00	-\$1,750.00		Grants
5/15/2023	MCEE - Personal Fin Challenge	\$0.00	\$1,345.96	-\$3,095.96		Grants
9/19/2023	Business Professionals of American - Minigrant	\$0.00	\$750.00	-\$3,845.96		Grants
9/19/2023	East Helena School - Minigrant	\$0.00	\$746.30	-\$4,592.26		Grants
9/19/2023	Stevensville High School - Minigrant	\$0.00	\$750.00	-\$5,342.26		Grants
9/29/2023	Montana FCCLA	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	-\$7,342.26		Grants
11/4/2023	Jill Ayers - Grant	\$0.00	\$457.76	-\$7,800.02		Grants
				-\$7,800.02		
				-\$7,800.02		
				-\$7,800.02		
				-\$7,800.02		
<i>Calendar:</i>						
				\$0.00		
11/15/2023	???-Calendars	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00		Cal
11/21/2023	???-Calendars	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,500.00		Cal
11/21/2023	MBA - Calendar	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00		Cal
11/21/2023	Montana Housing - Calendar	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$4,500.00		Cal
11/27/2023	Homeword - Calendar	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00		Cal
11/27/2023	NWMT - Calendar	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$5,500.00		Cal
		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,500.00		
		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,500.00		
		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,500.00		
		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,500.00		
		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,500.00		

Bruce, Jennell, + all others -

Thank you so much for your help with travel expenses to the National JumpStart Conference in AZ! It was a valuable experience that will further help to educate Montana's youth in the area of financial literacy!

With gratitude,  
Jill Oyers

**Thank You!**  
**MCS**

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**MANHATTAN  
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL**

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**BYLAWS**  
*for the*  
**MONTANA FINANCIAL EDUCATION**  
**COALITION**

*as amended June 12, 2018 December 5, 2023*

**ARTICLE I – COALITION DEFINED**

1. **Name.** The name of organization shall be the Montana Financial Education Coalition, herein referred to as the Coalition or MFEC.
2. **Mission.** The Coalition strives to empower all Montanans to make wise decisions toward their financial future through access to financial knowledge and resources, ~~improve the personal financial knowledge and decision-making ability of Montana citizens by promoting public awareness of the need for personal financial education, providing a platform for promoting the agenda of Montana financial education providers and building the capacity of their programs.~~
3. **Guiding Principles.** To achieve its mission the following guiding principles have been adopted by the MFEC for use in its activities.
  - a. ~~A coalition dedicated to empowering Montana citizens to make wise decisions toward their financial future.~~
  - b. a. A coalition of committed partners.
  - c. b. A coalition that is community-based.
  - d. c. A coalition that is results-oriented and committed to being responsive to the needs of Montanans long-term improvement.
  - e. d. A coalition that supports and promotes information sharing, research and best practices.
  - f. e. A coalition that is proactive in promoting personal financial health.

**ARTICLE II - BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

1. **General Powers.** The property, affairs and business of the MFEC shall be managed and controlled by its Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may by general resolution delegate to officers of the Coalition and to committees such powers as provided for in these Bylaws.
2. **Number.** The number of directors shall be at least seven [7] but no more than twenty-five [25], or such other number as shall be decided by the directors from time to time.
3. **Directors.** Membership shall be open to any person interested in and committed to the mission of the Coalition.
4. **Terms.** The Directors may serve~~shall serve terms of two years or until their successors are~~

elected and qualified. ~~All directors may succeed themselves in office for an indefinite number of terms; however, insofar as may be reasonably practicable, there shall be represented on the Board of Directors as broad a range as possible of financial education categories and demographic groups in Montana as identified by the Board of Directors.~~

5. Resignation. Any director may resign at any time by giving written notice to the President. Such resignation shall take effect at the time specified therein or, if no time is specified, at the time of acceptance thereof as determined by the President or Board of Directors.
  - a) Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President, or by a majority of the directors then in office, who may fix any place, whether within or without Montana, as the place for holding any special meeting. A special meeting may count toward the four-meeting minimum provided for in section section 8.a) above.
6. Removal. A director may be removed from office ~~prior to the expiration of the term for which that director has been elected by~~ the vote of a majority of the number of the directors sitting at such time. During the calendar year, failure to attend two of the four regular meetings provided for in section 8. a) ~~below~~ or, if more than four are held, failure to attend a majority of all meetings shall result in consideration ~~for~~ removal.
7. Vacancies. Vacancies among the directors, whether caused by resignation, death, or removal ~~or expiration of a term~~, may be filled by the remaining directors.

#### 8. Meetings.

~~9.8.~~ The Board of Directors shall provide the time and place, ~~whether within or without Montana,~~ for the holding of the annual meeting of the Board, and any other regular meetings of the Board. The Board shall meet at least four times a year, including the annual meeting.

~~10.9.~~ Notice. Notice of any special meeting of the Board of Directors shall be given at least seven days previous thereto, ~~by written notice delivered personally or sent by mail, facsimile transmission or electronic mail to each director at his/her address as shown by the records of the Coalition. If mailed, the notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail in a sealed envelope so addressed with postage thereon prepaid. If notice is given by facsimile transmission the notice shall be deemed to be delivered when the transmission is completed. If notice is given by electronic mail, the notice shall be deemed to be delivered when it is received by the recipient's electronic mailbox. Any director may waive notice of any meeting. The attendance of a director at any meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting, except where a director attends a meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business because the meeting is not lawfully called or convened. Neither the business to be transacted at, nor the purpose of, any regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors need be specified in the notice or waiver of notice of such meeting, unless specifically required by law or by these Bylaws.~~

~~11.10.~~ Quorum. The presence of a majority of the Board of Directors sitting at such time shall

constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board; but if less than a majority of the directors are present in person at said meeting, a majority of the directors present may adjourn the meeting without further notice.

~~12.~~ 11. Manner of Acting. The act of a majority of the directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Directors unless the act of a greater number is required by law or by these Bylaws. Directors may attend a meeting by telephonic or electronic means by which all persons participating in the meeting can interact with each other. If a vote is necessary, directors attending by telephonic or electronic means may vote during the meeting. Proxies may not be used. Any vote conducted without a meeting must be unanimous, or it will not be valid.

~~13.~~ 12. Informal Action. Any action required by law to be taken at a meeting of directors, or any action that may be taken at a meeting of directors, may be taken without a meeting if a consent in writing, setting forth the action so taken, shall be signed by all of the directors.

~~14.~~ 13. Compensation. Directors shall not receive any salaries, fees or reimbursement for expenses incurred for attendance at regular or special meetings of the Board or for their services at such; however, nothing herein contained shall be construed to preclude any director from serving the Coalition in any other capacity and receiving reasonable compensation therefore.

14. Conflict of Interest Policy. The policy of the MFEC is that Directors avoid any conflict between their personal interests and those of the Coalition. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the Coalition's integrity and its reputation are not comprised. The fundamental principle guiding implementation of this policy is that no Director should have, or appear to have, any personal interest or relationships that conflict with the best interest of the Coalition. Consequently, all Directors shall sign and submit to the MFEC Secretary on an annual basis a copy of the Coalition's Conflict of Interest Policy.

15. Non-Discrimination Policy. The MFEC is committed to offerings its services to all individuals on a non-discriminatory basis. The MFEC does not discriminate based upon sex, actual or perceived gender, age, race, color, religion, creed, national or ethnic origin, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, genetic information, parental, marital, domestic partner, civil union, military, or veteran status.

### ARTICLE III - OFFICERS

1. Officers. The officers of the Coalition shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer. Such officers shall have the authority ~~to~~ and perform the duties prescribed ~~from~~ ~~time to time~~ by the Board of Directors.

2. Election of Officers. The President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Coalition ~~may~~ shall be elected biennially by the Board of Directors at the annual meeting of the Board. If the election of these officers ~~is~~ shall not be held at such meeting, such election shall be held as soon thereafter as convenient. Each officer shall hold office until his successor shall have

been duly elected and shall have qualified.

3. Removal. Any officer elected or appointed by the Board of Directors may be removed by the Board whenever in its judgment the best interests of the Coalition would be served thereby.
4. Early Vacation of Offices. A vacancy in the offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer, because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification or otherwise, may be filled by the Board of Directors for the unexpired portion of the term at its next regular meeting.
5. President. The President shall be the principal executive officer of the Coalition and shall exercise general supervision over the affairs of the Coalition, its officers and personnel, consistent with policies established by the Board of Directors. The President may sign any deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts or other instruments, except in cases where the signing and execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the Board of Directors or by these Bylaws or by statute to some other officer or agent of the Coalition; and in general, shall perform all duties incident to the office of the President and such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors. The President may authorize and approve expenditures except as provided specifically in Paragraph 5 of Article IV herein and take such other steps he or she shall deem necessary to advance the purposes of the Coalition, provided such steps do not exceed the scope of authority granted by the Board of Directors.
6. Vice President. The Vice-President shall perform such duties as may be assigned by the President or the Board of Directors.
7. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall have charge and custody of and be responsible for all funds and securities of the Coalition; receive and give receipts for monies due and payable to the Coalition from any source whatsoever and deposit all such monies in the name of the Coalition in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories as shall be selected in accordance with the provisions of Article V of these Bylaws; and in general perform all the duties incident to the office of Treasurer and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned by the President or by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the administration and oversight of the Coalition's financial records, initiation of an annual independent audit, and compliance with statutory reporting requirements, tax returns and tax payments. If required by the Board of Directors, the Treasurer shall give a bond for the faithful discharge of his or her duties in such sum and with such surety or sureties as the Board of Directors shall determine.
8. Secretary. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors and shall oversee the keeping, preparation and filing of all other records required by law or by the policies of the Board; be custodian of the corporate records and of the seal of the Coalition, if any, and see that the seal of the Coalition is affixed to all documents, the execution of which on behalf of the Coalition under its seal is duly authorized in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws; keep a register of the post office address of each director which shall be furnished to the Secretary by such director; and in general perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned by the

President or by the Board of Directors.

9. Immediate Past President. The Immediate Past President shall serve as an advisor to the Officers ~~for the two years~~ immediately following his/her term as President.

#### ARTICLE IV - COMMITTEES

##### 1. Authority.

a) ~~The Board of Directors may designate and appoint one or more committees of its members, each of which shall include consist of two or more Directors persons, which committees shall have and exercise the authority of the Board of Directors in the management of the Coalition; provided, however, that no such committee shall have the authority of the Board of Directors in reference to amending, altering or repealing the Bylaws; electing, appointing or removing any member of any other such committee or any director or officer of the Coalition; amending the Articles of Incorporation; adopting a plan of merger or adopting a plan of consolidation with another corporation; authorizing the sale, lease, exchange or mortgage of all or substantially all of the property and assets of the Coalition; authorizing the voluntary dissolution of the Coalition or revoking proceedings thereof; adopting a plan for the distribution of the assets of the Coalition; or amending, altering or repealing any resolution of the Board of Directors which by its terms provides that it shall not be amended, altered or repealed by such committee. The designation and appointment of any such committee and the delegation thereto of authority shall not operate to relieve the Board of Directors or any individual director of any responsibility imposed upon it or him by law. Membership on such committees or task forces need not be limited to directors.~~

~~a) Other committees and taskforces not having and exercising the authority of the Board of Directors in the management of the Coalition may be designated and appointed by a majority of the directors at a meeting at which a quorum is present, or by the President as authorized by the Board. Membership on such committees or task forces need not be limited to directors.~~

2. Term. Terms of committees or taskforces are indefinite. A committee or taskforce shall be terminated upon completion of its mission or objectives or upon formal vote from the board of directors.
3. Committee Chairpersons. ~~One or more members of each committee who is currently serving as a director shall be appointed chairperson by the Board of Directors or by the committee.~~
4. Vacancies. Vacancies in the membership of any committee may be filled by appointments made in the same manner as provided in the case of the original appointments.
5. Manner of Acting. Unless otherwise provided by the Board of Directors designating a

committee, a majority of the whole committee shall constitute a quorum and the act of a majority of the members present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the committee. Each committee may adopt rules for its own governance not inconsistent with these Bylaws or with rules adopted by the Board of Directors.

5-6. Responsibilities. Each committee shall be responsible to provide the Board of Directors an annual written report containing information such as goals and recommendations.

## ARTICLE V - CONTRACTS, CHECKS, DEPOSITS AND FUNDS

1. Contracts. The Board of Directors may authorize any officer or officers, agent or agents of the Coalition in addition to the officers so authorized by these Bylaws, to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the Coalition and such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.
2. Checks. All checks, drafts, or orders for the payment of money, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of the Coalition, shall be signed by such officer or officers, agent, or agents of the Coalition and in such manner as shall from time to time be determined by resolution of the Board of Directors. In the absence of such determination by the Board of Directors, such instruments shall be signed by the Treasurer and countersigned by the President or Vice-President of the Coalition.
3. Deposits. All funds of the Coalition shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the Coalition in such banks, trust companies or other depositories as the Board of Directors may select.
4. Funds. The Board of Directors may accept on behalf of the Coalition any contribution, gift, bequest or devise for the general purposes or for any special purpose of the Coalition.
5. Grant Monies and Specially Designated Contributions and Funds. Grant monies or other contributions or funds received by the Coalition and specially designated to support financial education programs shall be allocated and disbursed only upon a resolution by a majority vote of directors pursuant to Paragraph 11 of Article 1 herein.

## ARTICLE VI - BOOKS AND RECORDS

1. The Coalition shall keep correct and complete books and records of account and shall also keep minutes of the proceedings of its Board of Directors and committees having any of the authority of the Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE VII - INDEMNIFICATION

1. Any present or former director, officer or employee of the Coalition, or the legal representative of such person, may be indemnified by the Coalition against all reasonable costs, expenses and counsel fees paid or incurred in connection with any action, suit, or proceeding to which

any such person or his/her legal representative may be made a party by reason of his/her being or having been such a director, officer, or employee serving or having served the Coalition except in relation to matters as to which he/she shall be adjudged in the action, suit or proceeding to be liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of duty. No indemnification shall be approved by the Board of Directors or paid by the Coalition except after receiving an opinion from legal counsel regarding the propriety of doing so.

#### ARTICLE VIII - PROCEDURE

1. The rules contained in the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall provide the rules of procedure for the Coalition where they are not inconsistent with the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation or these Bylaws.

#### ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS

1. These Bylaws may be altered, amended or repealed, and new Bylaws may be adopted, by a majority of the directors present at any regular meeting or at any special meeting, if at least seven days' written notice is given of intention to alter, amend or repeal, or to adopt new Bylaws, at such meeting.

#### ARTICLE X – AFFILIATION

1. This Coalition shall be an affiliated member of the National Jump\$tart Coalition and shall be entitled to all of the rights, privileges and services as set forth in the Jump\$tart Affiliation Agreement dated August 19, 2004, and as such affiliation otherwise affords.

The undersigned, as Secretary of the Montana Financial Education Coalition, a Montana not-for-profit corporation, hereby certifies that the foregoing Bylaws of the Coalition were read, approved and adopted by the Board of Directors at a meeting held on June 12, 2018.

/s/ Rhonda Krieger

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Rhonda Krieger, Secretary