



2017-18 Montana District/School Leadership Staffing

By Kirk Miller, SAM Executive Director

The following information was taken from the 2017-18 OPI Directory. The directory was used because it is a public document that is widely distributed for public use. However, it should be noted that the directory is now updated by school districts, not OPI. Therefore, it should also be noted that GEMS information was used to document enrollment. The names of the positions are as listed in the directory. Again, OPI data used is from GEMS 2016-17 Enrollment.

Administrative Districts:

- 399 Total Districts 146,348 student enrollments statewide
- 299 Superintendent Administered Districts
- 79 District Clerks/Supervisory Teachers
- 27 Districts Administered by Chairperson/Other
- 4 Non-operating Districts
- 2 State Funded Schools (two districts 3 locations)

Statewide Students per Administrator FTE:

- 1047 Students per Superintendent
- 327 Students per Principal
- 249 Students per Administrator FTE (Superintendents and Principals)

Statewide K-12 Staff per Administrator FTE:

- 21.7 Licensed Professionals per Administrator
- 4.5 Paraprofessionals per Administrator
- 26.3 Licensed Professional and Paraprofessional Staff per Administrator

K-12 staff are supervised by administrators. Montana's 12,770 FTE Licensed Professional Staff and 2662 FTE Paraprofessionals (aides) are supervised by 587.79 FTE Administrators (Superintendents and Principals). Please note: Data from OPI Facts 2017.

Compared to other Montana Industries*:

- 11.7 Employees per Healthcare Administrator
- 6.5 Employees per Construction Manager
- 5.6 Employees per Manufacturing Manager

*U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics/Educational Research Service

Superintendents (139.82 FTE)

- 201 Superintendent Positions - (58 have K-12 responsibilities)
- 111 Full-time positions
- 66 Only administrator in district
- 63 High School Principal positions shared by Superintendents
- 72 Middle School Principal positions shared by Superintendents
- 75 Elementary School Principal positions shared by Superintendents

Principal Positions (447.97 FTE)

- 718 Total number of Principal positions
- 295 Full-time Principal positions
- 428 Shared positions (152.97 FTE)
 - 61.18 FTE Superintendent/Principal positions shared
 - 91.79 FTE Principal positions shared

High School Principal Positions (98.90 FTE)

- 58 Full-time High School Principal positions
- 116 Shared positions - High School Principal (40.90 FTE)
 - 17.89 FTE Shared positions - Superintendent/High School Principal
 - 23.01 FTE Shared positions - with other levels of principalship

Middle School Principal Positions (112.72 FTE)

- 56 Full-time Middle School Principal positions
- 153 Shared positions - Middle School Principal (56.72 FTE)
 - 20.34 FTE Shared positions - Superintendent/Middle School Principal
 - 36.38 FTE Shared positions - with other levels of principalship

Elementary School Principal Positions (236.35 FTE)

- 181 Full-time Elementary School Principal positions
- 154 Shared positions - Elementary School Principal (55.35 FTE)
 - 22.95 FTE Shared positions - Superintendent/Elementary School Principal
 - 32.40 FTE Shared positions - with other levels of principalship

Supervising Teacher Districts reflect 80 districts with 1319 students (.9% enrolled Students)

Supervision is provided by 81 Supervising Teachers.

- 18 Districts with 1-5 Students
- 16 Districts with 6-10 Students
- 13 Districts with 11-15 Students
- 12 Districts with 16-20 Students
- 9 Districts with 21-30 Students
- 12 Districts with 31 or more Students

*Please note: Full-time Equivalent (FTE) numbers may differ from OPI reporting due to assignment of administrative responsibilities that may differ from what districts reported. For example, if there was only one administrator for a district having an elementary school, a middle school and a high school, the assignment was as follows: 1/4 responsibilities to the superintendent, 1/4 responsibilities to the elementary principal, 1/4 responsibilities to the middle school principal, and 1/4 responsibilities to the high school principal. Also, it should be noted that 201 superintendent positions does not mean that Montana has 201 superintendents. For example, many superintendents cover both elementary and high school districts which count as two districts - 111 are counted as full time superintendents and 90 positions are counted as shared principal positions. Data from 2017-18 Directory of Montana Schools, reflects total operating Legal Entity (LE) districts shown in the directory county pages, not exclusive to ones supervised by superintendents.