

**Montana Association of Secondary School Principals (MASSP)**  
**Region 3**  
**November Meeting Agenda**



Dates: **November 8th** meeting will be via **ZOOM**, link provided below:

<https://zoom.us/j/94317852136?pwd=Q2E2SUI3SDg0MXY0b01SeUkrMnRYUT09>

Time: (11 AM - 11:45 AM) -

Agenda Items:

1. Welcome & introductions

*\*Name, position, share a challenge and success*

2. GUEST:

- Melissa Robbins from Montana Youth Academy

Unpacking SB 197, HB 556, HiSET Options, information on next page

**Alternative Options to High School Graduation/Diploma:**

**Options Program, MYC Program, Proficiency based graduation.**

**HiSet standard is 8**

3. FALL REVIEW:

- Share success and challenges from the fall season

**ATTENDANCE, AND COVID HANGOVER, losing kids to Online Learning/Home School.**

4. SAM Update & Resources:

- Summary of Montana Constitutional Partners: Educational Priorities  
<https://saom.memberclicks.net/sam-friday-update?servId=7362>
- Principals Conference is scheduled for January 22-24 in Helena.

5. Ideas & suggestions for future agendas?

Email topics two days prior to the meeting to [jslater@whitehallmt.org](mailto:jslater@whitehallmt.org)

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 10, 2023, location TBD.**

Hello - The questions I am asking districts in relation to cadets who are here or who will be here next spring are included before a short insert taken from administrators brief attached.

Thank you! I appreciate the help and feedback.

**SB197 - Does your district have a policy under SB197 that would grant a cadet a district diploma based on passing the Hi-SET and completing MYCA? (Really good OPI letter attached explaining MYCA and what it does for students)**

**SB197: Collaborative effort between Montana Youth Challenge Academy and OPI to allow resident districts to award MYCA Cadets a diploma based on the districts standards for proficiency which may take into consideration the completion of MYCA (includes 3.5 credits and 40 hours of service to the community) and passing of the Hi-Set. The opportunity to receive a diploma from the student's resident district is at the discretion of the district trustees. The requirements can vary to include a presentation to the trustees by the cadet after completion of the program and/or recommendation from the administration for example.**

**HB556 - If hypothetically Cadet Robbins returned to high school after MYCA, does she have a path to graduate/meet district graduation requirements in the time she has left to attend high school? (If the answer is "no", I can move towards state diploma/other requirements are needed but not part of the district realm)**

**HB556: Provides a path to a state issued high school diploma for students who have no other option, but who can demonstrate competence through alternative means.**

**The following criteria need to be met:**

**Written notification from the student's most recent or current high school confirming that a traditional path to a diploma does not exist.**

**The age of the student is at least seventeen (17) years old at the time that they graduate from the residential phase of the Montana Youth Challenge Academy.**

**The student achieves HiSET scores that are approximately 20% above the minimum requirements of the tests.**

**The student graduates from the residential phase of the Challenge Academy. Students who do not complete the program will not be considered.**

**HiSET Options - Does your high school have the hi-set options program in place or not? Would the district be willing to sign a contract to enroll the student in the district options program or allow MYCA to be their options program for Cadet Robbins?**

**Hi-Set Options - Coordination with MYC**

**For existing Montana HiSET Options Programs**

**a. Students that are under contract in an existing Montana HiSET Option Program and**

wish to attend Montana Youth Challenge (MYC) must be identified. Their contract must be amended to include the MYC Academy as a component of fulfilling their Montana HiSET Option Program contract.

- b. Any additional coursework and/or credit recovery required for the completion of the student's contract must be negotiated between the home school and MYC with the details included in the amended contract.
- c. The district/school must contact the OPI and submit a copy of the amended MYC candidate's Montana HiSET Option Program contract to the OPI Montana HiSET Option Program Specialist.
- d. Once the contract has been received by the OPI, students can begin at the specified semester enrollment date at MYC.
- e. It is the responsibility of the home school's HiSET Option Program Coordinator to register the student with ETS and schedule testing at MYC.

**For Montana schools that do NOT have a HiSET Options Program**

- a. Schools and students that are not under contract for HiSET Options can participate in the HiSET Options Program through the Montana Youth Challenge Academy.
- b. Students must be currently enrolled in high school and must be intending to enroll in the MYC.
- c. The MYC in coordination with the Cadet's High School will submit a copy of the MYC candidate's Montana HiSET Options Program contract to the OPI Montana HiSET Option Program Specialist.
- d. Once the contract has been received by the OPI, students can begin at the specified semester enrollment date at MYC.
- e. It is the responsibility of the MYC HiSET Options Program Coordinator to register the student with ETS, enroll the student in Montana Career Information Systems (MCIS) and schedule testing at MYC.