

Suggestions/Ideas from Commission members for moving forward

- Attract, retain, support highly qualified teachers
- Approach of a statewide contract; could be regional, could be county, it's a signal that sends message of stability
- How to right-size the amount of red tape, amount of recordkeeping by teachers without lowering standards/expectations? Find a way to simplify and streamline
- Importance of in-school leadership, plays into issue of regionalization, move toward shared business services might be a way to free up the leaders we have to have more time
- We have below average compensation for teachers, that's particularly true in our poorest schools and poorest counties; need to look at mechanism to provide premium for teachers to come and stay in least well-off communities and income-challenged schools
- Not sure statewide bargaining is realistic, could be regional
- Could set up payment plan for high-performing teachers, take some districts that are high receivers with low salaries, set up incentive plan for them, could get bipartisan support, some say let's just raise them, others say need accountability with that
- Our students are doing nationally quite well, but our teachers are some of the poorest compensated
- If pay teachers more you can expect more from them in areas of professional development, expect them to have advanced degrees
- A lot of priorities the Legislature has set that haven't been funded; let's start from Legislature's priorities instead of throwing out pie in the sky ideas
- Make sure school districts with free and reduced lunch get a bump
- ESSA – work related to reducing remediation, making sure diploma means something, put some focus on that; think about work that happened around LD 1033
- State has rough demographics; immigration is going to play huge role for our state, should look at funding for ELL students
- Need to do something about dealing with disadvantaged; that is inequity that is carried across entire state
- Need to try to regionalize; there are several successful collaboratives - how can State encourage that?
- PreK could have impact on students and schools but with new regulations it is twice as expensive for schools – high staffing ratio, new classrooms
- College work and life readiness program – should look at to measure student growth and performance, esp. with ESSA
- Research says attracting teachers to rural areas isn't all about money, but money is part of it. Regionalized contract a little concerning - providing lower salary to people already identified as having lower salary? Instead we should incentivize teaching in rural areas not by regionalizing but by incentivizing rural areas
- Let's look at statute; collect and analyze data from districts that receive state funding, lists of data points/programs we can look at