DAVID M. ORTLEY DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

NICOLE ZORDAN, JUDICIAL ASSISTANT 406-758-5752 MARGARET SAMPSELL, LAW CLERK 406-758-5751



FLATHEAD COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER 920 SOUTH MAIN STREET, SUITE 310 KALISPELL, MONTANA 59901

STATE OF MONTANA ELEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

September 15, 2016

Ed Smith Clerk of the Supreme Court PO Box 203003 Helena, MT 59620-3003

Re: Montana Quality Education Coalition v. Montana Eleventh Judicial District Court, Supreme Court File No. OP 16-0494

Dear Mr. Smith:

The purpose of this letter is to advise the Court, and counsel of record, that the 11th Judicial District Court, Department 4, does not intend to file a formal response to the Petition for Writ of Supervisory Control. This court's order denying intervention states sufficiently the legal and factual basis for denying intervenor's motion. The court concludes that any further briefing on its part will not aid in the determination of the issue before the Court.

Respectfully Yours,

District Judge

pc: William Mercer

Richard Komer

Erica Smith

Jonathan McDonald

Karl Englund

Daniel Whyte

Brendan Beatty