

**The Vanishing Breed?**  
**The 2006-2007 Montana Rural Teacher Salary & Benefit Survey**  
by  
**Dr. Claudette Morton, Executive Director & Chief Researcher**  
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- ❑ **There are 114 independent elementary school districts supervised by the county superintendents (55 of which are one-room schools).**
- ❑ **Five of these districts have principals and one has half-time principal.**
- ❑ **Thirty-three districts, without principals, pay a supervising teacher an annual stipend that averages of \$2,149 to conduct many administrative responsibilities including much of the state and federal reporting requirements.**
- ❑ **The size of these districts varies from one student to 146 students.**
- ❑ **Their general fund budgets vary from \$25,804 to \$865,038 annually.**
- ❑ **The number of teachers in these districts varies from 1 in the smallest district to 15.5 in the largest district.**
- ❑ **The lowest annual salary is \$13,000 with only housing provided and no other benefits for a teacher in her second year.**
- ❑ **The highest annual salary is \$53,848 with benefits for a teacher who has 30 years of teaching experience.**
- ❑ **The average teacher's salary in these small school districts is about \$25,000.**
- ❑ **We have good evidence from other research that these small schools provide a sound education close to home. You can help them from becoming a vanishing breed. Support adequate funding of public schools!**

For a complete copy of the report, please contact me at the above address and phone number or email [cmorton@metnet.mt.gov](mailto:cmorton@metnet.mt.gov)

# Changes Over Time



