

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 476

BY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO EDUCATION; AMENDING SECTION 33-1004, IDAHO CODE, TO ESTABLISH
2 PROVISIONS REGARDING THE STATEWIDE AVERAGE CLASS SIZE AND TO MAKE TECH-
3 NICAL CORRECTIONS.
4

5 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

6 SECTION 1. That Section 33-1004, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
7 amended to read as follows:

8 33-1004. STAFF ALLOWANCE. For each school district, a staff allowance
9 shall be determined as follows:

10 (1) Using the daily attendance reports that have been submitted for
11 computing the February 15 apportionment of state funds as provided in sec-
12 tion 33-1009, Idaho Code, calculate the total support units for the district
13 in the manner provided in section 33-1002(6)(a), Idaho Code;

14 (2) Determine the instructional staff allowance by multiplying the
15 support units by 1.021. A district must demonstrate that it actually employs
16 the number of certificated instructional staff allowed, except as provided
17 in subsection (6)(f) and (g) of this section. If the district does not employ
18 the number allowed, the staff allowance shall be reduced to the actual number
19 employed, except as provided in subsection (6)(f) and (g) of this section;

20 (3) Determine the pupil service staff allowance by multiplying the sup-
21 port units by 0.079;

22 (4) Determine the administrative staff allowance by multiplying the
23 support units by .075;

24 (5) Determine the classified staff allowance by multiplying the sup-
25 port units by .375;

26 (6) Additional conditions governing staff allowance:

27 (a) In determining the number of staff in subsections (2), (3), (4) and
28 (5) of this section, a district may contract separately for services to
29 be rendered by nondistrict employees and such employees may be counted
30 in the staff allowance. A "nondistrict employee" means a person for
31 whom the school district does not pay the employer's obligations for
32 employee benefits. When a district contracts for the services of a
33 nondistrict employee, only the salary portion of the contract shall be
34 allowable for computations.

35 (b) If there are circumstances preventing eligible use of staff al-
36 lowance to which a district is entitled as provided in subsections (2),
37 (3) and (4) of this section, an appeal may be filed with the state de-
38 partment of education outlining the reasons and proposed alternative
39 use of these funds, and a waiver may be granted.

40 (c) For any district with less than forty (40) support units:

41 (i) The instructional staff allowance shall be calculated
42 applying the actual number of support units. If the actual in-

1 instructional staff employed in the school year is greater than the
2 instructional staff allowance, then the instructional staff al-
3 lowance shall be increased by one-half (1/2) staff allowance; and

4 (ii) The administrative staff allowance shall be calculated ap-
5 plying the actual number of support units. If the actual adminis-
6 trative staff employed in the school year is greater than the ad-
7 ministrative staff allowance, then the administrative staff al-
8 lowance shall be increased by one-half (1/2) staff allowance.

9 (iii) Additionally, for any district with less than twenty (20)
10 support units, the instructional staff allowance shall be calcu-
11 lated applying the actual number of support units. If the number
12 of instructional staff employed in the school year is greater than
13 the instructional staff allowance, the staff allowance shall be
14 increased as provided in subparagraphs (i) and (ii) of this para-
15 graph, and by an additional one-half (1/2) instructional staff al-
16 lowance.

17 (d) For any school district with one (1) or more separate secondary
18 schools serving grades ~~nine (9)~~ through ~~twelve (12)~~, the instructional
19 staff allowance shall be increased by two (2) additional instructional
20 staff allowances for each such separate secondary school.

21 (e) Only instructional, pupil service and administrative staff and
22 classified personnel compensated by the school district from the gen-
23 eral maintenance and operation fund of the district shall be included in
24 the calculation of staff allowance or in any other calculations based
25 upon staff, including determination of the experience and education
26 multiplier, the reporting requirements, or the district's salary-based
27 apportionment calculation. No food service staff or transportation
28 staff shall be included in the staff allowance.

29 (f) A district may utilize up to fifteen percent (15%) of the moneys
30 associated with positions funded pursuant to subsection (2) of this
31 section to pay another school district or public charter school for
32 instructional services or to defray the cost of providing virtual edu-
33 cation coursework, including virtual dual credit coursework, without a
34 reduction in the number of funded positions being imposed.

35 (g) A district may employ nine and one-half percent (9.5%) fewer posi-
36 tions than funded pursuant to subsections (2) and (3) of this section,
37 without a reduction in the number of funded positions being imposed.
38 Beginning in fiscal year 2016, this figure shall be reduced by one per-
39 cent (1%) each year for each school district in which the average class
40 size, as determined from prior fiscal year data reported to the state
41 department of education, was at least one (1) student greater than the
42 statewide average class size. The state department of education shall
43 report to the legislature every February, beginning in 2015, on the re-
44 ductions scheduled to take place in this figure, by school district, in
45 the ensuing fiscal year.

46 (i) In the determination of statewide average class size, the
47 state department of education shall not use a single figure de-
48 veloped through the averaging of all districts of varying size,
49 geographical location and pupil populations throughout the state.
50 The statewide average class size shall be comprised of multiple

1 figures determined through analysis of like and similarly sit-
2 uated districts and use of the divisor breakdown established in
3 section 33-1002, Idaho Code.

4 (ii) The state board of education may promulgate rules outlining
5 the method of calculation of the statewide average class size fig-
6 ures.

7 (iii) The one percent (1%) reduction required in paragraph (g) of
8 this subsection shall not be applicable for any school year subse-
9 quent to a year when the school district's boundaries have changed
10 because of division, consolidation, excision or annexation of
11 territory.

12 (7) In the event that the staff allowance in any category is insuffi-
13 cient to meet accreditation standards, a district may appeal to the state
14 board of education, demonstrating the insufficiency, and the state board may
15 grant a waiver authorizing sufficient additional staff to be included within
16 the staff allowance to meet accreditation standards. Such a waiver shall be
17 limited to one (1) year, but may be renewed upon showing of continuing justi-
18 fication.

19 (8) A district may utilize a portion of the instructional staff al-
20 lowance provided for in this section for kindergarten teachers to visit the
21 parents or guardians of students during the first week of the kindergarten
22 school year. Such visits may take place at school, at the student's home
23 or at another location agreed to by the teacher and parents or guardians.
24 The purpose of such visits is to help strengthen the working relationship
25 between the teacher, the parents or guardians, and the student. The visits
26 should be used as an opportunity to help establish the teacher's expecta-
27 tions of the student. The visit should also provide an opportunity for the
28 parents or guardians to explain their expectations. The amount of moneys to
29 be expended for such visits by the district may not exceed the amount equal
30 to one (1) week of instructional staff allowance computed for kindergarten
31 instructors in the district.