

MINUTES
JOINT FINANCE-APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, January 28, 2016
TIME: 8:00 A.M.
PLACE: Room C310
MEMBERS: Senators Co-chairman Keough, Bair, Mortimer, Brackett, Nuxoll, Johnson, Thayn, Guthrie, Schmidt, Lacey
Representatives Co-chairman Bell, Gibbs, Miller, Youngblood, Horman, Malek, Monks, Burtenshaw, King, Gannon
**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None
CONVENED: Chairman Keough convened the meeting at 8:00 A.M.
STAFF PRESENT: Headlee

AGENCY

PRESENTATION: **PUBLIC SCHOOL SUPPORT**

PRESENTER: **Sherry Ybarra, Superintendent of Public Instruction**

To view the presentation, please click on the following link: [Public School Support](#)

The newly developed Department of Education's strategic plan will provide a road map to success in order to guide school districts with an educational philosophy, ambitions for student achievement and fiscal and operational decision making. The plan embodies the Department's strong emphasis on improving K-12 education culture in Idaho and will empower districts to provide high quality education while moving away from a rigid philosophy of over-testing, compliance, and a one-size-fits-all accountability structure. These guiding principles are: 1) the needs of children must drive any necessary change, 2) every student can learn and must have a highly effective teacher in every classroom, and 3) Current and new resources must focus on the demands of the 21st century. This strategic plan contains measurable goals and supports the line item budget requests. In addition, this plan builds on the Governor's 20 Task Force Recommendations for Improving Education which will empower school communities, direct funds to high needs students, support academic improvement strategies, and preserve site-level decision making (local control).

The 16 remaining recommendations include: transitioning to a mastery-based education system, retaining Idaho Core Standards, increasing literacy proficiency, providing advanced opportunities for all students, introducing a new, mutually responsible accountability system, empowering districts with autonomy to innovate, maintaining continuous improvement through effective planning and progress monitoring, encouraging the development of *district-wide* collaboration systems, improving high-speed bandwidth and wireless infrastructure, providing educators and students with technology in the classroom, enabling district autonomy through increased operational funding, utilizing the career ladder compensation model, funding schools through an enrollment model, emphasizing and encouraging teacher-to-teacher mentoring

and collaboration, supporting teachers and leaders with job-embedded professional learning, and finally, providing teachers with enhanced pre-service training.

The Department's strategic plan establishes three specific and measurable goals/priorities as well as strategies for achieving those goals: 1) all Idaho students persevere in life and are ready for college and careers, 2) all education stakeholders in Idaho are mutually responsible for accountability and student progress, and 3) Idaho attracts and retains great teachers and leaders.

The Governor's FY 2017 line item budget recommendations include: 1) restoration of operational (discretionary) funding comparable to FY 2009 which pays for benefits, utilities, supplies/curriculum, and transporting students to school, 2) transitioning to a career ladder funding model, 3) increased funding to support Mastery-Based Education—mastery of competencies and content, not seat time, 4) funding to implement college and career advising programs, 5) increased funding for technology that supports instruction and personalized learning, 6) funding to support wireless technology and infrastructure for Idaho school districts, 7) funding for Information Technology staffing, 8) funding which will allow local districts the flexibility of selecting their own Learning Management Systems based on districts' needs, 9) a funding increase for the administration of Student Achievement Assessments, 10) separate line items for Math Coaches, the Reading Initiative, and Remediation, 11) funding to support students with Limited English Proficiency (LEP), 12) Funding for Evaluation Training and Development as well as funding for Professional Development which is training for educators, 13) funding for Content and Curriculum support to districts, 14) \$5,000,000 for Literacy Proficiency, 15) \$300,000 for Building Security and Safety, 16) a new line item to establish one Idaho Rural School Centers incubator, and 17) funding for Grant Opportunities for Gifted and Talented programs, tribal language needs, bilingual education as well as grants for libraries. The Governor's General Fund budget recommendation totals \$1,577,904,100 which is an overall increase of 7.5% from the previous year.

PRESENTATION: **STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**
Department of Education

PRESENTER: **Sherri Ybarra, Superintendent of Public Instruction**

To view a copy of the presentation, please click on the following link:
[Department of Education.](#)

The total FY 2017 budget request for the Department of Education is \$36,729,600 which is \$2,604,700 less than the FY 2016 appropriation due to decreased broadband expenses. The following budget items were discussed: 1) Change in Employee Compensation (CEC) line item request for \$98,800, 2) New Assessment of Alternative Students line item request for \$750,000, 3) \$3,384,800 to provide expanded broadband support services to over 294,000 students in grades K-12, 4) one-time funding for \$50,000 to review various testing opportunities for Idaho students, 5) a line item request for \$150,000 (ongoing) funding supporting assessment items review, and 6) a line item request for \$61,000 (ongoing), for annual membership in Education Commission of the States (ECS) which provides non-bias, non-partisan research and resources.

PRESENTATION: **PUBLIC SCHOOL SUPPORT**
Idaho Educational Services for the Deaf and Blind (IESDB)

PRESENTER: **Brian Darcy, Administrator**

To view the presentation, please click on the following link: [Educational Services for the Deaf and Blind](#)

The goal of IESDB is to assist school districts and state agencies in providing accessibility, quality and equity to students in the state with sensory impairments through a continuum of service and placement options. Services include operation of a school for the deaf and blind including residential and day campus programs. IESDB also operates an outreach program intended to provide services to students outside the campus area as well as early intervention and family consultation.

Outreach specialists provide in-home education to parents and children from birth to three years of age and also provide support to all school districts across Idaho. **Darcy** provided a chart showing a caseload comparison, discussed short-term programs and library services. There are currently 95 students enrolled in the campus program. Collaboration is the key to success. IESDB provides a variety of educational experiences for students to help them conquer their challenges.

The Governor's recommended FY 2017 budget is \$10,312,300. Line items include \$79,200 to hire one campus teacher for the deaf, \$3,000 to purchase textbooks, \$350,000 to replenish the contingency reserve fund, \$79,200 to hire a sign language interpreter, \$79,200 to hire one outreach educator, \$15,000 (ongoing) for professional development for all certificated staff educators, \$39,600 (ongoing) to hire one-half of an assistive technology specialist for the Outreach Services Program, and \$172,300 ongoing and \$17,200 one-time to reopen a cottage currently not used to house students (funding will pay for repairs, staff, and costs associated with ten new residential students).

ADJOURNED: There being no further business, Chairman Keough adjourned the meeting at 10:42 A.M.

Senator Keough
Chair

Peggy Moyer
Secretary