

MINUTES
SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, March 14, 2018

TIME: 2:00 P.M.

PLACE: Room WW55

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Mortimer, Vice Chairman Thayn, Senators Winder, Nonini, Den Hartog, Guthrie, Crabtree, Buckner-Webb, and Ward-Engelking

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: None

NOTE: The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

CONVENED: **Chairman Mortimer** called the Education Committee (Committee) to order at 2:01 p.m. He reordered the agenda.

PRESENTATION: **Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).** **Sherri Ybarra**, Superintendent of Public Instruction, State Department of Education (SDE) said the ESSA presentation will cover Idaho's plan, ESSA changes with report card update, and the school support system review. She introduced Dr. Linda Clark to present the ESSA plan.

Linda Clark, Ed. D. , President, State Board of Education said the ESSA plan is a joint effort of the SBE and SDE. She explained each agency's role in education and their commitment to advance "systemness." She said the overall statewide goal is 60 percent Idahoans ages 25-34 to achieve postsecondary certification and education by 2025. She stated the Governor's Higher Education Task Force recommended those goals be addressed differently to avoid confusion. She detailed the criteria to meet the State's workforce demands. The SBE has set metrics for the key targets to achieve the goal (Attachment 1).

Vice Chairman Thayn asked how the metrics were determined. **Dr. Clark** replied the metrics came from the SBE's strategic plan. **Matt Freeman**, Executive Director, SBE, explained at length each of the key metrics.

Superintendent Ybarra reviewed the past five years in implementing the plan to improve K-12 education through the accountability model and the development of the State's new accountability framework. She explained the cultural shift in the accountability systems from No Child Left Behind (NCLB) to ESSA. She stated ESSA gives the State flexibility to support local school districts' decisions for school improvement strategies.

Dr. Clark said to completely answer Vice Chairman Thayn's previous question, the SBE has a significant number of benchmarks in the strategic plan which is reviewed annually. The items reported were taken from that list because they are germane to the discussion. She emphasized the importance the SBE places on the administration education as made by the Legislature. **Dr. Clark** said the SBE and the SDE are developing a public dashboard for citizens to be able to review their school district's data on multiple indicators.

Senator Guthrie asked if the new accountability measurement is replacing old standards or adding more onto what already is required. **Dr. Clark** replied nothing has been added to the accountability model since the Legislature approved it in the last Legislative Session. She said the ESSA reporting is more complex than it was with NCLB. She explained the process for each of the reporting systems. **Dr. Clark** said ESSA provides additional measures to report school performance.

Karlynn Laraway, Director, Assessment and Accountability, SDE, said to develop the assessment plan, parents, teachers, administrators, legislators, and community members were queried to determine what was valued and how to identify schools that are in the need of the most support. She explained the change from the five-star rating system to the new accountability system.

Ms. Laraway walked the Committee through the changes and detailed the report card update. She emphasized the necessity of identifying low-performing and non-improving schools. Capturing those schools in the bottom five percent directs the SDE's limited resources to those schools and students most in need of support. The new report card is searchable, comparable, and accessible; it provides visualized data.

Karen Seay, Director, Federal Program, shared the SDE's new Statewide system of support; State Technical Assistance Team (STAT), Idaho Building Capacity Project (Project), and professional development for leaders; which include Idaho Superintendents Network (ISN), Idaho Principals Mentoring Project (IPMP), and Idaho Principals Network (IPN).

Ms. Seay detailed STAT's implementation and how it aligns school needs with this specific Statewide support entities. These support entities include whatever it takes to help the school increase student learning. She said there are seven pilot schools.

Ms. Seay explained the Project is a partnership with SDE and Idaho's three public universities. She detailed how Project coaches support schools to improve school and student performance. Finally, she said the professional development for leader supports professional development for superintendents and principals. She said STAT will do whatever it takes to help schools improve student learning.

**MINUTES
APPROVAL:**

Senator Ward-Engelking moved to approve the Minutes of February 19, 2018. **Senator Buckner-Webb** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

Senator Nonini moved to approve the Minutes of February 20, 2018. **Senator Den Hartog** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

Senator Winder moved to approve the Minutes of February 21, 2018. **Senator Crabtree** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

Vice Chairman Thayn moved to approve the Minutes of February 27, 2018. **Senator Winder** seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

ADJOURNED:

There being no further business at this time, **Chairman Mortimer** adjourned the meeting at 2:44 p.m.

Senator Dean M. Mortimer
Chair

LeAnn Mohr
Secretary