

MINUTES
SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, January 22, 2020

TIME: 3:00 P.M.

PLACE: Room WW55

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Mortimer, Vice Chairman Thayn, Senators Winder, Den Hartog, Crabtree, Woodward, Lent, 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 Senate Education Committee (Committee) to order at 3:06 p.m.

PRESENTATION: **Erin McCandless**, President of the Idaho Parent Teacher Association (PTA), introduced the Idaho PTA Board of Directors and gave an overview of the history and mission of the Idaho PTA. The Idaho PTA is celebrating their 115th anniversary this year. **Ms. McCandless** also shared a brief update of the PTA's achievements and activities for the past year. **Ms. McCandless** responded to Committee questions that PTA has participated in curriculum selection in West Ada School District and that Idaho PTA is actively involved in helping cover over-drafted lunch accounts in their school districts.

INTRODUCTIONS: Chairman Mortimer allowed Mark Browning of the College of Western Idaho (CWI) to remain seated and refrain from giving remarks. He invited the representatives from the community colleges to stand and introduce themselves and their respective staff (see Attachment 1).

PRESENTATION: **Dr. Jeff Fox**, President of the College of Southern Idaho (CSI), outlined the new collaboration between the community colleges and four-year institutions and gave an overview of the goals of community colleges and the collaboration. He shared how the community colleges impact the communities they are located in. He then gave a detailed overview of CSI's achievements of the past year.

PRESENTATION: **Dr. Rick Aman**, President of the College of Eastern Idaho (CEI), shared the main focuses of CEI with the Committee. He shared that CEI focuses on transferring sophomores to four-year universities as juniors with as little debt as possible while still having all the qualifications of a third-year student at a four-year university. He included that CEI focuses on training students to be able to perform the skills needed in the workforce.

PRESENTATION: **Dr. Bert Glandon**, President of CWI, began his presentation by announcing Dr. Fox's upcoming retirement and thanking him for his years of service. He then outlined CWI's new developments of the past year, including a new fire training and safety training. He also shared how employers and CWI are working together to make sure students graduating from college are ready to work.

PRESENTATION: **Chris Martin**, Vice President of North Idaho College (NIC), told the Committee that NIC's president, Dr. Rick MacLennan, sent his regrets for being unable to present. He then presented NIC's achievements in math remediation, enrollment, and student experiences. He also shared NIC's focus on entrepreneurship and innovation.

DISCUSSION:

In response to Committee questions, the presenters shared how their respective institutions approach the heavy workload and limited budget that their goals require. **Chris Bragg**, Associate Dean of Institutional Effectiveness of CSI, responded to Committee questions that, while they don't know why students do not go on to higher education, they are working to bring more of these students into the fold. He also shared that roughly 40 percent of high school students coming to institutions require math or English remediation. The four presenters then shared how their respective institutions are responding to reduced state funding.

ADJOURNED:

There being no further business at this time, **Chairman Mortimer** adjourned the meeting at 4:29 p.m.

Senator Mortimer
Chair

Morgan Howard
Secretary

Bethany Johnson
Assistant Secretary