

MINUTES  
**HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Monday, January 27, 2020  
**TIME:** 9:00 A.M.  
**PLACE:** Room EW41  
**MEMBERS:** Chairman Clow, Vice Chairman Kerby, Representatives Shepherd, Boyle, Mendive, DeMordaunt, Moon, Ehardt, Goesling, Marshall, Raymond, Wisniewski, McCrostie, Abernathy, Berch  
**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** Chairman Clow  
**GUESTS:** Tim Hill, Eric Studebaker, Brock Astle and Marilyn Whitney, SDE; Harold Ott, Rural Schools; Misty Swanson, ISBA; Clark Corbin, Idaho Ed News; Tracie Bent, SBOE; Greg Wilson, Governor's Office  
**RS 27296:** **Rep. Vander Woude** presented **RS 27296**, which would require all public and charter schools to wait until the Tuesday after Labor Day to start the school year.  
**MOTION:** **Rep. Moon** made a motion to introduce **RS 27296**.  
**Rep. McCrostie** stated he would support the motion, but his vote was not indicative of whether he will support the bill.  
**VOTE ON MOTION:** **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**Dr. Eric Studebaker**, Director of Student Engagement and Safety Coordination, State Department of Education (SDE), presented on the Advanced Opportunities (AO) program. He introduced **Brock Astle**, AO Coordinator. Dr. Studebaker explained AO pays for overload courses, dual credit (academic and CTE), exams, workforce training and the Early Graduation Scholarship. Dual credit accounts for 84% of the funding and 58% of student use; all Idaho public postsecondary institutions participate, as well as many private institutions. In 2019, 93 students were awarded the Early Graduation Scholarship, out of 334 eligible students.

In response to Committee questions about whether the Early Graduation Scholarship should be available to students who graduate half a year early, **Marilyn Whitney**, Deputy Superintendent of Communications and Policy, SDE, said it is very difficult to estimate the cost. She did not know how many eligible students this would add, but promised to inform the Committee when the numbers are available.

In response to Committee questions, **Tracie Bent**, Chief Planning and Policy Officer, State Board of Education, stated the Board tracks how dual credit is applied at Idaho's public postsecondary institutions and that will be discussed in a forthcoming report. The four and two year institutions have partnerships to help eligible students who may leave early earn a certificate or degree.

In response to Committee questions, **Ms. Bent** clarified homeschool students are eligible for the Opportunity Scholarship, but not the Early Graduation Scholarship or AO.

**Vice Chairman Kerby** noted the legislature can decide whether to include homeschool students or allow private institutions to participate in AO.

**Tim Hill**, Associate Deputy Superintendent of Public School Finance, SDE gave a budget preview report. He discussed discretionary line item requests for the Career Ladder, Literacy, Mastery Education, Health Insurance and Social/Emotional Learning.

In response to Committee questions regarding what is included in Social/Emotional Learning, **Ms. Whitney** explained SDE will work with early adopter school districts to create a framework and minimum level of training for all staff; this will help them better identify students who need an intervention. She answered questions about school counselors and how to free up their time from doing clerical work, like creating schedules.

**Mr. Hill** and **Chris Campbell**, Chief Technology Officer, SDE, provided an enrollment data report and overview of the Data Transparency Tool (DTT) districts use to verify their data.

In response to Committee questions, **Mr. Hill** stated information about local salary schedules and amounts received for each statutory program line item distribution are currently available. SDE is nearly finished compiling data on career ladder allocations, but data on LEA expenditures for each statutory program line item distribution is still in progress. He is working with districts to find a consistent approach in accounting for multiple revenue sources. He reminded the Committee that they do not have to wait to adopt a new funding formula to change from average daily attendance to enrollment funding.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:50 am.

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Representative Kerby  
Chair

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Erica McGinnis  
Secretary