

MINUTES  
**HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Tuesday, February 13, 2024

**TIME:** 9:00 A.M.

**PLACE:** Room EW41

**MEMBERS:** Chairman Yamamoto, Vice Chairman McCann, Representatives Boyle, Clow, Mendive, Ehardt, Wisniewski, Garner, Hawkins, Hill (Brown), Lanting, Nelsen, Price, Sauter, Berch, Galaviz, Mathias

**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** Reps. Boyle and Ehardt

**GUESTS:** The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

**Chair Yamamoto** called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Galaviz** made a motion to approve the minutes of February 8 and 12, 2024. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**RS 31301:** **Rep. Petzke** presented **RS 31301**, proposed legislation regarding outcome based funding. He said this legislation would modernize Idaho's K-12 school funding formula by adding an outcomes-based funding component. This will include growth and proficiency targets for math (grades 5-8) and also for attaining college and career readiness credentials.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Mendive** made a motion to introduce **RS 31301**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**Dr. Rick Aman**, President, College of Eastern Idaho, spoke about students transfers, digital textbooks, and low student debt. He said CEI is a big proponent of Idaho Launch and asked the committee members to support this program. He spoke about growth in programs like cyber-security, nursing, and auto and diesel. He expressed concern about employee funding, staff turnover rates, and mental health issues.

**Dr. Dean Fisher**, President, College of Southern Idaho, spoke about student enrollment, transfers, and driving student success. He spoke about faculty training, turnover and funding. He stated a high percentage of students suffer from anxiety and depression and mentioned mental health rates and counseling for students. He reviewed thank you's written from students who received scholarships which had a positive impact on their families lives.

**Dr. Nick Swayne**, President, North Idaho College, spoke about student enrollment, graduation rates and student transfers. He explained the 2 + 2 program, which allows students to complete two years with NIC then complete two years with a University partner to obtain a degree. He spoke about cyber-security support, funding for health professions and vehicle operation training courses.

**Mr. Gordon Jones**, President, College of Western Idaho, said CWI is the largest community college in the state with 98% of enrollment being Idahoans. He spoke about providing life long learning opportunities, workforce preparation, and affordable education. He said CWI supports the Launch program for students and he also spoke about the need to increase faculty pay to meet the cost of inflation.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:15 am.

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Representative Yamamoto  
Chair

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Amy Bengtzen  
Secretary