

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, February 23, 2017

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW41

MEMBERS: Chairman VanOrden, Vice Chairman McDonald, Representatives Shepherd, Boyle, Clow, Mendive, Kerby, Cheatham, Amador, DeMordaunt, Moon, Syme, Kloc, McCrostie, Toone

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

GUESTS: Christine Stoll, IDeal 529 College Savings Program; Senator Nonini; Harold Ott, IASA IRSA; Kate Haas, Kestrel West; Tim Hill, SDE; Patrick Hodges, SCO; Clark Corbin, Idaho Ed News; Jess Harrison, ISBA

Chairman VanOrden called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.

H 199: **Rep. Harris** presented **H 199** relating to the Pay for Success contract and how monies will be withheld until the performance metrics are met and payment is made. He explained that "school district" includes both public and charter schools.

MOTION: **Rep. Kloc** made a motion to send **H 199** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Harris** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

HCR 12: **Rep. Horman** presented **HCR 12** relating to authorizing the Legislative Council to appoint a committee to undertake and complete a study of the public school funding formula and to make recommendations.

MOTION: **Rep. Kerby** made a motion to send **HCR 12** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Boyle** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

S 1018: **Blake Youde**, State Board of Education, presented **S 1018** relating to school accountability report cards.

MOTION: **Rep. McCrostie** made a motion to send **S 1018** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. McCrostie** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

S 1030: **Blake Youde**, State Board of Education, presented **S 1030** relating to procedures for the dual enrollment of a student in a public charter school.

MOTION: **Rep. Clow** made a motion to send **S 1030** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Clow** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

Christine Stoll, presented the IDeal 529 College Savings Program. She stated the IDeal 529 Savings Program was established in 2000 to help individuals and families save for college in a tax-advantaged way. It is self-sustaining and receives no General Fund monies. The Idaho College Savings Board is made up of the state's constitutional officers and has two full time and one part time staffers. The plan saw a 14% increase in assets from September 2015 to September 2016 and the total number of beneficiary accounts was 30,751. In 2016 beneficiaries have received contributions from grandparents, aunts, uncles and others causing a 69% increase in gift contributions since 2015. IDeal provides State income tax deductions, tax free withdrawals for education, varied investments, gifting and rewards options, employer match accounts, and CWIdeal Boost Scholarships. The program is flexible, affordable and can be transferred to any college in the United States. Ms. Stoll stated 529 accounts are for all families at all income levels with the majority taking advantage of the program being in the \$25,000 to \$50,000 income range.

Ms. Stoll explained 50% of US families are saving for college and youth who have a college savings account are 4-7 times more likely to attend college. By 2022 60% of Idaho job openings will require a post-secondary degree, training, or certificate so they are giving presentations to parents starting in kindergarten and on up through registrations, open houses, FAFSA and community events. The barriers of postsecondary attainment are access, academic readiness, and affordability. If a family contributed \$100 monthly to the savings for 18 years, they would receive a 5% return and save \$13,720 in interest costs compared to borrowing the money for college when the student enrolls in college. IDeal has Spanish speaking call center representatives to assist those who are not fluent in English. Students can now use their IDeal account to pay for their college computers.

Ms. Stoll explained **H 185** amends the amount of the individual state income tax deduction for the savings program from \$4,000 to \$6,000 based on the increase in the cost of college in Idaho since IDeal 529 program was established in 2000. Saving for college encourages personal and family responsibility coupled with an incentive for individual and parents to save for their children's education. Postsecondary education is so important to the state economy in providing a sufficient qualified workforce in Idaho. She explained the savings program encourages students and their families be prepared financially for postsecondary education, allows them to contribute additional money through gifting, and reduces the amount of student loan debt.

Superintendent Ybarra introduced **Karlynn Laraway**, Department of Education to present the Assessment Update.

Karlynn Laraway explained the ISAT assessment system allows measurements of the students' progress toward college and career readiness. The ISAT assessment covers English language arts and math through a comprehensive system of testing, information, and tools to improve teaching and learning. They have a digital library of online educator-created classroom resources and interim assessments allowing optional and flexible tests given throughout the year to help teachers monitor student progress. Summative assessments are given at the year end for grades 3 through 8 and high school with a computer adaptive test and performance tasks in math and English. The ISAT tests in proficiency and performance in each achievement level with average scale score, percent proficient and performance on each achievement category both for individual and class to see the performance and improvement of student and the teacher. The online assessment has a parent interpretive guide to help parents understand their students ISAT year end scores and whether these scores meet Idaho standards, and how they compare with students in the same school, district, and across Idaho. It also offers direction on where to go to find additional resources. In 2017 they will have a parent interactive website that can translate for non-English citizens.

Brian Armes, Manager, Idaho Office of School Safety and Security (IOSSS), presented the 2017 legislative report. IOSSS was formed in 2016 to support safer student environments by meeting school communities at their point of need with assessment, training, and expertise. They have three office locations in Meridian, Coeur d'Alene, and Pocatello. Over 650 K-12 school assessments are conducted on a rotating triennial schedule. Three regional analysts are available to schools and district for planning assistance, training opportunities and no-cost security consultation. Analysts provide assistance to eight institutions of higher education throughout the state. IOSSS maintains a curated library of best practices for policy and procedure. He stated that there is a 13 member advisory board composed of representatives from a variety of safety and educational stakeholders and there are technical working groups providing uniform information on effective safety practices. The IOSSS is Idaho's primary point of contact for other state and national agencies on issues of school safety and security. Mr. Armes explained they are adding new and remodeled schools throughout the year, including charter schools which are the most at-risk schools. They are now finalizing the components for standardized training for schools throughout Idaho.

Rudi Lewis, Chief Operating officer at Silverback Learning, presented Teacher Vitae. He states that this program will revolutionize the way teams look at teacher effectiveness. He explained that school districts struggle to catalog evidence of personalized growth and development. Teacher Vitae allows educators to document and store evidence in flexible formats to build a personalized career portfolio. Administrators struggle to track observed teaching practices throughout the year, and how those practices relate to state and/or district educator standards. Teacher Vitae can tie every observation and note to state and/or district rubrics for easy recall and meaningful conversations throughout the year. Districts need systems that support scheduling, documentation and compliance of employee observation and evaluation, and allow the utmost flexibility to match state and district scoring models and rubrics. Teacher Vitae provides a fully customizable solution to tailor evaluation forms, rubrics, and scoring to meet the needs of individual districts, while ensuring state compliance. The program, Teacher Vitae, guides the entire employee evaluation process for principals and administrators, while empowering teachers to actively take charge of their professional growth. The evaluation process includes: Scheduling with evaluation and walkthrough templates, editing and scoring with recall of previous walkthroughs, memos, and artifacts, workflow and compliance, and digital access and storage.

Mr. Lewis explained all data is secure and private, allowing the user to share the information at his/her discretion. Through this program every staff member is empowered for continuous professional growth, it is matched to every state, district, and school need, data can be documented now and correlated at a later time, and shows evidence of student growth across multiple measures and different class loads.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 am.

Representative VanOrden
Chair

Ann Tippetts
Secretary