

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Friday, January 25, 2019

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:** Rep. Shepherd

GUESTS: Marc Beitia, American Falls School District; Paul Stark and Matt Compton, IEA; Heather Williams, Boise State; Jason Hudson, AFL-CIO; Marilyn Whitney

Chairman Clow called the meeting to order at 9:01 am.

MOTION: **Rep. McCrostie** made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2019 meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Professor Heather Williams, Program Coordinator, Boise State Executive Educational Leadership Program, provided a program overview. Many districts struggle to attract and retain talented principals and superintendents. The program started at Boise State in 2014 and aims to address this leadership shortage. Program students come from across the state and are primarily current principals.

Kari Overall, President, Idaho Education Association (IEA), introduced IEA's budget committee and board members and discussed members' legislative priorities. IEA is the largest professional organization in the state and represents teachers, counselors, librarians, bus drivers and other school staff members. They provide professional support, training and mentoring. She stated IEA members want autonomy to utilize their expertise, to be compensated like professionals and a voice in creating policy, including representation on **Governor Little's** newly-announced task force. She encouraged Committee members to visit the schools in their district.

Superintendent Sherri Ybarra introduced **Marc Beitia**, 2019 Idaho Teacher of the Year. She noted he is a Career-Technical Educator who has been teaching for thirty years. Nineteen years ago Mr. Beitia began teaching at American Falls High School (AFHS) and started the school's Agriculture program. He is also the mayor of American Falls.

Mr. Beitia stated his passion has always been kids and that is why he teaches. Forty percent of the student body at AFHS lives in poverty, 70% come from socioeconomically disadvantaged families, 40% are Hispanic and 10% are Native American. He is the school's FFA advisor and for the past two years the chapter has been recognized as a Model of Excellence and a Premier Chapter out of 8,600 FFA chapters nationally. He struggled to encourage Hispanic students to join FFA, but once one Hispanic student joined and was successful, a precedent was set and FFA membership now mirrors the school's demographics. On average, eighty students participate at state events and the national convention. Local potato producers fund \$50-60,000 annually to support these student opportunities. There are currently 247 FFA members in a high school of less than 400 students.

Mr. Beitia noted AFHS has a work habits report card, which was requested by local employers. Many of his students need to be prepared to enter the workforce upon graduation and teaching work ethic is one of his priorities. Of last year's high school graduating class, 96% passed the workplace readiness assessment. He stated the value of Career-Technical Education is that it teaches students how to work and helps them learn what they want to do before they grow up.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:47 am.

Representative Clow
Chair

Erica McGinnis
Secretary