



Information Center  
**Get the facts. Lots of them.**

Search the Resource Library for information and guides regarding career exploration, training opportunities, planning for college, and paying for your education.

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Resource Library

Advancing or Changing Careers

Resource Library

# Career Counseling

## 2021 Senate Ed Committee Update

Job & Career Training

Planning for Education &

### Every Person Chooses A Unique Path

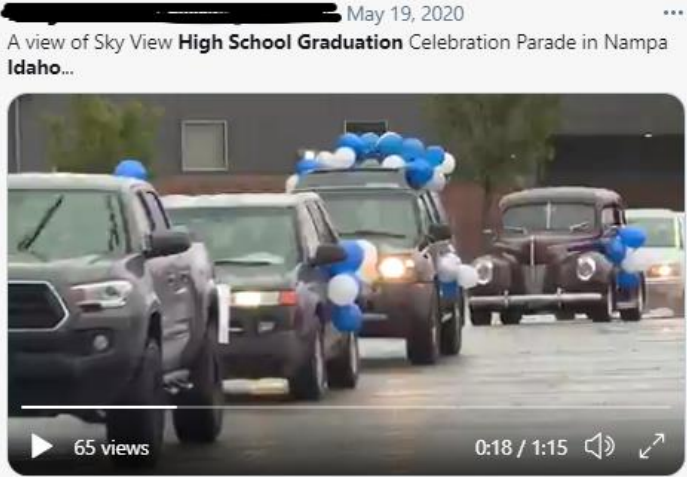
Few people will work in the same role or even career until retirement, and most work at least a dozen different jobs over the course of their career. Being strategic with your education and training choices offers you flexibility throughout your life.

At each transition point—high school to first job, entry-level to manager, one career to something completely different—you'll need training and education, especially as the job market continues to evolve. Expertise, interpersonal skills, and a strong work ethic are the best currency in an ever-changing job market.



One year ago in Idaho...

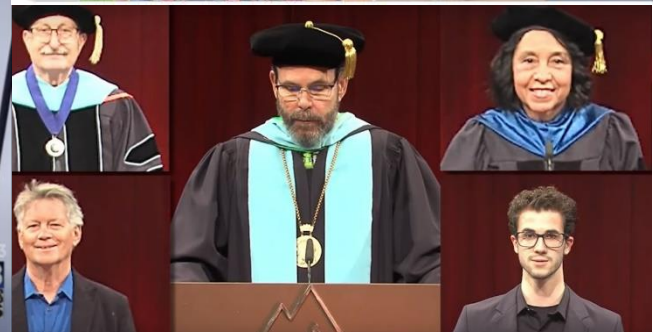
# Creative



@OfficialLivePD help me celebrate my granddaughter kiara graduating high school in Idaho. Due to #19 can't have a prom or graduation.



Today was a successful day celebrating our seniors!! Boise's Capital High School has first coronavirus graduation | Idaho Statesman #Likeaneagle



# Resilient

## Latinos are more wary of sending kids to school, but they may have more to lose if they don't

Sami Edge and Nicole Foy • 0 [redacted] • Mar 11, 2020

March Sadness

Para Español, haga clic aquí

5 145 502


With disparities in access to distance learning, experts worry Latino students could fall behind.

teachers short 186K devices for remote learning, SBOE says

## Children take to the fields following school closures

Sami Edge and Nicole Foy • 04/20/2020

Para Español, haga clic aquí



Teens are working agricultural jobs by day and catching up on homework in the evenings

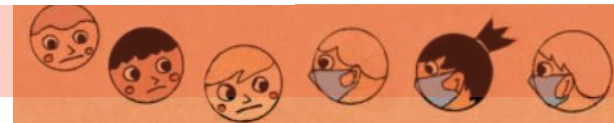
[redacted] • Apr 28, 2020

I hear you. Remote learning with deaf kids across Idaho is probably the hardest thing I've done. Rural internet + sign language = ????

KREM 2 NEWS

Spring high school sports in Idaho officially canceled by IHSAA

krem.com/article/sports...



CROWD: OPEN IDAHO

Hundreds gather to protest stay-home order



Idaho Education News @idahoednews · Mar 25, 2020

Analysis: In 48 hours, Idaho has closed its public schools and ordered a statewide lockdown. Here's how it all unfolded. #idpol #idedu #COVID19

Chadd Cripe @chaddcripe · Mar 23, 2020

The Idaho State Board of Education has directed all public school districts and charter schools to close through April 20. During that time, they're to provide food services and develop a plan for remote learning

this unfathomab...

#MaskUpIdaho anti-mask protest in Idaho.

## Online instruction is "killing" some high schoolers,

Idaho Education News @idahoednews · May 4, 2020

Some of Idaho's large districts lost touch with hundreds of students in the switch to distance learning.

Idaho Education News @idahoednews · Apr 9, 2020

More than 8,000 kids have asked for help with technology or internet access.

Yellowstone is trending after a 6.5 earthquake in nearby Idaho. April seriously is starting in 50 minutes and 2020 has no chill

9:11 PM · Mar 31, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone



Idaho Education News @idahoednews · Mar 27, 2020

In response to the #COVID19 economic fallout, @GovernorLittle cuts K-12 budgets by \$19 million and higher ed by \$3 million. #idedu #idleg #idpol

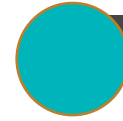


# Dedicated

## Shutdown order poses daunting challenges for local educators

Kevin Richert • 03/24/2020

Among the biggest questions: how to shift to online learning, making a sudden transition that would have been unimaginable weeks ago.



Sped **teacher** in **Idaho** here. Starting my 13th year (which seems fitting for **2020** if I am superstitious).



## No bonuses this year for master educators

Clark Corbin • 12/24/2020

Idaho coronavirus update, 3.26.20: Educators are essential, three deaths confirmed

Hundreds of teachers are waiting to find out if they have earned the \$4,000-per-year premiums.

Idaho's graduation rate rose to 82.1 percent in 2020 amid a worldwide pandemic that closed most high schools during the final two months of the school year.

CORONAVIRUS, NEWS

## Educators help fill demand for personal protective equipment

Devin Bodkin • 04/12/2020



## Educators continue in-person instruction amid COVID surge

Devin Bodkin • 11/23/2020

K-12 schools have the author... received the blessing from Go... controlled environment than...

"The fact that our cohort rate rose above 82 percent for the first time is a credit to the perseverance of Idaho students and teachers to make sure the pandemic's disruptions to in-person learning did not derail the final steps toward completing high school," said State Superintendent Sherri Ybarra in a news release.

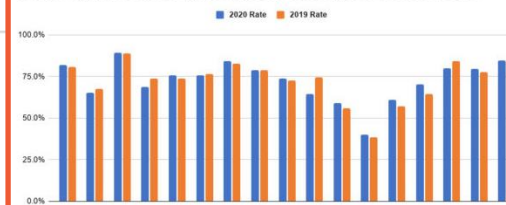
## Teachers at Higher Risk of COVID-19

## Idaho educators face increased workload

Layne McInnelly • 10/06/2020

The COVID-19 pandemic has created a system where educators are pulling double and triple duty with no increase in compensation and limited resources.

Idaho high school graduation rates, 2020 and 2019



IdahoEducationAssoc @IdahoEA • May 8, 2020  
Idaho school counselors and psychologists are experiencing this too. They already have unrealistic caseloads amid the rise in students' mental health issues, and now they can't even meet with kids face to face. #askaneducator #idedu

May 8, 2020  
"It's tough. There are definitely counselors losing sleep over if their kids are OK." School counseling: A tough job made even tougher because of coronavirus. Of course @nealmorton @hechingerreport wrote the story



Dr. Scott Woolstenhulme @woolstes • Feb 11, 2020  
Thank you @GovernorLittle for working with @bjds93 school counselors to declare February 12th a Day of Hope, recognizing the efforts of educators, parents, and children to prevent suicide in Idaho. Together, we will make a



# Hard Statistics

- ➔ **1400** \*fewer\* Idaho high school graduates went directly to college in 2020.
- ➔ **2,700** \*fewer\* current high school seniors have completed a college application through Apply Idaho.
- ➔ **700** \*fewer\* Idaho high school seniors have completed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, than had done so by this time last year.

# Realizations

- ➔ The importance of teachers and school counselors cannot be overstated.
- ➔ The frailty of certain routines (once taken for granted) have been exposed.
- ➔ EVERY possible, practical communication method must be leveraged moving forward.

# Next Steps Idaho

**309,000**  
users since 2016

src: Google Analytics

## Reaching Wider Audiences

Students in grades 8–12 will enjoy the same vibrant, friendly user experience (UX) as before, but the Next Steps Idaho website has been restructured to appeal to lifelong or returning students too.

New insights and tools have been added for all visitors



An Idaho State Board of Education initiative to increase students' visibility into college and career options after high school.



“...the Idaho Office of the State Board of Education’s access to students was  
**not so much a fact, as a favor.**”



# Education Discussion Forums

April 9, 2020 – September 3, 2020

**Education Discussion Forum** Meeting Notes, Apr 9




Meeting Notes | August 20, 2020

Meeting Notes | August 27, 2020

**Education Discussion Forum**




Meeting Notes | September 3, 2020

**Education Discussion Forum** Meeting Notes, Apr 16



**Education Discussion Forum** Meeting Notes, Apr 23



**Education Discussion Forum** Meeting Notes, May 14



**Education Discussion Forum** Meeting Notes, May 28



**Survey Results & Analysis (Continued)**  
*This summary is provided by RISE TVEP.*

**Q3:** What is the biggest concern students have expressed? Respondants could choose more than one.



*Note: Academic issues included high school completion and postsecondary entrance issues, e.g. graduation reqs, grades, financial aid, etc.*

Following is a breakdown of those Social/Emotional Issues:

- Uncertain = 46%
- Overwhelmed = 19%
- Missing Friends & Rituals = 14%
- Anxious = 13%
- Not Motivated = 8%

**Survey Results & Analysis (Continued)**  
*This summary is provided by RISE TVEP.*

**Q4:** What would be helpful for your students over the summer?


General need for contact w/ students re: statewide policies & expectations.



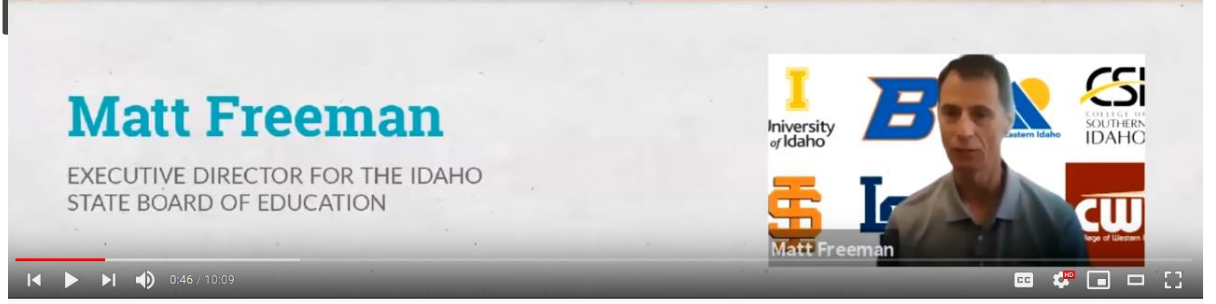
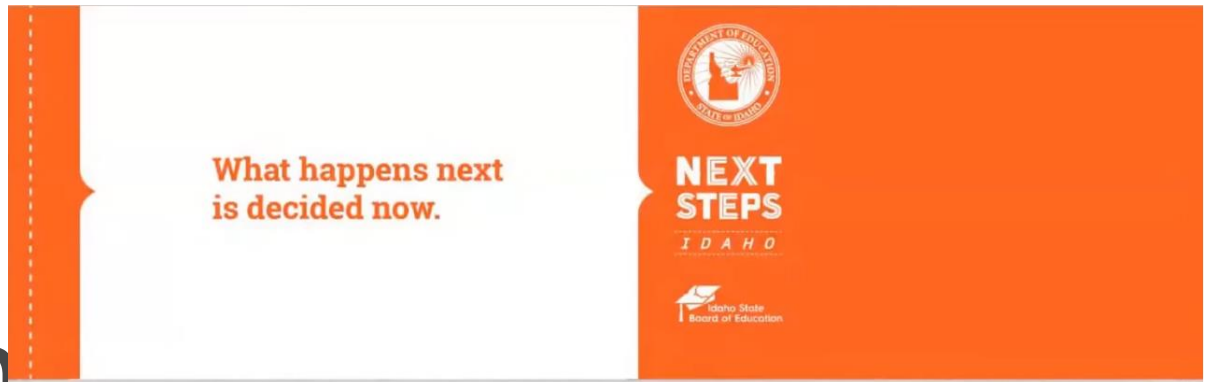
# Education Discussion Forum

April 9, 2020 – September 3, 2020



 **Idaho State Board of Education**  
144 subscribers

Recorded during the last Education Discussion Forum of spring 2020. Information about this and other Forums can be found on the Next Steps Idaho website (NextSteps.Idaho.gov).



Governor Brad Little's Message to High School Counselors/Advisors  
43 views • May 29, 2020

SHARE SAVE ...

Idaho Higher-Ed Fall 2020 | COVID-19  
Idaho State Board of Education - 1 / 12

**Fall Re-Opening Plans via Governor Little, Higher-Ed Presidents**

Update from Education Discussion Forum: Thursday, May 28. The governor, three university presidents, top-shelf administrators, and a handful of enrollment experts from every Idaho public higher-ed institution dialed in to discuss what the Fall 2020 t..





# 4000+ Attend Next Steps Idaho Virtual College Fair

The state's first virtual college fair was sponsored by the Board, GEAR UP Idaho, and CTE. It took place over three days in fall 2020. Media attention was significant.

Some of the best reviews came from admissions representatives who enjoyed the exclusive focus on Idaho colleges compared to regional or national fairs that feature dozens, even hundreds of schools.

**Next Steps Idaho**  
@nextstepsidaho

YOU get a news story, and YOU get a news story, and...

#NextStepsIdaho #Virtual #CollegeFair is making headlines! See it in real (pixelated) detail before the fa closes & school reps go back to their respective corners.

TY @idahoednews & @clarkcorbin

**Next Steps Idaho** @nextstepsidaho · Sep 30, 2020  
Replying to @nextstepsidaho  
...YOU get a news story, and YOU get a news story, and...

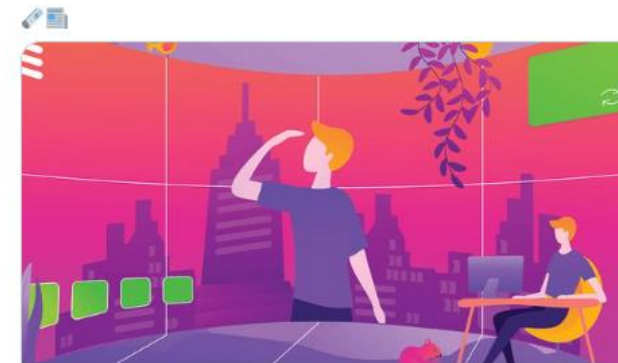
Thank you @ThePostRegister & @blkauffman7!!

**Next Steps Idaho** @nextstepsidaho · Sep 30, 2020  
...YOU get a news story, and YOU get a news story, and...  
Thanks @DailyBee & @RachelDailyBee!

**Next Steps Idaho** @nextstepsidaho · Sep 30, 2020  
...YOU get a news story, and YOU get a news story, and...  
Thanks @KTVB & @KimFieldsKTVB!!

**Next Steps Idaho** @nextstepsidaho · Oct 2, 2020  
...YOU get a news story, and YOU get a news story, and...

Thanks for writing about the #NextStepsIdaho #Virtual #CollegeFair @EdTech\_K12 & @MicahCastelo!



How Schools Can Host College Tours and Fairs Virtually

**Jim Risch** @SenatorRisch · Sep 29, 2020  
Today kicks off @IdSBOE's Virtual College Fair. For more info & to for the event, visit the @nextstepsidaho website: [nextstepsidahocollegefair.vfairs.com](https://nextstepsidahocollegefair.vfairs.com).  
[magicvalley.com/news/local/edu...](https://magicvalley.com/news/local/edu...)  
20 replies 7 retweets 19 likes

**Next Steps Idaho** @nextstepsidaho  
Replying to @SenatorRisch and @IdSBOE  
Thanks for the shout out, Senator!  
The fair is open T, W, & Th from 8 AM-8 PM (MDT) [nextstepsidahocollegefair.vfairs.com](https://nextstepsidahocollegefair.vfairs.com)

- 11 #Idaho colleges
- #finAid with the @IdSBOE #Scholarship Mgr
- #prizes

It's an easy way for #Idahoans to explore #continuingEducation close to #home.  
8:48 AM · Sep 29, 2020 · Twitter Web App

Virtual College Fair Attendees	Count
Below 10 <sup>th</sup> grade	1,157
10 <sup>th</sup> grade	549
11 <sup>th</sup> grade	790
12 <sup>th</sup> grade	1,348
Unknown	182
	<b>4,026</b>



“...the Idaho Office of the State Board of Education’s access to students was  
**not so much a fact, as a favor.**”



Dear <FIRSTNAME>

**Congratulations!** You have met the admissions requirements and will be admitted to any of the following Idaho public colleges and universities for the Fall 2021 semester.

[Boise State University](#)  
[College of Eastern Idaho](#)  
[College of Southern Idaho](#)  
[College of Western Idaho](#)

[Idaho State University](#)  
[Lewis-Clark State College](#)  
[North Idaho College](#)  
[University of Idaho](#)

Make your acceptance offer official before June 30, 2021 by using Apply Idaho to apply to the school(s) you may want to attend.

Here are some important next steps:

- Visit [Next Steps Idaho's College Directory](#) to learn more about these schools.
- Talk with your family about the schools you feel are the best fit for you.
- Share this letter with your college and career counselor or adviser and ask questions about anything you don't understand.
- Fill out the [FAFSA](#) (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) as soon as possible. FAFSA opens October 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Use [Apply Idaho](#) to submit your information to the colleges and universities you might want to attend. You can apply to one or more Idaho schools all at one time for free.

Senior year goes by quickly, Next Steps' [12th Grade](#) resources can help you throughout the year as you plan for life after high school. Use the downloadable [checklist](#) to help you stay organized.

On behalf of the Idaho State Board of Education, I welcome you to college and look forward to having you on one of our campuses next fall.

**Debbie Critchfield**  
President  
Idaho State Board of Education

# Direct Admissions Initiative Proves Resilient

**Category:** Applying to College & Technical Schools

**Source:** Next Steps Idaho

Since 2017 the Idaho State Board of Education has been snail-mailing, digital campaigning, and garnering nation-wide attention for their Direct Admissions initiative. Part juiced-up marketing campaign, part spark-plug for student potential, this program sends a personalized letter to every Idaho high school senior notifying them of the colleges (never less than 6) that they WILL be admitted to the following year, should they care to enroll. **However, the long-arm of COVID-19 disruption has confused the usual process.**

## The New Direct Admissions Letter

In September 2020, all Idaho high school seniors will again find out which of Idaho's public colleges and universities they qualify to attend for the 2021/2022 academic year. This year, seniors will obtain that information by logging into the Apply Idaho application between September 15–20, or by contacting their school guidance counselor.

The idea behind this two-week runway (before the Apply Idaho application actually opens on October 1), is to allow students to focus, explore, and refine their options—as well as their list of requirements—for life after high school. Knowing that at least 6 doors that they may not have been considering now stand open before them is a powerful foundation upon which to build their future career.

If a student decides to attend one of the colleges that they pre-qualified to attend, they will need to confirm their interest by submitting an application to the institution(s) that appeal to them. Applying to more than one school is a great way to view multiple financial aid packages, which allows students to consider both price tags *and* programs before making their final choice.

Apply Idaho makes the application process simple, fast, and free. With it, students can apply to ANY or ALL of Idaho's public colleges and universities, as well as the College of Idaho and Northwest Nazarene University.

Direct Admissions details and Apply Idaho plugs will be echoed by Idaho high schools throughout the fall term. Talk to an Idaho high school counselor or continue to check this website for updates.

## Links

[Idaho State Board of Education](#)

Phone: (208) 334-2270

Email: [board@osbe.idaho.gov](mailto:board@osbe.idaho.gov)

[Direct Admissions Press Release](#)

[Direct Admissions – More Information](#)

[Apply Idaho Information](#)

“...the Direct Admissions direct mail campaign  
**had to be suspended.**”

“...this upset-turned-success emphasized the need for  
**new strategies & tactics.**”





# Next Steps Idaho Ambassadors



2021



# SAT/ ACT AND CARRY ON

## Verified Resources



## Summer Melt



## Financial Aid Professional Development



by: counselors  
for: counselors

These #IdahoCTE scholarships are for students pursuing workforce training, certificates, CTE degrees, and more!



<https://cte.idaho.gov/cte-scholarships/>



Like · Reply · 50w



Jenni Kimball

This is very helpful, thank you!



Like · Reply · 50w



## Next Steps Idaho Ambassadors

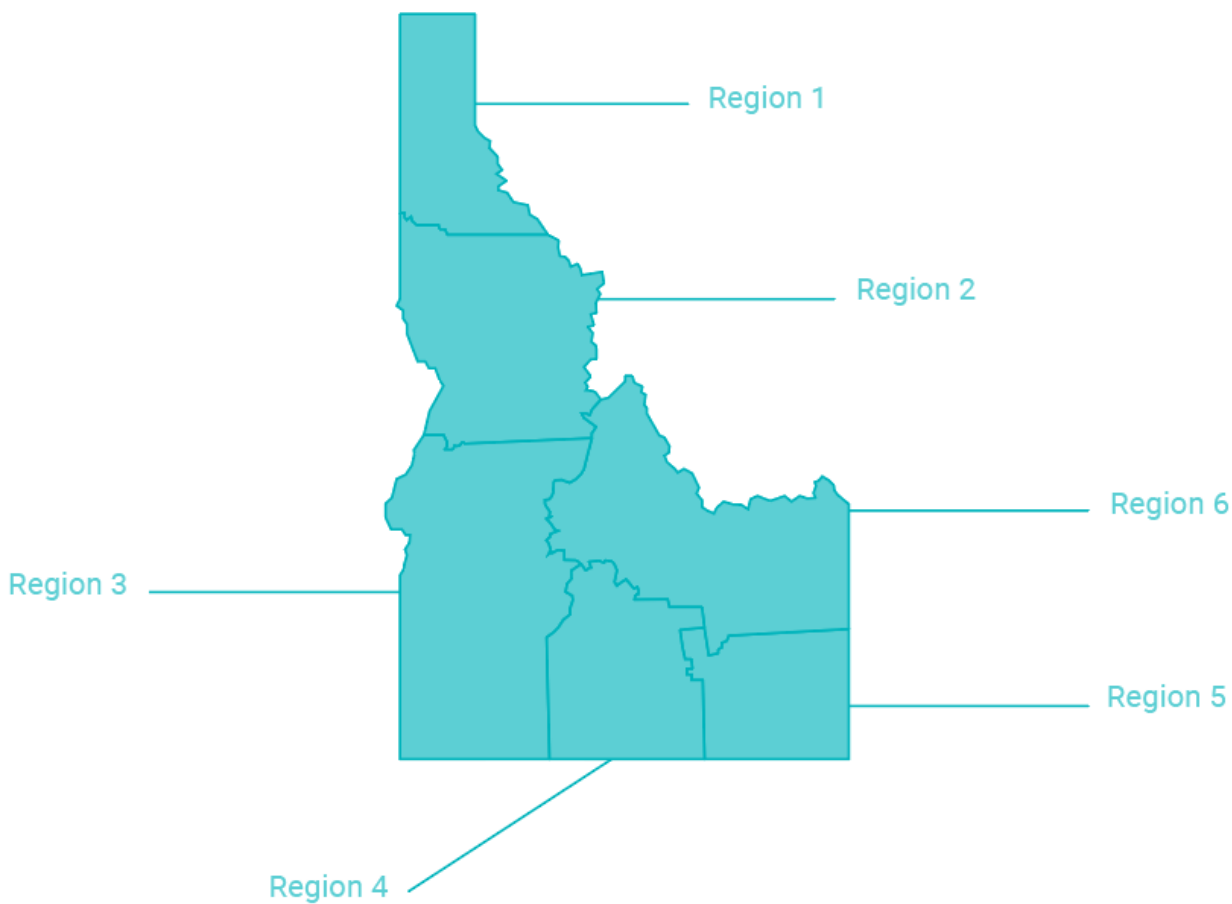
Private group

Welcome, Ambassadors! Use this group to scroll through (or request) counselor-focused graphics, discuss industry events, share the burden of content development, and report opportunities or issues in real-time.

This group is managed by Next Steps Idaho, an Idaho State Board of Education initiative.

# Next Steps Idaho Ambassadors

Ambassadors from each region are cultivating peer-to-peer support, resource pipelines, and professional development opportunities for Idaho counselors and advisors!



## 2021 Ambassador Roster

**Region 1:** Carrie Paquette | Lakeland High School

**Region 2:** Elayne Murphy | Kamiah High School

**Region 3:** Jenni Kimball | Borah High School  
Mallory Essman | Skyview High School

**Region 4:** Kim Davis | Murtaugh High School  
Mollie Lively | Buhl High School

**Region 5:** Jennifer Newsom | Pocatello High School

**Region 6:** Jessica Butler | Hillcrest High School

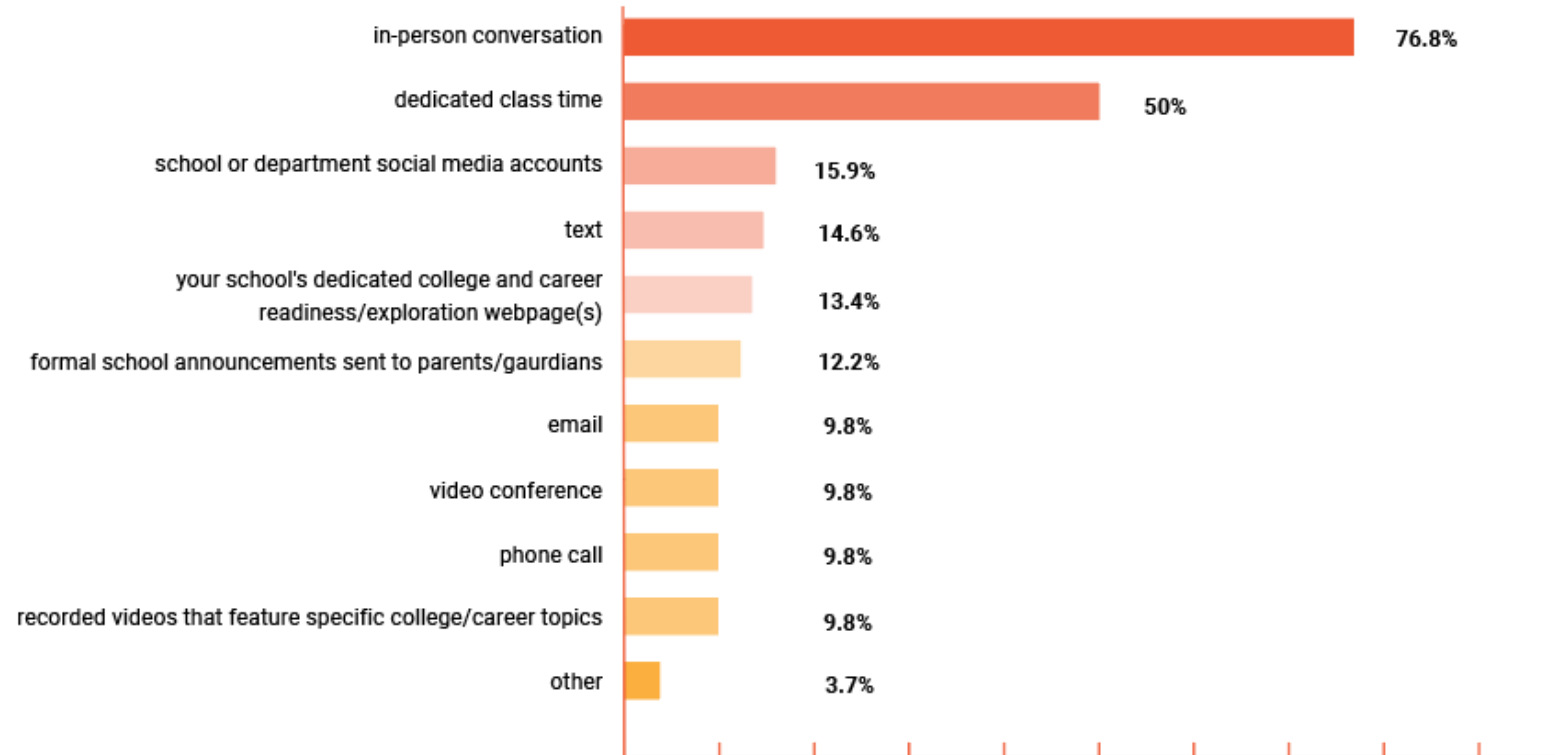
# Feedback

- ➔ Counselors are frustrated by a lack of access to and/or time with their students.
- ➔ Counselors report significant time is needed to manage dual credit reporting requirements and student engagement.
- ➔ Counselors are concerned for their students. Particularly those on the lower end of the socioeconomic spectrum or in stressful family situations.

# Communicating in the Time of COVID

Indicate the most reliable—i.e. yields the most engagement—method(s) of communicating college and career information to your students.

*Respondants were encouraged to select all reliable methods.*



*Results assembled from a survey sent to 800 Idaho College & Career Professionals; with a 10% response rate.*

# National School Counselor Appreciation Week (Feb 1-5)



Next Steps Idaho  
@nextstepsidaho



Parents, thank a [#SchoolCounselor](#) this week! It's a great way to start a dialog w/ them about your student's well-being, your student's [#AdvancedOpportunities](#), your student's interests, your student's future...

but this week is about the ✨ Counselors ✨

So thank them first.



6:30 AM · Feb 1, 2021 · Hootsuite Inc.



# Thank You!

## Finding Ways To Be Ever More Useful

Every Wednesday in February at 10:00 AM (MST) the OSBE Outreach Team will hold a 30-minute webinar featuring invented personas and the most frequently asked questions that college and career counselors field from students in each grade; 8th through 12th.

See the Next Steps Idaho calendar for details.

<https://nextsteps.idaho.gov>





# Thank You!

Questions?

Byron Yankey  
College and Career Advising Program Manager at [OSBE](#)  
[byron.yankey@osbe.idaho.gov](mailto:byron.yankey@osbe.idaho.gov)