

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, January 17, 2024

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW41

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

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Reps. Boyle, Ehardt, Berch

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 January 15, 2024. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Debbie Critchfield, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Office of the State Board of Education, spoke about the Board's experiences, communication and relationships with educators around the state. She said a missing component was leadership and how to use allotted money. She believes every student deserves one year of growth in one years time. She said curriculum choices are crucial and the Board is reviewing curriculums and rules and will provide results to school districts to help them be well-informed.

Superintendent Critchfield discussed 2024 goals, graduation requirements, and preparing Idaho kids for life as well as college and career. She spoke about growth and the need to modernize the educational funding structure and said the current formula was implemented in 1994. The Board would like to consolidate K-12 budgets and discontinue certain line items. A change would implement weighted, per student funding and reduce transportation funding complexity and address rising costs. She emphasized the importance of attracting and retaining exceptional teachers and leaders. Unfortunately 30% of educators leave after the first three years so she would like to see improvements to teacher prep programs. She also mention recruitment incentives for student teachers.

Chair Yamamoto turned the gavel over to **Vice Chair McCann**.

DOCKET NO. 08-0203-2301: **Jenn Thompson**, Chief Policy & Government Affairs, Office of the State Board of Education, presented **Docket No. 08-0203-2301**, regarding thoroughness. She said there is a simple reference which needs to be removed.

MOTION: **Rep. Yamamoto** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 08-0203-2301**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 08-0401-2301: **Jenn Thompson**, Chief Policy & Government Affairs, Office of the State Board of Education, presented **Docket No. 08-0401-2301** regarding Idaho Digital Learning Academy, (IDLA). She spoke about the need to clean up definitions and to change the use of "on-line school" to "virtual."

In response to committee questions, **Jeff Simmons**, Superintendent, IDLA, spoke about final projects and said student projects are comprehensive. He said a final project may be better than scheduling a proctor to be with a student for a final test. He spoke about communication and the network available to provide help to students.

MOTION: **Rep. Garner** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 08-0401-2301** retaining the revision of changes in section 102.03. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Vice Chair McCann returned the gavel to **Chair Yamamoto**.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:11 am.

Representative Yamamoto
Chair

Amy Bengtzen
Secretary