

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, February 28, 2017

TIME: 8:30 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: Eric Hafen, Imagine Learning; Louis Picuni, Imagine Learning; Clark Corbin, Idaho Ed News

Chairman VanOrden called the meeting to order at 8:33 am.

MOTION: **Rep. Moon** made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2017 meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 25182: **Mike Ryan**, ASUI Lobbyist, presented **RS 25182** relating to President Lincoln's creation of the Idaho Territory and the signing of the Morrell Act which resulted in the creation of the University of Idaho.

MOTION: **Rep. Amador** made a motion to introduce **RS 25182** and recommend it be sent directly to the Second Reading Calender. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Amador** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

RS 25321: **Duncan Robb**, Chief Policy Adviser of Public Instruction, presented **RS 25321** relating to the establishment of a Rural Education Support Network in 2018.

MOTION: **Rep. McDonald** made a motion to introduce **RS 25321.** **Motion carried by voice vote.**

RS 25388 **Duncan Robb**, Chief Policy Adviser of Public Instruction, presented **RS 25388** relating to developing an online information portal for parents, students and educators. Funding has been approved for the portal.

MOTION: **Rep. McDonald** made a motion to introduce **RS 25388.**

Jacob Smith, Idaho Digital Learning, explained the reason for the funding costs is to improve the portal with new capabilities, maintenance and to continue to build-out as technical advances and digital resources become available.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Rep. Boyle** made a substitute motion to introduce **RS 25388** and recommend it be sent directly to the Second Reading Calender. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Chairman VanOrden** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

S 1029: **Blake Youde**, State Board of Education, presented **S 1029** relating to counseling services regarding the granting of career technical credit and authorizing a school district to grant credit for career technical courses.

MOTION: **Rep. Kerby** made a motion to send **S 1029** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Amador** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

RS 25370: **Rep. Horman** presented **RS 25370** a Concurrent Resolution recognizing March 3, 2017 as National Speech and Debate Education Day. "Speech and debate education enables students to find their own voices, to find the power and confidence within themselves to think and analyze critically, to use words wisely to build, mend, defend and elevate." Cliff Davis.

MOTION: **Rep. DeMordaunt** made a motion to introduce **RS 25370** and recommend it be sent directly to the Second Reading Calendar. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Horman** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

Sharon Harrigfeld, Director of Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections (IDJC), presented the Idaho Criminal Justice Commission Update. The mission of IDJC is committed to collaboration to address important criminal justice issues and challenges by developing and proposing balanced solution, which are cost effective and based on "best" practices to achieve a safer Idaho. Their goal is to reduce victimization and recidivism in the state of Idaho with the objectives as stated: Establish evidence-based and best practices relating to accountability, prevention, education and recidivism reduction and strengthen knowledge base in Idaho by enhancing data collection abilities and sharing capabilities.

Ms. Harrigfeld explained providing policy makers and criminal justice decision makers with accurate information is important. Their goal is to advance delivery of justice through effective interventions by proposing balanced solutions, which are cost effective and based on best practices. Their objectives are: Determine reasonable expectation of community needs and services based on resources, promote standards and equity, reduce criminogenic risk factors through the expanded use of risk assessments, policies and programming, ongoing assessment of problem-solving courts and other community-based sentencing alternatives and examine emerging issues. They promote well-informed policy decisions through the following objectives: Identify strategies to promote efficiencies and effectiveness in the criminal justice system, continue presentations and training on trends, best practices and priority issues, create and implement data sharing mechanisms and agreements among stakeholder agencies, and maintain awareness of substance abuse trends and priority issues.

James Pannell, Education Director of Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections, presented the update for Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections. He explained that the largest percentage of juvenile offenders have extreme emotional problems usually stemming from their home environment that is negative and neglectful. These emotional problems bring educational challenges. He explained the academic, social, emotional, and behavioral levels of their IDJC students vary significantly, thus each student must be treated individually. Their motto is, "See the Person Not the Disability." Their mission is to improve the academic, career, and technical skills of their students from middle school through college and on to the workplace to try to give them a successful future. They have seen positive youth outcomes in academics with 66% of eligible students receiving a high school diploma or a GED and 42% going on to receive a certificate of higher learning. They have many partnerships with Idaho colleges, career and testing centers, Idaho Department of Correction, and Department of Education. He stated that as a result of the Governor's Task Force, an adaptive teacher-pay ladder will be created for IDJC Instructor Specialists, and if approved, this will help with the recruitment and retention issues that they have experienced in the past.

Louis Pioni, Vice President of Imagine Learning, presented Think Through Math (TTM). He stated their online program is a system for success with math progression to algebra and beyond. They are an aid to student classrooms through motivation, adaptive learning pathways, access to live teachers, integrated third party assessment, reports and rigorous content. The students have instant feedback when they are struggling with their math by expert live teachers with immediate corrective answers and concepts. It allows the students to think of math with excitement and energy, rather than as a failure. Those students using Think Through Math are three times more likely to score proficient on SAGE.

Mr. Pioni explained that students have online support through the week and weekend which emboldens them to take academic risks and push themselves and they become solvers rather than quitters in math. He stated that the program in Idaho has 32,000 seats, grades 3-8 and this year moved to a statewide site license. The Idaho program has achieved 69% in quantile gains and is the only state to have two national winners in their March Math Madness contest. The program has received profound accolades from parents and teachers throughout Idaho regarding the transformation of the children that have been involved. Some parents have said they find their children doing math in their leisure time because they love it. Teachers use TTM as an integrated math tool for instruction, acceleration, and remediation. It is an excellent resource that meets individual student's needs at school and at home. After using TTM, average post-test math fluency for 5th grade students increased by 38% overall, and 114% for remedial students.

Jessica Ruehrwein, Treasure Valley Education Partnership(TVEP) Executive Director, presented their update for The TV Education Senior Exit. She explained they are part of StriveTogether, a national network of 65 cradle to career community partnerships. TVEP engages and coordinates community partners and resources across the Treasure Valley in order to align efforts around common goals. By uniting and focusing the strength of multiple partners, TVEP aspires to achieve systems change and improve student outcomes in a measurable and lasting way. The well-being of the Treasure Valley community depends on the success of our education system. TVEP is a collective impact partnership that exists to support the shared community vision of ensuring the success of "every child, every step of the way, cradle to career." Their mission is to advance a world class education system in the Treasure Valley. The partners focus on goals along the cradle to career continuum in order to improve education outcomes by ensuring that every child is prepared for school, succeeds academically, enrolls in and completes some education beyond high school and enters their career of choice.

Ms. Ruehrwein stated TVEP's partners include early childhood education, K-12 school districts, Idaho Business for Education, YMCA, Idaho Afterschool Network, Boys and Girls Club, colleges and universities, government agencies, and funders from local businesses, and many more. She explained that family finances are a big barrier for students to go on to higher learning but another barrier is the students not making a decision in Jr. High, particularly in 8th grade, to "go on". Family was the biggest influence for the student to go on or not to go on to higher learning, so they are engaging parents and community to understand and encourage their children. She explained how critical it is for legislators to continue to support programs from early learning to high school, and to support college and career through scholarship funding.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 am.

Representative VanOrden
Chair

Ann Tippetts
Secretary