

MINUTES  
**SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Monday, March 05, 2018

**TIME:** 3:00 P.M.

**PLACE:** Room WW55

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Mortimer, Vice Chairman Thayn, Senators Winder, Nonini, Den Hartog, Guthrie, Crabtree, Buckner-Webb, and Ward-Engelking

**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** None

**NOTE:** The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

**CONVENED:** **Chairman Mortimer** called the Education Committee (Committee) to order at 3:07 p.m. He opened the meeting with a reading from the book, "A Heap O'Living, Along Life's Highway", by Edgar A. Guest, "No Place to Go."

**PRESENTATION: Idaho Career Information System (CIS).** **Sara Scudder**, Administrator, Idaho Department of Labor (DL), detailed the history and composition of CIS. She said they promote lifelong learning. She explained how CIS interacts with Idaho students in the first phases of career development. The tools on the CIS website help students answer the following questions: "Who am I," "What do I want to do," and "How do I get there." She demonstrated for the Committee how to students can use the CIS website (Attachment 1).

**Senator Den Hartog** asked how **H 432** pertains to CIS. **Tracie Bent**, Chief Planning and Policy Officer, State Board of Education (SBE), replied it moves CIS from the DL to the SBE. She stated during the recession, CIS was moved to the DL because there were federal funds to continue the program. She explained how the CIS will function once it is moved back to the SBE.

**Byron Yankey**, College and Career Advising Program Manager, SBE, explained his role with the website, "Next Steps Idaho (NSI)" and showed the Committee the different aspects of the website. He stated NSI is targeted to eighth grade students and helps them explore career options based on their interests and strengths.

**Vice Chairman Thayn** asked how many school districts use the website. **Mr. Yankey** replied about 500 users per day visit the site for a total to-date of 15,000 visits; many occurring outside school hours. He stated people have learned of the website by word of mouth.

**Chairman Mortimer** asked if CIS and NSI work together. **Mr. Yankey** replied in the affirmative. He said CIS has more information to support classroom instruction. He explained how the two websites are linked.

**Ms. Scudder** reiterated the collaboration between the DL and SBE and the efforts to avoid overlap and duplication of services. She said the goal is to ensure the information on the website fit the needs of students and teachers.

**PRESENTATION: Master Teacher Program (Master).** **Christina Linder**, Educator Effectiveness Program Manager, SBE, apprised the Committee of Master which was enacted into law in 2015 and updated in 2017. The SBE recommended, and the Legislature approved, that pupil service providers should be included in the Master Educator Premium (MEP) plan. She explained how candidates may submit evidence to receive financial benefits; she noted when the evidence expires. She said there is continuation in the MEP if the evidence is continually updated. **Ms. Linder** said a committee reviewed the original standards to develop rubrics. In the process, it was determined student impact should be addressed. The goal was to align the pupil service standards with the instructional staff standards. The outcome developed two different types of rubrics: teachers and pupil service providers. She stated the modified standards removed repetitive characteristics and were compressed to ensure that the most points a Master could receive were for direct interaction with students.

**Ms. Linder** detailed at length the five standards measured for a candidate applying to the MEP: 1.) Leadership; 2.) Professional Collaboration and Partnership; 3.) Students and Learning Environment; 4.) Professional Growth; and 5.) Content, Instruction, and Assessment. She referred the Committee to the handout which describes the criteria set forth in Idaho Code § 33-1004I. She told about the criteria for a teacher to apply to the MEP, how teachers submit their portfolio, and the review process. She said MEP promotes excellence and retention. (Attachment 2).

**DISCUSSION:** **Chairman Mortimer** asked if the video submission, which illustrates the teacher instructing, will be a barrier. **Ms. Linder** replied it was strongly recommended that Masters be able to teach naturally and that can be reflected with a video. Many teaching attributes are discovered in a video and a video will serve to indicate whether the teacher meets the MEP standards.

**Vice Chairman Thayn** asked how many teachers have eight or more years of experience, making them eligible to apply for the MEP. **Ms. Linder** replied they did not examine that number when developing the standards. She said other states, which MEP is modeled after, reported three to four percent of the teaching population applied for the program, and two percent receive the distinction.

**Vice Chairman Thayn** asked how much time is necessary for the review process. **Ms. Linder** replied the reviews average two hours per portfolio.

**Vice Chairman Thayn** asked if the SBE knew how much time it took on an average for a teacher to compile their portfolio. **Ms. Linder** replied between 20 and 40 hours. She explained how a teacher might build her portfolio over time: teachers compile their evidence as they work.

**Chairman Mortimer** asked if the SBE has received any feedback from educators regarding the updates. **Ms. Linder** replied in the negative. She said different school districts have asked her to speak to their staff about the MEP. She said she has heard concerns about the continuation of funding for MEP.

**Senator Den Hartog** asked how the master premiums are paid; more precisely, she wondered if they were paid as a salary or as a bonus. **Ms. Bent** replied the intent is the premium be distributed as part of their salary.

**Vice Chairman Thayn** asked if they were aware of next year's budget request. **Ms. Bent** replied it will be approximately \$1.5 million.

**MINUTES APPROVAL:** **Senator Buckner-Webb** moved to approve the Minutes of February 5, 2018. **Senator Ward-Engelking** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

**MINUTES APPROVAL:** **Senator Den Hartog** moved to approve the Minutes of February 7, 2018. **Senator Ward-Engelking** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

**MINUTES APPROVAL:** **Senator Nonini** moved to approve the Minutes of February 8, 2018. **Vice Chairman Thayn** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

**MINUTES APPROVAL:** **Senator Ward-Engelking** moved to approve the Minutes of February 12, 2018. **Senator Den Hartog** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

**ADJOURNED:** There being no further business at this time, **Chairman Mortimer** adjourned the meeting at 4:02 p.m.

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Senator Dean M. Mortimer  
Chair

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LeAnn Mohr  
Secretary