

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** Tuesday, February 22, 2022
- TIME:** 8:00 A.M.
- PLACE:** Lincoln Auditorium
- MEMBERS:** Chairman Clow, Vice Chairman Kerby, Representatives Boyle, Mendive, DeMordaunt, Moon, Ehardt, Marshall, Wisniewski, Galloway (Hancock), Yamamoto, McCann, McCrostie, Berch, Toone
- ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None
- GUESTS:** The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of the legislative session the sign in sheet will be filed in the Legislative Library.
- Chairman Clow** called the meeting to order at 8:05 am.
- MOTION:** **Rep. McCann** made a motion to approve the minutes of February 16 and 18, 2022. **Motion carried by voice vote.**
- Chairman Clow** introduced **Rep. Hancock** who is substituting for **Rep. Galloway**.
- Jason Knop**, President, Idaho School Boards Association, shared ISBA's belief in local control and how they encourage parent involvement. President Knop explained why ISBA decided to withdraw their membership from the National School Boards Association.
- Chairman Clow** turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Kerby**.
- H 627:** **Chairman Clow** presented **H 627** and discussed how this legislation would change the current funding formula from Average Daily Attendance (ADA) to Full-Time Equivalent Enrollment (FTE-E). He explained how this would base school funding less on the student's attendance, but on the time student's spend learning. During the COVID-19 pandemic many schools used both ADA and FTE-E to maintain their funding and keep accurate count of student learning hours. He shared how this change would give schools the flexibility to choose how to instruct their students. Chairman Clow discussed different programs which would be positively impacted by the switch from ADA to FTE-E. He explained the fiscal note and how the change would cost an estimated \$23.8 million from the General Fund.
- Brian Kress**, Superintendent, Blackfoot School District, voiced his support for **H 627** and discussed how this legislation would make a positive impact on his school.
- Shawn Tiegs**, Superintendent, Nez Percé School District, voiced his support for **H 627** and shared how FTE-E has been used in the past two years and how it works.
- Dr. Derek Bub**, Superintendent, West Ada School District, explained how FTE-E would simplify and create an easy budget process. He shared how this would enable schools to focus on students who are currently enrolled.
- In response to Committee questions, **Dr. Bub** shared how **H 627** would enable the school district to put money into areas which would maximize student learning.
- Jan Bayer**, Superintendent, Boundary County School District, shared there is still an expense to the school even when children are not in the classroom. The change to FTE-E would enable schools to save money when schools are closed.

Dr. Brady Dickinson, Superintendent, Twin Falls School District, discussed the impact of an accurate budget and the effects on student learning. He discussed reasons why students are not attending in-person school and how this change would allow students to have more learning options.

In response to Committee questions, **Dr. Dickinson** shared how **H 627** would enable various programs including CTE programs to grow.

Blake Youde, Lobbyist, Idaho Charter School Network, voiced his support for **H 627**. Charter schools do not have the 97% protection and have been affected by absenteeism. Mr. Youde shared how changing to FTE-E would provide opportunities to expand student learning and programs.

Andy Grover, Executive Director, Idaho Association of School Administrators, voiced his support of **H 627** and explained how budgeting when the funding formula changes is difficult.

In response to Committee questions, **Chairman Clow** explained how **H 627** was not intended to encourage full day kindergarten. He shared how this legislation would keep the support units the same.

MOTION: **Rep. Marshall** made a motion to **HOLD H 627** for time certain, March 2, 2022.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Rep. Toone** made a substitute motion to send **H 627** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

MOTION WITHDRAWN: **Rep. Toone** asked unanimous consent request to withdraw her substitute motion to send **H 627** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. There being no objection the request was granted.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Kayden Driggs, President, Idaho Future Farmers of America, shared how both FFA and CTE programs are growing in Idaho.

Kennedy Fardent, Reporter, Idaho FFA, explained how FFA enables students to learn life experiences which help them succeed outside the classroom.

Claire Shelton, Secretary, Idaho FFA shared how the knowledge about agriculture in Idaho has impacted her. She shared how FFA has enabled many students to succeed in life.

In response to Committee questions, **Mr. Driggs** shared how most students get involved in FFA in High School, but students are able to get involved anytime. He shared how approximately 3/4 of FFA students continue on to a CTE program or higher education.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:48 am.

Representative Clow
Chair

Elbia Christensen
Secretary