

MINUTES
(Subject to Approval by the Committee)
Joint Millennium Fund Committee
Tuesday, December 12, 2023
9:00 A.M.
WW55
Boise, Idaho

The meeting was called to order at 9AM, a silent roll call was taken and all members recorded as present, except Representative Burns. Senator Bjerke, and Representatives Mitchell and Erickson participated through Zoom. The first action taken by the committee was approval of minutes; Senator Ward-Engelking moved and Senator Semmelroth seconded the motion to accept the minutes as written; the motion was approved unanimously.

Colonel Kedrick Wills, Idaho State Police (ISP), presented to the committee on the fentanyl education awareness program being delivered by ISP. The presentation provided an overview on the impacts, chemical issues, and current enforcement programs surrounding fentanyl. Committee members asked questions about the program including how are Idahoans getting access to fentanyl, are the dangers with fentanyl or other substances laced with fentanyl, and access to data on usage and impacts. The Colonel informed the committee that data was limited and fentanyl is an issue regardless of being consumed as a solo drug or with another substance. The Colonel also told the committee that he wasn't there to speak about the fund source for the program moving forward, but rather to inform the committee on the severity, according to ISP, on fentanyl in Idaho.

The Superintendent of Public Instruction, Debbie Critchfield, provided an overview of what the state Department of Education has been doing with the funds appropriated to them from the Idaho Millennium Income Fund. The Superintendent informed the committee that her office has led meetings around the state on substance use including fentanyl. She informed the committee that the amount estimated to continue the ISP program with a new fund source would be \$900,000. She went on to discuss the survey work being done and proposing to be done to ensure programs are working as intended; providing forums for parents and education staff to learn about substance use issues and how the experts would be presenting to the parents. Committee members and the Superintendent continued with questions and answers on various topics including vape detector effectiveness, differences between urban and rural schools, current programs in schools on substance use prevention, educating students on the prevention side and before an infraction has occurred, and options moving forward.

Representative Erickson explained to the committee the work that occurred over the summer with stakeholders that included a needs assessment, information gathering, and identification of programs that are performing substance use prevention, treatment, or cessation work. The cumulative work demonstrated that overall, more collaboration and teamwork is needed for this to be successful, and that SROs are needed statewide but the need varies by district. The group agreed to continue its work and focus on other areas of concern such as parental awareness on these issues, after school programs, and fully addressing a statewide media campaign on these issues. Committee members discussed the information presented by Representative Erickson along with ideas for addressing problems facing Idaho's youth. This included trying to identify who should be the lead for coordination of services and programs to minimize duplication; a scoring system to determine who recipients of funds might be in the school system; and laying out the next steps of the committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM.