

Senate Education Committee

Minutes
2007



SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: January 9, 2007

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: Room 433

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Jorgenson, Bastian, Burkett and Malepeai

MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED: Senator Pearce

MINUTES: **Chairman Goedde** called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

Chairman Goedde requested that each member of the Committee state his educational and professional background and review issues he wishes to bring to the committee this session of the legislature.

Each Senator spoke of his educational and professional background and addressed issues he feels are of primary importance for this session.

Vice Chairman Fulcher spoke of a bill he will sponsor to clarify dual enrollment status.

Senator Schroeder suggested the Committee identify a core of practices that work and ask hard questions. **Chairman Goedde** requested committee members to help formulate strong, significant questions.

Senator Burkett spoke of education as an economic frontier in this time of expansion and said he feels that legislative funding will be a significant point of stress for this session.

Senator Malepeai sees a myriad of issues facing education today, including financial requirements and community college issues.

Senator Jorgenson spoke of his work with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and asked for a list of people from the state agencies who regularly attend these committee meetings, which he feels will help to ensure more meaningful communication between committee members and the agencies.

Senator Bastian reported his interest in professional-technical programs that provide the means for youth to be well-qualified for the workforce.

Senator Gannon would like to focus on the early childhood education issues, which will be continued from last session. He spoke of the challenges of working with a new Superintendent of Public Instruction and

the new personnel in that department .

Chairman Goedde introduced Mr. Calkins from Coeur d'Alene High School and mentioned that many students from Coeur d'Alene High School have served as legislative pages. He also introduced **Representative Robert Nonini**, Chairman of the House Education Committee, and invited him to join the Senate Education Committee meetings any time.

Chairman Goedde spoke of a meeting he had attended with the Associated Taxpayers of Idaho. A report from that association will help the Governor's office and legislators in the budgeting and appropriations process. He said the Governor's address referred to many education issues, which will be addressed by the new Governor, the new Superintendent of Public Instruction, and many new legislators.

Chairman Goedde reported on the Community Colleges Committee which he co-chaired this past summer. Eleven of the twenty-one recommendations developed by that committee were adopted. He would like to reinstate the topic of math and science scholarship incentives from last session.

Chairman Goedde then asked the individuals attending the meeting as observers to introduce themselves for the benefit of the committee members.

Vice Chairman Fulcher addressed the upcoming rules review and gave copies of the rules to committee members.

There being no further business, **Chairman Goedde** adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Senator John Goedde
Chairman

Jeanne Clayton
Secretary

Sandra Boyington
Assistant Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: January 10, 2007

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: Room 433

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Pearce, Jorgenson, Bastian, Burkett, and Malepeai

MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED: None

GUESTS: *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 Legislative Services Library.*

MINUTES: **Chairman Goedde** called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m. and introduced Mr. Rick Currie, Chairman of Kootenai County Commissioners. He then turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Fulcher** to open rules review.

08-0203-0607 Temporary rules realigning the rules for individuals with disabilities to match current law.

Vice Chairman Fulcher briefly outlined for committee members the difference between temporary and pending rules, stating that a temporary rule is currently in effect and remains in effect until it becomes a pending rule, at which time it is either approved by committee and sent to the Senate floor or it is rejected by the committee..

Ms. Luci Willits, Chief of Staff, Department of Education, outlined the purpose of this rule and called for questions. A discussion ensued, with questions posed by all committee members and answered by **Ms. Willits and Ms. Karen Echeverria**, Policy & Governmental Affairs Officer of the Idaho State Board of Education.

MOTION: After a thorough discussion, **Chairman Goedde** moved, seconded by **Senator Schroeder**, to table **Temporary Rule (Docket No. 08-0203-0607)** until committee members had availed themselves of the opportunity to review in depth the final draft of the document. The motion carried unanimously by **voice vote**.

08-0202-0601 Pending rules governing uniformity: Relating to school buses and operations.

After a lengthy interchange between committee members and **Ms. Willits** and **Echeverria**, it was determined that rule 08-0202-0601, and possibly

others to be reviewed, were not final drafts and could not be reviewed at this time.

MOTION: **Senator Malepeai** moved, seconded by **Senator Schroeder**, to table rules review until committee members are provided with current and correct versions. The motion was carried unanimously by **voice vote**.

Regarding the temporary rule **08-0203-0607**, **Senator Bastian** asked that **Ms. Echeverria** provide certification standards for the committee in memo form, which she promised to bring to the following day's meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: **Vice Chairman Fulcher** then returned the gavel to **Chairman Goedde**, who adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Senator John Goedde
Chairman

Jeanne Clayton
Secretary

Sandra Boyington
Assistant Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: January 11, 2007

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: Room 433

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Gannon, Bastian, and Burkett

**MEMBERS ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Senators Schroeder, Pearce, Jorgenson, and Malepeai

GUESTS: *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 Legislative Services Library.*

MINUTES: **Chairman Goedde** called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. and turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Fulcher** to open rules review.

08-0202-0601 **School Buses and Operations.** **Ms. Luci Willits**, Chief of Staff, Idaho Department of Education, provided information about **Rule 08-0202-0601**.

MOTION: There being no questions or discussion, **Senator Burkett** moved to approve **Rule 08-0202-0601**, seconded by **Senator Malepeai**. The motion carried by unanimous **voice vote**.

08-0203-0605 **Increasing Graduation Requirements.** **Vice Chairman Fulcher** explained that, because of an unavoidable conflict, four committee members were absent. Therefore, the vote on this rule will not be taken until there is a full membership. All testimony will be heard today, however.

Mr. Dwight Johnson, Idaho State Board of Education, addressed **Rule 08-0203-0605**, which increases the state minimum graduation requirements. **Mr. Johnson** said \$1.5 million will be requested to pay for professional development for math and science teachers and for expanded high school capacity to be completed by FY 2011. He said the Office of the Governor and several agencies, including State Department of Education, Idaho School Boards Association, Idaho Association of School Administrators, and Idaho Education Association, support this rule.

Committee members discussed the funding and schools affected by this rule change. Discussion followed about whether the Department of Education or the Governor's budget would carry any expenses and whether the Idaho Distance Learning Academy (IDLA) would share in this funding or expand their credit requirements.

TESTIMONY:

Mr. Richard Ledington, Director of Research, Idaho Division of Professional Technical Education, spoke in favor of **Rule 08-0203-0605** as it relates to increased graduation requirements.

Ms. Becky Young, Board of Directors for Idaho Parents, said this agency is in favor of increased graduation requirements. She added that even middle school students should begin preparation for increased graduation requirements. The Idaho PTA officially supports **Rule 08-0203-0605**.

Mr. Rob Winslow, Executive Director, Idaho Association of School Administrators, said his agency is in full support of increasing graduation requirements.

Mr. James Shakelford, Executive Director, Idaho Education Association, said his agency is in support of increased graduation requirements. He stressed importance of providing adequate funding for the necessary expansions and increased training for math and science teachers.

Dr. Clifford Green, Executive Director, Idaho School Boards Association, offered support of increased graduation requirements from that agency.

Mr. John Eikum, Executive Director, Idaho Rural Schools Association, encouraged continued support of the Idaho Distance Learning Academy as an important source for small schools not able to hire additional science and math teachers.

Vice Chairman Fulcher reiterated again that the vote on **Rule 08-0203-0605** will not take place until the other committee members are in attendance, at which time a roll-call vote will be held.

08-0202-0602

Acceptance of Out-Of-State Course Work for Teacher Certification.

Ms. Luci Willits, Chief of Staff, Idaho Department of Education, explained that **Rule 08-0202-0602** allows out-of-state course work for teacher certification, which will make it easier for qualified teachers to become employed in Idaho.

MOTION:

Chairman Goedde moved to approve **Rule 08-0202-0602**, Teacher Certification, seconded by **Senator Gannon**. The motion passed by unanimous **voice vote**.

08-0202-0603

Preparation of Teachers. **Ms. Luci Willits**, presented **Rule 08-0202-0603** and called for questions.

MOTION:

There being no questions or comments, **Senator Bastian** moved to approve **Rule 08-0202-0603**, seconded by **Vice Chairman Fulcher**. The motion passed by unanimous **voice vote**.

08-0203-0601

AYP Rewards. **Ms. Karen Echeverria**, Deputy Director of Idaho State Board of Education, presented **Rule 08-0203-061**, which gives State Department of Education authority to grant Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Rewards.

MOTION:

There being no questions or comments, **Senator Bastian** moved to approve **Rule 08-0203-0602**, seconded by **Senator Gannon**. The motion

passed by unanimous **voice vote**.

08-0203-0602

Curricular Standards. Ms. Luci Willits, addressed **Rule 08-0203-0602** and called for questions and comments. She presented a table of information incorporating facts about curricular standards. **Chairman Goedde** questioned the correctness of the Website listing and **Ms. Karen Echeverria** pointed out that the last Docket will standardize the Website listing.

MOTION:

There being no questions or comments, **Senator Burkett** moved to approve **Rule 08-0203-0602**, seconded by **Senator Bastian**. The motion carried by unanimous **voice vote**.

08-0203-0604

At-Risk Youth. Ms. Luci Willits discussed **Rule 08-0203-0604**. One purpose for this rule is to obtain reimbursement for students with limited English proficiency.

MOTION:

After a thorough question-and-answer period, **Senator Bastian** moved to approve **Rule 08-0203-0604**, seconded by **Senator Gannon**. **Senator Burkett** felt more clarification was needed relative to fiscal impact and **Senator Bastian's** withdrew the motion.

Vice Chairman Fulcher reiterated that voting on **Rule 08-0203-0605** will not be held until there is a full committee, at which time he returned the gavel back to **Chairman Goedde**.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Goedde adjourned the meeting at 4:40 p.m.

John Goedde
Chairman

Jeanne' Clayton
Secretary

Sandra Boyington
Assistant Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: January 15, 2007

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: Room 433

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Pearce, Bastian, Burkett, and Malepeai

MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED: Senator Jorgenson

GUESTS: *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 Legislative Services Library.*

MINUTES: **Senator Goedde** called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. and announced the next day's meeting will begin at 3:30. He gave the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Fulcher** to open the rules review.

RULES: **Temporary Rule:** Realigns the rules for individuals with disabilities to match current law. **Ms. Luci Willits**, Chief of Staff, Department of Education, took the podium to answer questions after committee members had reviewed the technical documents provided earlier.

08-0203-0607

Senator Schroeder had questions with respect to standards by reference. He asked if legislators had the legal right to adopt rules by reference and stressed the committee is adopting a rule by reference.

MOTION: **Senator Burkett** said he hadn't seen the new material on **Temporary Rule 08-0203-0607**. **Senator Schroeder** moved to set the rule aside for one more day to give **Senator Burkett** an opportunity to review the material. **Senator Gannon** seconded, and the motion carried by **voice vote**. **Chairman Goedde** voted **no**.

47-0102-0601 **Standards for Extended Employment Services.** **Ms. Lynn Fisher**, Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services, addressed **Rule 47-0102-0601**, stating the rule is similar to the one provided under the Department of Health & Welfare. She said providers of similar services were contacted, others were asked for input, and comments after incorporating suggestions were mostly positive.

Mr. Ron Enright, Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities, testified that the Council supports authority to promulgate the rules and generally agrees with the provisions provided in the rule, with the exception of Sections 100.02 and 100.04c and 100.04d.

A lengthy discussion regarding work, services available and providers of

service followed.

Senator Gannon asked how funds are allocated to the agency and if the money stays with the agency when a person moves. **Ms. Fisher** responded that the money set aside for that person stays with the agency with the person moves.

Senator Goedde asked about the difference in the rule now from when it was under Health & Welfare. **Mr. Enright** said they are very similar. **Senator Goedde** asked if Mr. Enright suggests we adopt the rule and work with the agency for future refinement. **Mr. Enright** said that he does suggest adoption, although he has issues. **Senator Goedde** asked **Ms. Fisher** if the agency will work with the Council and **Ms. Fisher** replied that they would.

Due to time constraints, testimony was limited to three minutes per person.

TESTIMONIES:

Mr. M.C. Niland, CEO of WITCO, said that these services are paid through the State's general fund.

Mr. John Bodden, Idaho Association of Community Rehabilitation, testified that, overall, the membership supports **Rule 47-0102-0601**, which promotes independence and self-reliance and allows individual choices.

Mr. Kelly Keele, Vocational Providers of Idaho, distributed materials regarding his agency's position, stating that most of the work centers on the providers and that client agency groups should become involved. He asked the committee to recommend increases in extended employment funds and to re-designate any additional funds.

Mr. James Moss, owner of Life's Work, said that agencies such as Life's Work are not able to participate in these services because of the lack of funding. He listed issues of budget, funding, and provider access as real concerns and said he believes **Rule 47-0102-0601** does not address these issues.

Senator Goedde asked **Mr. Moss** if he concurs with the adoption of **Rule 47-0102-0601** as it stands. **Mr. Moss** replied that he did concur.

Chairman Goedde and **Senators Gannon, Burkett, Bastian, and Schroeder** asked questions of Ms. Fisher relative to exclusion of agencies, funding limitations, statutory authority, and accreditation requirements.

TESTIMONIES:

Ms. Beth Cunningham, Director of Employment Services Vocational Providers of Idaho, testified that her agency supports **Rule 47-0102-0601**, but feels there should be more directive to work on issues as stated in previous testimonies.

Mr. Jim Baugh, Director of Comprehensive Advocacy, distributed material to the committee and said that his agency's position is the same

as **Mr. Enright's**. Mr. Baugh believes the committee should adopt the **Rule 47-0102-0601** with the exception of Section 100.02 and 100.04 b dealing with availability of funds. **Senator Schroeder** asked Mr. Baugh why he would not also reject Section 100.04 c, and **Mr. Baugh** replied that it should also be rejected.

Senator Goedde questioned why no one appeared to voice dissent when the State Board of Education took up the rule. Discussion was had about the opportunity for public testimony. **Ms. Karen Echeverria**, Deputy Director, State Board of Education, said there was an open line that was always available to the public. **Senators Malepaei** and **Gannon** agreed there are budget and accounting questions that should be addressed.

MOTION: **Senator Gannon** moved to approve **Rule 47-0102-0601**, as written, seconded by **Senator Goedde**. **Senator Schroeder** suggested the rule could become a temporary rule for now until the issues concerning Sections 100.02 and 100.04 c and d are corrected.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Senator Schroeder** made a substitute motion that **Rule 47-0102-0601** be adopted with the exception of Sections 100.02 and 100.04 c and d, approving all other parts of the rule. Discussion followed and a roll call vote was taken on the substitute motion, which passed five to three. **Chairman Goedde**, **Vice Chairman Fulcher**, and **Senator Gannon** were the dissenting votes.

08-0202-0604 **Teacher Endorsements.** **Ms. Luci Willits** reviewed changes to **Rule 08-0202-0604**.

TESTIMONY: **Ms. Jan Sylvester**, parent, spoke in favor of the rule.

MOTION: There being no other questions or comments, **Senator Schroeder** moved to approve **Rule 08-0202-0604**, seconded by **Chairman Goedde**. The motion passed unanimously by **voice vote**.

08-0203-0604 **At-Risk Youth.** **Ms. Luci Willits** addressed the fiscal impact of **Rule 08-0203-0604**. She explained that \$600 per student per class had been allocated.

MOTION: After a brief question-and-answer period, **Chairman Goedde** moved to accept **Rule 08-0203-0604** as written, seconded by **Senator Burkett**. The motion carried by unanimous **voice vote**.

08-0203-0605 **Increasing High School Graduation Requirements.** **Vice Chairman Fulcher** asked **Mr. Dwight Johnson**, State Board of Education, to summarize **Rule 08-0203-0605**, which had been presented to the committee at a previous meeting. **Mr. Johnson** summarized the rule and stood for questions. **Senators Pearce, Bastian, and Schroeder** asked about: requirements in other states, number of electives available to the students, and adoption of the rule by reference with respect to course work. **Vice Chairman Fulcher** said nothing in the rule was incorporated by reference.

MOTION: **Senator Bastian** moved to approve **Rule 08-0203-0605** as written, seconded by **Senator Gannon**. Discussion followed.

VOTE: A roll call vote was taken, **Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Jorgenson, Bastian, Burkett and Malepeai** voting to approve **Rule 08-0203-0605, Senator Pearce** voting no.

ADJOURNMENT: **Vice Chairman Fulcher** returned the gavel to **Chairman Goedde**, who adjourned the meeting at 5:10 p.m.

John Goedde
Chairman

Jeanne' Clayton
Secretary

Sandra Boyington
Assistant Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: January 16, 2007

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

PLACE: Room 433

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Goedde, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Pearce, Jorgenson, Bastian, Burkett, and Malepeai

MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED: Vice Chairman Fulcher

GUESTS: *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 Legislative Services Library.*

MINUTES: **Chairman Goedde** called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. He mentioned that each year Tim Hill, Chief, Education Bureau of Finance, made a presentation on school finance to this committee. **Chairman Goedde** asked **Senator Bastian**, since he is new to the committee, if he would be interested in that presentation. **Senator Bastian** said he would, and **Chairman Goedde** said he would get it scheduled.

Chairman Goedde drew attention to an e-mail which he included in committee packets for review. He recommended that if any committee member knows of something major coming to a meeting that the chairman does not know about, please give notice ahead of time so he can schedule and plan the meeting accordingly.

Mr. Tom Luna, newly elected State Superintendent of Public Instruction, spoke to the committee about the new structure for the Department of Education. He introduced new staff members and expressed confidence in his new staff and new plans. **Tim Hill**, Chief of Bureau of Finance, will remain in his present position. Preparation of the 2007-08 budget for the State Department of Education is almost complete and will be presented to this committee on January 25. **Cindy Johnston**, recently honored as National Math and Science Teacher of The Year, has been hired by the Department as Math Coordinator.

Committee members discussed with **Mr. Luna** his campaign promises and how they align with the new structure of the department. **Senator Schroeder** expressed concern about the struggles of rural schools and asked how **Mr. Luna** plans to meet their needs. **Mr. Luna** stated budget will include an initiative for rural schools and studies of other issues that may reduce costs. He believes his Department's success will be measured by their ability to work with this committee and the legislators.

Senator Pearce asked if the Math Initiative will be continued. **Mr. Luna** believes that there is a need to focus on Math and it will be an item included in the new budget. Budget requests to be discussed on January 25 will be for seed money to develop the math initiative, to identify teacher training and what will be needed for remediation. Funds will also be used to identify scientific studies that show what students should be able to do in Math.

Senator Gannon asked **Mr. Luna** to discuss how offering choices to parents for the education of their children will affect small communities and how he plans to avoid damage to the very center of the community. Rural schools that offer virtual schools, Idaho Distance Learning Academy (IDLA) are giving parents more choices for educating their children. In other states charter schools in rural districts are giving more choices without affecting the public school system. **Mr. Luna** emphasized that he is not in favor of educating one child at the expense of another. As they move forward with the planning, they will make sure that is not happening.

Senator Gannon asked about facilitating the process for Charter Schools to reduce the time of set up. **Mr. Luna** believes the statutes in place have solved some of the issues and the Department will be committed to keeping down the bureaucracy and red tape for citizens who believe they want to start a charter school.

There was discussion regarding Indian education. **Mr. Luna** said he believes the committee will understand the Department's position better after his presentation of the budget.

Mr. Luna spoke before the leadership of the Idaho Education Association (IEA) and was warmly received. He will continue his efforts to make positive contact with all stakeholders in the education process.

Senator Schroeder asked **Mr. Luna** if he intends to make any changes in the statutes governing continuing contracts and collective bargaining. **Mr. Luna** said there are no plans for changes in this area at this time.

Chairman Goedde thanked **Mr. Luna** for his remarks and invited him to the committee meetings at any time.

08-0203-0607

Temporary Rule: Realigns the Rules for Individuals with Disabilities to Match Current Law. **Ms. Luci Willits**, Chief of Staff, Department of Education, presented **Temporary Rule 08-0203-0607**.

MOTION:

There being no questions or comments, **Senator Schroeder** moved to approve **Temporary Rule 08-0203-0607**, seconded by **Senator Gannon**. The motion passed unanimously by **voice vote**.

08-0203-0606

English Language Development Standards, Limited English Proficiency Accountability Plan, ISAT, and IELA Cut Scores. **Ms. Karen Echeverria**, Deputy Director, State Board of Education, presented **Rule 08-0203-0606**, and stood for questions and discussion from committee members. **Ms. Echeverria** pointed out that the last Docket will

standardize the Website. She said they have not received any negative comments about this rule. **Dr. Clifford Green**, Executive Director of Idaho School Boards Association, stated that agency supports the rule. **Mr. James Shakelford**, Executive Director of Idaho Education Association, stated that agency supports the rule.

MOTION: There being no further questions or comments, **Senator Jorgenson** moved to approve **Rule 08-0203-0606**, seconded by **Senator Pearce**. The motion passed by unanimous **voice vote**.

08-0401-0601 **Idaho Digital Learning Academy. Ms. Donna Vakili**, Director of Idaho Distance Learning Academy (IDLA), discussed **Rule 08-0401-0601**.

MOTION: There being no questions or comments, **Senator Pearce** moved to approve **Rule 08-0401-0601**, seconded by **Senator Jorgenson**. The motion passed unanimously by **voice vote**.

ADJOURNMENT **Chairman Goedde** adjourned the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

John Goedde
Chairman

Jeanne' Clayton
Secretary

Sandra Boyington
Assistant Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** January 17, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Gold Room
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Pearce, Bastian, and Burkett
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** Senators Jorgenson and Malepeai
- GUESTS:** *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 Legislative Services Library.*
- MINUTES:** **Chairman Goedde** called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m. He introduced attorneys **Mr. William von Tagen** and **Ms. Elaine Eberharter-Maki** and invited them to present information on the legal ramifications of classroom discipline for special needs students, and others also.
- Mr. von Tagen** spoke of specific sanctions authorized by Idaho Statute for unruly pupils, harassment issues, and drug and alcohol-related problems. **Ms. Eberharter-Maki** discussed procedures to determine the child's disability, to discover whether the behavior problems are a result of the disability and responsibilities of school districts for educating these children even under the most difficult situations. Certain criteria must be on record regarding the disability. An Individual Education Program (IEP) is developed by a team of professionals that describes the services to be provided by the school district for each qualifying student. In discipline issues, law enforcement may be called if necessary, but expulsion may not be a possibility, depending on the IEP and the services required for the child's disability.
- Mr. von Tagen** and **Ms. Eberharter-Maki** discussed legal issues pertaining to classroom discipline, disabilities, and educating children with special needs and answered questions from committee members.
- Chairman Goedde** introduced a panel of educators present to discuss behavior problems and issues in special needs students and others also. Members of the panel included **Mr. Rod Lowe**, Principal, Vallivue Middle School; **Ms. Alyssa Carter**, Special Education Administrator, Kuna School District; **Ms. Anne Ritter**, Trustee, Meridian School Board; **Ms. Diane Phillips**, Teacher at Lewiston School District; **Ms. Debbie Bevans**, Teacher at Snake River Schools, and **Mr. John Sharkey**, Teacher at Parma High School. Members of this panel each spoke of their experiences and needs in their individual districts. All agreed more

resources are needed to prepare beginning teachers for improved classroom management. Students with special needs and disability-related discipline problems require trained professionals such as certified special education teachers, resource officers, and counselors. As in the case with small districts, fewer resources are available while they are experiencing an increased special needs population. Students with disabilities will also have higher achievements in a structured, well-managed classroom. The panel members each emphasized the need for teacher training, whether it be for experienced staff or at the college level for student teachers.

Chairman Goedde called for questions from the committee to the panel.

Committee members asked questions about needed resources, mentoring programs, discipline styles, such as the Safe Harbor method, and parental involvement. Panel members responded by stating their needs for teacher training to improve classroom management, mentoring programs and additional professional personnel such as resource officers and counselors.

In response to questions from the committee with regard to discipline styles, panel members talked about the Safe Harbor method which is used in some charter schools. Panel members agreed it can be successful for some children but actually aggravates certain problems for other children. Students coming back to public education have had difficulties because of poor methods of discipline. **Senator Schroeder** said he found this information interesting in that the legislature is being asked to expand charter schools. "After hearing about the Harbor method and its results, I am disquieted and wonder if we have institutionalized taxpayer-funded abuse of our children," continued **Senator Schroeder**.

Panel members agreed that all children who are treated with respect by teachers, administrators and other students are easier to manage.

Committee members brought up examples of how certain age groups are attracted to gangs. The questions and discussion were directed at how to discourage the psychological attraction to gangs and encourage children to engage in diversified interests offered through their schools.

The increasing Hispanic population makes it critical to learn the culture of people from Mexico or from the southern states. Teacher training should include how to interact with children from generations of poverty and low self-esteem.

The discussion closed after comments from the committee and the panel relative to teacher training. More efficient use of current resources and on-the-job training are both essential. Universities must prepare students of education for the classroom with training in discipline, classroom management and caring for students with special needs.

Chairman Goedde thanked the panel for their contribution and participation in the dialogue. Next day's meeting will be a teleconference

at 3:00 p.m. on the topics of School Safety and Classroom Management and will be held in the Senate Caucus room.

Chairman Goedde adjourned the meeting at 4:40 p.m.

John Goedde
Chairman

Jeanne' Clayton
Secretary

Sandra Boyington
Assistant Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** January 18, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Senate Caucus Room
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Pearce, Jorgenson, Bastian, Burkett, and Malepeai
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** None
- GUESTS:** *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 Legislative Services Library.*
- MINUTES:** **Chairman Goedde** called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and introduced **Dr. Richard Burdugo**, Senior Program Specialist, National Education Association Division of Human and Civil Rights, who was available from Washington D.C. by teleconference. Dr. Burdugo's area of expertise is school safety.
- Mr. Jim Shackelford** distributed copies of Dr. Burdugo's "Safe School Manual" for committee members and interested attendees. **Dr. Burdugo** outlined ways to make schools safer, including the establishment of a School Safety Committee, implementation of crisis management plans, and assessment of data. He also recommended involving community groups and government and community agencies and organizations.
- Dr. Burdugo** said that the keys to safe schools are: reducing family violence, creating positive behavior models, encouraging parental support for children, and helping education employees to become more aware of parents' roles in educating children.
- Questions were posed by **Chairman Goedde, and Senators Gannon, Bastian, and Burkett**, who asked about the effectiveness of creating a community environment in larger urban schools, creating "schools-within-a-school," creating academies in smaller schools, schools that become community centers, and the involvement of at-risk parents.
- Dr. Burdugo** informed the committee that additional information on school safety can be found on the Internet at www.NEA.org.
- Chairman Goedde** asked about the problem of gangs. **Dr. Burdugo** said that school grounds are prime areas for recruiting gang members. When kids feel they're not a part of a family they join gangs to become part of that 'family.'
- Discussion ensued on the benefits of involving middle school students in

after-school programs, such as basketball and other positive activities.

Chairman Goedde thanked **Dr. Burdugo** for his valuable input and introduced **Linda James**, Senior Program Specialist for the National Education Association, who was also available by teleconference from Washington D. C. Materials on Classroom Management and Discipline were distributed to committee members and interested observers. Key points of Ms. James' presentation included: building community, establishing norms and rules, practicing classroom procedures, handling conflict, and sharing authority and responsibility. She said that teachers need to actively engage students in learning and encourage self-regulation and community at the beginning of the school year.

Ms. James stressed the importance of mentors for all new teachers, along with time for the mentor to observe the new teacher in the classroom and provide feedback. She said the ultimate goal of all professional development should be to increase student achievement.

Questions were asked by **Chairman Goedde**, **Senators Burkett, Bastian**, and **Gannon** regarding budgeting, classroom management, and early establishment of rules and routines, all of which were answered fully by **Ms. James**.

Chairman Goedde thanks Ms. James for her thorough report, at which time the teleconference was concluded.

Chairman Goedde reminded committee members of the materials contained in their blue folders.

MOTION: **Senator Gannon** moved that the Senate Education meeting minutes for **January 9, 10, and 11**, be approved as written, **Senator Jorgenson** seconded, and the motion carried unanimously by **voice vote**.

ADJOURN: **Chairman Goedde** adjourned the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

Senator John Goedde
Chairman

Jeanne Clayton
Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: January 22, 2007

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: Gold Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Pearce, Jorgenson, Bastian, and Burkett

MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED: Senator Malepeai

GUESTS: *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 Legislative Services Library.*

MINUTES: **Chairman Goedde** called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Administrators from five Idaho colleges appeared before the committee in response to a request for information about the quality of teacher education provided in Idaho colleges. **Chairman Goedde** asked that committee members hold their questions until the presentations are complete.

Dr. Diane Boothe, Dean, College of Education at Boise State University, used the Mission Statement and Vision Statement as a starting point to review the realignment of requirements addressed by Boise State University College of Education. A higher GPA requirement, professional development in several different school settings, and mentoring with highly qualified teachers are presently in practice. **Dr. Boothe** gave statistics on students completing various programs.

Dr. Jann Hill, Chair for the Division of Education, Lewis & Clark State College, summarized what Lewis & Clark is doing to ensure that the education provided to students of teacher education make them more qualified to survive in today's classroom. She emphasized the program's strengths, such as establishing rigorous entrance requirements, requiring special education classes for all candidates, and providing additional classes in math methods and content to increase math skills for elementary candidates. **Dr. Hill** reported their institution also places emphasis on meeting the needs of rural schools by increasing access to endorsements and certifications through the use of distance learning, by designing a special education major using distance learning, and by making new pathways to alternate certifications. **Dr. Hill** said administrators of Idaho colleges meet once a month to review procedures and practices that will enhance the teacher education programs. Committee members are invited to attend.

Dr. Paul Rowland, Dean of College of Education, University of Idaho, discussed their teacher preparation programs. He is aware of the criticisms of teacher education and pointed out that GPA's are higher and most of the teacher education students are in the top quarter of their class. A teacher education task force prepared two large studies helping administrators to better prepare teachers for today's classrooms. The College of Education has expanded the breadth of content for elementary teachers, and they have initiated a tutoring program. The University has also placed emphasis on teacher education in professional technical fields including Agriculture, Business, and Marketing.

Dr. Dennis Cartwright, Director of Education Programs, Albertson College of Idaho, said student teachers need more experience in schools and real situations to become better prepared for their first classroom. Students of education are now able to receive additional training in assessment and accountability, learning how to apply and use the results of the standardized testing programs. Classrooms are becoming more diverse and the college developed new curriculum to address diverse populations and differences in culture. Another new course is being offered to focus on teaching exceptional children and special needs students. **Dr. Cartwright** will prepare a report this Spring focusing on information received from school administrators about the quality of candidates they are now hiring for first-year teaching positions, what characteristics they are looking for in new teachers, and how this is different than it was five years ago. This data will be compiled in an evaluation and assessment report by the end of the year. **Dr. Cartwright** said he would be happy to share the information with this committee.

Mr. John Hughes, Chairman of the Education Department, College of Southern Idaho, spoke about their efforts to develop an effective curriculum for students of education, emphasizing professionalism and diversity. The college has strengthened the area of field experience by increasing the number of required hours. Master teachers at various locations are being identified and asked to provide feedback on mentoring programs and enhanced student teacher training. Suggestions for improving teacher training include recruiting pre-service teachers at an earlier age, developing common entrance requirements and offering scholarships and other incentives to enter the education programs.

Senator Goedde thanked the presenters for their contribution and invited questions from the committee.

Committee members asked if student teachers are receiving adequate training in classroom discipline. Panel members discussed and agreed that mentoring programs are crucial for training beginning teachers, at least in the first three years of teaching. Mentors help new teachers apply their very basic student teacher training. **Vice Chairman Fulcher** asked how colleges can assess the quality of graduates and how they gain feedback on their programs. Panel members said they contact former graduates, who are now teachers in the field, typically when they are in their third year of teaching to get feedback from them.

Dr. Diane Booth informed the committee that BSU is scheduled for an accreditation review in the Spring of 2008. They will demonstrate in the review that teachers are doing an excellent job in the classroom and the students are demonstrating gains. The college will conduct surveys and have informal conversations with teachers and administrators to document this information.

Senator Schroeder drew attention to the book School Reform by Donald C. Orlich. He asked panel members to comment on the possibility that policy makers and educators may not be moving in the same direction and if that is why policy makers may not believe education is as good as it should be. **Dr. Rowland** responded with ideas on how to present accountability. Possibly educators did not do a very good job in the early '90's on responding to questions regarding accountability and, therefore, people outside education and outside the colleges of education designed the way we are to be accountable. Educators need to come up with measurable and preferable ways to determine classroom achievement. **Dr. Cartwright** stated that educators have not provided information to policy makers that they could understand, that accountability has come around to us in the form of statewide tests, which are not perfect measures. We need to help people understand what are the strengths and weaknesses of statewide testing.

Questions and discussion centered around training in methodology and motivation. The student teacher experience is crucial in preparing beginning teachers. College administrators are working to develop strategies to increase math and science skills in new teachers. They are looking at national standards and incorporating research. Master teachers provide very effective training as mentors to beginning teachers. Feedback is gained from beginning teachers and mentors when they are involved in the field work experience.

Chairman Goedde thanked the panel for their time and expertise.

Chairman Goedde introduced **Jerry Davis**, Executive Director of the Idaho State Dental Association, and **Dr. Rich Bailey**, a dentist who is presenting on a project they believe will promote good dental health in young children. **Dr. Bailey's** ambition is to encourage elementary children to begin flossing their teeth at an earlier age. They have designed a project for elementary classrooms to begin children in the life-long habit of good dental prevention methods. **Dr. Bailey** is asking for a concurrent resolution from the Senate and the House of Representatives supporting this endeavor to gain credibility and help him gain corporate support.

Chairman Goedde said **Dr. Bailey** has made the same presentation to the House, and he will talk to **Representative Nonini**, Chairman of the House Education Committee, about developing a concurrent resolution.

Chairman Goedde thanked **Dr. Bailey** and adjourned the meeting at 5:15

p.m.

John Goedde
Chairman

Jeanne' Clayton
Secretary

Sandra Boyington
Assistant Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** January 23, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Gold Room
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Jorgenson, Bastian, and Malepeai
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** Senators Pearce and Burkett
- GUESTS:** *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 Legislative Services Library.*
- MINUTES:** **Chairman Goedde** called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and referred committee members to items of interest in their packets.
- Presentation:** **Mr. Eric Hirsch**, Executive Director at the Center for Teaching Quality in Hillsboro, North Carolina, presented on measuring the quality of teachers today. Many teachers prepared in Idaho are teaching in other states, whereas many of the Idaho teachers were prepared out of state. Their training in other states may not address what is required in Idaho classrooms.
- Chairman Goedde** asked if information is available that shows the number of Idaho graduates who go to other states to teach. **Mr. Hirsch** said the State Department of Education may collect similar data, but only three states collect and process that data well. Most assessments include what the teacher knows about teaching and where they need to strengthen their skills.
- Considerable research speaks to whether teaching is a craft or a profession and what needs to be done to prepare a classroom teacher. Professional development schools and K-12 staff and university faculties must have common goals for teacher preparation. Professional development for teachers integrated with the faculty at the schools where they are teaching produces the best training results.
- Schools of professional development are recognizing that *how* one teaches may matter more than *what* is being taught. Universities should get credit and recognition for improving teacher quality as an incentive to meet the performance based standards. Universities and K-12 need to work together on placement because teacher candidates who are exposed to the parents and the community where they are going to teach

are going to have more effective management of their classroom.

In response to a question, **Mr. Hirsch** provided clarification to statistics in the handout claiming that fewer teachers leave the profession if they are adequately trained, in comparison to those teachers who receive little training.

A recent survey of college alumni revealed that student teachers are not prepared to cope with this world. All statistics show that collaboration between the administration of K-12 and higher education would provide assistance to both groups. In terms of applying the training to struggling students, critics do not feel teachers are adequately prepared and the current teachers themselves do not feel adequately prepared. They believe in more practical training and more student teaching.

Senator Gannon observed that life experiences and maturity provide the ability to handle problems in general and wondered if this phenomenon is unique to education or is it life in general.

Mr. Hirsch responded that the key is whether or not there is a research base unique to teaching. We need to know what is required from that body of knowledge and what skills are needed to be successful on the job. Programs should address quality as well as quantity. Candidates must be highly qualified as well as diversified. Accreditation and certification requirements can be used to demand course work, partnerships, and technology assessments. It is essential that all teachers have experience working with students before they are placed in a classroom.

Continuous improvement of teacher preparation will depend on what data system is adopted in Idaho. Surveys done at the state level will provide information relative to what the state needs for improving teacher training. He stressed the importance of bringing K-12 and universities together in a systematic way to communicate to universities what is needed to better prepare the teaching staff.

Chairman Goedde thanked **Mr. Hirsch** for his presentation and opened the discussion to questions.

Committee members posed several questions to **Mr. Hirsch**, to which he provided additional information regarding teacher certification, installation of a data base, and the quality of training provided at the university level.

PANEL:

Chairman Goedde introduced a panel of teachers and administrators with varied backgrounds and experience.

Mr. John Cook, Secondary Principal, said he represents the small schools. He recommends a longer student-teaching session with successful veteran teachers and expanded knowledge on the use of assessments, along with a stronger understanding of discipline and classroom organization.

Mr. Byron Yankey, with 32 years as a veteran teacher, said that knowing how to interact with the student is essential. More one-on-one experience will better prepare teachers for the classroom. Students of education need more hands-on experience, more hours of classroom observation and longer sessions of student teaching with a master teacher as a coach and mentor.

Mr. Rod Wray, supervisor of student teachers and 11-year veteran teacher, spoke about classroom training for student teachers, who are now required to have 50 hours of observation before going into a classroom.

Ms. Katie Stimpson, two-year elementary teacher, discussed her training and attributes her dedication to her experience as an assistant in a private kindergarten. She finished a course in special education and considers the course very valuable because of the focus on students with Individual Education Plans (IEP).

Mr. Jason Huff, first-year teacher, discussed his student teacher training and the challenges he faces in his first classroom.

Ms. Emilie Garcia, elementary teacher, works long hours and considers the time she has to collaborate with other teachers essential to her success.

A question-and-answer period ensued between committee members and the panel. The educators agreed that supervision of a master teacher in a well-managed mentor program is invaluable. They suggested that retired teachers can be another valuable source of experience and guidance. Panel members recognize the need for continuing professional development to meet teachers challenges with a new group of children each year. Special education and students with special needs requires additional training and dedication.

ADJOURNMENT: **Chairman Goedde** thanked the panel members for their contribution and adjourned the meeting at 4:52 p.m.

John Goedde
Chairman

Jeanne' Clayton
Secretary

Sandra Boyington
Assistant Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** January 24, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Room 433
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Pearce, Jorgenson, Bastian, and Malepeai
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** Senator Burkett
- GUESTS:** *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 Legislative Services Library.*
- MINUTES:** **Chairman Goedde** called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and brought attention to an email communication from Carolyn Mauer of Rolling Hills Public Charter School inviting members to visit that school. Committee members expressed an interest in doing so. **Senator Schroeder** asked if it would be possible to visit Hidden Springs. **Chairman Goedde** said he would make an inquiry.
- RS 16648** **Relating to correcting inequity between out-of-state and Idaho first-grade enrollment criteria.** **Chairman Goedde** introduced **Senator Broadsword**, who explained the rationale for **RS 16648**. She said that Idaho Code currently states that a child who is not six years old by the first of September, but who has attended a private out-of-state kindergarten, is eligible to attend first grade in Idaho, which is not the case for children attending Idaho kindergartens. This bill would allow students to attend public first grade when the time is right, whether they attend kindergarten in Idaho or another state. There will be no impact to the general fund.
- MOTION:** After a brief question-and-answer period, **Senator Fulcher** moved that **RS 16648** be sent to print as written, **Senator Bastian** seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved by **voice vote**.
- RS 16747** **To correct a federal funding shortfall caused by the failure to re-authorize Craig-Wyden funding.** **Chairman Goedde** turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Fulcher** while he presented **RS 16747**. Senator Goedde referred to detailed information included in committee members' folders. He said the bill sends a message to Congress to take another look at the authorization. In a response to questions by **Senator Malepeai**, **Senator Goedde** replied that (1) Senator Craig had tried for an extension but had been unsuccessful, and (2) the greatest fiscal impact is to central and northern Idaho.

Senator Schroeder asked if the lost funds should not be coming from the federal government. **Senator Goedde** replied that the resolution is an attempt to get those funds released. The replacement of those funds is a separate issue, which should be taken up by this committee another time.

MOTION: **Senator Schroeder** moved that **RS 16747** be sent to print and go directly to the Senate floor, **Senator Jorgenson** seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by **voice vote**.

Presentation: **Chairman Goedde** took the gavel and introduced **Mr. Ryan Sargent**, Idaho State University Student Body President. Idaho State University. Mr. Sargent expressed support for a state-wide small scholarship program proposed by university presidents during the summer along with the State Board of Education. He also expressed support for the idea of putting merit requirements on those scholarships. **Chairman Goedde** observed there are four or five scholarship bills out at the moment and thanked Mr. Sargent for his presentation.

Presentation: **Governor's Budget Review.** **Mr. Randy Tilley** took the podium to explain the Governor's recommendation for public school support for fiscal 2008, referring to his spreadsheet included in committee members' folders, and explaining the format of his spreadsheet **Chairman Goedde** asked if the figures were annualized and Mr. Tilley said that they were. **Mr. Tilley** then described each line item of the Governor's recommendations for fiscal year 2008. Under General Funds, the Governor is recommending \$1,362,363,800 for public school support for FY '08.

Chairman Goedde asked how much of the transportation budget results from waivers that have been granted by the State Board of Education for money that was spent over the cap. Mr. Tilley did not have the breakdown specifically to those waivers but said that Mr. Hill will include this information in his presentation later in the month.

Senator Schroeder asked about the difference between the Governor's recommendation and Superintendent Luna's. **Mr. Tilley** said the Governor's recommendations had not been modified since late December or early January when information was still incoming. Mr. Tilley observed that any difference between the Governor's and Superintendent Luna's budgets will be worked out between their respective offices.

Senator Pearce asked how the 5% increase to all state employees would affect this budget. **Mr. Tilley** said there would be no impact on the public school support budget and explained the different benefit packages for public school support and other state employees.

Questions were asked concerning estimated support units for fiscal year 2008 and certain discrepancies in numbers, along with school facilities match, which were explained by **Mr. Tilley**.

Senator Jorgenson asked how revenues from Indian gambling were collected. **Mr. Tilley** said there is no separate provision for Indian gaming revenues and no separate breakdown had been made. After a brief

discussion, **Chairman Goedde** and **Senator Schroeder** both observed that distribution of gaming revenues is at the discretion of the tribal organizations and that they make those awards in the form of grants. **Chairman Goedde** observed that it would be worthwhile to learn how those funds are dispersed.

Chairman Goedde asked about the balance in the public education stabilization fund. **Mr. Tilley** replied that the figure was approximately \$112 million with interest earnings accruing regularly.

In answer to questions about dual-versus-concurrent enrollment, **Ms. Karen Echeverria**, Policy and Governmental Affairs Officer for the Idaho State Board of Education, explained the difference and said her office plans to bring legislation before the Committee to clarify this point.

Discussion was had regarding funds for textbooks and supplies. **Senator Bastian** commented on remediation monies, which the Governor plans to separate from technology monies to allow for more equitable dispersal.

Senator Jorgenson asked if funds were set aside for mentoring. **Mr. Tilley** replied they were not, but that schools may use their discretionary dollars for that purpose if they wish.

Presentation:

Ms. Jane McClaran, Senior Financial Management Analyst in the Governor's office, referred to the spreadsheet in committee members' folders and reviewed major items, including: Inflation for Health Education Programs, Replacement Capital Outlay, Interagency Nonstandard Adjustments, Employee Compensation, and Nondiscretionary Adjustments for Community Colleges and Pro-Tech Education for secondary professional technical schools. The Governor recommends an additional \$15 million one-time money for the Higher Education Research Council (HERC).

Senator Schroeder asked about language that would define guidelines for dispersal of the HERC funds. **Ms. McClaran** explained that the university presidents sit on the council and determine how the funds are allocated in a competitive process.

Regarding nursing, three separate budgets are included in the Governor's recommendation, all of which are one-time monies. **Ms. McClaran** deferred questions until February 1, when she is scheduled to present to the committee specifically on nursing.

A lengthy discussion ensued concerning \$5 million recommended for seed money for a new community college, should there be one. **Senator Goedde** asked if this additional \$5 million is bonus money or if it is intended to be allocated above the splits that the current community colleges now receive. **Ms. McClaran** attempted to answer the question, aided by **Mr. Jeff Shinn** and **Mr. Tilley**.

Ultimately, **Ms. McClaran** agreed to provide the committee with additional information to clarify this part of the Governor's budget.

ADJOURN: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Senator John Goedde
Chairman

Jeanne Clayton
Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** January 25, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Room 433
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Jorgenson, Bastian, and Malepeai
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** Senators Pearce and Burkett
- GUESTS:** *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 Legislative Services Library.*
- MINUTES:** **Chairman Goedde** called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. and introduced Mark Browning from the Idaho State Board of Education, who was sitting in for **Ms. Karen Echeverria**.
- PRESENTATION:** **Ms. Sherri Wood**, President of the Idaho Education Association, gave a short presentation on the legislative study guide. **Ms. Wood** said that approximately 85 educators from across the state are present in the Capitol today. They are concerned about having adequate and stable funding to provide an education to all children.
- MOTION:** **RS 16723 - Relating to Recommendations on how to achieve equity for students seeking pro-tech education in Idaho**
- RS 16558 - To recognize American Sign Language as a separate language with its own grammar and syntax**
- RS 16559 - To encourage legislature to recognize the unique educational needs of children who are deaf or hard of hearing**
- Senator Schroeder** moved that **RS 16723**, sponsored by **Senator Goedde**, and **RS 16558** and **RS 16559**, both sponsored by **Senator Jorgenson**, be sent for printing. The motion was seconded by **Senator Malepeai**. **Senator Jorgenson** mentioned individuals in attendance who wished to testify on the two RS's relating to the hard of hearing. **Chairman Goedde** observed that a better time for testimonies to be heard would be when the associated bills come before the committee. The motion to send **RS 16723**, **RS 16558**, and **RS 16559** to printing was approved unanimously by **voice vote**.

PRESENTATION:

Mr. Tom Luna, Superintendent of Public Education, presented his proposed budget for education FY 2007-08. He said that members of JFAC, teachers, members of the minority party, and staff in the Governor's office were consulted to help compile the figures. Mr. Luna compared what students need now to graduate and what will be needed in the long term. The \$1.28 million budget provides for a 3 percent increase in salaries for teachers, administrators and classified employees and raises the beginning salary for teachers to \$31,000. The proposed pilot for the salary increase for teachers would be based on pay-for-performance.

Remediation, the centerpiece of the budget, focuses on student performance. He hopes to appropriate \$5.1 million for classroom supplies and \$10 million for textbooks. He asked for a three-year pilot period for those students who failed the ISAT three years in a row. The remediation budget and technology budget will not be combined as in the past. The budget for technology will remain \$9.8 million with an additional \$6 million budgeted for remediation.

The budget will pay for six college credits for high school juniors and seniors who have a qualifying level on the ISAT and are participating in a dual enrollment program. He supports the Governor's scholarship endowment plan and believes this will raise the number of high school graduates who pursue college educations.

'Gifted and talented' funds are increased to \$500,000, which will help teachers with professional development, as well as enable teachers and students to meet increased graduation requirements. The classroom enhancement package returns some control of discretionary money to the districts, which is the key to local control.

The budget provides \$350,000 seed money for the math initiative. To ensure safer schools, this budget also includes \$150,000 to conduct a security review of school buildings.

The Idaho Digital Learning Academy (IDLA) will have access to more than 85 courses; recommended funding is \$1.8 million.

An amount of \$100,000 is set aside for a rural schools initiative to help pay for qualified teachers, resources, needs for disabled students, and encouraging parental involvement.

Committee members asked several questions that compared Superintendent Luna's budget to the Governor's budget, including the five percent merit pay increase for teachers, recommended by the Governor, and Mr. Luna's recommended three percent performance pay for all employees. **Mr. Luna** further explained that his budget and the budget from the Governor is only \$20 million apart. As the information becomes more current and needs surface, the recommendations will be almost the same.

Chairman Goedde questioned the percentage of increase for

administrators as opposed to the three percent for teacher salaries.

Senator Jorgenson spoke to the reportedly low percentage of Idaho students who attend college, expressing his feeling that this percentage is actually higher than is being reported. **Mr. Luna** agreed and urged support for a suitable student tracking program.

Mr. Luna was asked about funding for mentors, ISIMS and new technology to develop a similar tracking system, and the classroom supply budget. At Mr. Luna's request, **Mr. Tim Hill**, Chief of Bureau of Finance, Department of Education, reviewed the connection of lottery money to the 2006 statute for funding facilities maintenance.

Further discussion ensued on remediation, about the cost of college credits used in the calculation for the IDLA budget. **Mr. Dwight Johnson**, Director, State Board of Education, reviewed that agency's proposal for a math initiative, which was over \$1 million, whereas **Mr. Luna's** budget request is \$350,000.

Questions followed as to: funding classroom supplies, ISAT remediation costs, college enrollment, a data base for college students and alumni, and maintenance funding in districts that have new buildings presently no need of maintenance.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Goedde thanked Superintendent Luna for his presentation, and adjourned the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

John Goedde
Chairman

Jeanne' Clayton
Secretary

Sandra Boyington,
Assistant Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** January 29, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Room 433
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Pearce, Jorgenson, Bastian, Burkett, and Malepeai
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** None
- GUESTS:** *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 Legislative Services Library.*
- MINUTES:** **Chairman Goedde** called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.
- Presentation:** **Mr. Kent Propst**, Vice President for Community Relations and **Mr. Rolly Jurgens**, Vice President of Administration for **North Idaho College (NIC)** presented to the committee in place of President Burke, who is leaving the college for another position.
- Mr. Propst** distributed materials and opened his presentation by stressing that ease of access and affordability are the hallmarks of community colleges. At NIC there are presently more part-time students than full-time, which he feels is because of the strong job market in north Idaho. Ninety-one percent of NIC students are Idahoans. New programs are regularly added and others are scaled back to meet changing demands.
- Mr. Propst** reviewed fall semester enrollments from 1995 to 2006. Workforce training enrollments have experienced a 234% growth over the past 10 years. Distance education has experienced a 981% increase since 1998-99, with an 89% completion rate.
- NIC offers 33 professional-technical (PTE) programs, the most recent of which is radiography technician, which began a year ago.
- Revenue and expenditures were reviewed. Tuition has increased 41% since 2001; instructional costs represent 56% of the total budget.
- Questions sent to **Mr. Propst** and **Mr. Jurgens** previously by Chairman Goedde were addressed: (1) *Does NIC find it necessary to turn students away?* Yes, in some classes, including the nursing programs. (2) *What can NIC do to counteract this problem?* Additional funding for faculty is needed. (3) *Does NIC have off-budget accounts?* Only for paying bonds for the residence hall and equipment. (4) *How is NIC's ability to recruit faculty?* Coeur d'Alene has substantial appeal, but teacher salaries have not kept pace with escalating property values, making it difficult for new

teachers to maintain a viable lifestyle. (5) *What do you think of the community college system in Idaho?* The system currently has excellent institutions. NIC supports both the current system and any proposed expansion. (6) *Is there a duplication of effort among the colleges and universities?* No.

A lengthy question-and-answer period ensued, including: fall semester enrollments; budget appropriations for technical and nontechnical courses; dual expansion needs; average age of students; drop-out and retention rates; NIC's ability to expand current enrollment, if funded; assessing the needs of the community, and job placement after graduation. **Mr. Jurgens** will furnish the committee with job placement figures.

Chairman Goedde thanked **Mr. Propst** and **Mr. Jurgens** for their comprehensive presentation.

RS 16564C1

To provide additional financial incentives for school district consolidation. **Senator Pro Tem Geddes** reviewed the basic rationale for **RS 16564C1**, observing that consolidation is especially needed in areas where multiple districts in close geographic proximity serve small student populations. **Representative Jaquet** also spoke of the need for consolidation in her district. There would be no automatic fiscal impact because there is no requirement that any school district consolidate. Any fiscal impact from consolidations would be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

MOTION:

Senator Gannon moved to approve **RS 16564C1**, seconded by **Senator Jorgenson**, and the motion carried unanimously by **voice vote**. **Senator Schroeder** commented that a statute to prevent de-consolidation might be considered in the future. **Chairman Goedde** asked **Senator Pro Tem Geddes** and **Representative Jaquet** if they would present scenarios as to financial impact when the bill comes before the committee. They agreed to provide this information.

Presentation:

Dr. Suzanne M. Allen, Clinical Medical Coordinator for the Idaho branch of the Washington-Wyoming-Alaska-Montana-Idaho Medical Education Program (**WWAMI**), addressed the committee using a PowerPoint slide presentation. Enrollment consists of 178 students per year, with 18 students from Idaho. Three of the four WWAMI medical school years can now be completed in Idaho. In 2006, 67% of Idaho WWAMI graduates chose primary care specialties. A 20% to 30% shortage of physicians is estimated by the year 2020. To meet this need, the Association of American Medical Colleges recommends a 30% increase in medical students by 2015, which would mean support for at least eight more students in Idaho. Average state support per student is \$45,700 annually.

Dr. Allen answered questions posed by committee members on a variety of subjects, which included: possible partnerships; North Dakota's medical program; funding a medical education survey; percentage of WWAMI graduates that practice in one of the WWAMI states; the selection process of undergraduates; requirements of residency programs; and expenditures.

Chairman Goedde thanked **Dr. Allen** for the informative presentation.

MOTION: **Senator Fulcher** moved to approve the committee's meeting minutes for January 15, 16, 17, and 18, **Senator Gannon** seconded, and the motion carried unanimously by **voice vote**.

ADJOURN: **Chairman Goedde** adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Senator John Goedde
Chairman

Jeanne Clayton
Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** January 30, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Room 433
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Pearce, Jorgenson, Bastian, Burkett and Malepeai
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** None
- GUESTS:** *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 Legislative Services Library.*
- CONVENE:** **Chairman Goedde** called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. He called committee members' attention to a letter of explanation from **Ms. Jane McClaran** concerning the Governor's recommended \$5 million for a new community college, which had been questioned during her presentation the previous week.
- Chairman Goedde** informed committee members that he was in the process of making arrangements to visit the **Hidden Springs Charter School**. A date will be set for a noon field trip.
- Chairman Goedde** brought to the attention of committee members a chapter from *School Reform - The Great American Brain Robbery*, by Donald Orlich, which was included in their blue folders at the request of **Senator Schroeder**.
- PRESENTATION:** **Chairman Goedde** introduced **Dr. Gerald Beck**, President of College of Southern Idaho (CSI), who presented an overview of CSI's history and an update on the future plans of the college. **Dr. Beck** wove his discussion around the list of questions provided to him earlier by **Chairman Goedde**. Currently CSI enrolls 7,500 students and provides 4,100 jobs and \$30 million to the local economy. He said that just one year of skills training can give students the opportunity to increase their earnings or qualifications for higher-paying jobs.
- Some programs have waiting lists, while others are experiencing declining enrollment. The favorable job market, social issues, and demographics are factors that may contribute to lower enrollment in some programs; college staff is looking for ways to offset these shifts in enrollment.

When asked what the legislature can do to ensure that students are not turned away from professional technical courses, **Dr. Beck** responded that scholarships are needed for non-English speaking students. Professional technical courses have been expanded and funds have been reallocated from non-performing areas.

Replying to questions about dropping courses or phasing out programs, **Dr. Beck** said it usually takes about three years to completely phase out a program in order to let those students finish. If courses are operating at 75% or less, the college will be instructed to close them.

A fully digitalized system with two-way transmissions provides a large distance education program. The annual tuition is about \$2,000. With increased access and a scholarship program, CSI can reach many students who otherwise would not be able to attend higher education. The CSI foundation has awarded over \$800,000 in scholarships.

Within the next few years the nursing program plans to graduate 240 students, up from 180. Funding for a new 67,000 square foot facility is being requested. The expanded program can be handled by present faculty, but lab space is an obstacle.

Regarding the question of whether Idaho can afford a medical school, **Dr. Beck** said he didn't know the answer but suggested that it may be a way to attract doctors to our area since medical residency students tend to stay in the same area to practice.

Regarding the future of universities and colleges, he said that changes are coming quickly; more occupations will require certification based on skill level rather than a degree. He feels on-line access to universities is the wave of the future and that CSI will be able to meet those needs.

Senator Schroeder asked: (1) if faculty members serve on the foundation. **Dr. Beck** said that he is the only faculty member on the foundation; (2) if Freightliner is paying for itself. **Dr. Beck** said the project is more than paying its costs; and (3) If waiting lists are long. **Dr. Beck** said waiting lists are long even though classes are running double shifts.

Senator Bastian asked how the college establishes a connection with the community to determine its needs. **Dr. Beck** said CSI is very close to the community and takes a proactive approach to remain current. Regarding the difference between North Idaho College (NIC) and CSI, **Dr. Beck** said that the colleges have different backgrounds; he feels both are excellent. He said that CSI supports a University of Idaho research facility in Idaho Falls.

Chairman Goedde thanked **Dr. Beck** for his presentation.

PRESENTATION: **Chairman Goedde** introduced **Mr. Richard Garber**, University of Idaho College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. The College of Agriculture is requesting funding for a new on-campus center to house an updated

dairy facility for an additional 1,500 cows, complete with a lab and state-of-the-art classrooms. He said the Governor supports funding for the proposed facility, which would cost about \$25.7 million. **Mr. Garber** said the beef cattle industry contributes \$1.1 billion to the state's economy. The University of Idaho projects a 25 percent growth in this industry in the coming years.

Committee members posed questions for **Mr. Garber**, including workforce development, increased production, technology and research facilities, after which **Chairman Goedde** thanked **Mr. Garber** for his presentation.

PRESENTATION: **Chairman Goedde** introduced **Ms. Allison McClintick**, Educator Policy Program Manager for the State Board of Education. **Ms. McClintick** introduced **Ms. Anne Stafford**, a teacher mentor for the Boise School District, who presented on teacher training and mentoring programs.

Senator Schroeder asked if there is an accountability mechanism in place to track funds designated for mentoring and to evaluate those programs' effectiveness. He wondered aloud why a budget is not set for this very important program. **Ms. Stafford** said that 82 percent of new teachers and 15 percent of struggling veteran teachers are being mentored. A 2006 survey revealed that job satisfaction among teachers is currently at an all-time high.

Ms. McClintick said that a committee formed to research current mentoring programs found excellent programs in Idaho. **Dr. Clifford Green**, Executive Director for the Idaho School Boards Association, and **Mr. Rob Winslow**, Executive Director for the Idaho Association of School Administrators, are researching mentoring programs in other states. **Ms. McClintick** promised to bring a comprehensive report to the committee at the end of the legislative session.

Chairman Goedde thanked **Ms. McClintick** and **Ms. Stafford** for their informative presentations.

ADJOURNMENT: **Chairman Goedde** adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

John Goedde
Chairman

Jeanne' Clayton
Secretary

Sandra Boyington,
Assistant Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** January 31, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Room 433
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Pearce, Jorgenson, Bastian, Burkett, and Malepeai
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** None
- GUESTS:** *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 Legislative Services Library.*
- CONVENE:** **Chairman Goedde** called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.
- PRESENTATION:** **Chairman Goedde** introduced **Mr. Tim Hill**, Deputy Superintendent, State Department of Education. **Mr. Hill** said his chief function is finance and he provided the committee with a presentation on public school funding.
- Mr. Hill** distributed materials to the Committee and illustrated by charts and graphs (1) where public school funds come from, (2) how the funds are distributed, (3) how a support unit is calculated, (4) salary-based apportionments, and other topics. School revenues are determined largely through Average Daily Attendance (ADA) calculations, not by the actual number of students enrolled. Expenses are calculated by the actual number of students enrolled. For funding purposes, a poor day of attendance could lower revenue generated by ADA.
- Questions were posed to **Mr. Hill** by Committee members throughout the presentation.
- Mr. Hill** illustrated by charts and graphs school funding for recent years and explained how distribution factors leading to discretionary funds are set. There is a direct correlation between who is hired and how much is funded for that person.
- Since HB1 was passed after the beginning of this fiscal year, comparisons to other years are difficult. **Mr. Hill** explained how HB1 affects the comparison of each portion of the funding process. Districts now have an improved cash flow because more funds are distributed earlier, giving districts better investment opportunities.

A stabilization fund was set in recent years and eliminates the guess work in distributing the unit funding at the end of the fiscal year. In prior years there could be more money than estimated. Estimates could also be low and the districts' funds would be reduced at the end of the year with no time left to cut back programs. The stabilization fund absorbs the excess funds if the estimate is high and replaces the loss if estimates are too low.

Committee members discussed the role of federal funds, the differences in funding Charter schools compared to public schools, and the teacher salary index.

Mr. Hill explained that some districts receive more funding per pupil than others because of size and because of the age and experience of their staff. If class sizes are small and teachers are experienced and highly educated, more money will be appropriated through the salary apportionment formula. Also per pupil funding will be higher than a district with large class sizes and teachers with lower salary index placement.

There were no further questions or discussion from the Committee and **Chairman Goedde** thanked **Mr. Hill** for his presentation on public school funding.

Chairman Goedde informed the Committee that it will hear testimony on education budgets next week in the Gold Room. The Committee will then discuss recommendations prior to Chairman Goedde's report to the Joint Finance Committee.

ADJOURNMENT: **Chairman Goedde** adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

John Goedde
Chairman

Jeanne' Clayton
Secretary

Sandra Boyington,
Assistant Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** February 1, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Room 433
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Bastian, Jorgenson, Burkett, and Malepeai
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** Senator Pearce
- GUESTS:** *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 Legislative Services Library.*
- MINUTES:** **Chairman Goedde** called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. He explained the materials provided in the committee's packets, which included a report on the use of technology/remediation funds for FY 2006 from **State Superintendent Tom Luna** and two reports from the Division of Professional-Technical Education.
- RS 16700** Providing that "school age" be defined as including all residents between ages of 4 and 21 years, **Senator Gannon** et al, sponsors.
- RS 16793** Limits liability of volunteers assisting injured persons at competitive sporting events, **Senator Goedde**, sponsor.
- MOTION:** **Senator Schroeder** moved that **RS 16700** and **RS 16793** be sent to print, seconded by **Senator Bastian**. **Senator Jorgenson** commented that **RS 16793** should be written to include a larger segment of volunteers. **Senator Schroeder's** motion was approved by **voice vote**, **Senator Jorgenson** voting **no**.
- PRESENTATION:** **Chairman Goedde** introduced **Dr. Mike Rush**, State Administrator, Division of Professional-Technical Education (PTE). **Dr. Rush** introduced members of his staff and distributed materials complementary to his PowerPoint presentation.
- Dr. Rush** said that PTE received a maintenance-of-effort waiver from the federal government, saving over \$7 million in replacement funds that would otherwise be due in FY 2008 because of an audit exception.
- PTE continues to grow, with 5,500 students currently enrolled in secondary classes. Academic courses offered by PTE include Science, Communications, Health and Wellness, Math, and Economics. Several math and science courses meet the requirements for high school

credits.

Dr. Rush spoke about the fire safety training and medical training courses offered for volunteer fire fighters. He is recommending a new training center to be located in Eagle. The diesel training offered at Boise State University, a partnership with industry, continues to be in high demand for training of professional-technical students.

Ms. Christine Stoll, Director, Career Information System (CIS), provided clarification to questions from Committee members. CIS is paid through subscriptions. This service is available to high school students, job seekers, college placement agencies, and private citizens via the Internet for a nominal fee. High school counselors are invited to receive training on CIS early in the fall.

Dr. Rush feels that students are more serious about their education if they use their own funds. Relative to **Senator Malepeai's** question about the nursing programs, they use on-line classes and videos; community colleges offer some short-term training.

There being no further questions, **Chairman Goedde** thanked **Dr. Rush** for his presentation.

PRESENTATION

Chairman Goedde introduced **Ms. Sandy Evans**, Executive Director, Idaho Board of Nursing. **Ms. Evans** is the chairman of a task force formed by **Governor Risch** to identify critical issues of the nursing profession to be addressed in the 2007-08 budget process. Three of the most critical issues facing the nursing profession as determined by the task force are: (1) the shortage of nurses; (2) the fast-approaching retirement age of nearly one-half of the nursing workforce; and (3) the significant number of graduates who are recruited to other states that offer substantially higher salaries. The task force will look for ways to be more competitive in recruiting and retention. The report shows that the demand for nurses is at least 50 percent higher than the this year's graduates.

Ms. Jane McClaren of the Governor's Office, reported that Governor Otter recommends \$165,000 to purchase simulation models for nursing programs at Boise State, Lewis & Clark and Idaho State. The request for \$3.5 million over several years to address faculty salaries is not included in the budget.

A question-and-answer period ensued relative to: salary ranking, longevity of careers, and compensated education. Committee members were informed that many hospitals provide education and support to its staff.

Chairman Goedde thanked **Ms. Evans** for her presentation.

ADJOURNMENT: **Chairman Goedde** adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

John Goedde
Chairman

Jeanne' Clayton
Secretary

Sandra Boyington,
Assistant Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** February 5, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Room 433
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Pearce, Bastian, Burkett, and Malepeai
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** Senator Jorgenson
- CONVENE:** **Chairman Goedde** convened the meeting at 3:10 p.m. and called committee members' attention to an analysis in their folders from the Department of Education on 1st year certificated staff and where their degrees were obtained.
- MOTION:** **RS 16829, allowing the creation of regional professional-technical charter schools, and RS 16851, relating to changes in post-secondary regulations. Vice Chairman Fulcher** moved to send **RS 16829** and **RS 16851**, to print. **Senator Gannon** seconded, and the motion was approved by unanimous **voice vote**.
- S 1046** **Relating to correction of enrollment inequities for first-grade students. Senator Broadsword** presented this bill as a solution to create equitable age-related enrollment standards for all first-grade students, whether they come from out of state or as Idaho residents.
- A question-and-answer period ensued, including: possible alternative solutions, number of students affected, number of private kindergartens, and the wisdom of allowing five-year-old children to attend first grade.
- TESTIMONIES:** **Mr. Rob Winslow**, Executive Director of Idaho Association of School Administrators briefly explained the original intent of the Idaho law that regulates age restrictions for first-grade students and stated the Idaho Association of School Administrators does not support **S 1046**.
- Mr. John Eikum**, Executive Director of Idaho Rural Schools Association, testified that his association is neither for nor against **S 1046** but he stated that he personally does not support it.
- Senator Broadsword** gave final arguments in support of **S 1046**.
- MOTION:** **Senator Schroeder** moved to send **S 1046** to the Senate Floor with a do-pass recommendation, and **Senator Burkett** seconded. After further discussion, a roll-call vote was taken, and **S 1046** was rejected five to three, **Senators Schroeder, Burkett, and Malepeai** voting **yes**; **Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, and Senators Gannon, Pearce, and Bastian** voting **no**.

After further discussion, **S 1046** was held in committee, **Senator Broadsword** to draft possible amendments, if she wishes.

Presentation:

Dr. Donna Vakili, Director of Idaho Digital Learning Academy (IDLA), introduced **Mr. Jim Norton**, IDLA Board Chairman, **Ms. Valerie Doherty**, registrar, **Ms. Janna Vega**, curriculum specialist, and **Ms. Jennifer Quintero**, curriculum specialist. Two former IDLA students, **Alfonso Santos** and **Ronnella Kay**, were also introduced. Materials were distributed covering current activity of IDLA, which now offers 85 online courses for students of middle, junior, and high school, special education, ISAT prep, and dual credit and advanced placement.

IDLA was created in 2002. In 2005-06, more than 2,600 students took classes. This year enrollment is 4,200, a 55% increase. IDLA has 95 highly qualified, Idaho-certified faculty, all of whom work on a contract basis, 47 percent of whom hold advanced degrees and 12 years of average experience. Tuition was originally set at \$100 per semester course but has now been reduced to \$50 per semester course.

A number of questions were asked of **Dr. Vakili** and her associates, including how they predict the number of students that will enroll (difficult to predict); enrollment limitations (funding); why some school districts use IDLA much more than others (school districts' different policies and implementation procedures); rural and small school usage (a matter of getting familiar with the system; typical student/teacher ratio (45-1); challenges, rigor, and expectations; identifying and training highly qualified faculty in key areas; and current funding mechanism.

Mr. Norton said that IDLA classes are extremely rigorous. **Chairman Goedde** asked about providing instructional supervision. **Mr. Norton** said they have a full-time para-professional.

Senator Schroeder asked how many advance placement enrollees are in rural areas and fiscally challenged rural schools who are not enrolled in IDLA. **Mr. Norton** said it depends on the classroom teacher, along with the administrator, district board, and superintendent to support these programs, which may not have happened yet in rural schools. **Mr. Norton** said the personnel are there to incorporate IDLA but the infrastructure to support it may be lacking, and the districts must be willing to commit the funds.

Percentage of at-risk students taking IDLA is 50 percent. In answer to why more students are not enrolled in IDLA in some schools, such as Pocatello, **Dr. Vakili** answered that she believes more and more students will begin enrolling as they see the successes of others who have used it.

Ms. Janna Vega who teaches for IDLA reported on advantages of the courses, one of which is that the courses have already been developed so teachers can focus on the students.

Chairman Goedde and **Senator Bastian** asked questions on method payment to faculty and development of curriculum.

Alfonso Santos, a student from Caldwell, spoke in favor of IDLA and

said how the program saved him when he was in trouble. He said he is now on track.

Ronnela Kay, a former IDLA student who now attends BSU, said IDLA prepared her for college in a way that regular high school does not.

Both students answered a number of questions posed by committee members, after which **Chairman Goedde** extended an invitation to return to the committee at any time.

Dr. Vakili closed her presentation by stating that more and more individuals are using online resources, and stated she believes IDLA is still in its infancy and only about a quarter of the way to saturation.

Chairman Goedde thanked **Dr. Vakili** and her associates for the informative presentation.

ADJOURN: **Chairman Goedde** adjourned the meeting at 4:40 p.m.

Senator John Goedde
Chairman

Jeanne Clayton
Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** February 6, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Room 433
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Bastian, Burkett, and Malepeai
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** Senators Pearce and Jorgenson
- GUESTS:** *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 Legislative Services Library.*
- MINUTES:** **Chairman Goedde** called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. He announced that the Idaho School Boards Association (ISBA) had scheduled a round table on February 13 at 4:30 p.m. with the House Education Committee. Committee members will receive reminders of the meeting.
- RS 16854** Relating to scholarship benefits for Idaho resident members of the military service. **Senator Burkett** presented the rationale for **RS 16854**, which would provide scholarship benefits for Idaho resident students whose parents are, or have been, in the military service. The program currently limits family members of Idaho citizens who are residents at the time they are in the military service. This revision would extend that scholarship to dependents of military members who have been killed in action or are missing in action.
- MOTION:** **Vice Chairman Fulcher** moved to send **RS 16854** to print, **Senator Gannon** seconded, and the motion was approved by unanimous **voice vote**.
- PRESENTATION:** Chairman Goedde introduced **Dr. Doyle Jacklin**, Chairman of the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research in Idaho (EPSCoR). **Dr. Jacklin** opened the discussion with introductions of his associates, **Dr. Jean'ne Shreeve**, Professor, **Dr. Ron Hardy**, Professor at University of Idaho, **Dr. Ken Rodnick**, Professor at Idaho State University, **Mary Oswald**, student at University of Idaho, **Senator Laird Noh** and **Rick Schumaker**.
- Dr. Jacklin** said that membership in EPSCoR extends through 26 states and two commonwealths. Large grants have been received, which benefit Idaho directly. EPSCoR is not requesting additional funding at

this time.

Senator Noh gave an overview about the EPSCoR program, stating competition for federal grant money among the states and commonwealths is very high.

Chairman Goedde welcomed **Dr. Shreeve**, Professor of Chemistry. **Dr. Shreeve**. She said that EPSCoR brings together the highly skilled students and equipment at all levels to create competitive programs. She spoke of other universities that are offering tuition-free courses, for students who keep up their grades. She said these universities have been able to reduce class sizes and hire more teachers.

Dr. Shreeve used a PowerPoint presentation of charts, graphs and a map showing the EPSCoR states. Primarily a research program, EPSCoR encourages minority groups to get involved in science, while increasing research capacity. Twenty-six graduate students and 35 undergraduates were trained and entered workforce. Nearly all the undergraduates have entered graduate school, received academic appointments, or engineering positions in the private sector.

A research team produced journal publications and 31 conference papers. Three U.S. patents were granted, which received regional and national attention. Educational opportunities have been created, research capacity has increased, and economic development has been enhanced. EPSCoR has also increased interactions with Idaho state universities. **Dr. Shreeve** invited legislators to visit laboratories in Idaho universities.

In response to questions from committee members, **Dr. Shreeve** said that revenue generated from the patents and royalties come back to the university that owns the patents. Funds are shared by departments and researchers. She explained that universities and agencies collaborate to select research areas. EPSCoR has established partnerships with companies including Micron, Dow, and Monsanto.

Mary Oswald, student at University of Idaho, said she selected U of I because of the EPSCoR program, which offers great personal development opportunities. She values the collaborative efforts in the programs in which she is involved, including trout health and environmental concerns.

Dr. Shreeve said she would provide the committee with information about the numbers of research students receiving degrees from Idaho universities.

Senator Schroeder commented that because research is so necessary for economic development, the Resource Committee is interested in the types of research the universities are involved in and what benefits are offered to undergraduates. **Dr. Shreeve** said that research and lab work is the best stimulant for students. If they don't have access to labs where they can get involved, they become bored and won't continue.

Discussion ensued about the qualities that constitute a research university and which are best suited.

There being no further questions or discussion from the Committee, **Chairman Goedde** thanked **Dr. Jacklin** and his associates for the informative presentation.

Chairman Goedde reminded members about the meeting on Thursday at 8:00 a.m. with **Karen Echeverria**, Deputy Director, State Board of Education.

MOTION: **Senator Gannon** moved to approve the minutes of the Senate Education Committee meetings on January 22, 23, 24 and 25, 2007, asking that the name of Gary Davis be changed to Jerry Davis, seconded by **Senator Malepaei** and passed by unanimous **voice vote**.

PRESENTATION: **Chairman Goedde** introduced **Adam Calkins**, assigned as Page to the Senate Education Committee. **Adam** talked about his education, qualifications for the position of Page and his plans for the future. He has attended schools in Idaho since the fourth grade. Two years of middle school were completed in a charter school. Currently, he is a senior at Coeur d'Alene High School and is enrolled in correspondence classes through Brigham Young University. After he completes a mission for his church, he plans to seek a teaching degree at Boise State University in secondary English or History. **Chairman Goedde** and Committee members thanked **Adam** for his work and praised his dedication.

ADJOURNMENT: **Chairman Goedde** adjourned the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

John Goedde
Chairman

Jeanne' Clayton
Secretary

Sandra Boyington
Assistant Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** February 7, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Gold Room
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Pearce, Jorgenson, Bastian, Burkett, and Malepeai
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** None
- GUESTS:** *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 Legislative Services Library.*
- MINUTES:** **Chairman Goedde** called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Committee members were alerted to information in their folders from the State Board of Education on ISAT.
- PRESENTATION:** **Chairman Goedde** introduced **Ms. Sue Haffner**, who spoke about the "Born to Read" project sponsored by Delta Kappa Gamma. She introduced her associates. The project is designed to encourage parents to read to their children from birth. Fund-raisers were held last year to provide funds for the books, which are written in English and Spanish. In January 2007, the hospitals began giving the packets containing books, baby t-shirts, and booties to parents of newborns. Fund-raising efforts are ongoing; they plan to distribute 300 packets this year. **Ms. Haffner** believes that five years from now they will definitely see a difference in parent interaction and nurturing abilities.
- Chairman Goedde** thanked **Ms. Haffner** for presenting this information to the Committee.
- PRESENTATION:** **Chairman Goedde** introduced **Mr. Jim Lewis**, Superintendent of Blaine County School District and President of Idaho Association of School Administrators (IASA), the first member of a panel participating in budget recommendations prior to the Education Committee's February 15 budget presentation to the Joint Finance Appropriations Committee (JFAC).
- Mr. Lewis** complimented State Superintendent **Tom Luna's** first budget recommendation, the \$6 million for remediation, which is separate from technology; the \$700,000 for IDLA; the \$10 million for textbooks; the \$350,000 for the math initiative in particular. The \$5 million for classroom supplies and \$3.5 million for dual credit was also seen as

excellent steps.

Mr. Lewis commented that the increase for beginning teacher salaries is appreciated, but that Idaho is losing great teachers every year because of low salaries. He said it is misleading to refer to unit funding as “discretionary funds.” Another concern is that the salary allocation matrix is not high enough to cover increased insurance costs. The actual dollars funded per student has “flat-lined” and does not continue to meet inflation. To enhance communication, a coalition consisting of PTA, the teachers association, and community members will be established to help understand the challenges and develop a long-range strategic plan.

Mr. Jim Shakelford, Executive Director of the Idaho Education Association (IEA), commended **Mr. Luna** on this recommended budget. He supports the classroom supply funding but said a process is needed to ensure the funds get from the legislature to the classrooms. He feels teachers’ salaries are not adequately addressed. The base salary index was not increased in 2003, 2004, 2005, or 2006. In FY 2007 the increase was only three percent resulting in a net gain of only one-half percent annually over five years.

Mr. Shackelford said that many educators are bringing home less than they were several years ago because of increased insurance costs. The recommendations from the IEA are (1) to include additional funding for a mentoring program, (2) to increase the discretionary funding by three percent to cover rising costs in health insurance and utilities, and (3) to include additional funding to raise the salary matrix more than three percent.

Mr. Guy Hurlbutt, member of the Idaho Business Coalition (IBC), stated that his group favors early childhood education and supports the legislature’s move to lower the school age to four years old. IBC supports the additional choices for parents but believes early childhood education should be funded from private and local sources, not state funding. IBC also supports the increased requirements in math and science, and the \$5 million recommended by **Governor Otter** for seed money for new community colleges. It is expected that additional money will be provided in the future to bring new community colleges up to par with the two current community colleges.

Ms. Cindy Schiller, Idaho PTA legislative representative, stated that Idaho PTA supports increased funding for IDLA, additional funding for textbooks and supplies, concurrent enrollment, and increased funding for Gifted and Talented programs. The Idaho PTA advocates a mentoring program and higher teacher salaries to attract quality teachers. The PTA also believes additional funding is needed for resource officers as well as all other school personnel.

Dr. Clifford Green, Executive Director of Idaho School Boards Association (ISBA), said the ISBA supports the \$9.8 million for technology, \$2.8 million for the reading initiative, increased funding for IDLA and classroom supplies, as well as the \$6 million for ISAT

remediation. He said the \$350,000 to begin a math initiative is an excellent investment. The ISBA also supports increased discretionary or unit funding and favors any funding for mentoring. He presented a new idea on the State's distribution of revenue to the school districts. Committee members were given a schedule of payments that would be "front-loaded" and distributed to school district funds in bigger payments earlier in the year. The proposed payment schedule would allow districts to increase their investment earnings, which would become an additional source of revenue at no cost to the State.

Mr. Ken Burgess, Community Manager of Idaho Coalition of Families, expressed support for **Mr. Luna's** charter school budget.

Mr. John Watts, Idaho Chamber Alliance, said he had reviewed **Mr. Luna's** budget recommendations with a coalition of chambers across the state. They support salary-based apportionment and performance pay. The group also approves recommendations for the \$9.8 million for technology, \$10 million for textbooks and \$5 million for classroom supplies. He said the Alliance supports distance learning and believes \$1.8 million for IDLA will assist rural schools.

Mr. John Eikum, Idaho Rural Schools Association (IRSA), appreciates **Mr. Luna's** budget recommendations. The IRSA is concerned about shortfalls in the special education funding and the distribution factor. Special education could be addressed by having a separate and special fund to be accessed by districts with special-needs students. The IRSA also believes that because of the escalation of certain school district costs, a three percent increase in the distribution factor for unit funding is needed.

Ms. Karen Echeverria, Deputy Director, State Board of Education, spoke about funding sources for increased graduation requirements. A request for funds to run a pilot program on Pay-for-Performance (PFP), and teacher initiative was not granted, so ISBE has applied for a \$500,000 grant. **Ms. Echeverria** said ISBE will require an additional \$500,000 to develop ISAT test scores and performance level receptors to pay for the study alignment, along with the \$1.7 million for overlap on vendors. She said the budget from the Governor's office set aside only \$300,000.

Vice Chairman Fulcher asked if there is data supporting the effectiveness of mentoring. **Dr. Green** replied that a pilot program is currently tracking student achievement by teachers who have been mentored. The data is not yet complete. **Mr. Hill** verified that no State funds have been requested for mentor programs since 2003, and that districts are allowed to use discretionary funds for mentoring expenses.

Senator Schroeder asked about ways to increase salaries for teachers at the top end of the salary index. **Mr. Shakelford** said that PFP is a solution worthy of consideration. The IEA will also be working on other options. He said that 35 percent of the districts use the state-specific matrix for salary schedules; the other districts use something different. A

common-ground committee was discussed, which could be formed to perform a study of the education system. Goals and priorities could then be set to decide how to properly compensate good teachers.

Mr. Hill said that only public schools are mentioned in funding for concurrent enrollment, and that he would verify the Department's position on concurrent enrollment in parochial and private schools .

Senator Bastian discussed with **Dr. Green** and **Mr. Lewis** methods of providing mentoring funds and PFP in the same legislation.

Vice Chairman Fulcher spoke in favor of community colleges as a way to enhance the level of education, but said is not in favor of a state funded community college system.

Senator Burkett discussed the use of remedial funds with **Mr. Lewis**. **Mr. Lewis** said remedial funds could be used for (1) extended school days, (2) supplemental technology for children who do not learn in the usual way, (3) to form teaching teams to work with certain groups of children, and (4) to focus on children who have failed the ISAT twice.

Chairman Goedde thanked the panel for their valuable input and said the entire discussion was most helpful.

ADJOURNMENT: **Chairman Goedde** adjourned the meeting at 4:55 p.m.

John Goedde
Chairman

Jeanne' Clayton
Secretary

Sandra Boyington
Assistant Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** February 8, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** GOLD ROOM
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Pearce, Jorgenson, Bastian, Burkett, and Malepeai
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** None
- CONVENED:** **Chairman Goedde** called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.
- CONFIRMATION** **Chairman Goedde** welcomed **Mr. Joe deVera**, who was appointed by former Governor Kempthorne to serve as a Public Charter School Commissioner for a term commencing May 12, 2006, expiring May 12, 2010. **Mr. deVera**, is employed with a bank and is active in his children's charter school. Committee members asked questions, primarily having to do with Mr. deVera's interest in and position on charter schools, the charter-school lottery system, and the circumstances relating to his appointment for this commission.
- Chairman Goedde** thanked **Mr. de Vera** for his participation.
- S 1067** Relating to financial incentives for school district consolidations. **Senator Geddes**, who is sponsor of **S 1067**, presented his rationale for bringing the bill before the committee; **Representative Jaquet**, co-sponsor, also outlined the bill's benefits, in particular for smaller school districts. **Mr. Jason Hancock**, Budget and Policy Analyst in the Legislative Services office, distributed a hypothetical schedule of models relating to the financial impact of the consolidation of districts, using as illustrations the school districts of Grace, Soda Springs, and a hypothetical Caribou.
- TESTIMONY:** **Mr. John Eikum**, Executive Director, Idaho Rural Schools Association, spoke in favor of **S 1067**. One concern would be the financial impact in the event de-consolidation should take place after facilities have been built.
- TESTIMONY:** **Dr. Cliff Green**, Executive Director of the Idaho School Boards Association (ISBA), testified that his association was in support of **S 1067**. He said that, unlike previous proposed legislation, this bill includes features that provide for more local control and better choice.
- MOTION:** **Senator Schroeder** moved to send **S 1067** to the Senate Floor with a **do-pass** recommendation, **Senator Jorgenson** seconded, and **S 1067** was unanimously approved by **voice vote**.
- CONFIRMATION** **Chairman Goedde** welcomed **Mr. Alan Reed** of Idaho Falls, who was

appointed by former Governor Kempthorne to serve as a Public Charter School Commissioner for a term commencing May 12, 2006, expiring May 12, 2010. Mr. Reed has a dairy in Idaho Falls and served on the Idaho Falls District 91 School Board from 1994-2003. He briefly outlined his background and answered questions posed by committee members.

Chairman Goedde thanked Mr. Reed for his participation and advised both **Mr. Reed** and **Mr. deVera** that the committee would vote on their confirmations the following week.

Ms. Karen Echeverria, Policy & Government Affairs Officer for the Idaho State Board of Education, introduced **Ms. Tamara Baysinger**, Charter Schools Program Manager for the State Board of Education.

PRESENTATION **Chairman Goedde** welcomed **Ms. Barbara Bode**, Director of the Idaho Parent-Teachers' Association (PTA), who presented a brief history of the Idaho PTA, stating that the ultimate challenge of Idaho PTA is to improve the lives of all children throughout the state. She then introduced **Ms. Sherry Feist**, Idaho PTA Vice President of Legislation. Ms. Feist referred committee members to distributed material, listing PTA's 2007 legislative priorities as (1) Parental involvement and responsibility, (2) Education funding, (3) Graduation requirements, and (4) Idaho endowment lands.

Ms. Feist answered questions posed by **Senators Schroeder** and **Pearce** on public lands management, reiterating that the goal of the Idaho PTA is undivided loyalty to its beneficiaries and a duty to make Trust property productive.

Chairman Goedde thanked **Ms. Bode** and **Ms. Feist** for their presentations. He then called committee members' attention to the contents of their blue folders, which included (1) a letter from Dr. Suzanne Allen, WWAMI, following up with information requested during her earlier presentation, and (2) an article on dual enrollment.

MOTION: **Senator Schroeder** moved to accept meeting minutes for January 29, 30, 31, and February 1, 2007, as written, seconded by **Senator Gannon**, and unanimously approved by **voice vote**.

ADJOURN: **Chairman Goedde** adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Senator John Goedde
Chairman

Jeanne Clayton
Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** February 12, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Room 433
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Pearce, Jorgenson, Bastian, Burkett, and Malepeai
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** None
- GUESTS:** *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 Legislative Services Library.*
- MINUTES:** **Chairman Goedde** called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. and referred Committee members to the contents of their blue folders, which included a report from Special Education Association, an e-mail from North Idaho Community College in answer to earlier questions posed by **Senator Bastian**, and replies from the State Board of Education and Chairman Goedde in answer to **Mr. Robison's** 'green sheet' relating to graduation requirements.
- RS 16991** Relating to the educational support program. **Senator Patti Anne Lodge** explained that **RS 16991** is legislation to resolve the funding gap that exists in the public school funding formula for rapidly growing public schools and charter districts. Presently, districts are eligible only for funding based on enrollment recorded on the first Friday in November. This money is to be used for facilities, equipment, supplies, or additional staffing costs associated with the expense of enrolling additional students.
- MOTION:** **Senator Schroeder** moved to send **RS 16991** to print. **Senator Malepeai** seconded, and the motion was approved by unanimous **voice vote**.
- RS 16951** Relating to charter school students participating in extra-curricular activities within traditional public school system. **Senator Fulcher** explained that **RS 16951** will put a mechanism in place that would dictate how charter school students may participate in extracurricular activities in a public school.
- MOTION:** **Senator Bastian** moved to send **RS 16951** to print, and **Senator Pearce** seconded. **Senator Burkett** said he gets calls from **Senator Fulcher's** district on this issue and is glad to see it come before the legislature. The motion was approved by unanimous **voice vote**.

RS 16898C1 Relating to the establishment of voluntary pilot pre-kindergarten programs. **Senator Burkett** presented a thorough report in support of **RS 16898C1**, citing studies that support the concept of this legislation.

MOTION: **Senator Jorgenson** moved to hold **RS 16898C1** in committee, seconded by **Senator Pearce**. Discussion ensued.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Senator Malepaei** made a substitute motion to send **RS16898C1** to print, **Senator Burkett** seconded the motion. Further discussion ensued, a voice vote was taken, and the substitute motion failed. Subsequently, a vote was taken on the original motion to hold **RS 16898C1** in committee, which passed by **voice vote**.

PRESENTATION: **Mr. Eric Earling**, Deputy Secretary and Regional Representative, U.S. Department of Education, Division X in Seattle, presented the latest information on No Child Left Behind. He discussed re-authorization of No Child Left Behind (NCLB), and said the agency will work to strengthen the law in four ways by: (1) continuing its goal of getting all students to grade level in reading and math by 2014; (2) continuing to place emphasis on accountability through annual testing; (3) putting a highly qualified teacher in every core academic class; and (4) providing timely information to parents.

One area targeted for improvement is an enhanced emphasis on closing the achievement gap. The agency proposes an additional \$500 million with \$1.7 million going directly to Idaho to support school improvement.

The graduation requirements will be increased. A program called the American Competitiveness Grant will increase focus on training teachers and increasing rigor in high schools, which asks students to take rigorous courses in high school to be eligible for enhanced financial aid. An increase of \$1.2 billion in Title I will focus directly on high schools; the increase equates to an additional \$4 million to Idaho. Also emphasized was greater flexibility for schools and parents.

Mr. Earling said that schools must prioritize school improvement resources by using any opportunity to focus on those students who are not meeting proficiency. Schools should begin to implement after-school tutoring, which would be extremely helpful in rural schools.

The teacher incentive fund is supported in the areas of merit pay and extra pay for teachers in fields in high-demand areas, such as math and science. The agency proposes to double that fund to almost \$200 million, with Idaho to receive an estimated \$91.1 million, or an approximate 61 percent increase since 2001. Special education funding grants have increased to \$49.6 million, about 73 percent since 2001.

In reply to questions from committee members, **Mr. Earling** agreed that funding decreased in the recent austere funding years. There was a general discussion of Title I funding and technical programs that lost funding.

Senator Goedde commented that today at 1:30 the state decided to

withdraw its teacher-incentive grant application.

Senator Burkett asked about the connection between NCLB and AP courses. **Mr. Earling** replied that if we are supporting K-12 at the federal level, the achievement gap needs to be closed. He said there needs to be greater emphasis on rigor at the high school level and can be provided with the \$4 million increase to Idaho for Title I

Ms. Karen Echeverria, Deputy Director, the State Board of Education, replied to the question about growth models and additional funding.

Chairman Goedde thanked **Mr. Erling** for his presentation.

**BUDGET
DISCUSSION:**

Chairman Goedde opened the discussion of the Senate Education Committee's budget recommendations to the Joint Finance and Appropriations Committee (JFAC) and distributed a list of items that were up for discussion. He said the House unanimously supported the budget recommendations of Superintendent Luna.

Senator Schroeder suggested the Committee also accept the budget of Superintendent Luna, with the exception that salaries be five percent, with some of that money to be used for mentoring. **Senator Bastian** suggested that the rewards for master teachers and mentor teachers be combined into one budget item.

Chairman Goedde said that by the end of last week it did not appear that Idaho will be receiving federal funds for the next school year to replace the lost Craig Wyden funds. He said districts stand to lose about \$5 million in federal funding. He suggested the committee recommend to JFAC that funds be taken from the school budget stabilization account for one year only to make these districts whole, with the caveat that if federal funds were released in time, the one-time withdrawal from the stabilization fund would not be made.

MOTION:

Senator Schroeder moved to recommend to JFAC that the lost Craig-Wyden funds be replaced to eligible school districts with one-time funds from the school district budget stabilization fund, unless the funds are replaced at the federal level. **Senator Bastian** seconded.

**SUBSTITUTE
MOTION:**

After further discussion, **Senator Gannon** made a substitute motion to recommend to JFAC that 70 percent of the lost Craig-Wyden funds for eligible school districts be replaced from the school district stabilization fund for one year only , unless the funds are made available at the federal level. **Senator Pearce** seconded, and the motion passed with unanimous **voice vote**.

Mr. Tim Hill, Bureau of Finance, State Department of Education, and **Ms. Echeverria** answered questions regarding a student identification and tracking system. **Mr. Hill** said supplemental funds could be available and **Ms. Echeverria** said the State Board had applied for a \$6.5 million grant over three years. **Chairman Goedde** agreed the student tracking system should also be included in recommendations to JFAC.

MOTION: After discussion of the Superintendent's proposed budget, **Senator Schroeder** moved to support **Superintendent Luna's** budget recommendations, with the caveat that the salary-based apportionment be \$790 million, or 5 percent, as recommended in the Governor's budget, with \$2 million of that appropriation to be used for mentoring. The balance of \$788 million would be used for salary-based funding. **Senator Gannon** seconded the motion, which passed with unanimous **voice vote**.

ADJOURNMENT: **Chairman Goedde** adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

John Goedde, Chairman

Jeanne' Clayton, Secretary

Sandra Boyington, Asst. Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** February 13, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Borah Building, 2nd Floor Conference Room
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Pearce, Bastian, Burkett, and Malepeai
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** Senator Jorgenson
- GUESTS:** *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 Legislative Services Library.*
- CONVENED:** **Chairman Goedde** convened the meeting at 3:00 p.m.
- MOTION:** **Senator Gannon** moved to approve the Gubernatorial Appointments of **Mr. Alan Reed** and **Mr. Joe deVera** to the Public Charter School Commission. **Vice Chairman Fulcher** seconded, and the motion carried by unanimous **voice vote**. **Senator Gannon** will carry the appointment of **Mr. Reed** to the Senate floor, and **Vice Chairman Fulcher** will carry the appointment of **Mr. deVera**.
- MINUTES:** **Chairman Goedde** welcomed distinguished guests, including **Ms. Patricia Kempthorne**.
- Ms. Renee Sassler**, Associate Director of the Idaho School Boards Association, announced that **Dr. Clifford Green** would be late, and **Chairman Goedde** moved to the next order of business on the agenda.
- S 1079** To provide that "school age" is defined as including all residents between the ages of four and 21 years of age.
- Senator Gannon** reviewed the background of early childhood education issues and summarized the work of the task force he had co-chaired last summer. He explained how this bill came into being, and said it appears to be the best fit for Idaho's needs at present. Children with disabilities below the age of five are eligible for pre-kindergarten services. This bill would provide for the legal school age to be changed from five to four and allow districts, if they choose, to establish a pre-kindergarten program for four-year old children without disabilities. This bill does not make pre-kindergarten mandatory, nor does it provide state funding. The sole intent of **S 1079** is to change the legal school age to allow those districts now offering a pre-kindergarten program to continue doing so legally. It was noted that as many as 30 school districts may

currently be in violation of the law.

Senator Schroeder introduced minor changes in the wording of **S 1079** to include an insertion of *“and except as provided in section 33-201(5), Idaho Code,”* in section 4, with a correlating correction to the title.

TESTIMONIES:

Mr. Rob Winslow, Executive Director of the Idaho Association of School Administrators (IASA), stated his group encourages careful consideration of the educational advantages of Early Childhood Learning and supports this program.

Ms. Sherri Wood, President of the Idaho Education Association (IEA), stated that members of the IEA support pre-kindergarten.

Ms. Fairy Hitchcock, IATSE Parent Group, spoke in favor of pre-kindergarten.

Dr. Ann Farris, a Supervisor for Boise Schools, spoke in favor of pre-kindergarten. However, since **S1079** is not funded, **Dr. Farris** fears that funds will be diverted from other programs, such as Title I or the Gifted and Talented program, to pay for pre-kindergarten programs.

Mr. Guy Hurlbutt, President of the Idaho Business Coalition for Education Excellence (IBCEE), said Early Childhood Learning is a long-term educational benefit and his group supports S 1079. However, they do not support state funding for pre-kindergarten programs.

Mr. Barry Peters, legal advisor for Idaho Coalition of Home Educators, reported his group is not in favor of pre-kindergarten. He said that even though there are advantages in the first two or three years of school, students do not retain those advantages past the third grade, and preschool does not yield any long-term academic improvement.

Senator Schroeder asked **Mr. Peters** if any of the home schools provide education before the age of five. He also asked **Mr. Peters** if he has data that these children plateau at the third-grade level. **Mr. Peters** replied that the Coalition is mainly trying to provide a choice to the parents who can't afford to stay home and educate their smaller children.

Dr. Bob West, Board Member for Idaho Voices for Children, supports the bill, adding that it strengthens current Title I programs. He provided the committee with information on research that shows the gains in Early Childhood Learning.

Ms. Tani Theiler, Ad Hoc Committee Member for the Early Childhood Task Force, testified that she is concerned about this bill because it lacks funding. The task force feels that funds will be taken from other sources for pre-kindergarten and that other valuable programs will suffer, such as Title I. For these reasons, they do not support this bill.

Dr. Chris Loucks, Professor of Economics at BSU, said she knows of

no fade-out effects for children who begin education prior to five years of age.

Mr. Milt Gillespie, Owner of Mariposa Labs, favors the bill because it will help working mothers like those who are employed by his company.

Ms. Becky Young, Ad Hoc Committee Member for the Early Childhood Task Force, is not in support of this bill because it lacks a funding provision.

Mr. Eric Exline, Meridian School District Administration, stated that if Meridian School District decided to implement a pre-kindergarten program, it would require a new source of money. They would discuss it with the community and parents to gain approval before implementing a new program.

Ms. Sue Reents, Legislative Chairman for Idaho Voices, supports this bill.

MOTION: Committee members discussed the finer points of the bill, after which **Senator Malepeai** moved to send **S1079** to the floor with a **do-pass** recommendation, and **Senator Gannon** seconded the motion. **S 1079** was approved, six to two, on a **roll-call vote**, **Senator Pearce** and **Vice Chairman Fulcher** voting no.

PRESENTATION: **Dr. Clifford Green**, Executive Director of the Idaho School Boards Association (ISBA), referred committee members to the packet of information that had been given to them earlier. He said the ISBA presentation in the House Education Committee took approximately two hours, and since it was now late in the day, he thanked the Committee and said he would see them next year.

ADJOURNMENT: **Chairman Goedde** adjourned the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

John Goedde
Chairman

Jeanne' Clayton
Secretary

Sandra Boyington
Assistant Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** February 14, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Room 433
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Senators Schroeder, Pearce, Jorgenson, Bastian, Burkett, and Malepeai
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** Vice Chairman Fulcher and Senator Gannon
- GUESTS:** *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 Legislative Services Library.*
- MINUTES:** **Chairman Goedde** convened the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.
- UNANIMOUS CONSENT:** **Senator Schroeder** requested **Unanimous Consent** to accept Chairman Goedde's actions that sent **S1079** to the **14th Order of Business** rather than the do pass recommendation, which was approved at the Committee's February 13 meeting. There being no objections, **Chairman Goedde** accepted the request.
- PRESENTATION:** **Chairman Goedde** welcomed **Mr. David Shreve**, Senior Committee Director of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Education Standing Committee, National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL). **Mr. Shreve** used a PowerPoint display for his presentation. He talked about special education, the higher education act, the Perkins act, re-authorization of NCLB and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). He also addressed assessments, highly qualified teachers, data collection, private placement of special needs students, and high school reform initiatives, which he said is a code word for expanding NCLB in the high schools.
- Mr. Shreve** said that at least five levels of special education students are now being identified.
- States are required to design and report on six-year plans showing constant improvement. Less funding will be available from federal agencies for placements in private agencies. Medicaid reimbursement for Idaho students with special needs will decline as much as \$7 million. The studies relating to the actual costs for special education nationwide reveal a \$12 billion shortfall in federal funding.
- Mr. Shreve** said his task force's findings indicate that while NCLB has

helped a few states, it has stifled ongoing innovation overall. He said the focus should be shifted from process and requirements to outcomes and results and that ambiguity should be removed. He also said that Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for NCLB is a narrow and flawed yardstick of student performance. Mr. Shreve said that IDEA is based on civil rights and should take precedence over NCLB. His task force believes that states, rather than the federal government, are in a better position to recognize the unique needs of its schools and students.

Under the new Title I funding formula, 38% of local education agencies will enjoy an increase of funds, but the other 68% will experience a decline.

Senator Burkett asked if his task force had considered bringing chairmen of education committees from the states to support their claims. **Mr. Shreve** said they have plans for something similar to this and are especially encouraging support from “grass roots” levels.

In reply to **Senator Bastian’s** questions about measuring progress, **Mr. Shreve** pointed out that measurements are not valid enough to prove or disprove progress because of changing requirements. The conclusion of his task force is that AYP must be fixed because it is not likely to be disbanded.

Senator Schroeder asked **Mr. Shreve** if members of Congress knew what they were voting for with respect to NCLB. Mr. Shreve said that most do not understand the law and merely vote as leadership recommends.

Senator Schroeder asked **Mr. Shreve** who is driving AYP standards requirements. Mr. Shreve said it’s a bipartisan effort. Republicans want an aggressive measurement that cannot be met to make a case for vouchers and charters and so forth, and Democrats are willing to set the states up to be sued because they know they won’t get enough funding to make a difference in the K-12 budget.

Chairman Goedde thanked **Mr. Shreve** for his presentation. **Mr. Shreve** offered to be the point of contact, should the Committee have questions or want more information.

**BUDGET
DISCUSSION:**

Chairman Goedde reminded the Committee that he is scheduled to present budget recommendations to the Joint Finance Appropriates Committee (JFAC) at 8:00 the following morning and asked for discussion and recommendations for that presentation. He will request JFAC to bring intent language before the Committee prior to making policy and language changes, citing the Pay-for-Performance grant that fell through. He will also propose the ‘front-loading’ funding plan that was recommended by the School Boards Association. Other budget issues were discussed, including the Craig Wyden shortfall recommendation, the math initiative, charter school technical assistance, ISAT testing supplemental, and the rural school initiative.

The committee discussed the importance of a student tracking system, which could be paid for from the sale of the defunct Idaho Student Information Management System (ISIMS) hardware. **Chairman Goedde** said he would include this in his recommendations as well.

ADJOURNMENT: **Chairman Goedde** adjourned the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

John Goedde,
Chairman

Jeanne' Clayton,
Secretary

Sandra Boyington,
Assistant Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** February 15, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Room 433
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Pearce, Bastian, Burkett, Malepeai
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** Senator Jorgenson
- GUESTS:** *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 Legislative Services Library.*
- CONVENED:** **Chairman Goedde** convened the meeting at 3:05 p.m.
- MOTION:** **Senator Bastian** moved to approve the meeting minutes of February 2, 5, 6, 7, and 8, 2007 as written, **Senator Gannon** seconded, and the minutes were approved by unanimous **voice vote**.
- MINUTES:** **Chairman Goedde** asked Committee members if they wished to retain related meeting materials in permanent books, as is the current practice. All but Senators **Gannon** and **Fulcher** said they wanted the materials at the end of the session.
- PRESENTATION:** **Chairman Goedde** welcomed **Dr. Robert Kustra** of Boise State University (BSU), who presented an update of the university's current activities and plans for the future. He stated they want to increase enrollment and have set a 10% retention rate for next year. They have put in place an early warning system that includes an intervention program when students are encountering problems. They are striving to increase academic quality and have instituted national merit scholarships. The university is attempting to keep student costs down. Micron is supporting a PhD program. BSU is the only university in the state with an Executive MBA program, which is supported by Idaho corporations. They have instituted two new masters' degree programs in nursing and will be breaking ground on a new nursing facility, financed by donors, which will help address the nursing shortage.
- Dr. Kustra** said that BSU is experiencing a 26% annual average growth rate in research funding and he spoke of plans for a new state-of-the-art interactive learning center, as well as a new garage and other new facilities.

Dr. Kustra then addressed the list of prepared questions that had been

provided to him previously.

- *Does BSU turn away students?* Yes (about 800 a year).
- *What is BSU's financial situation?* BSU is in good shape financially. (Dr. Kustra listed annual funding for each university.)
- *Does BSU have off-budget accounts?* Yes; they are monitored by the State Board of Education.
- *Why does the university lose faculty?* Low salaries; they are making every effort to bring salaries to a somewhat competitive level and the Governor's 5% recommendation will help.
- *Should high schools be charged for students needing remedial courses?* No
- *How does BSU contribute to the economy?* Almost everything we do is a contribution.
- *Should the legislature be more active in establishing roles?* They do a good job as is.
- *Is there duplication of effort among Idaho's universities and colleges?* Yes, it's necessary because of the geographical spread across the state. He cited recent collaboration between Idaho Falls and University of Idaho.
- *Can we afford a medical school?* Not yet.
- *How do you think the universities will be different 20 years from now?* Bigger and better; more gray areas, more collaboration.

Dr. Kustra answered questions posed by Committee members.

Senator Gannon asked if the cost of living could be taken into consideration relative to the lower teachers' salaries. **Dr. Kustra** said they do take this into account but that Boise is no longer an inexpensive place to live.

Senator Pearce referred to an article in the *Idaho Statesman* that quoted Senator Pearce as being critical of BSU's predominately liberal speakers' program. **Dr. Kustra** addressed the issue at length, stating he was in support of offering a wide range of speakers and would work to create a balance as much as possible. He also said he was always accessible and willing to talk to students about complaints or other issues.

Chairman Goedde thanked **Dr. Kustra** for his presentation.

PRESENTATION:

Chairman Goedde introduced **Ms. Stacey Ellmore** with American College Test (ACT) and her associate, **Ms. Jennifer Kelly** with the Compass program. Ms. Ellmore reviewed ACT's college-readiness program with a slide presentation, stating that ACT has one of the most extensive databases in the country. Employers, she said, are asking for job-specific skills. Jr. High and middle school students should be planning for college and not waiting until high school. ACT has recently adopted an optional writing test.

Ms. Kelly presented the Compass program, which is a computer adaptive college placement and diagnostic assessment system. Compass can be used as an outreach tool and is available to senior students taking dual enrollment classes.

Ms. Ellmore concluded by stating that ACT gives all students the opportunity to be prepared for college.

Committee members posed questions, including: assessment cost (\$9 per student; \$29 for English, math and science; \$14 for writing); perceived competition (none or very little); and Compass as a college placement tool.

Chairman Goedde thanked **Ms. Ellmore** and **Ms. Kelly** for their presentations.

S 1089 **Chairman Goedde** handed the gavel to **Vice Chairman Fulcher** while he presented his rationale for **S 1089**, relating to post-secondary changes in the Idaho Code. He asked that the Committee send the bill to the amending order because of recent modifications. A thorough discussion ensued.

MOTION: **Senator Pearce** moved to send **S 1089** to the amending order with changes as described. **Senator Malepeai** seconded.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: After further discussion, **Senator Bastian** moved to hold **S 1089** in Committee until the changes are refined by a legislative analyst, and bring the amended bill back to Committee for a vote on Tuesday, February 20. **Senator Schroeder** seconded, and the motion passed by unanimous **voice vote**.

Senator Schroeder suggested that someone from the Idaho State Board of Education tie together: the American College Test; the Idaho Standards Achievement Test; Professional-Technical; No Child Left Behind, and so forth, so the Committee could better understand how each is part of an integrated education system. **Chairman Goedde** said he would ask Dwight Johnson to compile a report for the Committee.

Chairman Goedde thanked outgoing Senate Page **Adam Calkins** for his exemplary work during his past weeks of service and presented him with letters of recommendation and a gift from the Committee.

ADJOURN: **Chairman Goedde** adjourned the meeting at 4:50 p.m.

Senator John Goedde
Chairman

Jeanne Clayton
Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: February 19, 2007

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: Room 433

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Pearce, Jorgenson, Bastian, Burkett, and Malepeai

MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED: None

GUESTS: *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 Legislative Services Library.*

MINUTES: **Chairman Goedde** called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

HCR 9 **HCR 9** extends congratulations to the University of Idaho on the 100th anniversary of its College of Engineering. **Representative Tom Trail** presented this House bill for Committee members' consideration, citing notable Idaho tunnel builder, **Jack Lemley**.

MOTION: **Senator Malepeai** moved to send **HCR 9** to the Senate floor with a do pass commendation. **Senator Gannon** seconded, and the motion passed by unanimous **voice vote**. **Senator Schroeder** will carry the bill.

S 1088 **S 1088** allows the creation of regional professional-technical charter schools. **Senator Dean Cameron** presented the rationale for this legislation, stating that small school districts in particular would benefit from the ability to collaborate with other districts in forming regional professional-technical charter schools. He cited examples of Oregon school districts that are collaborating in pro-tech courses with great success. He further explained that a similar bill was brought before the committee last year, but it focused only on rural schools. This bill would not restrict any public school from participating.

A lengthy question-and-answer period ensued, particularly with regard to the mechanics of funding, unit count, formation, dissolution, and board makeup. **Senator Schroeder** questioned the placement of certain language, suggesting that lines 31 and 32 in the bill follow line 24 for better clarity.

TESTIMONY: **Dr. Nick Hallett**, ARTEC Charter School Director/Principal spoke in favor of the bill, citing Oregon State's collaborative programs and stating that a collaborative program encourages innovation. He answered a

number of questions posed by the Committee members. The Committee recessed at 3:55 to allow some of the Senators to have their picture taken with University of Idaho alumni.

The meeting re-convened at 4:10 and **Dr. Hallett** continued answering questions regarding Average Daily Attendance (A.D.A.), the governing structure, and funding formula relating to student count. **Chairman Goedde** referred to a policy stating that the funding formula for charter schools is the same whether student count is above or below 200. **Senator Schroeder** asked that a letter be requested from the Attorney General to advise on the two competing pieces of legislation. **Dr. Hallett** said he will call the Attorney General's office as soon as possible.

TESTIMONY: **Mr. Brian Duncan**, Board Chairman of the Minidoka County Joint School District, spoke in favor of **S 1088**.

TESTIMONY: **Dr. Scott Rogers**, Superintendent of the Minidoka County Joint School District, also encouraged support of the bill.

Mr. Armand Eckert, representing ARTEC, said that no school district trustees currently serve on the ARTEC board. He said the ability to collaborate would provide efficiencies and better opportunities for students.

MOTION: After further questions, **Senator Jorgenson** moved to send **S 1088** to the floor with a do pass recommendation, seconded by **Senator Pearce**.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Senator Schroeder** moved to hold **S 1088** until Thursday, February 22, when the committee would have the advice letter from the office of the Attorney General, and language could be amended for clarification. **Senator Gannon** seconded, and a **roll call** vote was taken. The substitute motion passed by a vote of six to three, **Vice Chairman Fulcher**, **Senators Pearce** and **Jorgenson** dissenting.

PRESENTATION: **Ms. Gena Wikstrom**, Executive Director of Northwest Career Colleges Federation, outlined her organization's purpose and goals, using a slide presentation. She said that Idaho has six accredited technical schools, which are the primary providers of workforce education. She then introduced **Mr. Chuck Ericson**, Director of Apollo College; **Ms. Jennifer Kandler**, Director of ITT Technical Institute; and **Mr. Shane Reeder**, Director of Stevens-Henager College, each of whom took the podium to review the operations of their respective colleges and refer Committee members to informational brochures and charts provided earlier.

The presenters briefly stood for questions, after which **Chairman Goedde** thanked them for their presentations.

Senator Schroeder asked **Ms. Karen Echeverria**, Deputy Director of the Idaho State Board of Education, about accreditation regulations of private colleges. She said that rules had been drafted to respond to legislation that was passed last year, but they were too restrictive and

new rules were being prepared to lessen the restrictions to some degree.

ADJOURNMENT: **Chairman Goedde** adjourned the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

John Goedde,
Chairman

Jeanne' Clayton,
Secretary

Sandra Boyington,
Assistant Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** February 20, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Room 433
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Pearce, Jorgenson, Bastian, Burkett, and Malepeai
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** None
- GUESTS:** *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 Legislative Services Library.*
- CONVENE:** **Chairman Goedde** called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and introduced Idaho Teacher-of-the-Year, **Mr. Mike Clabby**, from Coeur d'Alene.
- PRESENTATION:** **Mr. Clabby** presented enthusiastically on the challenges and rewards for dedicated teachers. He stressed the importance of connecting with each student, starting in the lowest grades, and cited examples from his own childhood on the difference a dedicated and caring teacher can make throughout a child's life. He talked about the disturbing drop-out rate of students, stating that kids can't see a connection between their studies and the real world, but that teachers can change those perceptions.
- In answer to a question from **Senator Burkett** about the Harbor Method of teaching in some charter schools, **Mr. Clabby** said that each child is different with different needs, interests, and ways of learning, and that teachers must handle each student as a unique individual.
- Senator Jorgenson** asked **Mr. Clabby** how he felt when he learned he had won the Teacher-of the-Year Award. **Mr. Clabby** said he was basically scared and wondered why he was singled out. He said he will do his best to promote education and send the message that teaching is a blessed career. He said he loves his career and wouldn't trade it for a million dollars.
- Chairman Goedde** thanked **Mr. Clabby** for his presentation and acknowledged former **Representative Jack Barraclough**, who was attending the meeting.

PRESENTATION: **Chairman Goedde** welcomed **Mr. Dwight Johnson**, Executive Director of the Idaho State Board of Education, who presented the Board's overarching priorities, which are primarily to increase the individual opportunities for Idaho students so they can compete and thrive in today's world and to increase the skills of Idaho's workforce. The Board has set up four areas of focus: to improve preparation of students; to increase access and affordability of post-secondary education; to improve the quality of higher education; and to address cultural issues, primarily by raising parents' expectations so their children can move forward.

Senator Schroeder expressed the Committee's concerns emanating from a recent report by **Mr. David Shreve** on the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) program. He explained that Mr. Shreve is Senior Committee Director on the NCLB Education Standing Committee, National Conference of State Legislatures. **Senator Schroeder** briefly summarized some of the findings of a task force formed by Mr. Shreve's committee and said he believes there is a disconnect between purpose and outcome; rather than increased proficiency, there will be more failure rates.

Senator Pearce commented that he would like **Mr. Johnson** to read Mr. Shreve's presentation and come back with his response.

Senator Bastian observed that **Mr. Clabby's** presentation touched an important cord, and he wondered if Mr. Clabby would actually be considered a "qualified" teacher by NCLB standards. **Mr. Johnson** said the Board looks at Idaho teachers by Idaho's standards.

Copies of Mr. Shreve's report and a transcript of his presentation to the Committee were given to **Mr. Johnson** to take to the Board for review.

Chairman Goedde agreed that now would be the time for the State Board to gather information while re-authorization is in progress.

Mr. Johnson promised to take the material to the Board, but he said that students dropping out of school is more than NCLB; it is also a societal problem that is significant and growing.

PRESENTATION: **Chairman Goedde** welcomed **Mr. Keith Peterson**, Interim Director of the Idaho Historical Society (ISHS), who introduced his associates. He distributed informational materials and used a PowerPoint slide presentation, which exhibited many of the state's historical sites and artifacts. He focused on the educational benefits of the many exhibits available to students and teachers and said that ISHS provides tactile exhibits across the state, which students remember for a long time. Last year 1,200 Idaho students participated in History Day and received more than \$35,000 in scholarships for their projects.

Mr. Peterson said ISHS is preparing a grant proposal to develop a comprehensive digital exhibit of the Old Penitentiary and expressed

appreciation for **Chairman Goedde's** letter of recommendation.

Chairman Goedde thanked **Mr. Peterson** for his informative presentation.

S 1089 Relating to changes in the Idaho Code on post-secondary education. **Chairman Goedde** handed the gavel to **Vice Chairman Fulcher** while he asked that **S 1089** be sent to the 14th Order of Business. He explained that amendments include the deletion of Sections 2 and 3.

MOTION: **Senator Gannon** moved to send **S 1089** to the 14th Order of Business, **Senator Schroeder** seconded, and the motion passed by unanimous **voice vote**.

ADJOURNMENT: **Chairman Goedde** then took the gavel and adjourned the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

John Goedde,
Chairman

Jeanne' Clayton,
Secretary

Sandra Boyington,
Assistant Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** February 21, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Room 433
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Pearce, Jorgenson, Bastian, Burkett, and Malepeai
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** None
- GUESTS:** *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 Legislative Services Library.*
- CONVENE:** **Chairman Goedde** called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and referred Committee members to the contents of their blue folders, which included answers from Stacey Ellmore of American College Test (ACT) to questions posed by **Senator Malepeai** during Ms. Ellmore's presentation the previous week; a JLOC invitation; and an article entitled, "What Teachers Make."
- PRESENTATION:** **Chairman Goedde** welcomed **Dr. Tim White**, President of the University of Idaho (U of I). **Dr. White** presented an update on the University's activities. He said the university is listed in the top 200 research universities of America.
- The annual budget is \$322 million, with a total contribution to the State of Idaho of about \$1.5 billion. The U of I offers hundreds of choices for majors and minors. Forty-seven percent of the 100,000 alumni live in Idaho. The university is committed to a growing presence in north Idaho, but also enjoys partnerships with the other universities, citing a partnership with Idaho State University, Boise State University, and the Center for Advanced Energy Studies in Idaho Falls.
- Dr. White** said the financial condition of the university is stable and a new leadership team is in place. They are facing significant issues on deferred maintenance projects, however. He said there are no unbudgeted accounts and none in deficit. All accounts are reviewed on a monthly basis, and managers are held accountable.
- Dr. White** said enrollment has declined slightly, and they have not found it necessary to turn away students. The Colleges of Economics and Architecture can often reach capacity. The quality of the education students receive is of utmost importance.

He said the university is committed to funding institutional scholarships and is presently self-funding \$7.7 million in scholarships, excluding athletics and other extra-curricular activities.

Dr. White provided student statistics: the average GPA is 3.42; of the 15 National Merit Scholarships awarded, 14 chose U of I; the retention rate is fair, but resources and programs are required to keep students at the college. He said that even though the U of I has the smallest enrollment in Idaho, it awards the highest number of degrees.

Dr. White commended **Governor Otter** on his budget, stating that U of I's first priority is compensation, with scholarships second. Responding to his list of prepared questions from the Committee, he said:

- Community colleges are wise investments for the state.
- Some duplication of university programs is necessary because of the geographical separation, but each university has a unique role.
- Idaho cannot afford a medical school at this time because of the high cost involved. He spoke of Idaho's partnership with the Washington-Wyoming-Alaska-Montana-Idaho Medical Education program (WWAMI), and said he has ideas for expansion.
- He hopes that colleges of the future will be funded according to the mission of each university.
- Idaho will have more community colleges and will use more distance learning, but he said there will always be a need for campus learning.

Senator Malepeai asked how far the university falls below the national average for salaries, particularly research staff. **Dr. White** said full professors are about 20% below the median of their peers, senior faculty are about 17% below, and newer teachers about 15% below. Universities from other states recruit from Idaho because they know the salaries are low.

Dr. White responded to a variety of questions, including: class capacity, the athletic program, and culling courses to ensure programs are viable. He also spoke of the university's first-generation students and said that all students are enriched by learning from and associating with individuals from other cultures.

Chairman Goedde thanked **Dr. White** for his presentation and his leadership at the University.

S 1141

To clarify participation and funding for non-traditional public school students who participate in activities provided by traditional public schools. **Vice Chairman Fulcher** presented the genesis of **S 1141**, and said the legislation would provide a mechanism to levy a fee of \$150 for a public charter school student participating in extracurricular activities provided by a traditional public school.

A lengthy question-and-answer period ensued, including one-way versus two-way participation and the possibility of engaging a neutral third party to establish a fee schedule for each activity.

TESTIMONY:

Ms. Georgianne Goetsch, parent, expressed concern about raising student fees for extracurricular activities.

Mr. Jay Hummel, Superintendent of Kuna School District, distributed a written report and said he is against **S 1141** as it is written because it only addresses one-way participation, charter school to traditional public school.

Mr. Rio Peterson, Liberty Charter School student, supports the bill, which he says would eliminate the excessive fees now charged and would give students the opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities they can't get from their charter schools. **Rio** said his parents paid over \$600 for him to participate in athletic programs at a local traditional high school. **Chairman Goedde** asked if **Rio** would be in favor of traditional school students participating in activities in his charter school, and **Rio** replied that he would.

Ms. Sherrie Feist, Idaho PTA, argued against the bill and said the PTA does not support it.

Mr. Jeff Cornilles, Liberty Charter School parent, supports the bill and took questions from the Committee.

Ms. Jackie Redd, homemaker, said she does not support the bill.

Mr. Denny Sheul, member of Falcon Ridge Charter School Board, said he supports the bill and answered questions from the Committee.

Mr. Bill Lofholm, retired, spoke against the bill.

Ms. Laura Shaul, Falcon Ridge parent, spoke in support of the bill.

Ms. Laurie Boeckel, homemaker, spoke against the bill and answered questions.

Mr. Chris Yorgason, an attorney who does legal work for charter schools, supports the bill. He said legislation is needed because traditional schools are charging exorbitant fees and bringing on law suits. **Senator Schroeder** asked if **Mr. Yorgason** would be in favor of reciprocal, two-way legislation. **Mr. Yorgason** said the large number of students on waiting lists at charter schools would preclude traditional school students from access to charter school activities.

After a lengthy discussion period, **Chairman Goedde** announced that testimony on **S 1141** would continue Monday, February 26, and asked **Mr. Jay Hummel** to provide information at that time on the method(s) used by Kuna and Nampa schools to calculate fee schedules.

ADJOURNMENT: **Chairman Goedde** adjourned the meeting at 5:10 p.m.

John Goedde,
Chairman

Jeanne' Clayton,
Secretary

Sandra Boyington,
Assistant Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** February 22, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Room 433
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Jorgenson, Bastian, Burkett, and Malepeai
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** Senator Pearce
- GUESTS:** *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 Legislative Services Library.*
- CONVENE:** **Chairman Goedde** called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.
- RS 16962** **Relating to payments from the Public School Income Fund.** **Senator Little** presented **RS 16962**, which changes the apportionment of funds to school districts. He said it will help the districts and will have no fiscal impact on the State General Fund.
- MOTION:** **Senator Schroeder** moved to send **RS 16962** to a privileged committee to print. **Vice Chairman Fulcher** seconded and after a brief discussion the motion passed unanimously by **voice vote**.
- S 1088** **Relating to the creation of regional professional-technical charter schools.** **Senator Cameron** restated the rationale for **S 1088** and referred the committee to a letter from the Attorney General, which had been requested by **Senator Schroeder**. The Attorney General suggested wording and line placement changes to better reflect the intent of the legislation. **Senator Cameron** stated he was amenable to these changes.
- MOTION:** After a brief question-and-answer period, **Senator Fulcher** moved to send **S 1088** to the 14th Order of Business. **Senator Gannon** seconded, and the motion passed by unanimous **voice vote**.
- PRESENTATION:** **Mr. Bill Robertson**, Interim President of Eastern Idaho Technical College (EITC), used a slide presentation and printed materials to review the history of the college and its governing structure, which includes a 15-member advisory council that represents of area businesses and industries.
- Mr. Robertson** reviewed EITC's state appropriations. All funds are audited annually by the State Board of Education; he said the financial position of EITC is relatively stable. He addressed several topics,

including pre-employment credits, workforce training, adult basic education/GED, high school and community education. EITC does not support legislation to charge high schools for remedial classes taken in post-secondary education. The college is part of a consortium that partners with local high schools to offer dual enrollment classes, such as automotive repair and offers community education classes, such as photography and gardening. Enrollment is a mix of part-time and full-time students. Part-time enrollment has increased over the last few years, possibly because of low unemployment rates.

Workforce training spans 10 counties in southeastern Idaho and is beneficial to the many isolated rural areas where that population is starved for educational opportunities. An adjunct faculty travels to the rural areas, which is a significant part of what EITC does.

The college scholarship foundation is active and currently has \$2 million on hand. EITC is accredited through all appropriate accrediting agencies including the Northwest Commission of Colleges.

The average age of students is 30 years. Mr. Robertson said these students are motivated; they want to increase or change their skill levels to increase earnings and better provide for families and responsibilities.

Courses that have less demand are rearranged or discontinued to make room for more popular courses.

Mr. Robertson said student services are important and help to ensure that students stay with them.

A question-and-answer period followed regarding EITC's medical programs and use of clinical facilities; business and industry subsidies; and makeup of the foundation.

Chairman Goedde thanked **Mr. Robertson** for his presentation.

PRESENTATION:

Ms. Ann Joslin, State Librarian for the Idaho Commission for Libraries, presented an update, stating that their mission is to assist libraries to better serve clientele. **Ms. Joslin** said the Website www.lili.org is available to Idahoans for a very small cost and provides access to articles from magazines, professional journals, newspapers, reference books, and virtual books. She said there are more than 5 million books and other materials from Idaho libraries in the LiLI catalog.

Ms. Joslin described the Read-To-Me program, which she said is an important addition to early childhood learning. She said that students who are not reading at grade level by the end of the first grade have only a one-in-8 chance of catching up without extensive remediation.

Ms. Joslin described Library 2.0 and Web 2.0 as more interactive library applications. In response to a question posed by **Senator Gannon**, she explained that a digital native is someone who has grown

up with technologies, such as cell phones and the Internet; whereas, a digital immigrant is an older individual who did not grow up with these technologies.

In response to other questions, **Ms. Joslin** outlined how the employees carry out the role of the Library Commission. She commented that very few Idaho elementary schools have certified teacher librarians; most use para-professional aides. **Senator Schroeder** asked about raising funds from the tax base, and **Ms. Joslin** responded that library districts levy taxes independently.

Senator Goedde thanked **Ms. Joslin** for her presentation.

MOTION:

Senator Schroeder moved to approve the meeting minutes for February 12, 13, 14, and 15. **Senator Gannon** seconded, and the motion passed by unanimous **voice vote**.

S 1139

Relating to the funding gap in the public school funding formula for growing school districts and charter schools. **Senator Lodge** revisited **S 1139** and emphasized that fast-growing schools must use discretionary funds to provide for additional teachers and supplies when those resources are needed after the November cut-off date. The Committee had questions about the funding formula. **Senator Lodge** had asked **Jason Hancock**, Budget and Policy Analyst from the Legislative Services Office, to be available to answer those questions, but he was detained at another meeting.

TESTIMONIES:

Ms. Sue Muchow, Business Manager at Vallivue School District, testified that the Vallivue Board of Trustees supports this legislation.

Mr. Eric Exline, Public Information Officer for Meridian School District, testified in favor of the bill and explained how this legislation will assist schools to work through funding issues related to fast growth. He answered questions from Committee members concerning enrollment, the funding formula, and facilities.

Mr. Mike Vuittonett, Meridian School Board Trustee, testified in favor of the bill. He feels growth will become an even greater issue in the future and asked for support of this bill. **Chairman Goedde** expressed concern about school districts using the funds for equipment and facilities.

Dr. Clifford Green, Executive Director of the Idaho School Boards Association (ISBA), testified that ISBA supports the bill and answered questions.

Mr. John Eikum, Director of the Idaho Rural Schools Association (IRSA), said IRSA favors the legislation and sees no problem in using the funds for expenses other than staffing, as long as the expenditures are directly related to increased enrollment and growth.

Mr. Jim Shackelford, Director of the Idaho Education Association (IEA), said that IEA supports **S 1139** and stated that schools would be

able to use the additional funds for supplies only during the current year.

Senator Schroeder asked **Mr. Exline** what would happen if enrollment declined after the cut-off date. **Mr. Exline** said the schools would continue to receive the salary-based apportionment, and funding for Average Daily Attendance (ADA) would be adjusted at the end of the school year.

Chairman Goedde asked **Mr. Shackelford** if the IEA would endorse the legislation if it referred only to salaries. **Mr. Shackelford** said, it would.

MOTION: **Senator Bastian** moved to send **S 1139** to the 14th Order of Business, and **Senator Gannon** seconded. **Senator Schroeder** asked for assurance from **Senator Lodge** that she had talked with the Joint Finance and Appropriations Committee (JFAC) inasmuch as the appropriation will come up next week. She replied that the \$600,000 is on the list for JFAC. There was further discussion, and the motion died.

MOTION: **Senator Schroeder** moved to hold **S 1139** until Monday, February 26, when **Mr. Hancock** would be available to answer questions about the funding formula. **Senator Bastian** seconded, and the motion was approved by unanimous **voice vote**.

ADJOURNMENT: **Chairman Goedde** adjourned the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

John Goedde,
Chairman

Jeanne' Clayton,
Secretary

Sandra Boyington,
Assistant Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** February 26, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Room 433
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Pearce, Jorgenson, Bastian, Burkett, and Malepeai
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** None
- GUESTS:** *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 Legislative Services Library.*
- CONVENE:** **Chairman Goedde** convened the meeting at 3:00 p.m.
- S 1139** **Relating to the funding gap in the public schools funding formula for fast-growing schools.** **Chairman Goedde** requested that **Jason Hancock**, Budget and Policy Analyst from the Legislative Services Office, inform the Committee on the specifics of the funding formula, which had been questioned at a previous meeting.
- Mr. Hancock** responded to the previous questions, which included: salary-based apportionment, distribution of funds, public education stabilization funds, fiscal calculations, free fund balances, budget line items, and consolidations.
- Chairman Goedde** commented that certain language in the bill implies that districts must "use or lose" the funds. He asked **Mr. Hancock** if a carry-over would lead to 'double-dipping.' **Mr. Hancock** said that schools would probably be able to hold the funds over for the following year.
- In reply to **Senator Schroeder** regarding the Craig-Wyden funds, **Mr. Hancock** said it is likely there will be only the Joint Memorial and that funding will be discontinued.
- Senator Schroeder** asked for information on the school levy rate for the Meridian School District. **Mr. Tim Hill**, Deputy Superintendent, State Department of Education, said Meridian's levy is approximately \$381 per \$100,000 of property valuation. The state average is about \$310.
- MOTION:** **Senator Bastian** moved to send **S 1139** to the 14th Order of Business,

seconded by **Senator Burkett**. After further discussion, the motion passed unanimously by **voice vote**.

INFORMATION: **Chairman Goedde** reminded Committee members of a field trip to Hidden Springs Charter School on Wednesday, February 28, at noon.

PRESENTATION: **Chairman Goedde** welcomed **Dr. Arthur Vailus**, President of Idaho State University (ISU), who distributed slide materials to the Committee and summarized his background.

Dr. Vailus said he believes that Idaho will be one of the energy cores of the world. ISU recently received a grant from the National Science Foundation for energy research, and has partnered with the University of Idaho, Boise State University, and the Idaho National Laboratory in support of the newly formed Center for Advanced Energy Studies, located in Idaho Falls.

Dr. Vailus said it is important for post-secondary institutions to encourage concurrent enrollment in high schools and middle schools. He said that ISU is gearing its curriculum to excite young people in post-secondary education and the resulting careers that increase flexibility and independence.

Dr. Vailus, said that health care is in an economic crisis and believes that local hospitals must be affiliated with the universities. ISU is focusing on three main concerns: energy, health care, and the environment, which he said are not mutually exclusive. He commented that ISU has one of the three oldest pharmacy schools in the country.

In answer to a question from **Senator Schroeder**, he replied that ISU's foundation does not have university administrators or faculty on its board.

Senator Malepeai informed committee members that **Dr. Vailus** comes to Idaho with a strong background, especially in medical education. He said the ISU faculty has a renewed sense of vision and enthusiasm with **Dr. Vailus** at its helm.

Chairman Goedde thanked **Dr. Vailus** for his presentation.

S 1141 **Relating to clarification and funding procedures for non-traditional public school students to participate in extra-curricular activities at traditional public schools.** **Chairman Goedde** called on the individuals who did not have an opportunity to testify on **S 1141** at the last meeting.

TESTIMONIES: **Ms. June Blackhurst**, parent, gave the Committee a handout, and said she does not support **S 1141**.

Dr. Clifford Green, Executive Director of the Idaho School Boards Association (ISBA), said they would support **S 1141** if it is amended so that the reimbursement rates are set out in a rule by the State Board of Education, which would give the Board the authority to more easily

make changes in fee schedules. **Dr. Green** said the ISBA would not be in favor of **S 1141** as it now stands

Mr. Paul Powell, Trustee for Hidden Springs Charter School Board, supports **S 1141**, pointing out that it would correct the practice of charging exorbitant fees for charter students to participate in extra-curricular programs offered at traditional public schools. **Senator Gannon** asked if Hidden Springs has a waiting list. **Mr. Powell** said that some grades do have waiting lists. Discussion ensued relative to dual enrollment.

Ms. Cindy Schiller, representing Idaho Parent Teacher Association (PTA), said the Idaho PTA does not support **S 1141**.

Ms. Kammy Fisher, Falcon Ridge Charter School parent, supports **S 1141**.

Ms. Tamara Baysinger, Program Manager of the Idaho Charter School Commission, said her agency supports **S 1141**. In reply to **Senator Schroeder**, she said that Liberty Charter School allows students from the Nampa School District to compete; but if both schools offer the same program, students may not switch.

Representative John Vander Woude, District 21, Nampa, said he is in favor of **S 1141**. He said that if a class is not offered at one school, students are allowed to go to another school for that class. He said that one purpose of this bill is to expand opportunities for the students. He asked that the bill not be amended because it would change the substance.

Ms. Michelle Blake, parent from Nampa, home-schools her children. She does not support **S 1141**.

Ms. Karen Echeverria, Deputy Director, Idaho State Board of Education, supports the legislation, saying it would provide more consistency and a more reasonable fee schedule. She had no comment about an amendment that would give the State Board authority to develop the fees

Ms. Jan Sylvester, parent, talked about dual enrollment and equitable access. She does not favor **S 1141**.

Vice Chairman Fulcher summed up with final comments, stating that while the bill does address some major problems, he agrees that it does not solve all problems. Asked if he would support **S 1141** going to the Amending Order to grant the Board of Education authority to oversee the changes, he replied that the Board has many responsibilities and may not look favorably to one more responsibility.

MOTION:

Senator Jorgenson moved to hold voting on **S 1141** until all members of the Committee are in attendance, **Senator Malepeai** having left to

attend another meeting. **Senator Pearce** seconded. After discussion, it was agreed that **S 1141** would be held over for a vote on Wednesday, February 28, and the motion was approved by unanimous **voice vote**.

ADJOURNMENT: **Chairman Goedde** adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

John Goedde,
Chairman

Jeanne' Clayton,
Secretary

Sandra Boyington,
Assistant Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** February 27, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Room 433
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Bastian, Burkett, and Malepeai
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** Senators Pearce and Jorgenson
- GUESTS:** *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 Legislative Services Library.*
- CONVENE:** Chairman Goedde called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.
- PRESENTATION:** **Chairman Goedde** welcomed **Mr. Brent Reinke**, Director of the Department of Corrections, who presented on activities of the Department of Corrections (DOC). He said that education is a key component in the rehabilitation of inmates. He referred to his memorandum to Governor Otter, which listed three performance indicators by which the Idaho Criminal Justice Commission would like to be measured in six months: (1) Development of alternatives to incarceration for juveniles and adults; (2) Implementation of the Adam Walsh Act relating to Idaho's sex offender registry; and (3) Development of evidence-based programs in the management of incarcerated adults and juveniles.
- Chairman Goedde** said he has letters from individuals asking that the Adam Walsh Act be pushed forward. Mr. Reinke said he will keep the committee updated as information is made available.
- Mr. Reinke** reviewed DOC's Capacity Report. Idaho's prison population is growing at the rate of approximately 39 inmates a month. The DOC gained 450 inmates in fiscal year 2006; 292 beds have been added; they have funding for 700 beds. Two new county jails will be available in Elmore and Jefferson Counties. DOC is working with the parole commission on planned releases.
- Mr. Reinke** introduced **Mr. Shane Evans**, Deputy Chief for the Division of Education and Treatment, who discussed the importance of education in increasing offenders' opportunities to enter into mainstream society. He said education is the cornerstone of success for these individuals. For every dollar spent on vocational education, the savings in societal costs is tenfold. Mr. Evans said that most programs require the individuals to have at least a sixth-grade understanding. Last year the system served more than 2,200 offenders and conferred

578 GED's. He said that employers ask for training in 'soft skills,' such as the ability to show up on time and proper interviewing techniques. He said that Habitat for Humanity is teaching offenders valuable skills they can use. His department is seeking to expand programs, such as welding and masonry, so offenders can go out and obtain a living wage. Teacher retention is critical; salaries are below the norm.

The Committee asked questions about percentage of parole completions; unemployment rates; improving capacity to educate inmates; services for anticipated growth. **Chairman Goedde** said he has the name of a contact that is looking at training workers. He will get this information to Mr. Reinke.

HCR 10

Relating to findings of the legislature and urging State Board of Education to integrate the principles of basic personal finance into public school curricula. **Senator Goedde** outlined the basic rationale of **HCR 10** and quoted statistics relative to revolving debt, college loans, and poverty levels of young adults. This resolution asks the State Board of Education to incorporate instruction on how to manage money into the curriculum.

Senator Gannon asked if some schools offer similar courses. **Senator Goedde** said there are canned courses available, but that they are looking at ways to integrate financial management within the existing curriculum.

TESTIMONY:

Leon Maynard, President of Idaho Council of Economic Education, testified in support **HCR 10**. He handed out information on financial economic education and emphasized growing competition with other countries and the imperative need for retirement preparation.

Mr. Maynard reviewed programs in place that educate teachers and students through a variety of workshops. He said stressed that students must learn these precepts in the lower grades rather than waiting until high school.

MOTION:

Senator Gannon moved to send **HCR 10** to the Senate floor with a do pass recommendation, **Senator Bastian** seconded. **Senator Schroeder** asked if there had been testimony against HCR 10. **Chairman Goedde** replied that there had not. The motion was approved by unanimous **voice vote**.

ADJOURN:

Chairman Goedde adjourned the meeting at 3:50 p.m.

Senator John Goedde
Chairman

Jeanne Clayton
Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** February 28, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Room 433
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Pearce, Jorgenson, Bastian, Burkett, and Malepeai
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** None
- GUESTS:** *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 Legislative Services Library.*
- CONVENED:** **Chairman Goedde** called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and introduced Mr. Larry Callicut, Director of the Juvenile Justice System and Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections.
- Presentation:** Mr. Larry Callicut distributed materials and stated the mission of his Department is to prevent and reduce juvenile crime in partnership with communities. He gave an update of the department, including service delivery and recidivism rates.
- Mr. Callicut** said the 94% of juvenile services are provided at the local level. **Chairman Goedde** asked how many halfway houses were available across the state. Mr Callicut referred to the Idaho Youth Ranch as being the predominant resource, but said that the outlying communities have few if any halfway houses.
- Senator Fulcher** asked why the cost of adult imprisonment is one-half for that of youths. **Mr. Callicut** said that one reason is the need for considerably increased staffing ratios for the youth. **Senator Bastian** asked if tracking was done to show how many incarcerated youths go back into the prison system as adults. Mr. Callicut said figures indicate about 21%. Senator Pearce asked what we as a state can do to help the families not to produce recruits for the Juvenile Corrections system.
- Mr. Callicut** introduced **Dr. Glenda Rohrback**, Head of the Education Program, who gave an update on the Juvenile Corrections Program, using hard-copy slides. She said there is a growing trend of emotionally disturbed and learning disabled youth who come into the Juvenile Corrections system. **Senator Burkett** asked the difference between learning disabled and cognitively impaired, which she explained.
- Dr. Rohrback** said that recruiting teachers is a challenge because of the low salaries in relation to the long hours required. She sees an increasing

problem in the next few years when 21% of their teachers will be eligible for retirement.

Chairman Goedde called for questions from the committee; there being none, he thanked **Mr. Callicut and Dr. Rohrback** for their presentations.

S 1141

Relating to participation and funding procedures for nontraditional public school students to participate in extra-curricular activities provided by traditional public schools. Chairman Goedde reminded committee members that **S 1141** had been held for a vote until such time as all members were present.

MOTION:

Senator Gannon moved to send **S 1141** to the 14th Order of Business for amendment, and **Senator Bastian** seconded the motion.

Senator Gannon said he was proposing changes in the bill that would not mandate a specific dollar figure but would include wording to state there would be the opportunity for reimbursement. He said he would like to charge the State Board of Education to: define legitimately reimbursable costs, address the issue of waiving costs for some students, and add a clause to make the ruling reciprocal.

Senator Bastian said he would like to see the State Board of Education calculate the expenses based on staffing, equipment, liability insurance, and maintenance costs, incrementally. He further said that he believes participation should be based on ability, not school enrollment.

Senator Pearce asked **Ms. Karen Echeverria**, Policy & Government Affairs Officer for the State Board of Education if the Board had looked at these recommendations. She said the Board had agreed to support the amendment. **Chairman Goedde** said he had asked **Jason Hancock**, Budget & Policy Analyst in the Legislative Services office, to review the Kuna justification for expenses; cheerleading was most expensive.

Senator Burkett said that these activities do cost a lot of money, and he believes charter school students should pay their fair share.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION:

Senator Schroeder moved to hold **S 1141** in Committee until the State Board of Education defines amended language for re-introduction as a bill next year. **Senator Jorgenson** seconded the motion.

Senator Malepeai commented that he feels the issue is local and that the schools should work it out. He gave kudos to **Senator Fulcher** for his long work on **S 1141**, however.

A roll call vote was taken on the **substitute motion**, which was defeated by a vote of three to six, **Senators Schroeder, Jorgenson, and Malepeai** voting yes.

A roll call vote was then taken on the **original motion** to send **S 1141** to the amending order, which passed by a vote of five to four, **Senators Schroeder, Jorgenson, Burkett, and Malepeai** voting no.

ADJOURN:

Chairman Goedde adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Senator John Goedde
Chairman

Jeanne Clayton
Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** March 1, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Gold Room
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Senators Schroeder, Pearce, Jorgenson, Bastian, Burkett, and Malepeai
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** Vice Chairman Fulcher and Senator Gannon
- GUESTS:** *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 Legislative Services Library.*
- CONVENE:** **Chairman Goedde** convened the meeting at 3:05 p.m. and welcomed a large class of 8th grade students from **Sandpoint Charter School** in Sandpoint, Idaho. **Chairman Goedde** also greeted a former Committee member, **Senator Bert Marley**, who was in attendance.
- MOTION:** **Senator Burkett** moved to approve Committee meeting minutes for February 19, 20, 21, and 22, 2007. **Senator Schroeder** seconded, and the motion was approved by unanimous **voice vote**.
- PRESENTATION:** **Senator Burkett** introduced **Mr. Rob Grunewald**, Associate Economist with the Federal Reserve Bank (FRB) of Minneapolis, who took the podium to present on economic capital investments.
- Mr. Grunewald** said the purpose of his presentation is to provide information on how to make better use of human capital. Research indicates there is a direct link between early childhood learning and economic development . Studies show that by the age of three or four years, 85% of a child's brain is formed. The environment during these early years, such as time spent with parents, reading and learning vocabulary, and generally enriched environments, is a primary factor in healthy development. Disadvantaged children, on the other hand, are behind their classmates when they arrive at kindergarten.
- Over a 40-year period of time, one study showed that randomly selected children participating in a pre-school program, relative to non-preschool children in a control group, had higher achievement scores, higher graduation ratios and, by age 40, had committed less crime and received higher earnings in the workforce. Research shows that there is a \$17 return for every \$1 invested in preschool learning, primarily because of the reduction in crime.

For the benefit of the 8th grade audience, **Senator Jorgenson** asked **Mr. Grunewald** to explain the difference between the Federal Reserve Bank and other banks. **Mr. Grunewald** explained that the Federal Reserve Bank is the bank *for* the other banks; it dispenses currency and provides other services to the regular banks.

Senator Bastian pointed out that studies indicate preschool children learn best when their parents provide this special attention at home. **Mr. Grunewald** agreed, but stated that most parents are either (1) in the workforce because of a need for the income or (2) do not have the skills or interest to provide those extra developmental benefits.

Senator Malepeai asked about the benefits of professional-technical education. **Mr. Grunewald** said that high school graduates who receive any form of post-secondary education, including professional-technical, will fare better in their adult lives.

ADJOURNMENT: **Chairman Goedde** thanked **Mr. Grunewald** for his presentation and adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

John Goedde,
Chairman

Jeanne' Clayton,
Secretary

Sandra Boyington,
Assistant Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** March 5, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Room 433
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Pearce, Jorgenson, Bastian, Burkett, and Malepeai
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** None
- GUESTS:** *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 Legislative Services Library.*
- CONVENE:** **Chairman Goedde** convened the meeting at 3:10 p.m. and called attention to materials in committee members' blue folders, which included an invitation from Rolling Hills Public Charter School and an opinion letter from Deputy Attorney General **Jennifer Swartz**.
- PRESENTATION:** **Mr. Peter Morrell**, General Manager of Idaho Public Broadcasting Station (PBS) presented an entertaining slide program and distributed hard-copy materials to the committee. Idaho Public Broadcasting Station is an agency of the State Board of Education, serving 97% of Idaho's population and six surrounding states. It is the only locally owned and operated network television station in Idaho.
- Mr. Morrell** illustrated how transmission translators reach the various geographical areas around the state. A new feature on the PBS Website is "Legislative Live," which consists of robotically controlled cameras stationed around both the House and Senate floors.
- Mr. Morrell said that federal legislation has established February 9, 2009, as the cutoff date for analog TV transmitters, after which fully digital will be mandated. He said the Joint Finance Appropriations Committee (JFAC) has recommended funding to meet these digital conversion standards, and PBS has secured 26 competitive grants totaling \$6.7 million, toward the conversion.
- The FY 2008 JFAC budget recommendations for Idaho PBS include: five rural translators; a Moscow studio digital upgrade; and upgrade of miscellaneous transmission equipment. Sources of revenue to supplement state funds are federal grants and corporate donations.
- Senators Gannon and Bastian** posed questions about transmitter

signals and the impact of the digital conversion.

Mr. Morrell showed clips of three new productions that will be available to schools and libraries. The Wal-Mart Foundation donated funds to PBS allowing for distribution of the new WWII production on DVD to all Idaho schools and for the enhancement of the PBS Website.

Chairman Goedde thanked **Mr. Morrell** for his presentation.

S 1183: **To adjust the contribution rates for university Optional Retirement Program.** **Chairman Goedde** explained that this bill, which deals with pensions for university employees, was sent to print by the Commerce and Human Resources Committee, and he asked for **unanimous consent** that **S 1183** be redirected to that committee. There being no objections, **S 1183** will be re-referred to the Commerce and Human Resources Committee.

HB 183 **To ease implementation of HB 743, which provides for safe school facilities.** **Representative Scott Bedke** presented the rationale for this bill, which is follow-up legislation to **HB 743**, passed during the 2006 legislature to meet the state's constitutional mandate to provide safe school facilities. The purpose of **HB 183** is to (1) ease provisions for school district accounting staff by providing an allocation for building maintenance rather than establishing a separate fund; (2) permit districts to spend allocated maintenance money outside the school building, as long as it is spent to correct safety hazards; (3) allow maintenance spending above 4% of the replacement value of school buildings to be carried forward as a credit for future fiscal years and; (4) excludes square footage of school buildings less than one year old from the maintenance allocation requirement.

MOTION: **Vice Chairman Fulcher** moved that **HB 183** be sent to the Senate floor with a do pass recommendation, **Senator Pearce** seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved by **voice vote**. Sponsors will be **Senators McKenzie** and **Keough**.

INFORMATION: **Chairman Goedde** brought the Committee's attention to an opinion letter from **Ms. Jennifer Swartz**, Deputy Attorney General, Contracts and Administrative Law, which had been requested by **Senator Schroeder** with regard to **SB 1141**, relating to participation of public charter school students in traditional public school programs.

Committee members expressed confusion as to the interpretation of portions of **Ms. Swartz'** letter, and **Chairman Goedde** agreed to ask her if she would be available to clarify those issues at one of the next committee meetings.

ADJOURNMENT: **Chairman Goedde** adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

John Goedde,
Chairman

Jeanne³ Clayton,
Secretary

Sandra Boyington,
Assistant Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** March 6, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Room 433
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Pearce, Jorgenson, Bastian, Burkett, and Malepeai
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** None
- GUESTS:** *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 Legislative Services Library.*
- CONVENE:** **Chairman Goedde** convened the meeting at 3:10 p.m.
- HB 182** **To provide clear direction to school districts on notice requirements for disposal of real and personal property.** **Representative Mortimer** explained that **HB 182** will clarify the intent of changes that had been made to the Idaho Code during the 2004 legislative session.
- MOTION:** **Senator Schroeder** moved to send **HB 182** to the **Consent Calendar**, **Senator Bastian** seconded, and the motion passed by unanimous **voice vote**.
- PRESENTATION:** **Dr. Dene Thomas**, President of Lewis-Clark State College (LCSC), presented an update and responded to questions sent to her earlier from the Committee. She said that Lewis-Clark has grown into a four-year baccalaureate college that still retains its core values and emphasis on people. The student population consists of many non-traditional students, students in the workforce, students on full financial aid, and many students from Washington State. She said she does not think the valley is big enough for another community college at this time.
- LCSC's primary emphases are (1) business, (2) criminal justice, (3) nursing, (4) professional-technical education, (5) social work, and (6) teacher education. LCSC in Coeur d'Alene provides several areas of study, including applied technology, business administration, nursing, and communications. A near record 524 degrees were awarded last year.
- Dr. Thomas** reviewed placement rates, community-workforce development, collaboration with Idaho Department of Corrections and K-12 programs, enrollment, accreditation, and capital improvement

projects. LCSC tries to avoid unnecessary duplication. Dr. Thomas believes that some duplication is necessary, however, and she said the State Board oversees new programs and collaboration. LCSC provides programs to north and central Idaho in collaboration with Boise State University (BSU). The instructors are a blend from BSU and LCSC.

In response to questions from the committee, **Dr. Thomas** said that (1) she does not feel high schools should be charged for post-secondary remediation, but she does recommend continuous math classes throughout middle and high school; (2) the 450 students who earned their BA from LCSC last year could (statistically) earn \$8.25 per hour more than if they had stopped at the associates' level; (3) the most expensive courses are nursing and professional-technical programs, such as diesel mechanics and welding, but they do provide well-trained workers, (4) long-term trends in education show steady growth, and (5) enrollment has increased 26% since 2001, and LCSC finds it necessary to turn students away.

Dr. Thomas said she thinks they are getting the help they need from the Legislature. She commented that the college currently shows a 57.4% increase in enrollment of first-generation students.

Dr. Thomas said that LCSC has remained within its operating budget over the last five years. Faculty salaries are lower than the average, but there is little staff turnover, and they grant promotions from within.

Senator Schroeder asked if LCSC's foundation includes faculty or administrators on its board. **Dr. Thomas** replied that the chairman and one advisory member are from faculty, but she has seen no problem with the arrangement.

Chairman Goedde and Committee members thanked **Dr. Thomas** for her presentation and the excellent job she is doing at LCSC.

HB 202:

To allow retired teachers or administrators to be rehired as "at will" employees without putting their PERSI benefits in jeopardy.

Senator Cameron explained the details of the bill, stating that to be considered under this rule, retired teachers or administrators (1) must have reached the Rule of 90, (2) did not participate in the early retirement program, and (3) must be at least 62 years of age.

Vice Chairman Fulcher asked for an explanation of the Rule of 90, and **Senator Cameron** explained that a person reaches the Rule of 90 when their years of service and their age total 90. The age requirement of 62 years is necessary to conform with IRS regulations, which **Senator Cameron** said they hope to rectify at a later time.

MOTION:

Senator Jorgenson moved that **HB 202** be sent to the Senate floor with a do pass recommendation, **Senator Pearce** seconded. After reviewing the voting history on **HB 202**, the motion passed by unanimous **voice vote**.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Goedde adjourned the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

John Goedde,
Chairman

Jeanne' Clayton,
Secretary

Sandra Boyington,
Assistant Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** March 7, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Room 433
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Pearce, Jorgenson, Bastian, and Malepeai
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** Senator Burkett
- CONVENE:** **Chairman Goedde** called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m. and introduced **Ms. Jennifer Swartz**, Deputy Attorney General, Contracts and Administrative Law, Attorney General's Office.
- In response to a request from **Senator Schroeder**, **Ms. Swartz** had prepared an opinion letter relating to **SB 1141**. After reading the letter, committee members were uncertain as to interpretation of some portions of the letter. As a result, **Chairman Goedde** asked **Ms. Swartz** to attend today's meeting to respond to questions.
- Senator Schroeder** read from a paragraph in her letter referring to student priority. **Ms. Swartz** clarified that priority will always go to the full-time student who is attending the traditional public school.
- Vice Chairman Fulcher**, **Chairman Goedde**, and **Senators Bastian** and **Gannon**, requested clarification on issues not specifically addressed in her letter, after which **Chairman Goedde** thanked **Ms. Swartz** for taking the time to address the committee in person.
- HCR 22:** **To establish Disability History Month. Representative Block** presented the reasons for bringing **HCR 22** to the committee and explained the benefits that would accrue to both disabled and enabled individuals by declaring October as Disability History Month. She said it would increase understanding and promote respect and acceptance for disabled students and would also reduce harassment and inspire disabled students to achieve their goals.
- TESTIMONIES:** **Ms. Robbie Barrutia**, Project Director, State Independent Living Council (SILC), used a slide presentation in support of **HCR 22**.
Mr. Kelly Buckland, Director of SILC, spoke in support of the bill, as did:
Mr. Jim Liddell, Development Specialist, SILC
Mr. Robert White, Artist
Ms. Marilyn Sword, Executive Director Developmental Disability Council
Mr. Wes Maynard, Exec. Director, Council for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing.

All of the above testimonies were in support of HCR 22. **Meridith Mattson**, a Meridian High School Legislative Intern for the State Independent Living Council, sent a letter supporting the bill.

MOTION: **Senator Schroeder** moved to send **HCR 22** to the Senate floor with a do pass recommendation, **Senator Pearce** seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved by **voice vote**.

HB 231 **Allows school districts to invest under the provisions of sections 67-1210 and 67-1210A of the Idaho Code.** **Ms. Liza Carberry**, Investment Manager, State Treasurer's office, presented the rationale for **HB 231**, which she said would clarify the Idaho Code with regard to allowing school districts the ability to invest in the state's Local Government Investment Pool. She said the legislation would take nothing away but would add language to clarify the intent of the Code.

MOTION: There being no questions from the committee, **Senator Gannon** moved to send **HB 231** to the **Consent Calendar**, **Senator Bastian** seconded, and the motion passed by unanimous **voice vote**.

HB 232 **Extends the term of the contractual agreement between the Idaho College Savings Plan board and the administrator of the program, from five to 10 years.** **Ms. Carberry** presented the reasons for **HB 232**, stating it would give the Treasurer's Office negotiating power in its discussions with vendors.

Chairman Goedde and **Senators Pearce, Bastian and Gannon** asked questions of **Ms. Carberry** concerning source of funds, vendors, and vendor selection.

MOTION: **Senator Pearce** moved to send **HB 232** to the **Consent Calendar**, **Senator Bastian** seconded, and the motion carried by unanimous **voice vote**.

MOTION: **Senator Malepeai** moved to approve Senate Education Committee meeting minutes of **February 26, 27, 28**, and **March 1, 2007**, **Senator Gannon** seconded, and the motion passed by unanimous **voice vote**.

ADJOURN: **Chairman Goedde** adjourned the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

Senator John Goedde
Chairman

Jeanne Clayton
Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** March 12, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Room 433
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Pearce, Jorgenson, Bastian, and Burkett
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** Senator Malepeai
- GUESTS:** *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 Legislative Services Library.*
- CONVENE:** **Vice Chairman Fulcher** called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m., **Chairman Goedde** being detained briefly at another meeting.
- HCR 29** **To recognize the importance of private career colleges to Idaho's economy, workforce, and businesses.** **Mr. Chuck Ericson**, Executive Director, Apollo College in Boise, presented the reasons for establishing **HCR 29**, after which he stood for questions.
- Senators Bastian, Burkett, and Gannon** posed questions about (1) articulation between career colleges and universities, (2) number of accredited career colleges, and (3) credit transfers.
- MOTION:** **Senator Pearce** moved to send **HCR 29** to the Senate floor with a do pass recommendation, **Senator Jorgenson** seconded, and the motion passed by unanimous **voice vote**.
- HCR 19** **To reject certain subsections of a pending rule of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation pertaining to Standards Governing Extended Employment Services.** **Chairman Goedde** returned the gavel to **Vice Chairman Fulcher** while he presented on **HCR 19**. Senator Goedde reminded the committee that a vote was taken earlier in the session to adopt Rule 47-0102-0601, with the exception of subsections 100.02 and 100.04.c and .d, which were thought to be inconsistent with legislative intent.
- TESTIMONY:** **Mr. Ron Enright**, Project Specialist, Idaho Center on Developmental Disabilities, spoke in support of **HCR 19**, stating that the exclusion of these subsections will remove ambiguity and will also allow the possibility of participation by new providers.
- MOTION:** After a brief question-and-answer period, **Senator Gannon** moved that

HCR 19 be sent to the Senate floor with a do pass recommendation, **Senator Bastian** seconded, and the motion passed by unanimous **voice vote**.

PRESENTATION: **Mr. Mike Reynoldson**, Legislative Advisor for Micron Technology, Inc., outlined Micron's K-12 Program briefly and introduced Micron's K-12 Program Manager, **Dr. Alecia Baker**.

Dr. Baker illustrated with a slide presentation Micron's K-12 program, the intent of which is to (1) promote improved math, science, and technology skills in K-12 students; (2) demonstrate the relevance of skills, attitudes, and knowledge taught in school to the world of work; (3) encourage students to prepare for and enter technical fields, and (4) foster work-related attitudes and behaviors of students. A portion of the program targets young women, especially, to enter into technical careers.

Morgan Harding, a high school student, spoke about her thorough participation in the K-12 program, which she said fostered her interest in engineering.

Senators Schroeder and **Burkett** asked **Dr. Baker** about (1) the kindergarten and pre-kindergarten programs and (2) assessment and tracking. **Chairman Goedde** asked **Ms. Harding** about her plans for the future, which include extensive post-secondary education.

Chairman Goedde thanked **Mr. Reynoldson**, **Dr. Baker**, and **Ms. Harding** for their presentations.

MOTION: **Vice Chairman Fulcher** moved that the Senate Education Committee meeting minutes for **March 5, 6, and 7, 2007**, be approved as written, **Senator Gannon** seconded, and the motion carried by unanimous **voice vote**.

INFORMATION: **Chairman Goedde** referred committee members to a letter from **Dr. Kustra**, President of Boise State University, in which he addressed, as promised, the university's guest speaker program.

ADJOURN: **Chairman Goedde** adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Senator John Goedde
Chairman

Jeanne Clayton
Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** March 15, 2007
- TIME:** 2:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Room 433
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Pearce, Jorgenson, and Burkett
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Bastian and Malepeai
- GUESTS:** *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 Legislative Services Library.*
- CONVENED:** **Chairman Goedde** convened the meeting at 2:10 p.m.
- INFORMATION:** **Chairman Goedde** called attention to materials in the committee members' blue folders, which included an article from the Washington Post on *No Child Left Behind*, an information sheet from the Coeur d'Alene Tribe, and a report from the Idaho State Board of Education in response to **Senator Jorgenson's** request for data on college attendance.
- Chairman Goedde** commented that requested information on (1) funding for the hearing and sight impaired and (2) Boise State University speakers had not yet been received, but it will be sent to committee members when it is forthcoming.
- H 219** **Clarifies and strengthens requirements for obtaining residency in Idaho for the purpose of qualifying for resident fees at Idaho's institutions for higher education.** **Chairman Goedde** reported that **H 219** is being held while certain details are refined. The legislation will be back for review next year.
- H 270aa** **Amends Chapter 54, Title 33 of Idaho Code by creating "a college savings fund" in the state treasury.** **Mr. Ron Crane**, Idaho State Treasurer's Office, reviewed **H 270aa**, which amends the College Savings Program enacted by the legislature in 2001, by creating a separate fund for administrative fees and service charges. The additional monies would be generated through a separate charge of ½ of 1% on new accounts.
- Senators Gannon** and **Burkett** asked for and received clarification on the specific modus operandi and uses of the funds.
- MOTION:** After a brief discussion, **Senator Pearce** moved to send **H 270aa** to the Senate floor with a do pass recommendation. **Senator Gannon**

seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by unanimous **voice vote**. **Senator Pearce** will carry the bill on the Senate floor.

SENATE PAGE: **Chairman Goedde** thanked Senate Education Page, **Heather Mallary**, for her work during the second half of the 2007 legislative session. He presented her with a legislative watch and letter of commendation signed by all committee members. Heather said she hopes to join the U. S. Air Force after graduation. She also plans to study nursing at either Boise State University or Washington State University.

ADJOURN: **Chairman Goedde** adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

Senator John Goedde
Chairman

Jeanne Clayton
Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** March 20, 2007
- TIME:** 3:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Room 433
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Pearce, Jorgenson, Bastian, Burkett, Malepeai
- MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** Senator Gannon
- GUESTS:** *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 Legislative Services Library.*
- CONVENE:** **Chairman Goedde** convened the meeting at 8:00 a.m. and called attention to informational material from Northwest Professional Educators for the committee members' review.
- MOTION:** **Senator Jorgenson** moved to approve Senate Education Committee minutes for March 12 and 15, as written. **Senator Bastian** seconded, and the motion carried by unanimous **voice vote**.
- H 217** **To create a scholarship fund administered by the State Board of Education for post-secondary education. Ms. Karen McGee**, Project Manager for Governor Otter, outlined the premise of **H 217**, which will provide "last dollar" financial resources to eligible Idaho students who are economically disadvantaged. The goal of the bill is to provide an opportunity for academically qualified and economically challenged Idaho students to obtain a post-secondary education by reducing the financial burden associated with that education.
- Ms. McGee** answered questions posed by **Chairman Goedde**, **Vice Chairman Fulcher**, and **Senators Malepeai, Burkett, and Bastian** concerning eligibility criteria, rules, implementation process, funding, fiscal impact, and possible endowment status.
- MOTION:** **Senator Bastian** moved to send **H 217** to the Senate floor with a do pass recommendation. **Senator Burkett** seconded, and the motion carried by unanimous **voice vote**. **Senator Burkett** will be added to the list of sponsors.
- H 295** **To give equal access to the Robert R. Lee Category A scholarship to all students in Idaho, including home-schooled students. Ms. McGee** reviewed the rationale for **H 295**. This scholarship currently provides approximately 25 new scholarships to academic and professional-technical students. The award is \$3,000 per year, and is

renewable up to four years for academic programs and up to three years for professional-technical programs. **H 295** would provide equal opportunity for home-schooled students.

The legislation asks for no additional funding; however, the existing funding of \$331,300 would be stretched by the increase of top students applying for scholarships.

A thorough question-and-answer period ensued, the primary focus of which was language defining eligibility requirements for home-schooled students.

MOTION:

Senator Schroeder moved to hold **H 295** in committee while the State Board of Education modifies the language to more clearly define the intent of the bill with regard to eligibility requirements for home-schooled students. **Senator Jorgenson** seconded, and the motion carried by **voice vote, Senator Pearce** voting **no**.

Senator Malepeai expressed concern about the inclusion of private schools in this scholarship fund and asked that this topic be addressed at the next session.

ADJOURN:

Chairman Goedde adjourned the meeting at 8:30 a.m.

Senator John Goedde
Chairman

Jeanne Clayton
Secretary

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: March 22, 2007

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: Room 433

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Goedde, Vice Chairman Fulcher, Senators Schroeder, Gannon, Pearce, Malepeai

MEMBERS ABSENT/ EXCUSED: Senators Jorgenson, Bastian, Burkett

GUESTS: *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 Legislative Services Library.*

CONVENED: **Chairman Goedde** called the meeting to order at 7:50 a.m.

H 295a **Ms. Karen McGee**, Project Manager from the Governor's Office, spoke briefly on this bill, which she said will provide the opportunity for all qualifying children to have access to the Robert R. Lee Scholarship.

Chairman Goedde reviewed the amendment to **H 295**, the language of which specifies more clearly that the State Board of Education must use other qualifying factors in addition to cumulative grade point average, which still allows home-schooled students the opportunity to apply for this scholarship.

MOTION: **Senator Pearce** moved that **H 295a** be sent to the 14th Order of Business. **Senator Fulcher** seconded.

After a brief discussion, **Senator Schroeder** asked for a role call vote, and the motion passed by a vote of **5 to 1**, **Chairman Goedde**, **Vice Chairman Fulcher**, and **Senators Gannon, Pearce, and Malepeai** voting yes, **Senator Schroeder** voting no. **Senators Jorgenson, Bastian, and Burkett** were absent.

ADJOURN: **Chairman Goedde** adjourned the meeting at 8:00 a.m.

Senator John Goedde
Chairman

Jeanne Clayton
Secretary