

MINUTES
SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, February 08, 2024

TIME: 3:00 P.M.

PLACE: Room WW55

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Lent, Vice Chairman Toews, Senators Den Hartog, Nichols, Carlson, Herndon, Lenney, Ward-Engelking, and Semmelroth

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: None

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

CONVENED: **Chairman Lent** called the meeting of the Senate Education Committee (Committee) to order at 3:02 p.m.

MOTION: **Senator Toews** moved to amend the order of the agenda and hear **RS 31160** first. **Senator Herndon** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

RS 31160 Relating to Education. **Senator Adams** introduced **RS 31160**. He explained that **RS 31160** codified an existing educational practice in Idaho public schools where a public school teacher works with a parent as teacher in a micro school. **RS 31160** expressed support for this practice and freed it from overregulation.

MOTION: **Senator Toews** moved that **RS 31160** be sent to print. **Senator Den Hartog** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

PRESENTATION: **Idaho Teacher of the Year 2024 - Trent Van Leuven**. **Debbie Critchfield**, Superintendent of Public Instruction, explained the rigorous selection process for Idaho Teacher of the Year which included nominations, applications, and panel evaluations. **Superintendent Critchfield** introduced Idaho Teacher of the Year, Trent Van Leuven. **Mr. Van Leuven** shared that he was an Agriculture Science teacher at Mackay High School in Mackay, Idaho. He spoke about the importance of developing talent pipelines for students and connecting students with in-demand careers. He explained that student talent pipelines are established by understanding local and regional labor needs and by involving business and industry stakeholders. He shared about the critical impact of teachers, student mentors, and industry volunteers.

DISCUSSION: In response to committee questions, **Mr. Van Leuven** shared about various school projects including managing hydroponic and bedding greenhouses, running a conservatory and fish lab, and raising river prawns.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business at this time, **Chairman Lent** adjourned the meeting at 3:32 p.m.

Senator Lent
Chair

Lisa Stein
Secretary