Survey of Principals, Superintendents, and Business Managers Regarding Consolidation of Services

General Survey Results

1. Respondents by District Size

	Principals		Superintendents and Business Managers	
	N	Percentage	N	Percentage
15,000 or more students	20	12.8	4	2.4
5,000-14,999 students	30	19.2	13	7.7
1,500-4,999 students	39	25.0	38	22.5
500-1,499 students	41	26.3	43	25.4
1-499 students	25	16.0	67	39.6
No district size category indicated	1	0.6	4	1.8

2. Respondents by Region

	Principals		Superintendents and Business Managers	
	N	Percentage	N	Percentage
Region I	16	12.8	16	9.5
Region II	11	19.2	27	16.0
Region III	54	25.0	38	22.5
Region IV	24	26.3	29	17.2
Region V	17	16.0	21	12.4
Region VI	34	16.0	23	13.6
No region category indicated	0	0.0	15	1.8

Survey Results by Question

1. Primary Role of Respondents—Superintendents' and Business Managers' Survey

	N	Percentage
Superintendent	74	43.8
Business manager	73	43.2
Other	21	13.0

2. Whether Districts Currently Share Services with Another School or District

	Principals		Superintendents and Business Managers	
	N	Percentage "Yes"	N	Percentage "Yes"
Is your district currently working with another school or district to share services?	**83**	**53.2**	**66**	**39.8**

Note: Bolded font indicates a statistically significant difference across the row ($p<.05$).

3. Reported Services Districts Share with Other Schools or Districts

	Principals		Superintendents and Business Managers	
	N	Percentage	N	Percentage
Bulk purchasing	20	12.8	35	20.7
Business administration services (such as payroll, accounting, and auditing)	8	5.1	7	4.1
Curriculum development	15	9.6	14	8.3
Employee health insurance	9	5.6	16	9.5
Food services	10	6.4	19	11.2
Maintenance/custodial services	9	5.6	3	1.8
Professional development/staff training	35	22.4	39	23.1
Special education support services (such as audiologists, speech pathologists, and occupational therapists)	40	25.6	53	31.4
Technology/technology services (such as technology staffing, purchasing of technology equipment, licensing agreements, and internet service contracts)	17	10.9	20	11.8
Transportation (such as busing, buses or vans, and vehicle maintenance)	18	11.5	17	10.1
Other	26	16.7	27	16.0

Survey Results by Question—Cont.

4.   Reported Reasons Why Districts Do Not Share with Other Schools or Districts

	Principals		Superintendents and Business Managers	
	N	Percentage	N	Percentage
Lack of good working relationship with neighboring districts	7	4.5	8	4.7
Loss of local control over resources results when working with other districts	21	13.5	16	9.5
My district does not have similar business needs as neighboring districts	11	7.1	12	7.1
My district is too far away from neighboring districts	19	12.2	26	15.4
Neighboring districts are not the same size as my district	22	14.1	25	14.8
Neighboring districts have a different business philosophy than my district	12	7.7	12	7.1
Sharing services adds unwanted or inefficient bureaucracy	14	9.0	12	7.1
Sharing services is not cost effective	7	4.5	11	6.5
Storage of bulk goods is difficult or not feasible	5	3.2	12	7.1
We have shared services in the past, but it is no longer desirable	8	5.1	9	5.3
Weather-related travel conditions make sharing of services difficult for much of the year	8	5.1	14	8.3
Other	14	9.0	10	5.9

5. & 6.   What Additional Services Districts Could Share with Other Districts

	Principals		Superintendents and Business Managers	
	N	Percentage	N	Percentage
Bulk purchasing	64	41.0	62	36.7
Business administration services (such as payroll, accounting, and auditing)	**19**	**12.2**	**31**	**18.3**
Curriculum development	62	39.7	39	23.1
Employee health insurance	71	45.5	43	25.4
Food services	21	13.5	17	10.1
Maintenance/custodial services	**9**	**5.8**	**24**	**14.2**
Professional development/staff training	81	51.9	92	54.4

Survey Results by Question—Cont.

5.& 6.   What Additional Services Districts Could Share with Other Districts (continued)

	Principals		Superintendents and Business Managers	
	N	Percentage	N	Percentage
Special education support services (such as audiologists, speech pathologists, and occupational therapists)	**52**	**33.3**	**76**	**45.0**
Technology/technology services (such as technology staffing, purchasing of technology equipment, licensing agreements, and internet service contracts)	38	24.4	61	36.1
Transportation (such as busing, buses or vans, and vehicle maintenance)	25	16.0	31	18.3
Other	5	3.2	8	4.7

Note: Bolded font indicates a statistically significant difference across the row (p<.05).

7.   Top Three Perceived Reasons that School Districts Share Services

	Principals		Superintendents and Business Managers	
	N	Percentage	N	Percentage
Save money	**120**	**76.9**	**64**	**37.9**
Combine and leverage resources, such as staff	**65**	**41.7**	**114**	**67.5**
Provide better services to staff	41	26.3	31	18.3
Provide better services to students	99	63.5	103	60.9
Offer services that a district could not otherwise offer	**85**	**54.5**	**118**	**69.8**
Other	4	2.6	6	3.6

Note: Bolded font indicates a statistically significant difference across each row.

8.   Districts that Reported working with Other Districts (Outside of Services Consolidation) to Find Better Ways of Providing Services

	Principals		Superintendents and Business Managers	
	N	Percentage "Yes"	N	Percentage "Yes"
Other than services consolidation, has your school or district worked with other districts to find better ways of providing services?	**54**	**36.0**	**40**	**24.2**

Note: Bolded font indicates a statistically significant difference across the row (p<.05).

Survey Results by Question—Cont.

8b. Principals' Most Commonly Reported Ways of Working with Other Districts to Provide Services

	N	Percentage
Sharing ideas	21	13.5
Sharing professional development	17	10.9
Sharing curriculum	9	5.8

Note: Percentages do not sum to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer. Percentages are calculated our of all eligible respondents, not only those who made a response to the item.

8c. Superintendents' and Business Managers' Most Commonly Reported Ways of Working with Other Districts to Provide Services

	N	Percentage
Sharing general information	47	27.8
Sharing professional development	20	11.8
Attending area meetings	11	6.5
Sharing computer software/technology	9	5.3

Note: Percentages do not sum to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer. Percentages are calculated our of all eligible respondents, not only those who made a response to the item.

9. Whether Schools or Districts Currently Work with Other Agencies or Organizations to Provide Services

	Principals		Superintendents and Business Managers	
	N	Percentage "Yes"	N	Percentage "Yes"
Does your school or district currently work with any other agency or organization, other than school districts, to provide services?	41	27.0	47	48.1

Survey Results by Question—Cont.

9b. Principals' Most Commonly Reported Ways their School or District Works with Other Agencies or Organizations to Provide Services

	N	Percentage
General cooperation	23	14.7
Working with occupational therapists	14	9.0
Working with psychosocial rehabilitation personnel	14	9.0
Working with physical therapists	12	7.7
Working with special education personnel	12	7.7
Working with universities/colleges	11	7.1
Working with state/federal agencies	10	6.4

Note: Percentages do not sum to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer. Percentages are calculated our of all eligible respondents, not only those who made a response to the item.

9c. Superintendents' and Business Managers' Most Commonly Reported Ways their School or District Works with Other Agencies or Organizations to Provide Services

	N	Percentage
Working with state/federal agencies	33	19.5
Working with occupational therapists	29	17.2
Working with speech pathology personnel	21	12.4
General cooperation	21	12.4
Working with physical therapists	20	11.8
Working with special education personnel	17	10.1
Working with those assisting with special needs in general	12	7.1
Working with psychologists	11	6.5
Working with associations or communities	9	5.3

Note: Percentages do not sum to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer. Percentages are calculated our of all eligible respondents, not only those who made a response to the item.

Survey Results by Question—Cont.

10. Whether Schools or Districts Have Formal Agreements or Contracts with Other Districts

	Principals		Superintendents and Business Managers	
	N	Percentage "Yes"	N	Percentage "Yes"
Does your school or district have any formal agreements or contracts with other districts?	93	65.0	95	57.2

10b. Superintendents' and Business Managers' Most Commonly Reported Types of Agreements or Contracts with Other Districts

	N	Percentage
Vocational/professional/technical services	14	8.3
ARTEC/charter schools	9	5.3

Note: Percentages do not sum to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer. Percentages are calculated our of all eligible respondents, not only those who made a response to the item.

11. Whether Districts Are Members of Idaho School District Council (ISDC)

	Principals		Superintendents and Business Managers	
	N	Percentage "Yes"	N	Percentage "Yes"
Is your district a member of the Idaho School District Council (ISDC)?	**54**	**47.0**	**20**	**12.0**

Note: Bolded font indicates a statistically significant difference across the row ($p<.001$).

Survey Results by Question—Cont.

13. Whether School or District Currently Consults with Idaho Department of Education (IDE) When Providing Services

	Principals		Superintendents and Business Managers	
	N	Percentage "Yes"	N	Percentage "Yes"
Does your school or district currently consult with the Idaho Department of Education (IDE) when providing services to your district?	**15**	**11.1**	**44**	**28.6**

Note: Bolded font indicates a statistically significant difference across the row ($p<.01$).

13b. Principals' Most Commonly Reported Ways of Consulting with IDE when Providing Services

	N	Percentage
Contacting IDE when needing help in general	19	12.2
Asking advice on special education issues	10	6.4
Consulting about program implementation	9	5.8

Note: Percentages do not sum to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer. Percentages are calculated our of all eligible respondents, not only those who made a response to the item.

13c. Superintendents' and Business Managers' Most Commonly Reported Reasons for not Consulting with IDE when Providing Services

	N	Percentage
Contacting IDE when needing help in general	34	20.1
Asking advice on special education issues	17	10.1
Consulting on certification issues	9	5.3
Consulting on purchasing, bids, and contracts	9	5.3

Note: Percentages do not sum to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer. Percentages are calculated our of all eligible respondents, not only those who made a response to the item.

Survey Results by Question—Cont.

13d. Superintendents' and Business Managers' Most Commonly Reported Ways of
Consulting with IDE when Providing Services

	N	Percentage
Not aware of an option to do so	9	5.3

Note: Percentages do not sum to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer. Percentages are calculated our of all eligible respondents, not only those who made a response to the item.

14. Whether School or District Purchases Goods or Services Through Idaho Department of
Administration, Division of Purchasing (IDADP)

	Principals		Superintendents and Business Managers	
	N	Percentage "Yes"	N	Percentage "Yes"
Does your school or district currently consult with the Idaho Department of Education (IDE) when providing services to your district?	**77**	**78.6**	**102**	**63.4**

Note: Bolded font indicates a statistically significant difference across the row ($p<.05$).

14b. Superintendents' and Business Managers' Most Commonly Reported Reasons for
Not Purchasing Goods or Services Through IDADP

	N	Percentage
Don't have enough information to purchase through IDADP	20	11.8
Can find better prices elsewhere	12	7.1
Not aware of the option to do so	9	5.3

Note: Percentages do not sum to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer. Percentages are calculated our of all eligible respondents, not only those who made a response to the item.

Survey Results by Question—Cont.

15. Whether School Tracks Expenditures at Level of Detail Beyond What is Reported to Idaho Department of Education

	Principals		Superintendents and Business Managers	
	N	Percentage "Yes"	N	Percentage "Yes"
Does your school keep track of expenditures at a level of detail beyond what is reported to the Idaho Department of Education?	15	11.4	14	8.8

16. Whether School Uses Idaho Financial Accounting Reporting Management System Codes

	Principals		Superintendents and Business Managers	
	N	Percentage "Yes"	N	Percentage "Yes"
Does your school use the Idaho Financial Accounting Reporting Management System (IFARMS) codes to categorize detailed expenditure information?	**11**	**7.1**	**0**	**0.0**

Note: Bolded font indicates a statistically significant difference across the row ($p<.001$).

19. Whether Respondents are Involved in School or District Business Functions

	Principals		Superintendents and Business Managers	
	N	Percentage "Yes"	N	Percentage "Yes"
Are you involved in business functions for your school or district?	**54**	**35.1**	**18**	**10.8**

Note: Bolded font indicates a statistically significant difference across the row ($p<.001$).

Survey Results by Question—Cont.

21. Active Involvement in School Purchasing Decisions

	Principals		Superintendents and Business Managers	
	N	Percentage "Yes"	N	Percentage "Yes"
Are you actively involved in purchasing decisions for your school?	**2**	**2.0**	**35**	**23.3**

Note: Bolded font indicates a statistically significant difference across the row ($p<.001$).

21b. Principals' Most Commonly Reported Active Involvement in Purchasing Decisions

	N	Percentage
Involvement in purchasing decisions	21	13.5
Involvement in budgeting	19	12.2
Involvement in purchasing supplies	13	8.3

Note: Percentages do not sum to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer. Percentages are calculated our of all eligible respondents, not only those who made a response to the item.

21c. Superintendents' and Business Managers' Most Commonly Reported Active Involvement in Purchasing Decisions

	N	Percentage
Involvement in approving purchases	41	24.3
Involvement in general financial oversight	22	13.0
Involvement in budgeting	11	6.5
Involvement in purchasing (generally)	10	5.9

Note: Percentages do not sum to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer. Percentages are calculated our of all eligible respondents, not only those who made a response to the item.

Survey Results by Question—Cont.

22a. Principals' Most Commonly Reported Types of Information Accessed on State Agency
     Websites

	N	Percentage
State regulations/requirements	42	26.9
Federal compliance	31	19.9
Achievement/assessment tests (e.g., DMA, DWA, IRI, ISAT)	22	14.1
New requirements	13	8.3
Information on the Department of Education generally	11	7.1
Certification	8	5.1
NCLB/Adequate Yearly Progress	8	5.1
Data collection and reporting procedures	8	5.1
Improvement planning/CIP	8	5.1

Note: Percentages do not sum to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer.
Percentages are calculated our of all eligible respondents, not only those who made a response to the item.

22b. Superintendents' and Business Managers' Most Commonly Reported Types of Information
     Accessed on State Agency Websites

	N	Percentage
Federal/state compliance	62	36.7
Data collection and reporting procedures	60	35.5
Grant applications and assistance	51	30.2
Finance and budgeting/IFARMS	45	26.6
New state requirements	43	25.4
Purchasing	38	22.5
Information on the Department of Education generally	26	15.4
AYP/SBE	20	11.8
Certification	16	9.5
Idaho Code/Legislature	14	8.3
Human resources	12	7.1
Recruitment/background checks	11	6.5
Training/professional development	11	6.5
Special education	9	5.3
Transportation	9	5.3

Note: Percentages do not sum to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer.
Percentages are calculated our of all eligible respondents, not only those who made a response to the item.

Survey Results by Question—Cont.

23a. Principals' Most Commonly Reported Types of Information Accessed from Other Online Sources

	N	Percentage
Research	15	9.6
Curriculum	12	7.7
Training/professional development	8	5.1

Note: Percentages do not sum to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer. Percentages are calculated our of all eligible respondents, not only those who made a response to the item.

23b. Superintendents' and Business Managers' Most Commonly Reported Types of Information Accessed from Other Online Sources

	N	Percentage
Training/professional development	13	7.7
Curriculum	10	5.9
Research	10	5.9
Programs	9	5.3

Note: Percentages do not sum to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer. Percentages are calculated our of all eligible respondents, not only those who made a response to the item.

24. Information That Would be Helpful on a Centralized Website

	Principals		Superintendents and Business Managers	
	N	Percentage	N	Percentage
Ability to communicate with others throughout the state	89	57.1	101	59.8
Compliance information/news	**91**	**58.3**	**117**	**69.2**
Federal and state requirements	117	75.0	120	71.0
HIPAA/FERPA requirements	74	47.4	89	52.7
Local, state, and national court and complaint decisions (such as issues on funding and access to resources)	67	42.9	82	48.5
No Child Left Behind practices	88	56.4	86	50.9
Professional development/staff training	108	69.2	121	71.6
Research and information on best practices related to education	94	60.3	104	61.5
School laws, regulations, and legislation	109	69.9	124	73.4
State purchasing contracts	**58**	**37.2**	**106**	**62.7**

Note: Bolded font indicates a statistically significant difference across each row.

Survey Results by Question—Cont.

25. Level at Which A Centralized Website Would be Most Helpful

	Principals		Superintendents and Business Managers	
	N	Percentage	N	Percentage
School	56	39.7	9	5.8
District	36	25.5	70	45.2
State (Department of Education)	49	34.5	76	49.0

26. Top Three Perceived Reasons that School Districts Share Services

	Principals		Superintendents and Business Managers	
	N	Percentage	N	Percentage
To improve services to school and district staff	105	67.3	101	59.8
To improve services to students	127	81.4	137	81.1
To save my district money	**90**	**57.7**	**14**	**8.3**
I do not think the state should explore services consolidation	**7**	**4.5**	**127**	**75.1**
Other	3	1.9	10	5.9

Note: Bolded font indicates a statistically significant difference across each row.

27. Those Familiar with the Concept of Educational Service Districts

	Principals		Superintendents and Business Managers	
	N	Percentage "Yes"	N	Percentage "Yes"
Are you familiar with the concept of an Educational Service District (ESD)?	94	65.7	94	57.3

28. Those who believe that an Educational Services District Model Would Work for Idaho

	Principals		Superintendents and Business Managers	
	N	Percentage "Yes"	N	Percentage "Yes"
Do you think this (i.e., the ESD) model would work for Idaho?	**5**	**11.6**	**19**	**30.2**

Note: Bolded font indicates a statistically significant difference across the row ($p<.05$).

Survey Results by Question—Cont.

28a. Principals' Most Commonly Reported Reasons for Why ESD Model Would or Would Not Work in Idaho

	N	Percentage
ESD model would work in general	8	5.1
ESD model would work for small districts but not large ones	8	5.1

Note: Percentages do not sum to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer. Percentages are calculated our of all eligible respondents, not only those who made a response to the item.

28b. Superintendents' and Business Managers' Most Commonly Reported Reasons for Why ESD Model Would or Would Not Work in Idaho

	N	Percentage
ESD model would work in general	14	8.3
ESD model would not work due to geographical distance among districts	10	5.9

Note: Percentages do not sum to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer. Percentages are calculated our of all eligible respondents, not only those who made a response to the item.

29. Those who believe that it is Possible for Service Consolidation to Take Place in a Beneficial Way

	Principals		Superintendents and Business Managers	
	N	Percentage "Yes"	N	Percentage "Yes"
Do you think it is possible for services consolidation to take place in a way that is beneficial to your school or district?	**22**	**16.7**	**42**	**28.2**

Note: Bolded font indicates a statistically significant difference across the row ($p<.05$).

Survey Results by Question—Cont.

29a. Principals' Most Commonly Reported Reasons on What Needs to be Done to Develop a Beneficial Plan for Services Consolidation

	N	Percentage
Coordination/agreement among districts would be needed	14	9.0
A needs assessment would have to be performed	9	5.3

Note: Percentages do not sum to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer. Percentages are calculated our of all eligible respondents, not only those who made a response to the item.

29b. Superintendents' and Business Managers' Most Commonly Reported Statements on What Needs to be Done to Develop a Beneficial Plan for Services Consolidation

	N	Percentage
A needs assessment would have to be performed	17	10.1
Coordination/agreement among districts would be needed	11	6.6
"Hearing from all sides" would be necessary	11	6.6
Cost savings would have to be demonstrated	10	5.9

Note: Percentages do not sum to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer. Percentages are calculated our of all eligible respondents, not only those who made a response to the item.

29c. Superintendents' and Business Managers' Most Commonly Reported Final Comments

	N	Percentage
Local control issues will be important to consider	10	5.9
Districts of different sizes would be differentially affected by services consolidation efforts	9	5.7

Note: Percentages do not sum to 100 because respondents could select more than one answer. Percentages are calculated our of all eligible respondents, not only those who made a response to the item.