

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, February 05, 2013
TIME: 9:00 A.M.
PLACE: Room EW41
MEMBERS: Chairman DeMordaunt, Vice Chairman Nielsen, Representatives Shepherd, Wills, Bateman, Boyle, Agidius, Clow, Gestrin, Harris, Horman, Mendive, VanOrden, Pence, Kloc, Ward-Engelking
**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Rep. Pence
GUESTS: Harold Ott, Idaho Rural Schools Association; Phil Homer and Rob Winslow, Idaho Association of School Administrators; Clark Coburn, Idaho Education News; Marilyn Whitney State Board of Education; Jessica Hansen, Idaho School Boards Association

Chairman DeMordaunt called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

MOTION: **Rep. Agidius** made a motion to approve the minutes of January 28, 2013. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

MOTION: **Rep. Kloc** made a motion to approve the minutes of January 29, 2013. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Steve Albiston, President, Eastern Idaho Technical College (EITC), said he had been a vocational counselor since 1981 and has just become president in the past year. He explained the stand-alone, technology school to the committee, stating they were governed by the State Board of Education, the State Board for Professional-Technical Education, and an advisory council. He related the nine eastern Idaho counties served by EITC. Mr. Albiston said the outreach programs include adult basic education, workforce training and health professions. The enrollment for Fiscal Year 2012 included 1,364 in Associated Applied Sciences (AAS) pursuing a certificate, 14,143 enrolled in workforce training, 581 full time equivalent (FTE), 647 in adult basic education and 3,338 involved in tech prep education. He noted that of the workforce training students, 6,000 graduates were trained specifically for Idaho National Laboratory (INL).

Mr. Albiston described the annual student outcome as follows: 91 receiving AAS degrees, 141 achieving certificates and 328 receiving a GED. Approximately 73 percent of 2012 graduates were placed in training related positions. He explained the financial benefit of paying \$92 per credit and \$1,000 per semester at EITC as compared with \$300 per credit at a university. He said 75 percent of the students at EITC receive financial assistance. Foundations contributing \$484,400 to student scholarships are: the EITC Foundation Scholarships and the J.A. & Kathryn Albertson Foundation.

Mr. Albiston explained the collaborative work with Idaho State University and the College of Southern Idaho. He also explained the success of EITC EDUcloud. Since its conception, EDUcloud technology has been utilized in 1,018 different sessions averaging 59 minutes per session.

Responding to a question from the committee, **Mr. Albiston** said the expansion of the programs offered students is dependent upon the needs of the graduate to acquire a particular job. He noted that as companies come to the region, EITC collaborates and finds the requirements needed to be employed in that company. That information drives the curriculum modification and/or expansion.

In response to a question from the committee, **Mr. Albiston** said the GED and high school diploma were not equal in classroom time or the knowledge attained. He noted the last certificate or diploma, the terminal degree, is what equates with success. To further questions from the committee, he said EITC offers both dual enrollment and that high school students, especially professional-technical high school students, may attend half day at EITC in such classes as automotive.

Mr. Albiston said their curriculum for job placement at the INL changes as the mission at the site changes. EITC job placement of graduates at INL has remained constant but the school has grown in the health care programs. He said the head count changes because of the amount of part time students. But that retention of full time students remains about 60 percent from fall to fall. To answer the question from the committee regarding the prospective changes to address the 60 percent retention, Mr. Albiston said they are offering the students one-on-one tutoring where the student is either referred or comes in voluntarily.

Responding to a question from the committee regarding the profitability of the school, **Mr. Albiston** said the school usually breaks even or sometimes makes money on a contract such as the one from INL.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:41 a.m.

Representative DeMordaunt
Chair

Jean Vance
Secretary