

MINUTES  
**HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**  
**HARRIS SUBCOMMITTEE**  
State Department of Education Rules

**DATE:** Monday, January 13, 2014

**TIME:** 9:00 A.M.

**PLACE:** Room EW05

**MEMBERS:** Chairman Harris, Representatives Wills, Bateman, Gestrin, VanOrden, Horman, Kloc, DeMordaunt

**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** None.

**GUESTS:** Taylor Raney, State Department of Education (SDE); Christina Linder, SDE; Dennis Stevenson, Rules Coordinator, Department of Administration; Clark Corbin, Idaho Ed News; Brody Aston, Lobby Idaho; Lisa Kramer, SDE; Rhonda Heggen, SDE; Angie Gribble, Department of Health and Welfare (DHW); Kristyn Kirschenman, Risch-Pisca; Adrean Cavener, American Heart Association (AHA).

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

**DOCKET NO. 08-0203-1306:** **Chairman Harris** stated that concerning **Docket No. 08-0203-1306**, the committee would continue to hear testimony.

**Adrean Cavener**, American Heart Association (AHA), testified the AHA was in strong support of the PE requirements for the elementary and middle school. Ms. Cavener explained that the AHA had concerns about the substitution piece in Section 105.01.i. She stated the substitution piece should be removed until the department can infuse some requirements around that. In response to a question, Ms. Cavener stated that the AHA is the only association doing creditable CPR science. She stated other organizations take the AHA science, repackage it and use it.

In response to questions, **Ms. Willits**, State Department of Education (SDE), stated students take courses (e.g. online courses), which are supervised by noncertified personnel, who then report to a certified teacher. She explained a reporting mechanism to a certified teacher must be in place. Concerning non-accredited individuals giving a grade, Ms. Willits stated in some cases, in lieu of a grade and at the school districts discretion, a pass/fail grade is given. She stated there appears to be a disagreement that credit must be obtained during class period in a certain structure. Ms. Willits explained one of the things the department looked at was the importance of minutes when it comes to physical activity which is why there was an increase in minutes as outlined under Section 104.01.a and 104.02.c. Ms. Willits stated there was no consensus on the data received from the school districts in Idaho regarding the number of minutes currently allocated to PE.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Horman** made a motion to recommend approval of **Docket No. 08-0203-1306** to the full committee with the exception of Section 104.01.a. and Section 104.02.c. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**DOCKET NO. 08-0202-1308:** **Luci Willits**, (SDE) presented **Docket No. 08-0202-1308**, Rules Governing Uniformity. Ms. Willits briefly summarized the presentation from January 9, 2014. She stated the biggest concern heard from the committee was the increase in upper division English courses.

**Christina Linder**, SDE (former Director of Certification), responded to questions concerning the increase in English upper division credits outlined under Section 023.03. Ms. Linder explained that if we want the students to know more, the teachers need to know more, and did not know if we can properly prepare teachers to change academic achievement with only six credits. She also cited her own personal experiences as an instructor in Idaho, and felt the additional credits were warranted.

In response to questions concerning placing an undue burden on smaller schools, **Ms. Willits** stated there is a provision for competencies, and there are multiple ways to address the smaller schools. Concerning the possibility that the department may be setting the bar too high for rural schools, Ms. Willits stated that the department was trying to find the right spot between content knowledge, but not stressing the system so much that schools cannot get teachers to teach in that subject.

**Ms. Linder** stated the timing of this would only effect new teachers coming into the system and the department gives the universities two years to implement. She stated if this were to go into effect today, every student that is currently in a program would be grand-fathered in and these requirements would take effect two years from now. Ms. Linder explained if the rule went into effect, five years from now teachers, who have had to complete the 45 upper division credits, will graduate.

Regarding course content, **Ms. Linder** stated the department has put into place a university approval process, and we as a state, in addition to national accreditation, are going to review this every third year and look at how every program is implementing Common Core and preparing teachers to teach Common Core. This is across the board, not just for English, but for math teachers as well.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Wills** made a motion to recommend approval of **Docket No. 08-0202-1308** to the full committee.

**Rep. DeMordaunt** stated that he struggled with this one and could not support the motion. **Rep. Gestrin** stated he will not support motion. He said he has not satisfactorily understood the big jump from 20 to 45.

**SUBSTITUTE MOTION:** **Rep. Gestrin** made a substitute motion to recommend approval of **Docket No. 08-0202-1308** to the full committee with the exception of Section 023.03.

**MOTION WITHDRAWN:** **Rep. Wills** withdrew his motion to recommend approval of **Docket No. 08-0202-1308** to the full committee.

**VOTE ON MOTION:** **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the subcommittee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:51 a.m.

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Representative Harris  
Chair

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Lisa Hamlin  
Secretary