

MINUTES  
**HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Monday, February 16, 2015

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

**PLACE:** Room EW41

**MEMBERS:** Chairman DeMordaunt, Vice Chairman VanOrden, Representatives Shepherd, Wills, Boyle, Clow, Gestrin, Harris, Mendive, McDonald, Dixon, Kerby, Pence, Kloc, Rubel

**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** None

**GUESTS:** Harold Ott, Rural Schools; Phil Homer and Rob Winslow, IASA; Robin Nettinga, IEA; Tim Corder, SDE; Clark Corbin, Idaho Ed News; Marilyn Whitney, Office of the Governor; Jess Harrison, ISBA

**Chairman DeMordaunt** called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Kloc** made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2015, meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**H 110:** **Rep. Harris** presented **H 110**. He explained that the legislation would allow for a shift from the factory-style education structure to highly transferable learning with a focus on outcomes instead of input. He said the mastery-based student advancement will establish a committee of educators to identify roadblocks and possible solutions. The legislation will also authorize the State Department of Education to conduct a statewide awareness campaign, plus facilitate the development of an incubator program. He stated the fiscal impact to the general fund is \$400,000.

Responding to questions concerning the vision of the classroom in a mastery-based structure, **Rep. Harris** said the barriers of age and grade will be removed. He said testing out and moving ahead seems possible in his vision of the new classroom structure. He explained that presently standards are in place, but mastery is not required. He said a nine-month commitment by the committee is the goal. He stated the final design of the mastery-based classroom will be left up to the local education agencies.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Clow** made a motion to send **H 110** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. He said there were complications to the mastery-based model of education, but the legislation creates a possible pathway to solutions.

To further questions from the committee, **Rep. Harris** said technology will make mastery-based education possible. He said the assessments will need to change from an end-of-year, high-stakes testing to small modules of students moving through smaller chunks of curriculum in a shorter period of time.

**Jessica Harrison**, Policy and Government Affairs Coordinator, Idaho School Boards Association, spoke **in support** of **H 110** and student advancement based upon content mastery. She explained ISBA's number one priority is the restoration of Operational Funding.

To a question concerning the cost connected to training teachers in mastery-based education, **Ms. Harrison** said there is a large line item in the Governor's budget for professional development.

**VOTE ON MOTION:**

**Chairman DeMordaunt** called for a vote on the motion to send **H 110** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Harris** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**S 1018:**

**Tim Corder**, Special Assistant to the Superintendent, State Department of Education (SDE), described the history of the Professional Standards Commission, authorized by the State Board of Education, and the SDE working jointly to administer all existing teacher certificates. He explained the legislation eliminates the administrative burden of maintaining two funds for the practical administration of a single program: Teacher Certification.

Responding to questions from the committee, **Mr. Corder** said the funding for the program comes from those seeking certification. He said the certification fee amount is set in rule and the fee is not changing. He clarified the Office of Certification pays the bills out of two accounts, this legislation eliminates one of the accounts.

**MOTION:**

**Rep. Clow** made a motion to send **S 1018** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Boyle** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**S 1019:**

**Tim Corder**, Special Assistant to the Superintendent, State Department of Education (SDE) presented **S 1019**. He explained the required criminal history check for all school district employees having contact with children. He said the fee per investigation has been \$40. However, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Idaho State Police (ISP) cost of services fluctuate over time leaving SDE to administer the program with the uncertain remaining dollars. If approved, the legislation would codify the administrative portion SDE may charge to applicants and allow the fees charged by the FBI and the ISP to be a pass through, or add on to the \$11 administrative fee charged by SDE.

Due to time constraints, **S 1019** will be carried over to the meeting of February 18, 2015, at 8:30 a.m.

**ADJOURN:**

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:56 a.m.

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Representative DeMordaunt  
Chair

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Jean Vance  
Secretary