

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, March 30, 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; Karen Echeverria, ISBA; Tim Corder, Sherri Ybarra, and Pete Koehler, SDE

Vice Chairman VanOrden called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

MOTION: **Rep. Mendive** made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2015, meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

MOTION: **Rep. Kloc** made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2015, meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Sherri Ybarra, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, reported on Idaho's Elementary and Secondary Education Act Flexibility Document, more commonly referred to as the ESEA Waiver. She said the waiver will expire in June of 2015, but Idaho will submit the renewal application by April 30, 2015. She said the period of time between June and the end of the year, will give the State Department of Education time to reevaluate and make recommendations. She explained the current educational functions to which Idaho is bound by federal law and the areas of flexibility. She said there is a national movement toward less punitive measures regarding evaluation and accountability. Supt. Ybarra outlined SDE's replacement for the 5-Star ranking of schools in Idaho.

Vice Chairman VanOrden turned the gavel over to **Chairman DeMordaunt**.

A discussion was held regarding the measurability of cultural climate and sociality, the quality of the Common Core state standards and the positive and negative qualities within the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC). Further discussion was held regarding the definition of a sliding GPA, the possibility of federally funded pilot programs for early childhood education; and, the consequence of rejecting federal requirements. In response to questions, **Supt. Ybarra** said 95% proficiency is a federal law. She said when Idaho took Title I funds, Idaho agreed to take the SBAC. She said Idahoans will become more comfortable with assessments geared to high standards as they see success in student learning. She explained to educate students is most important.

Suggestions to use an analytical tool called, Value Added, as a quality assessment and to give greater emphasis to science education standards and assessments in the future, were shared with **Supt. Ybarra**.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Representative DeMordaunt
Chair

Jean Vance
Secretary