

MINUTES  
**HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Tuesday, January 24, 2017  
**TIME:** 9:00 A.M.  
**PLACE:** Room EW41  
**MEMBERS:** Chairman VanOrden, Vice Chairman McDonald, Representatives Shepherd, Boyle, Clow, Mendive (Mendive), Kerby, Cheatham, Amador, DeMordaunt, Moon, Syme, Kloc, McCrostie, Toone  
**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** None  
**GUESTS:** Mark Browning, CWI; Penni Cyr, IEA; Clark Corbin, Idaho Ed News; Misty Swanson, ISBA.

**Chairman VanOrden** called the meeting to order at 9:01 am.

**MOTION:** **Rep. McCrostie** made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2017 meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**Sherri Ybarra**, Superintendent of Public Instruction introduced **Mary Lynn Spiker**, 2017 Teacher of the Year.

**Mary Lynn Spiker**, spoke of her career as a kindergarten teacher and the fulfillment she has received throughout her career. She told her story of surviving a battle with cancer and how much the children and parents helped her through it. Her love for the children gave her a reason to get up each morning to continue to teach her students. Her focus was on low income and poverty, and the impact it has on the child, school, and home. She reported that the United States has the highest rate of poverty in any industrialized country. To overcome this struggle she explained there must be a partnership between home, school, and community regardless of the economics or background of the child to break the cycle.

**Mrs. Spiker** believes we should implement a "Behavioral Kindergarten" for those students that must first learn proper behavior before they can even begin to learn. In the last 10 years, each year has become progressively worse, and it seems to have become the new normal across the United States. She sights the reason for this is the lack of good parenting, no social skills, and the increased use of technical devices such as phones and tablets by the children. She explained that a possible remedy would come through smaller class sizes, and everyday kindergarten rather than two days a week.

The Presidents of the Idaho Community Colleges, **Bert Glandon**, College of Western Idaho, **Jeff Fox**, College of Southern Idaho, and **Rick MacLennan**, North Idaho College gave their presentation. They outlined the Community College's shared focus is to cooperate in promoting, representing, supporting, and serving our region to ensure the highest quality education and training for students and the community they serve. They explained that our community colleges are the best education investment for the state of Idaho through industry partnerships, positive economic impact, accessibility, and highest value for dollar invested. Their Comprehensive Missions are as follows, Academic Transfer, Career Technical, Workforce Development, Adult Basic Education, and Continuing Education. They explained tuition is the most affordable, but has a lower division headcount than the four-year institutions. They are at 60% of their completion goal which consists of Completion by stackable programs within guided pathways, Retention by advising, coaching and mentoring, Remediation, Access by keeping cost affordable, early

opportunities-dual credit, and Guided Pathways. They are partnering with the community through local business and industry, educational community, and governmental agencies. The community colleges have a higher education taskforce and are in alignment for Idaho's future, serving all Idahoans, responsive to Idaho's economic and workforce development needs, and always investing in Idaho's future.

The Presidents concluded their presentation with the investment vs return for our Idaho Community Colleges as follows, Annual Economic Impact in Excess of \$500 million, Trained and Prepared Workforce, and Educated Citizenry. When asked by the committee what the biggest challenge of community colleges are, they stated they are struggling with sustainability, CEC, leased buildings vs owned buildings, and state funding keeping up with the rapid growth in enrollment.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:51 am.

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Representative VanOrden  
Chair

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Ann Tippetts  
Secretary