

MINUTES
SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, January 24, 2017

TIME: 3:00 P.M.

PLACE: Room WW55

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Mortimer, Vice Chairman Thayn, Senators Winder, Nonini, Den Hartog, Guthrie, Crabtree, Buckner-Webb, and Ward-Engelking

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: None

NOTE: The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

CONVENED: **Chairman Mortimer** called the Education Committee (Committee) to order at 3:00 p.m.

PRESENTATION: **Lewis and Clark State College (LCSC). Dr. Anthony Fernandez**, President, said LCSC is a four year regional state college, offering instruction in the liberal arts and sciences, professional areas, career technical areas, applied and technical programs which support the local and state industries and explained the college's statewide impact. He talked about student demographics and the increase in enrollment. In his presentation he outlined the many strengths of LCSC: affordability; size; community and business collaborations; and efficient operations. **Dr. Fernandez** detailed the five-year strategic plan and explained how LCSC intends to achieve those goals.

Dr. Fernandez reported the number of students who received degrees and certificates from LCSC and how their program aligns with the Governor's Complete College Idaho scholarship program. He explained the work of the that scholarship program and how others like it help students avoid going into educational debt.

Dr. Fernandez outlined the key budget requests for the fiscal year (FY) 2018. Again, he emphasized the need for better employee compensation and qualified instructors. He reported to the Committee the working partnership the State has with the City of Lewiston to build a new Career Technical Education facility (CTE). He concluded his presentation by showing a LCSC promotional video commercial which highlights the successes of their students (see attachment 1).

Senator Den Hartog said she appreciates the LCSC commitment to help student not incur student loan debt. She asked him to expand on the proposal for the CTE facility and the LCSC partnership with Lewiston. **Dr. Fernandez** replied the bond vote will be in March 2017. He said the school district has committed to build the high school portion on the CTE campus. He explained how the high school and college students would be capitalizing in the facility.

Vice Chairman Thayn asked if the healthcare learning centers provide a place for LCSC employees to visit for medical visits. **Dr. Fernandez** replied the employees use the state health insurance guidelines for their medical issues. There is a student health center on campus that staff can use for some maladies.

Senator Winder stated students are taking advantage of the dual enrollment program. He asked if the college will be able to afford this program in the future. **Dr. Fernandez** replied it is difficult. He stated the program encroaches on the instructor time for LCSC students. He explained the instructional process for both the college professor and the high school instructor to ensure the student is getting the correct education. As the program grows, the impact will be greater and more difficult to maintain.

Senator Winder said he believes in the program and would like it to succeed, but not at the cost of reducing quality education to the colleges. He asked if Dr. Fernandez could provide him financial information so the legislature could make educated decisions. **Dr. Fernandez** replied in the affirmative.

Chairman Mortimer said he is concerned that high school course knowledge is being duplicated in CTE courses. He asked if LCSC has addressed that issue. **Dr. Fernandez** replied this duplication also happens in other areas. He explained how a high school student can demonstrate knowledge competency in order to avoid wasting time and money repeating the same class in college.

PRESENTATION:

Idaho State University (ISU). Dr. Arthur Vailas, President, introduced his colleagues in attendance. He briefed the Committee on how the work of ISU positively affects the citizens of Idaho to solve complex issues in a cost effective manner: training students to meet employment demands by moving them through college quickly so that the students' financial burden is minimal. He said the mission of ISU is complex with many options for students to complete their degree. **Dr. Vailas** spoke of ISU campuses throughout the State and the course work offered at each site. He explained the principle mission of ISU is healthcare and energy. He said ISU has revenue sources set up in each of the healthcare clinics, making ISU one of the largest workforces in the State.

Dr. Vailas explained some of the challenges ISU encounters which include student financial limitations; enrollment; physical infrastructure; and adequate employee compensation. He spoke about how ISU works to keep students in college and reduce their debt. He supports the Governor's proposal for the adult completer scholarship. ISU is a supporter of the CTE programs and is working with area industries to meet those needs and spoke about the various CTE programs offered. He closed saying that ISU has the responsibility to create new knowledge. New knowledge comes at a cost; it is highly competitive. It is important to take the new knowledge and grow classrooms and economies in our communities, our state, and our country.

Senator Guthrie asked if he would update the Committee on the progress of the Osteopathic Medical School partnership with ISU. **Dr. Vailas** said he is part of the board that is working on the partnership. He stated creating a medical school is complex and fraught with funding and accreditation challenges. He spoke about the doctor shortage in rural America and how this program can alleviate that issue. He said the program is getting the necessary hospital affiliations to establish any type of residency program for a reputable medical school.

Vice Chairman Thayn asked if the enrollment trend is up or down. **Dr. Vailas** asked Dr. Laura Woodworth-Ney, Executive Vice President, Academic Affairs and Provost to speak to enrollment. **Ms. Woodworth-Ney** said there had been a recent enrollment decline in Idaho domestic students and foreign international students. She spoke about the different programs that have been put in place to help with retention and increase new enrollment, and reported the enrollment trends are moving upward.

Senator Den Hartog said she appreciates the entrepreneurial approach to solving the challenges on the campus. She asked if career advising for the CTE student's path has a component that takes into account the possibility that the student may want a new career after a time working in their trained field. **Dr. Vailas** replied students change their mind about their career all the time. Many of the programs in one institution are integrated with other programs, thereby making it easier and time effective for students to make a career change. CTE can only be successful with the recommendations and financial contributions of industry.

RS 24861

Relating to Education: Amending Idaho Code, § 33-5104. Provide School Counseling Services Career Technical Services. Grant Credit of Career Technical Courses. **Blake Youde**, Chief Communications and Legislative Affairs Officer, State Board of Education (SBE), said this is the original dual credit statute. He explained that when enacted in 1997 only academic courses were recommended for dual credit. CTE credit course offerings have been made available throughout the State. The technical corrections in the legislation add references to career technical course and reference dual credit courses.

MOTION:

Senator Thayn moved to send **RS 24861** to print. **Senator Den Hartog** seconded the motion. Motion passed by **voice vote**.

RS 24866

Relating to Dual Enrollment: Amending Idaho Code, § 33-203. Provide Dual Enrollment of a Student in a Public Charter School. Provide Related Procedure, Limitations and Clarifications, and make Technical Corrections. **Mr. Youde** said the amendments in the legislation clarify that the student of a non-public or public charter school, is allowed to enroll in any public school, including another public charter school for dual enrollment purposes. He explained the legislation states that if a student dual enrolls in a public charter school, that student does not count towards the charter school's maximum enrollment restriction. Dual enrollment cannot be used to circumvent a charter school's lottery requirements.

Mr. Youde explained in the State, private school students are able to take a course in their local public school. He reaffirmed that student's enrollment for an extra-curricular class will not affect the charter school's enrollment caps or lottery system.

MOTION:

Senator Guthrie moved to send **RS 24866** to print. **Senator Ward-Engelking** seconded the motion. Motion passed by **voice vote**.

PASSED THE GAVEL:

Chairman Mortimer passed the gavel to Vice Chairmen Thayn.

DOCKET NO. 08.0202.1602

Rules Governing Uniformity: Bullying, Harassment and Intimidation. **Tim McMurtrey**, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, State Department of Education (SDE), said Idaho Code § 33-1631 requires districts and public charter schools to implement measures to prevent, identify, and respond to bullying, harassment, and intimidation. He explained the docket was composed to meet the statute requirements. The rules are the framework of the steps necessary to accomplish the statute requirements. He stated these rules developed through negotiated rule-making.

Senator Den Hartog asked if the reporting timeline on bullying and harassment is the same as for all other reports that are sent to the SBE. **Matt McCarter**, Director, Student Engagement, Career and Technical Readiness, replied this reporting is to be done annually; at the end of the school year.

MOTION:

Senator Ward-Engelking moved to accept **Docket No: 08.0202.1602**. **Senator Crabtree** seconded the motion. Motion passed by **voice vote**.

**DOCKET NO:
08.0202.1604**

Rules Governing Uniformity: Incorporated by Reference: Driver Education. Mr. McCarter said this is a simple change to the drivers' education manual. He explained in prior years, driver education instructors were required to have a physical by someone who had Department of Transportation training. Insurance will no longer cover those costs and the financial burden fell to the instructors. He remarked this rule was reviewed and it was determined since driver's education instructors do not drive, there is no need for a physical.

MOTION:

Chairman Mortimer moved to accept **Docket No. 08.0202.1604**. **Senator Den Hartog** seconded the motion. Motion passed by **voice vote**.

**DOCKET NO.
08.0203.1603**

Rules Governing Thoroughness: Advanced Opportunities. Mr. McCarter explained this is to clean-up rule language that was put in place for a pilot program which no longer exists. He said the new language is to define and clarify the administrative procedures required for the early graduation scholarship program. He outlined the procedures necessary to meet the qualifications to apply for the scholarship.

Senator Ward-Engelking said this change will streamline the reporting a make it easier for districts.

MOTION:

Senator Ward-Engelking moved to accept **Docket No. 08.0203.1603**. **Senator Winder** seconded the motion. Motion passed by **voice vote**.

**PASSED THE
GAVEL:**

Vice Chairman Thayn passed the gavel to Chairman Mortimer

ADJOURNED:

There being no more business, **Chairman Mortimer** adjourned the meeting at 4:21 p.m.

Senator Dean M. Mortimer
Chair

LeAnn Mohr
Secretary