

MINUTES  
**SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Thursday, February 09, 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 meeting of the Senate Education Committee (Committee) to order at 3:00 p.m.

**PRESENTATION: WWAMI Medical Program. Dr. Mary Barinaga**, Assistant Clinical Dean for Regional Affairs explained the steps involved in educating and training physicians and referred the Committee to the handouts (see Attachment 1). She said Idaho currently ranks 48th in the nation per capita for the number of practicing physicians. More than one-quarter of Idaho physicians are over age 60. A State Board of Education (SBE) subcommittee made two recommendations relative to physician workforce issues: 1.) expand the development of residency programs in Idaho; and 2.) increase WWAMI class sizes from 20 to 40 students per year. SBE also recommended that students receive more exposure to the under-served rural practices. A program has been established for that purpose.

**Dr. Barinaga** said that WWAMI students are able to receive their complete education and training in Idaho. She stated that two-thirds of the WWAMI's dollars are spent in Idaho. An economy impact study shows that for every dollar going into the program, a return of approximately \$5 is realized; thus, these residencies are a wise investment for Idaho.

**Dr. Barinaga** emphasized that Idaho has a physician workforce shortage and, with its aging physician workforce, the State needs more residency positions and more types of residencies. Idaho currently has 42 first-year residency positions and is ninth in the nation for students who stay in Idaho after residency to practice.

**Senator Winder** asked why there are no surgical residencies. **Dr. Barinaga** said while surgical residencies are on the radar, funding and community surgeons are ultimately needed if such a program were to be implemented. **Senator Winder** wondered if the Senate and House Education Committees were to pass a resolution, might such legislation encourage local hospitals to develop surgical and pediatric surgery programs? **Dr. Barinaga** answered affirmatively.

**PRESENTATION: Mastery Based Education. Sherri Ybarra**, Superintendent of Public Instruction, State Department of Education (SDE) handed out information requested by Senator Winder at a previous meeting regarding teacher shortages and causes. **Ms. Ybarra** gave an update on the Mastery Based Education program and distributed handouts (see Attachment 2). **Ms. Ybarra** said the generation being born are referred to as the alpha generation and are motivated by travel, trade, television, and technology. It is essential that innovative ways are found to engage an increasing diversity of students that will be entering school.

**Kelly Brady**, Director of Mastery Based Education, SDE, presented a video with handouts (see Attachment 3) illustrating how the program affects learning in Mastery Based classrooms. Students use problem solving, critical thinking and communication skills to solve challenging problems. A diverse array of educational resources gives students what they need when they need it. **Ms. Brady** stated that Mastery Based learning provides needed choice and the ability for true innovation to happen for students.

The program is currently working on three activities: 1.) facilitating planning and development of the incubator process; 2.) establishing a committee of educators; and 3.) conducting a statewide awareness campaign. **Ms. Brady** reviewed the education network, goals, funding, and tasks completed.

**Senator Den-Hartog** asked if the newer teachers are struggling with this educational shift in learning programs. **Ms. Brady** replied that it varies, depending on the program. **Senator Crabtree** asked if the program includes work on social competencies. **Ms. Brady** replied affirmatively. **Chairman Mortimer** asked if there are schools waiting to pilot the program. **Ms. Brady** explained that 32 schools are currently in the planning and design stage, and implementation will occur next year. Funding and communication plans were also discussed.

**RS 25228**

**Concurrent Resolution: Stating Findings of the Legislature.** **Blake Youde**, Chief Communications and Policy Officer, State Board of Education (Board) presented **RS 25228**, a concurrent resolution which authorizes the SBE to enter into agreements with the Idaho State Building Authority to provide financing and construction management for the Cyber Core Integration Center and the Collaborative Computing Center at the Idaho National Laboratory (INL). The proposed facilities will expand the INL's capabilities in cyber security and super-computing and provide new research opportunities for Idaho's public higher education institutions. Associated letters are included (see Attachment 4).

**MOTION:**

**Senator Nonini** moved to send **RS 25228** to print. **Senator Buckner-Webb** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**.

**H 0036**

**Relating to Education: Repealing a Chapter.** **Mr. Youde** presented **H 0036**, The legislation repeals Chapter 19, Title 33, Idaho Code. which states that it is unlawful for a person, group or organization to establish a fraternity, sorority or other secret society. He said this legislation is no longer relevant.

**MOTION:**

**Senator Guthrie** moved to send **HB 0035** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Nonini** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**. **Senator Guthrie** will carry the bill on the floor.

**H 0037**

**Relating to School Property Use: Repealing a Section.** **Mr. Youde** presented **H 0037**. The legislation repeals Idaho Code § 33-602, which allows the Board of Trustees of a school district the power and ability to authorize the use of any school buildings or real estate owned by a school district to be used as a community center or for other public purposes. School Board Trustees already have this ability through its management of the school district and the school districts' assets, making it unnecessary to specifically grant authorization through this statute.

**MOTION:**

**Senator Nonini** moved to send **H 0037** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Thayn** seconded the motion. The motion was passed by **voice vote**. **Senator Crabtree** will carry the bill on the floor.

**H 0058**            **Relating to Teaching Certificates: Repealing a Section.** **Mr. Youde** presented **H 0058**. He said the legislation repeals Idaho Code § 33-1206, which grandfathered-in teaching certificates that were valid and in good standing prior to September 1, 1947. It provided some protection for individuals who held a valid certificate issued after August 31, 1947, subject to any amendments to certification regulations the SBE may adopt after that date. According to SBE's records, no one currently working in Idaho holds a certificate issued in 1947; therefore, it has been determined the section is no longer needed.

**MOTION:**        **Senator Den Hartog** moved to send **H 0058** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Crabtree** seconded the motion. The motion carried by **voice vote**. **Senator Den Hartog** will carry the bill on the floor.

**ADJOURN:**      There being no further business, **Chairman Mortimer** adjourned the meeting at 3:56 p.m.

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Senator Dean M. Mortimer  
Chair

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LeAnn Mohr  
Secretary

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Jeanne Clayton  
Assistant Secretary