

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- DATE:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017
- TIME:** 8:30 A.M.
- PLACE:** Room EW41
- MEMBERS:** Chairman VanOrden, Vice Chairman McDonald, Representatives Shepherd, Boyle, Clow, Mendive, Kerby, Cheatham, Amador, DeMordaunt, Moon, Syme, Kloc, McCrostie, Toone
- ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None
- GUESTS:** Stephanie Bailey-White, ID Commission for Librarians; Anthony Warn, Bluum; Donna Eggers, ID Commission for Librarians; David Harnell, ID Commission for Librarians; Emily McClure, ICSN; Josh Femreite, Gem Innovation Schools; Harold Ott, IASA and IRSA; Paul Stark, IEA; Jess Harrison, WBA; Clark Corbin, Idaho Ed News
- Chairman VanOrden** called the meeting to order at 8:29 am.
- H 241:** **Rep. DeMordaunt** presented **H 241** relating to streamlining the opening procedures for new charter schools by simplifying the process compressing the timeline and clarifying expectations for schools and authorizers. She explained that this bill was held in committee for further review by ISBA and IEA on March 3, 2017. All parties concerned have come to a consensus and agree on the bill with the changes made.
- Emily McClure**, Idaho Charter School Network, explained the changes made to **H 241** as follows: Amendment to Section 2. On page 8 of the printed bill, in line 45, delete "A minimum of two weeks prior" and insert "Prior". On page 9, delete lines 3 and 4, and insert: " (c) A minimum of four weeks after sending the letter and copy of the completed petition pursuant to paragraph (b) of this subsection, or earlier if the superintendent of each district that overlaps the proposed public charter school's primary attendance area agrees"; In line 33, delete "Nothing in this section"; and delete lines 34 and 35. Amendment to Section 4. On page 14, delete lines 12 through 14, and insert: "that authorized chartering entity meets the terms of the charter, complies with the general education laws of the state unless specifically directed otherwise in this charter, and operates in accordance with the state education".
- Paul Stark**, IEA and **Jess Harrison**, WBA, have no objections to the amendments and support sending **H 241** to General Orders.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Amador** made a motion to send **H 241** to General Orders. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Amador** will sponsor the bill on the floor.
- S 1059:** **Blake Youde**, State Board of Education, presented **S 1059** relating to determining the level of mastery necessary for instructional staff and pupil service staff to receive the master educator premium. This enables the best and most talented instructional and pupil staff to receive a Master Teach Premium for three years, with review at the end of that period. He explained that this is consistent with the Task Force subcommittee recommendation adopted by the Board in 2015 to improve education.
- MOTION:** **Rep. McDonald** made a motion to send **S 1059** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Clow** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

Ann Joslin, State Librarian and Director of the Idaho Commission for Libraries, introduced **Stephanie Bailey-White**, Deputy State Librarian, to present Idaho Commission for Libraries Update.

Stephanie Bailey-White, stated that she is on the Governor's Task Force for Literacy, was involved with the Public Information Office starting in 1991, and helped launch Read to Me Early Literacy Program in 1997. She explained that the state agency was established in 1901 when books were carried by stagecoach and on horseback to mining communities and towns that were springing up around our state. Their mission is to help Idaho libraries build the capacity to better serve their communities. They provide professional development and consulting services, manage statewide systems for resource sharing, and provide online resources. They develop and implement statewide programs that meet local needs. They serve over 3,200 Idahoans who are unable to read standard print through the Talking Book Service and deliver 175,000 custom audio books, magazines, and digital player to eligible users. There are 147 public libraries statewide that are embedded in communities and campuses across the state. This ensures more students are ready for post-secondary training, strengthens the talent pipeline, and promotes rural sustainability. The Commission and the Idaho library community are playing an important role in working toward the goal of at least 60% of Idahoans between the ages of 25 and 34 having a post-secondary degree or certification by 2020.

Ms. Bailey-White explained libraries spark curiosity, connections, and creativity. The average student attends school 1,000 hours each year, leaving 5,000 hours out of school, especially in the summer. Libraries can captivate their attention and work to engage them in positive learning experiences. They engage youth of all ages and their families with education and fun. She stated that more Idahoans are attending public library programs than ever. In FY 2015, there were more than 8.6 million visits to public libraries. Idaho libraries had the 5th highest circulation of children's materials along with the 5th highest per capita attendance at children's programs. Young Adult programs have a rank of 7th in the nation, per capita, an increase of 42% over the past five years. This year they have partnered with the STEM Action Center to reach more library staff with training and tools to create successful teachers at Make It at the Library programs to encourage experimentation and creativity. Idaho libraries are also working hard to reach students who may struggle with reading during the summer months and may not be coming into their libraries for books and programs. She said last summer was the first time that the number of youth reached at summer nutrition programs, parks, and other locations outside the library surpassed the number of children who were coming into the library for summer reading programs. This "follow the food" model has been amazing to watch and continues to grow. She gave sincere thanks to last year's Interim Broadband Committee for putting forth new legislation to provide state funding to help support Internet access in public libraries as well as in schools. The state average of library bandwidth increased from 40 MB last year, to 70 MB this year showing the state reimbursement with E-Rate is helping more public libraries provide more bandwidth to their communities. She stated this is an exciting time to be a part of the Idaho library community.

John Harrington, Chief Executive Officer Funds For Learning, LLC, presented E-Rate Update-Funds For Learning. He explained the E-rate funding is vital to education and it's facilities. E-rate is the largest supporter of funds for learning in grades K-12. But E-rate is a high stakes opportunity because of their stringent bidding rules and procedures, many deadlines and forms to complete, lengthy timelines to receive funding, record-keeping stretching over ten years, and failures to comply correctly results in repayment, fines, and incarceration. They have two categories of discounts. Category 1 is for campus telecommunications data service and internet access and Category 2 is internal connections and maintenance, managed internal broadband service(Wi-Fi) subject to a 5 year funding cap per site. Idaho E-rate average is \$8.4 million a year for the past 10 years, and receives \$35 E-rate per student. Increases in state funding for technology, along with E-rate funding, have allowed them to develop and maintain tech infrastructure demanded today, helped their tech budget go further, increased bandwidth up to 10 times, and created sustainable replacement cycles. Mr. Harrington stated that E-rate Portal (EPC) creates challenges by complicating and slowing down the process which delays funding commitments. He explained how a single statewide application would decrease administration burden for schools but also admits that a one size rarely fits all. E-rate needs additional resources for training, listservs, and helpdesks in Idaho so the state can be empowered through schools and libraries with funding through E-rate.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:33 am.

Representative VanOrden
Chair

Ann Tippetts
Secretary