

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 589

BY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION; AMENDING SECTION 33-1632, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING MASTERY-BASED EDUCATION.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. That Section 33-1632, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

33-1632. MASTERY-BASED EDUCATION. (1) The legislature finds that ~~moving toward~~ developing a mastery-based ~~model of approach to~~ education where students progress as they demonstrate mastery of a subject or grade level is in the best interest of Idaho students. The legislature further finds that moving from the current time-based system with a mastery-based ~~model~~ approach will allow for more personalized and differentiated learning; create a focus on explicit, measurable, transferable learning objectives that empower students; and emphasize competencies that include application and knowledge along with skill development.

(2) The state board of education shall appoint a mastery-based education advisory commission. The commission will provide recommendations to the state board of education on policy changes that will allow implementation of a mastery-based approach to education in Idaho. The commission's membership shall not exceed twelve (12) members and shall include:

(a) The chair of the senate education committee or the chair's designee;

(b) The chair of the house education committee or the chair's designee;

(c) The superintendent of public instruction or the superintendent's designee; and

(d) Representatives from:

(i) The office of the governor;

(ii) The office of the state board of education;

(iii) Associations for stakeholders in Idaho's public schools;

(iv) Institutions of higher education;

(v) The business community; and

(vi) The Idaho education technology association.

(3) The Idaho mastery education network shall be composed of Idaho public school districts and charter schools that shall collaborate to transition Idaho to a mastery-based approach to education. The network shall:

(a) Advise the mastery-based education advisory commission and implement approved recommendations from the commission;

(b) Develop evidence-based recommendations for continued implementation; and

(c) Provide network-wide resources, including professional development, coaching and best practices.

1       (4) The state department of education shall perform the following ac-  
 2 tivities to ~~move Idaho toward~~ ~~establish~~ a mastery-based approach to educa-  
 3 tion system in Idaho:

4       (a) Conduct a ~~an ongoing~~ statewide awareness campaign to promote under-  
 5 standing and interest in mastery-based education for teachers, admin-  
 6 istrators, parents, students, business leaders and policymakers;

7       (b) Establish a ~~committee of educators to identify roadblocks and pos-~~  
 8 sible solutions in implementing mastery-based education and develop  
 9 recommendations for the incubator process; and Maintain the Idaho mas-  
 10 tery education network pursuant to subsection (3) of this section;

11       (c) Facilitate the ~~planning and development of an incubator process and~~  
 12 assessments of local education agencies to identify the initial cohort  
 13 of up to twenty (20) local education agencies to serve as incubators in  
 14 fiscal year 2017 Distribute funds directly to public school districts  
 15 and charter schools that are participating in the network and that have  
 16 applied for and been approved to receive these funds. The funds will be  
 17 used for curriculum, local systems of assessment, educator mentoring  
 18 and coaching, planning activities, professional development and train-  
 19 ing, stakeholder engagement, and technology to enable personalized,  
 20 mastery-based approaches; and

21       (d) Create a sustainability plan for statewide scaling of Idaho's mas-  
 22 tery-based education system and ensure that all public school districts  
 23 and charter schools participating in the Idaho mastery education net-  
 24 work develop plans within five (5) years of entry into the network that  
 25 describe how the public school district or charter school will maintain  
 26 a mastery-based approach to education. District plans must include a  
 27 process for students in the mastery subjects or grades to advance to  
 28 subsequent grades in accordance with their demonstrated mastery level  
 29 until graduation from high school.

30       (35) The state department of education may expend or distribute mon-  
 31 eys appropriated for purposes identified in subsection (24) of this section.  
 32 The cost of activities provided for in this section shall be paid by the state  
 33 department of education from moneys appropriated for this program in the ed-  
 34 ucational support program budget as provided for in section 33-1002, Idaho  
 35 Code.

36       (6) At any time, public school districts and charter schools may im-  
 37 plement a mastery-based approach to education in the district or charter  
 38 school, a school within the public school district, or in specific grade  
 39 levels, content areas, or both, within a school or combination of schools.  
 40 If the public school district or charter school intends to participate in  
 41 the Idaho mastery education network in order to benefit from network-wide  
 42 resources, the local school board shall notify the state department of edu-  
 43 cation. The notification shall include the schools, content areas or grade  
 44 levels that are being transitioned to a mastery-based approach.

45       (7) Public school districts and charter schools notifying the state  
 46 department of education pursuant to subsection (6) of this section are not  
 47 entitled to mastery-based education funds distributed directly to public  
 48 school districts and charter schools pursuant to subsection (4) (c) of this  
 49 section.

1           (48) ~~Not~~ No later than January 31 of each year, the state department of  
2 education shall report annually to the state board of education and the ed-  
3 ucation committees of the senate and the house of representatives regarding  
4 the progress toward implementing mastery-based education.

5           (59) For purposes of this section:

6           (a) ~~"Incubator process" means a process where districts and charter~~  
7 ~~schools that are willing and ready to start moving toward a mas-~~  
8 ~~tery-based education system would be identified through site assess-~~  
9 ~~ments and would form an initial cohort of incubators for mastery-based~~  
10 ~~education. The incubators would receive support for staff profes-~~  
11 ~~sional development, stakeholder education and ongoing assessment and~~  
12 ~~coaching. These incubators would provide data and best practices for~~  
13 ~~continued implementation of mastery-based education.~~

14           ~~(b)~~ "Mastery-based approach to education system" means an education  
15 system where student progress is based ~~upon~~ on a student's demonstra-  
16 tion of mastery of competencies and content, not seat time or the age or  
17 grade level of the student.

18           (b) "Network" means the Idaho mastery education network.