

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE
SYME SUBCOMMITTEE
Syme

DATE: Monday, January 15, 2018
TIME: 9:00 A.M.
PLACE: Room EW41
MEMBERS: Chairman Syme, Representatives Cheatham, Amador, Ehardt, Toone
**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None
GUESTS:

James Orr, Shauna Wheelwright, Layne McInelly, Peggy Hoy, Carla Corbridge, Tiffany Watts, Kari Overall, Sue Sigdorski, Joel Williams, Lori Steiniker, Idaho Education Association; Nick Veldhouse, Idaho Association of Highway Districts; Tracie Bent, Mike Veckler, Idaho State Board of Education; Karen Echeverria, Idaho School Boards Association; Dale Kleinert, Northwest Accreditation Commission, AdvancED; Dennis Stevenson, Rules Coordinator, Department of Administration; Clark Corbin, Idaho Educational News

Chairman Syme called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. He welcomed the guests and speakers to the committee.

DOCKET NO. 08-0202-1703: **Tracie Bent**, Chief Planning and Policy Officer, State Board of Education, spoke to **Docket No. 08-0202-1703**. She explained that the State Board of Education has an additional step in the rule-making process, that other agencies do not have. The administrative rule changes also have to go before the board members, which is an additional opportunity for the public to comment on agency rule changes.

Ms. Bent explained that Section 33-119 specifies the accreditation requirements for schools, including private and parochial schools. The agency is striking wording which conflicts with code in IDAPA 08.02.02 stating accreditation is voluntary for private and parochial school. The proposed change in the language would strike the reference in Administrative Code, leaving the language in Section 33-119, Idaho Code. This rule also updates language regarding the Northwest Accreditation Commission. The removal of the existing subsection 140.02 removes the reference to Continuous School Improvement Plans. Section 33-320, Idaho Code, was enacted after this language was included in Administrative Code. Provisions regarding school district continuous improvement plans are now governed by Section 33-320, making this language unnecessary.

The section being added in Subsection 03, concerning residential schools, merely states that residential schools must also meet applicable health and safety standards in Idaho Code to be considered fully accredited by the State Board of Education. The Board of Education only evaluates the academic program, not the health and safety standards, of residential schools. However, if the Board is made aware of a health or safety concern, they can bring it to the attention of the Department of Health and Welfare. Regarding Subsection 04, the Board is providing more information regarding what is in the accreditation report.

In response to questions from the committee, **Ms. Bent** said the Idaho School for the Deaf and Blind is an example of a residential school, because students live on the school campus, not at home, during the school week. There are also private residential schools. The health and safety requirements are being added to Idaho Code, as an accreditation requirement. She added that Section 39-1210 makes it clear the requirements do not apply to students who are being home schooled.

Dale Kleinert, Northwest Accreditation Commission Division of AdvancED, spoke **in support** of the rule docket. He said some residential schools are moving away from a therapeutic environment, which has created a gap in the Health and Welfare oversight. The State Board of Education accredits academic programs, not health and safety, he added, but the Board works closely with the Department of Health and Welfare to insure compliance with health and safety requirements. In response to questions from the committee, Mr. Kleinert said the State Board of Education contacts Health and Welfare if it sees health or safety problems, or if people report health or safety problems to the Board.

Ms. Bent added that adding the language concerning health and safety standards insures that, even if the schools pass the accreditation requirements, they still have to pass the Health and Welfare requirements. The State Board of Education uses Northwest Accreditation to accredit educational institutions. The legislature approved a bill to clean up the Health and Welfare section of code.

MOTION:

Rep. Amador made a motion to recommend that the full committee approve **Docket No. 08-0202-1703. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**DOCKET NO.
08-0202-1705**

Tracie Bent explained the changes in this rule docket. She said many of them are technical, to maintain consistency with the rest of Idaho Code. For example, Pupil Personnel Services Certificate is being changed to Pupil Services Staff Certificate, and that category of employee is required to have a professional learning plan. The significant changes are the following: 1. Language has been added which covers institutional recommendations. The proposed changes will make technical corrections to the existing definition of an institutional recommendation, to differentiate between the institutional recommendations which are required for instructional staff, and the one required for administrators. 2. Educators asked the Board to make the material regarding the three semester required Frameworks Class more consistent. 3. The Code of Ethics section will now apply to all certified staff, including those employed under an interim certificate. 4. Language requiring teachers on an Interim Certificate to start a mentor program their third year has been removed, because the Interim Certificate can only be used for three years. 5. Language was added to clarify that professional development credits must be taken during the valid certificate period, not prior to it. 6. One piece of language is outdated, and not something the Board can regulate. 7. Language allowing unofficial college transcripts to be used has been added, due to the length of time it takes to acquire official transcripts. 8. Pupil Service Staff Certificate Holders are included in the evaluation policy, and their standards will be aligned with the profession's national standards. 9. At least one evaluation must include a rating for all components of the professional standards used for evaluation of certified personnel, to be consistent with Idaho Code. 10. Restores the school district administrator policy requirement regarding communication for consistency between the instructional staff evaluation policy and the administrator policy.

In response to a question from the committee, **Dennis Stevenson** said the committee can recommend the whole committee approve or reject an administrative rule, in whole or in part. Whenever the legislature rejects a rule, the code is not altered, and the rule is not affected. In response to questions from the committee, **Tracie Bent** said the Frameworks Evaluation requirement includes four domains and twenty components used in professional practice. Classroom evaluations are used to determine if they are being met. Currently, the Board is looking at how to use measurements of student growth in evaluations, and it is looking at how to define growth in a generic sense.

Ms. Bent said the purpose of the language added in the definitions section, for Institutional Recommendations, is to keep wording consistent with other parts of Code and to avoid confusion. This wording applies only to teachers and administrators from an approved state program. Other sections deal with teachers and administrators coming from another state program which has reciprocity with Idaho, or who are on an Interim Certificate. The definitions section in Section 007 does not require all administrators to have institutional recommendations. It states what institutional recommendations are required if administrators are required to have institutional recommendations.

In response to questions from the committee, **Ms. Bent** said the change which allows for unofficial transcripts to re-certify was included and provides for consequences if the transcripts have been altered. Also, the information on the unofficial transcript is used for re-certification, but it is not necessarily the same information used to determine placement on the salary schedule. In response to questions from the committee, **Ms. Bent** said the language which stipulates three of the six credits used for certification renewal be from the Frameworks Evaluation Course is to insure that personnel are more consistently evaluated. The course was developed in conjunction with the State Department of Education. Also, the rule change helps institutions develop Frameworks courses. The Frameworks courses are developed for specific stages of the process.

In response to questions from the committee, **Ms. Bent** explained the language referring to the superintendent, or equivalent, being evaluated by the local board of trustees was designed to include directors of charter schools. She added that the words "or equivalent" should also be included after "local board of trustees," in case charter schools do not use the same language. This is something the Board could add in the future. She said the reason for changing the language and requirements was some administrators had requested the Board add more specificity, to make sure they understand the requirements and are meeting them. Several courses have already been developed which meet all the requirements, and plans for the courses were submitted to the Board for approval.

MOTION:

Rep. Toone made a motion to **HOLD Docket No. 08-0202-1705** to time certain, January 22 at 9:00 a.m. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 08-0202-1707: **Tracie Bent** spoke to **Docket No. 08-0202-1707**. She said changes were made to the Code last session to allow school districts to receive reimbursement for more types of school activities, such as field trips and trips to colleges, consistent with the school district's college and career advising plan.

MOTION: **Rep. Cheatham** made a motion to recommend that the full committee approve **Docket No. 08-0202-1707**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:59 a.m.

Representative Syme
Chair

Jenifer Cavaness-Williams
Secretary