

MINUTES
SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, January 17, 2018

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 3:03 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: **Senator Den Hartog** moved to approve the Minutes of June 27, 2017, Joint Education Committee Meeting. **Senator Buckner-Webb** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

PASSED THE GAVEL: Chairman Mortimer passed the gavel to Vice Chairman Thayn.

DOCKET NO. 08-0203-1710 **Rules Governing Thoroughness – Idaho Content Standards.** **Tracie Bent**, Chief Planning and Policy Officer, Office of the State Board of Education (SBE) presented **Docket No. 08-0203-1710**. She reminded the Committee in 2017 that part of the Division of Career Technical Education (CTE) contents were approved. She began the review with the Business and Marketing section and explained that the standards are divided by the different standards necessary for student learning.

DISCUSSION: **Vice Chairman Thayn** asked the Committee if they would like time to review this rule at a later date. **Senator Nonini** requested more time to review before voting. **Senator Winder** expressed his concern and stated he would like more time to review the 100-page document. **Vice Chairman Thayn** said the rule will be held until next week.

DOCKET NO. 08-0203-1707 **Rules Governing Thoroughness – Definitions.** **Ms. Bent** presented the **Docket No. 08-0203-1707**. She explained the changes include the addition of a definition of the word "diploma" and the criteria needed to issue such a document; she emphasized that the disability specifications must be met.

DISCUSSION: **Senator Winder** asked to what the word "agency" refers. **Ms. Bent** specified that "agency" is a generic term that includes both school districts and charter schools and is defined in other sections of code. **Senator Nonini** requested clarification regarding the state requirement for high school graduation being three years of math and science. **Ms. Bent** answered in the affirmative and stated that the last one year be in the senior year of high school. **Senator Nonini** asked if students who take four years of math and science will also fall into this category. **Ms. Bent** replied in the negative. She said the state graduation requirements are framed as a minimum.

MOTION: **Senator Mortimer** moved to accept **Docket No. 08-0203-1707**. **Senator Winder** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

**DOCKET NO.
08-0203-1709**

Rules Governing Thoroughness – College and Career Readiness Competencies/Standards. **Ms. Bent** presented **Docket No. 08-0203-1709**. The proposed changes will establish a standard set of competencies for college and career readiness. She explained that in the work of the SBE with other State agencies. A common set of standards would be helpful to establish standard expectations for students graduating from high school. Common standards would also help to align State education initiatives and goals, and help to move forward with a more seamless alignment of graduation requirements and expectations for students once they leave. The categories of competencies include the knowledge of core subjects (math, humanities, social studies), critical thinking and creative problem solving, oral and written communications, teamwork, collaboration, digital literacy, leadership, professionalism, work ethic, career exploration and development, citizenship and civic responsibility, and financial literacy.

Ms. Bent added that when the rule was negotiated, it was questioned whether new classes were needed to teach these competencies. She said this is not the expectation. The competencies were derived from discussion with a wide array of stakeholders and differ from the standards established by the National Association of Colleges and Employers.

DISCUSSION: **Senator Den Hartog** said she wished this was the only standard the State used and likes the simplicity and brevity of this docket.

MOTION: **Senator Den Hartog** moved to accept **Docket No. 08-0203-1709**. **Senator Mortimer** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

**DOCKET NO.
08-0203-1712** **Rules Governing Thoroughness – Data Collection.** **Ms. Bent** presented **Docket No. 08-0203-1712**. She stated this docket was the only one not negotiated and explained change in this area is done through the Legislature. Currently, students applying for scholarships enter their grade point average (GPA) manually into the system to be verified; this change would automatically enter and verify data through the longitudinal data system.

DISCUSSION: **Senator Den Hartog** asked why the GPA was not already in the data system. **Ms. Bent** said she was unable to answer that question, as most of those who developed the original data system are no longer employed by SBE.

MOTION: **Senator Crabtree** moved to accept **Docket No. 08-0203-1712**. **Senator Den Hartog** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

**PASSED THE
GAVEL:** Vice Chairman Thayn passed the gavel to Chairman Mortimer.

**DOCKET NO.
08-0204-1701** **Rules Governing Public Charter Schools.** **Ms. Bent** presented **Docket No. 08-0204-1701**. She said H 279, which was enacted at the end of the 2017 Legislative Session, amended provisions regarding the petitioning process for charter schools and streamlined the application process and timelines. The negotiations were robust, and all parties impacted were involved in the changes. **Ms. Bent** explained the changes reflected the legislation.

DISCUSSION: **Senator Buckner-Webb** asked if the elimination of the sufficiency review would impact any charter schools in her district. **Ms. Bent** clarified the sufficiency review was in the original statute and was removed because of the time it took to get through the petitioning process. Charter school stakeholders felt that the sufficiency review was unnecessarily increasing the timeline. **Senator Den Hartog** said the sufficiency review did not have all the correct components. The application requirements are now clearer and more appropriate.

MOTION: **Senator Den Hartog** moved to accept **Docket No. 08-0204-1701**. **Senator Winder** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

- DOCKET NO. 08-0301-1701** **Rules of the Public Charter School Commission. Ms. Bent** presented this docket and explained that new wording regarding accreditation reports is added to comply with the current statute.
- DISCUSSION:** **Chairman Mortimer** asked if most of the deletions are those which apply to the statute passed last year and put into the previous rule; taken out of the compliance section of the code. **Ms. Bent** replied in the affirmative.
- MOTION:** **Senator Crabtree** moved to accept **Docket No. 08-0301-1701**. **Senator Den Hartog** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.
- DOCKET NO. 08-0401-1701** **Rules of the Idaho Digital Learning Academy (IDLA). Ms. Bent** presented **Docket No. 08-0401-1701**. She noted the address update of IDLA. She stated the reference to specific grades IDLA serves was removed, this allows IDLA to serve students based on school district needs. **Ms. Bent** clarified the accreditation standards for IDLA. She explained an update was made to the reference to class syllabus and consequences regarding plagiarism were to be found in the student handbook. **Ms. Bent** said the language change reflects the current usage and the behavior policy was slightly changed. She finished by specifying the ways teacher interactions have been updated to reflect current practices.
- MOTION:** **Senator Den Hartog** moved to accept **Docket No. 08-0401-1701**. **Senator Crabtree** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.
- ADJOURNED:** There being no further business at this time, **Chairman Mortimer** adjourned the meeting at 3:55 p.m.

Senator Dean M. Mortimer
Chair

LeAnn Mohr
Secretary

Samuel Griffin
Assistant Secretary