

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, January 23, 2018
TIME: 9:00 A.M.
PLACE: Room EW41
MEMBERS: Chairman VanOrden, Vice Chairman McDonald, Representatives Shepherd, Boyle, Clow, Mendive, Kerby, Cheatham, Amador, DeMordaunt, Moon, Syme, Ehardt, Kloc (Tway), McCrostie, Toone
**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None
GUESTS: Dwight Johnson, Idaho Career and Technical Education; Mark Browning, Christi Rood, Skip Smyser, College of Western Idaho; Gideon Tolman, Division of Financial Management

Chairman VanOrden called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

MOTION: **Rep. Amador** made a motion to approve the committee minutes of January 19, 2018. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Chairman VanOrden welcomed the presenters and guests to the committee meeting, and recognized those from the new College of Eastern Idaho. **Dr. Bert Glandon**, president of the College of Western Idaho, introduced the board of the Idaho Community College Consortium to the committee. He gave a presentation on the challenges the College of Western Idaho (CWI) will face in the future, and how it is serving students in their communities. Dr. Glandon said CWI is the fastest growing community college and experiences 95% growth every year. It has not raised tuition since 2011, and the goal of keeping college affordable helps with student retention, he said. Dr. Glandon said the growth has increased the need for more buildings. Even the online classes need buildings and staff to support them, he added. Dr. Glandon said the colleges plans for enhancing student achievement include expanding online classes, including a new advising model, expanding student service hours, and a college Hispanic Initiative. Dr. Glandon said the state's keys to future student achievement are short and long-term facilities, providing funding for the adult completion scholarships, and keeping the funding sustainable.

Dr. Jeff Fox, College of Southern Idaho, introduced the board members and administrative team. Dr. Fox said that, until recently, CSI was the least expensive college in the state. It offers a variety of course delivery methods, including campus classes, dual-credit classes, off-campus outreach centers, and online classes. Providing transition coaches and academic coaches to high school students has resulted in 61% retention, said Dr. Fox, and the recruitment and advising efforts have increased the Fall-to-Fall retention rates. Two concerns the college has are the decline in on-campus enrollment and the challenge of reaching under-represented populations, said Dr. Fox. Although dual-credit enrollments have increased, the low unemployment rate has resulted in declining on-campus enrollment. Two approaches to reaching under-represented populations are the Hispanic Initiative and creating non-traditional scheduling, such as offering weekend classes for six semesters to attain a degree.

Chris Martin, Vice President for Finance and Business Affairs at North Idaho College, introduced the board of trustees at North Idaho College. He gave a presentation on the goals of the college and its roll in the community. The North Idaho College Foundation provides five million dollars in scholarships, said Mr. Martin. He agreed with the other presenters that the lower enrollment rates were the result of Idaho's strong economy. Employers are hiring students before they finish their degree programs, he added. Dual credit enrollments have risen. The future plans of the college is to create an entrepreneurship innovation center, said Mr. Martin. Libraries are becoming makerspaces, said Mr. Martin, and colleges need to evolve too.

Dr. Rick Aman, President of the College of Eastern Idaho, introduced the board of trustees. Dr. Aman gave a presentation on the status and goals of CEI. The four priorities for CEI, said Dr. Aman, are academic credit transfer, dual-credit and concurrent-credit class offerings, online class delivery, and workforce development. The College of Eastern Idaho is the least expensive community college in the state, said Dr. Aman, and he thanked the state of Idaho for providing the start-up funds for the college. Dr. Aman said the regional educational partnerships between the college and K-12 education and industry are important. The four community colleges belong to a consortium, and two-plus-two agreements with state four-year universities mean students are enrolled in both the two-year college and four-year institutions at the same time. CEI offers technical certificates, as well as two-year degrees, and the colleges is exploring the concept of T-2-4 with regional business and industry partnerships. Students may progress from a technical certificate to a two-year degree, followed by a four-year degree. Dr. Aman said the college works with business and industry partners to provide customized workforce training, industry-recognized certificates, and competency-based certificates.

In response to questions from the committee, **Dr. Glandon** said he thinks the dual-credit options will change people's perceptions of the rigor and credibility of Idaho's K-12 education. CWI hires high school faculty to teach those classes based on a set of qualifications. Mentors from CWI provide any resources the teachers need to align the high school curriculum to the college class. Dr. Glandon said that, as the bar gets raised for teachers, the pay scale should reflect that. The state can't afford to lose teachers after their first year, he added.

In response to questions from the committee, **Dr. Fox** said the college is working with students and their parents to improve go-on rates and retention rates. Colleges are making a difference in people's perception of education, he added. In response to questions from the committee, **Dr. Aman** said part of a community college's job is to provide re-mediation, if it is necessary, because community colleges admit any student. In response to questions from the committee, **Mr. Martin** said NIC is giving adult completers a chance during the summer to take one or two classes, and providing motivation to complete a certificate or a degree.

In response to questions from the committee, **Dr. Glandon** said CWI works with employers and BSU to analyze entry-level skill sets, and is responding to it in course and degree offerings. An attitude of life-long learning is critical, he added, because even students with certificates and degrees can achieve promotions with further education, he added. CWI is looking at offering more night, summer, and weekend class formats to help employees. In response to questions from the committee, Dr. Aman said all of Idaho's community colleges are working closely together. An Enterprise Resource Planning System is used by most community colleges, he added. Dr. Glandon said he can get the demographics of the students taking adult education classes to committee members.

In response to questions from the committee, **Dr. Aman** said badging is a critical element in competency-based education. All industries use it at some level, and it will become more utilized by colleges in the future, he said. **Lita Burns**, Vice-President of Instruction at North Idaho College, said schools need to provide students the connections of how the education applies to their dream jobs. The badge certificates motivate students to continue their education.

Dwight Johnson, Idaho Career and Technical Education Administrator, explained the agency's goals and focus areas. He said 66% of career and technical education students go on to college, compared to 49% of all Idaho students. The community colleges provide customized training with aid from businesses. Of the jobs which are highest in demand, said Mr. Johnson, seventeen out of twenty are CTE jobs. It is predicted that 138,000 new jobs will be created from 2014 to 2024, said Mr. Johnson, and two-thirds of those jobs require education beyond high school. A workforce shortage of 49,000 by 2024 is predicted, said Mr. Johnson, and half of the new jobs predicted can be filled by students with a two-year degree. The value of career and technical education, said Mr. Johnson, is that it connects students to real careers, provides workers for the talent pipeline, and makes education more meaningful. He said he appreciates **Governor Otter's** support in his 2018 State of the State Address to "meet the demand for more skilled workers."

Mr. Johnson said the focus areas of Idaho Career and Technical Education are to attract students, expand the capacity of secondary and post-secondary programs, and to continuously improve programs. He said the selling point for passing the school bond in Lewiston was the technical high school being built next to LCSC. Idaho State University is moving its CTE Program to a new building, he said, and the community leaders and parents are realizing the importance of career technical classes, he added. Mr. Johnson said legislation would be brought to the committee proposing to start secondary education at the seventh grade and requiring eighth-grade students to have a career plan which they update each year. Students could take aptitude inventories, and schools could organize speakers and visits to businesses, he added. He also recommended a legislative task force to identify career technical programs with 100% job placement and waiting lists in the post-secondary institutions for students. The governor recommended expanding workforce training centers to rural areas, said Mr. Johnson. He also recommended learn and earn models, which allow students to start apprenticeships at sixteen-years-old, rather than eighteen, as well as legislation which gives incentives to school districts which graduate career-ready students.

In response to questions from the committee, **Mr. Johnson** said school counselors deal with many issues, and career advising sometimes gets lost. The funding the legislature appropriates is critically important. He suggested including parents in the career exploration. Idaho Career and Technical Education has been looking at best practices across the country, and some ideas are providing access to online career exploration, bringing speakers to schools, and communicating effectively with college and career counselors. Mr. Johnson said **Dr. Clark** reminded them that introducing careers can be started as early as first grade, such as including career titles when learning the alphabet. Idaho CTE will be exploring best practices for a year before designing a program, he added.

Clay Long, president of Idaho Career Technical Educators, introduced himself and the organization. He said the organization has worked on a strategic plan for retaining the pipeline of CTE educators. Mr. Long said goals of the organization is to provide quality membership services and to work with the legislature. **Chairman VanOrden** commented that CTE is becoming much more relevant, and she looked forward to updates from the institutions and organizations.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Representative VanOrden
Chair

Jenifer Cavaness-Williams
Secretary