

MINUTES  
JOINT MEETING  
**HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**  
**SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Monday, January 29, 2018  
**TIME:** 3:00 P.M.  
**PLACE:** Lincoln Auditorium WW02  
**MEMBERS:** Chairman VanOrden, Vice Chairman McDonald, Representatives Shepherd, Boyle, Clow, Mendive, Kerby, Cheatham, Amador, DeMordaunt, Moon, Syme, Ehardt, Kloc (Chilcote), McCrostie, Toone  
Chairman Mortimer, Vice Chairman Thayn, Senators Winder, Nonini, Den Hartog, Guthrie, Crabtree, Buckner-Webb, Ward-Engelking  
**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** None  
**GUESTS:** Quinn Perry, Idaho School Boards Association, Sue Wigdorski, Idaho Education Association, Kari Overall and Matt Compton, Idaho Education Association, and Marilyn Whitney, Governor's Office.

**Chairman VanOrden** called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

In preparation for the presenters from Idaho School Funding and Education Commission of the States, **Rep. Horman** reported on work preformed by the legislative interim committee on the public school funding formula. Purpose of the interim committee: study Idaho's public school funding formula in order to make recommendations during the 2017 and 2018 legislative sessions. Reasons for study: current funding formula enacted in 1994 may be outdated, evolving needs of students and staff, changes in technology and delivery of education. Methods of study used by the interim committee included historical review of current funding formula and systematic review of funding distribution for transportation funding, math and science funding, base salaries for classified staff, facilities funding. Additional study methods included big picture review of where we need to be related to mastery-based education, weighted funding for specific student populations, addressed student mobility and timing of funding distributions to school districts, how other states address health insurance, enrollment counts compared to average daily attendance (ADA vs. Enrollment), and also included public testimony, a survey of stakeholders and the public. Options looking forward include analysis of Idaho school district funding and national perspective of funding formula options, review of simulator and other student-based funding considerations, summary of current statutory and other program funding distributions, weighted funding for specific student populations in student-centered funding formulas, performance certificates required for charter schools, outcome measures in new-student centered funding formula. Work preformed by the legislative interim committee on public school funding formula led committee members to recommend it is in the best interest of the State to move forward to an enrollment counts and student-based formula, with increased flexibility in expenditures at the district level.

**Emily Parker**, Education Commission of the States, explained Idaho currently uses a "resource allocation" system that provides districts a predictable level of resources, allows policy makers to see what education dollars are buying and allows the state to control most education policy expenditure decisions. The current funding formula has been in place since 1994.

**Michael Griffith**, Education Commission of the States, explained 1) how Idaho compares to other states school funding sources indicating in Idaho 47.1% came from the state, 44.6% from local, and 8.3% from federal sources. 2) Per pupil spending of \$6,923 per Idaho student which ranks Idaho 49th in the country. 3) Average teacher salaries of \$46,122 across Idaho which ranks Idaho at 47th in the country. Between 2015 and 2016 the average teachers salary in Idaho increased 2%. 4) Idaho high school graduation rate of 78.9% ranking Idaho 39th in the country. 5) NAEP Scores indicated 32% of Idaho 8th grade students proficient or above grade level in math and 33% proficient or at grade level in reading. Next, Mr. Griffith explained the components of a high-quality funding system: 1) Adequate funding to sufficiently meet current state education requirements. 2) Equitable so all districts have access to relatively equal levels of resources and all students have access to relatively equal educational offerings. 3) Flexible allowing districts the ability to use resources to meet unique needs. 4) Adaptable formula that can handle changes in the way educational services are delivered with little or no adjustment. Mr. Griffith explained Idaho's current system made sense when students primarily attended brick and mortar neighborhood schools; however, over time boundary expansion, advances in technology and mobile learning have changed the way school districts deliver education services requiring adjustments to the formula.

**ADJOURN:**

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

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Representative VanOrden  
Chair

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Karen Westen  
Secretary