

MINUTES  
**HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Wednesday, January 31, 2018

**TIME:** 9:00 A.M.

**PLACE:** Room EW41

**MEMBERS:** Chairman VanOrden, Vice Chairman McDonald, Representative(s) Shepherd, Boyle, Clow, Mendive, Kerby, Cheatham, Amador, DeMordaunt, Moon, Syme, Ehardt, Kloc (Chilcote), McCrostie, Toone

**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Shepherd, Clow, Amador

**GUESTS:** Dwight Johnson, Chance Rassom, Lyndi Loveland, Caty Solace, Idaho Career Technical Education; Harold Ott, Rob Winslow, Idaho Association of School Administrators; Clark Cortin, Idaho Education News; Mike Keckler, Office of the State Board of Education

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

**Dwight Johnson**, state administrator, Idaho Division of Career-Technical Education, introduced students from CTE student organizations. Student organizations include BPA, DECA, FCCLA, FFA, HOSA, SkillsUSA, and TSA. Mr. Johnson said students hone their skills by competing in regional and state competitions.

**Lyndi Loveland**, state president of Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), told the committee that FCCLA opened her eyes to a wider world than her home town of St. Anthony. She said the organization prepares students for workforce development skills. She told the committee about projects the FCCLA students in St. Anthony organized, and how the organization is like another family. In response to questions from the committee, Ms. Loveland said the organization has given her a foundation for her plan to attend medical school, and it has given her leadership skills which are valuable in any career. She said she discovered FCCLA when she took a leadership class associated with the organization. Ms. Loveland said her foundation would not be as strong without the CTE organization, and one skill it develops that traditional classes do not is leadership. The organization meets at lunch and sometimes after school, she added.

**Chance Rassom**, Timberline High School, told the committee how involvement in CTE classes and organizations affected his life. He is the treasurer for his school chapter and state president. He said he attended nine schools in twelve years in both northern Idaho and southern Idaho. In grades six through ten, he didn't start and finish at the same school. Mr. Rassom said he thought he would be the stereotypical student who moves a lot, with no friends and poor academic performance. Participation in CTE classes and student organizations has improved his leadership skills and his academic skills, and he will graduate with twenty-two college credits, he said. Mr. Rassom said he owes his success to schools, SkillsUSA, and his peers and colleagues. In response to questions from the committee, Mr. Rassom said he is doing his senior project on a comparison between *Romeo and Juliet* and *Hamlet*. He said some of his friends have done their senior projects on welding and other CTE skills. He started welding class when he went to school at Challis High School. He said he thought welding would be a good personal skill, and he knew friends and family who made a good living doing welding. If someone had told him in sixth grade that he would be presenting to the state legislature, he would have laughed, he added, and he is grateful he was told

he needed to step up to positions of responsibility. In response to questions from the committee, Mr. Rassom said twelve credits are from NNU, and ten credits are from CTE testing through CWI. Within twelve months of graduating from high school, he added, he will have a two-year college degree. He plans to attend ISU, because it has lots of good scholarships and a nationally-recognized welding program. He said he is also excited by the new, state-of-the-art building for the School of Technology. He hopes to also take some business credits and open his own business.

**Dwight Johnson** said CTE programs accomplish three things. They provide students the opportunity to have high-skill, high-paying jobs, fill the talent pipeline for jobs in science, technology, engineering and math, and make education meaningful to students. In response to questions from the committee, Mr. Johnson said he has not had a chance to discuss the pros and cons of allowing internships or degrees to substitute for senior projects with his staff. The department is meeting with deans of colleges to make sure the transition from secondary to post-secondary education is smooth, he said. All the credits students take in college transfer between the Idaho colleges, he said, which makes it a smooth process. The department has been aligning standards horizontally across the colleges, he added, and then it will work on aligning standards vertically, from secondary to post-secondary school. In response to questions from the committee, Mr. Johnson said colleges have agreements with high schools, and the high school teacher is considered an adjunct teacher for dual-credit purposes. Also, students can spread learning outcomes over more than one semesters, and the technical competency credit will also count as college credit. Mr. Johnson said the department is having some success in communicating the value of CTE to students and parents, with the support of the governor and the State Department of Education. He said he would like to start career exploration in seventh grade and communicate career opportunities more effectively at the middle school level.

**Rep. DeMordaunt** commented that the West Ada School District has done a good job of marketing the CTE programs. **Chairman VanOrden** said she thinks middle school and junior high school teachers will appreciate the direction offered in seventh grade, and the application of school to career. Idaho schools started forming partnerships with business and industry before Tennessee did, such as the Pocatello partnership with Caterpillar, she added.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:54 a.m.

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Representative VanOrden  
Chair

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Jenifer Cavaness-Williams  
Secretary