

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, March 15, 2018
TIME: 8:30 A.M.
PLACE: Room EW41
MEMBERS: Chairman VanOrden, Vice Chairman McDonald, Representatives Shepherd, Boyle, Clow, Mendive, Kerby, Cheatham, Amador, DeMordaunt, Moon, Syme, Ehardt, McCrostie, Toone, Gannon(5)
**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Boyle, Cheatham
GUESTS: None

Vice Chairman McDonald called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Sara Scudder, CIS Administrator, Department of Labor, gave a presentation on the Career Information System Website (CIS). She said the website includes career and goal-setting tools. Users can save their searches to a personalized portfolio, said Ms. Scudder. She demonstrated how to use the website, using hypothetical students at different stages of their career search. Ms. Scudder said the website shows high school course pathways to users, and students can save their portfolio as a .pdf file to share with their counselors and with parents at parent-teacher conferences. The website also includes a Reality Check Page, which compares their post-secondary plans to their lifestyle plans after high school. She said the website empowers students.

In response to questions from the committee, **Ms. Scudder** said Idaho has used the CIS System since 1980, when it used needlebox technology. The technology has changed and evolved. The website helps users identify their skills and values, as they relate to occupations, and it gives information about occupations. Research on the success of the CIS Website has not been done, said Ms. Scudder. Most schools are using it as a career exploration tool for students. Using the website in middle school introduces students to the idea that school will eventually end, and it helps them think about their futures.

Rep. Kerby commented that the CIS System helps students know why they have to work so hard, and they enjoyed using it when he taught in the 1980's. **Rep. Toone** commented that she liked the improvements to the program over the years, and she said it was important for students in rural schools to see all the jobs available.

In response to questions from the committee, **Tracie Bent**, State Board of Education, said research shows the sooner students receive college and career advising, the more likely they are to continue with post-secondary education. In response to questions from the committee, **Ms. Scudder** said the system is used in 270 high schools and 180 middle schools in Idaho, as well as by job seekers, the Department of Correction, and the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. The occupation of legislator is not included in the Bureau of Occupations, she added, so it does not appear as an option after users complete the personality inventory.

Byron Yankey, College and Career Advising Manager, Idaho State Board of Education, gave a presentation on the Next Steps Idaho Website, targeting students and their families in eighth through twelfth grade. It includes a Future Finder Page, which offers personality and career inventories. The Apply Idaho Page allows students to apply for all colleges and universities in Idaho with one application, and contains information and videos about each institution. The Website is organized by grade levels with advice check sheets for students by season, as well as information about paying for college, career technical education, and a scholarship search page. Mr. Yankey demonstrated the Future Finder personality inventory, which advises careers based on inventory results.

In response to questions from the committee, **Mr. Yankey** said the website had one-half million hits in November and 300,000 hits in January. The average number of page views per visitor was five, and the average visit time was five to seven minutes. Mr. Yankey said the State Board of Education has been thinking of merging the CIS Website with the Next Steps Idaho Website for the past year. A strategic planning process is planned for May, which will include how best to merge CIS and Next Steps Idaho. The Board is planning on providing the legislature information on the resources dedicated to the websites and their effect on encouraging high school students to attend postsecondary education in the future, he added.

In response to questions from the committee, **Meagan Hinkle**, student of Eagle High School, said she heard about the Next Steps Idaho Website from a customer at Home Depot, where she works. The customer asked if she had applied for scholarships and directed her to the website.

Vice Chairman McDonald returned the gavel to **Chairman VanOrden**.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

Representative McDonald
Vice Chair

Jenifer Cavaness-Williams
Secretary