

MINUTES  
**HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Wednesday, March 13, 2019

**TIME:** 8:30 A.M.

**PLACE:** Room EW41

**MEMBERS:** Chairman Clow, Vice Chairman Kerby, Representatives Shepherd, Boyle, Mendive, DeMordaunt, Moon, Ehardt, Goesling, Marshall, Raymond, Wisniewski, McCrostie, Abernathy, Berch

**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** None

**GUESTS:** Wendi Secrist, Workforce Development Council; Kirstin Bolen; Katie Allison, iSucceed VHS; Kelly Edginton, Idaho Virtual Academy; Karen Haines, INSPIRE Connections Academy; Wil Overgaard, Weiser School District; Lora Seabaugh, Pam Morris and Jace Lano, Rivervue Middle School; James Buschine, Eagle Academy; Clark Corbin, Idaho Ed News; Marilyn Whitney and Matt McCarter, SDE

**Chairman Clow** called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Goesling** made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2019 meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**S 1105:** **Sen. Thayne** presented **S 1105**, which would make Career Technical Education (CTE) pathways more accessible to high school students by allowing them to use Advanced Opportunities funds toward CTE workforce training. An example of this would be a federally registered apprenticeship program in HVAC, plumbing or electrical. The bill will pay up to \$500 per course and \$1,000 per year. The State Department of Education (SDE) will work with the division of CTE on a list of eligible courses. If a student fails or does not complete a course, they must pay for and complete the next course on their own, before they may use state funds again.

**Superintendent Wil Overgaard**, Weiser School District, and **Executive Director Wendi Secrist**, Idaho Workforce Development Council, spoke **in support** of the bill. They noted many students are not financially able to go on to college, but allowing them to work toward a trade career while in high school provides greater equity and access. Students work their paid apprenticeship hours after school, on weekends and during the summer.

In response to Committee questions, **Tracie Bent**, Chief Planning and Policy Officer, State Board of Education, clarified the bill will not preclude students from using Advanced Opportunities funds for traditional, for-credit CTE courses.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Moon** made a motion to send **S 1105** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Kerby** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**S 1059:** **Marilyn Whitney**, Deputy Superintendent of Communications and Policy, State Department of Education, presented **S 1059**, which removes the cap on the number of schools allowed to participate in Mastery Based Education (MBE). It also describes the current and future role of the Mastery Education Network (MEN) to advise, develop recommendations implement policies and provide resources to schools and districts.

**Lora Seabaugh**, Rivervue Middle School, **Jace Lano**, Student, and **James Buschine**, Eagle Academy, spoke **in support** of the bill and stated MBE allows kids to learn at their own rate, whether that's taking extra time or working ahead of grade level. They noted it is question-based and engages students, while teaching them successful habits.

In response to Committee questions, **Kelly Brady**, Director of Instructional Support for Student Centered Learning, State Department of Education, discussed SDE's use of a PR firm to create a statewide awareness campaign for mastery education. She noted the enabling MBE legislation required the awareness campaign and it is funded through the contributions of incubator schools.

**MOTION:**

**Rep. Berch** made a motion to send **S 1059** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. He stated the Committee should trust the people closest to the process and not second guess them and this legislation.

**Ms. Whitney** clarified appropriation amounts are at the discretion of the legislature, but by removing the cap on the number of participants the SDE will stretch their dollars to help as many schools as possible.

**Rep. Kerby** spoke **in support** of the motion, noting kids love MBE and since the SDE was following the direction of the legislature by hiring a PR firm, they should not be penalized.

**Rep. Moon** stated she would not support the motion because more explanation is needed, particularly regarding funding.

**VOTE ON MOTION:**

**Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Moon** requested she be recorded as voting **NAY. Rep. Kerby** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**Chairman Clow** turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Kerby**.

**Katie Allison**, Executive Director, iSucceed Virtual High School, discussed her school's demographics and issues with the CREDO report previously given to the Committee. She stated schools trying to educate marginalized students need to be supported and it is a problem to measure school quality without taking into account demographics and school choice options. She also stated the study made faulty data assumptions by treating all students the same, rather than recognizing schools like iSucceed, designed to serve at-risk students for a short amount of time.

**ADJOURN:**

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:55 am.

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Representative Clow  
Chair

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Erica McGinnis  
Secretary