MINUTES
SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, January 15, 2020
TIME: 3:00 P.M.
PLACE: Room WW55
MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Mortimer, Vice Chairman Thayn, Senators Winder, Den Hartog, Crabtree, Woodward, Lent, Buckner-Webb, and Ward-Engelking
ABSENT/EXCUSED: None

NOTE: The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

CONVENED: Chairman Mortimer called the meeting of the Senate Education Committee (Committee) to order at 3:03 p.m.

PASSED THE GAVEL: Chairman Mortimer passed the gavel to Vice Chairman Thayn, who reminded the Committee that except for the final docket, none of the dockets on the agenda would be voted on.

DOCKET NO. 08-0202-1901 Marilyn Whitney, Chief Policy Advisor for the Idaho State Department of Education (Department), reminded the Committee of the 2018 legislation requiring that the Department create rules for training in suicide prevention. Ms. Whitney introduced Dr. Eric Studebaker, Director of Student Engagement for the Department, to address the rule.

Dr. Studebaker explained that this rule is intended to further define prevention, intervention, and postvention in regards to suicide prevention in schools. In response to Committee questions, Dr. Studebaker stated that the rule defines and frames the training for these three categories.

DOCKET NO. 08-0202-1902 Ms. Whitney introduced Lisa Colon Durham, Director of Certification and Professional Standards for the Department, to review the revisions that were suggested by industry professionals.

Ms. Durham explained those revisions, as well as the documents that were incorporated-by-reference. Ms. Durham stated that 20 percent of the incorporated-by-reference requirements have been updated and the majority of work on them was to eliminate redundancies.

Ms. Durham said that universities require different numbers of credits for teacher certification and they vary based on endorsements. Ms. Durham commented that the Department removed five endorsements and explained the requirements for a major endorsement and a major/minor endorsement.

Ms. Durham then explained the review process for the Department's 11 teacher preparation programs. Ms. Durham pointed out the revisions made in the incorporated-by-reference documents. The three definitions removed in the beginning of the rule were removed because they were not referenced in the rest of the rules.
In response to Committee questions, Ms. Durham clarified that temporary school psychologists are required to have a master's degree. With regard to the Idaho Interim Certificate, it has been moved from one section of the administrative rules to another. Ms. Durham clarified that interim teachers are allowed to teach courses and are mentored while they finish their requirements for a full teaching certificate. She explained the rules for a certified teacher to add another endorsement to their certificate. In conclusion, she stated that five definitions were removed in the final portion of the docket.

DOCKET NO. 08-0203-1903
Ms. Whitney affirmed that this rule was created with feedback from the Superintendent's Assessment Advisory Committee and from industry professionals. She shared that the majority of public comments on the rule were in support of the rule. Ms. Whitney said the rule adjusted science standards for students with significant cognitive impairment and updated the administration of the science assessment.

Ms. Whitney introduced Karlynn Laraway, Director of Assessment and Accountability for the Department. Ms. Laraway recapped Ms. Whitney's comments on the rule and referenced changes made in terminology to make it uniform throughout the rule.

DOCKET NO. 30-0101-1900
Stephanie Bailey-White, State Librarian and Agency Director for the Commission of Libraries, explained that each section of the omnibus rule had previously been reviewed by the legislature. The changes made to section 40 were made to increase clarity, but the intent of the section remained the same.

MOTION: Chairman Mortimer moved to approve Docket No. 30-0101-1900. Senator Ward-Engelking seconded the motion. The motion carried by voice vote.

PASSED THE GAVEL: Vice Chairman Thayn passed the gavel back to Chairman Mortimer.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business at this time, Chairman Mortimer adjourned the meeting at 3:59 p.m.

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Senator Dean M. Mortimer             Morgan Howard
Chair                                Secretary

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Juanita Budell
Assistant Secretary

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