MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE
GOESLING SUBCOMMITTEE
Pending Rules Review and Discussion

DATE: Thursday, January 16, 2020
TIME: 7:30 A.M.
PLACE: Room EW05
MEMBERS: Chairman Goesling, Representatives Boyle, Ehardt, Raymond, Wisniewski, McCrostie
ABSENT/EXCUSED: None
GUESTS: Tracie Bent, and Clay Long, State Board of Education; Marilyn Whitney and Karlynn Laraway, State Department of Education; Luke Kilcup, Lobby Idaho

Chairman Goesling called the meeting to order at 7:32 a.m.

DOCKET NO. 08-0203-1903: Marilyn Whitney, Deputy Superintendent of Communications & Policy, State Department of Education, briefly reviewed this docket for the Subcommittee. She stated that it replaces outdated Extended Content Standards in science and was developed based on data from the field and with input from parents of significantly disabled or impaired students. She went on to state that the number of students with significant impairments is around 1% of the student body in Idaho and that only they are affected by the updating of the Extended Core Standards, while the second part deals with the timing of Science Assessments will impact all students.

DOCKET NO. 08-0203-1901: Tracie Bent, Chief Planning and Policy Officer, State Board of Education presented this docket to the subcommittee. She explained that it incorporates, by reference, content standards for Career Technical Education programs to make them clearer and more consistent and to give them the same level of importance as regular content standards. She specifically noted that this does not include post-secondary education standards, but that the content standards were developed and updated with help from industry leaders.

In response to Subcommittee questions, Ms. Bent reiterated that members of specific industries were included in development of content standards and introduced Clay Long, Administrator of Career-Technical Education (CTE), State Board of Education to further explain. Mr. Long explained that industry members are brought into the development process through local advisory boards, where they develop a set of standards specific to their industry. These standards are then brought back to CTE program developers and are tested for a year before being evaluated again and changed as needed. He further added that schools are also able to ask for new programs as they see a need for them and that these requests are evaluated every year to determine actual need.

DOCKET NO. 08-0203-1902: Ms. Bent returned to the podium to explain that this rule would add chronic absenteeism to the data elements currently collected by the state and reported to the federal government. She also explained that this is a change from the old system as the Office of Civil Rights in the US has changed the data collection rules. School districts now report to their State Departments, who in turn report to the federal government and any proposed additional data elements must be added through the negotiated rule making process.
In response to subcommittee questions, Ms. Bent explained that the actual data being collected under this proposed rule would be that of students absent for more than 15 days and that with this information and other collected data elements the government issues a report on the access that students have to education. This report also offers insight into student opportunities and abilities to learn as well as the causes of chronic absenteeism. She further explained that all public schools are included in this data collection as well as some charter schools, based on specific terms laid out in their charters. Private schools and students who are home schooled are not included in this system unless they take courses in a public school. The data is collected along with identifiers unique to each student, this is specifically used to determine factors that may cause chronic absenteeism, however any information released to the federal government is usually based on aggregated data, not individual data.

Rep. Ehardt commented that Idaho is a strong parental rights state and has a large home school population. She noted that the state department may want to be cognizant of the fact that many parents do not want information on their children reported to the federal government.

DOCKET NO. 08-0204-1901: Began to present this rule she noted that it is based on a situation that has only occurred one time, but that the State Board would like to create a rule to prevent the situation from being repeated. This rule adds new language to existing rules governing the renewal of charter school certificates stating that a charter school will remain active if no action is taken by the chartering body to renew or nonrenew their certificate.

Rep. Boyle asked why this was drafted as a proposed rule instead of a proposed law. Ms. Bent stated that it had been specifically requested as a rule which did not seem problematic to the drafting party. In response, Rep. Boyle stated that it would have been easier to find and reference as a law if the need arises and should have been drafted as one.

DOCKET NO. 55-0103-1901: Ms. Bent explained that this Docket would move funding for Career-Technical Education programs from an Average Daily Attendance model to an Enrollment based system. She then walked the subcommittee through the rule language. With an Enrollment based system, funding would be awarded based on the previous year's enrollment and the majority of CTE programs would be more appropriately funded to provide industry specific technology and equipment.

In response to subcommittee questions, Ms. Bent explained that the rule only applies to stand alone CTE schools and that it is only added cost funding. She also explained that the change from an ADA system to an enrollment based system would allow schools to receive funding based on the outcomes and needs of specific programs rather than seat time of individual students. She further clarified that the appropriations used to fund these schools would remain the same, the distribution of those funds is what would be changing.

Chairman Goesling opened the floor for public testimony, there being none he stated that the subcommittee would reconvene to vote after some time for consideration of all the information given to them in this meeting.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the subcommittee, the meeting adjourned at 8:22 a.m.

Representative Goesling
Chair

Emma Wall
Secretary

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