

MINUTES  
**HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020  
**TIME:** 9:00 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:** Tracie Bent, OSBE; Clark Corbin, Idaho Ed News; Marilyn Whitney, SDE

**Chairman Clow** called the meeting to order at 9:01 am.

**Superintendent Sherri Ybarra** gave an overview of Idaho Mastery Education and introduced her Mastery-Based Education Coordinator.

**Aaron McKinnon**, Mastery-Based Education Coordinator, State Department of Education, gave an overview of the Idaho Mastery Education Network (IMEN) and the four stages of implementation schools work through. He discussed the statutory responsibilities of outreach and communications, to facilitate and maintain IMEN, and create a sustainability plan for statewide scaling, with a Mastery Education Framework. The framework will include an evaluation plan based on expected outcomes, and guidelines for assessment processes.

**Mr. McKinnon** addressed Committee questions about the use of consultants and the process of designing curriculum. He noted they haven't found the perfect way to share curriculum on a statewide level, while balancing that with learning experiences designed by each teacher. Committee members requested more financial information, particularly regarding the use of consultants, and data on alternative schools using mastery-based education.

**Superintendent Ybarra** introduced the Social Emotional Learning presentation to the Committee and noted it is not a program, but training to design, develop and deliver statewide professional development, including positive behavior management models for teachers and staff. The professional development will also address the prevention of risk behaviors and equip teachers and staff to identify struggling students. The goal is to create the best conditions and learning environment for student success. She noted this supports the recommendations of the Governor's task force.

**Dr. Eric Studebaker**, Director of Student Engagement and Safety Coordination, State Department of Education, presented on the Superintendent's \$1 million budget request for Social Emotional Learning. He discussed the timeline leading to a professional development event in summer 2020 and stated the budget will cover the costs of program selection, implementation, teacher training and assessment. Additional funding will be needed for three years to ensure all districts receive this training. Districts will independently select a program and the training will cover the science of effective program implementation, so the chosen programs will be implemented effectively and sustainably.

Committee members expressed their opinion that disruptive behavior should primarily be addressed in the home. They voiced concern about the state going beyond equipping teachers with tools to handle disruptive students, to promoting certain desirable behaviors. They requested data on the link between Social Emotional Learning and positive outcomes for children and teachers.

**Dr. Stuebaker** and **Marilyn Whitney**, Deputy Superintendent for Communications and Policy, State Department of Education, emphasized the \$1 million would not fund a program from the Department; rather, it will support districts in the program that will best help them. The goal of training is to support effective program implementation, to avoid wasteful spending. They stated teachers and districts have been asking for this help from the Department. Ms. Whitney clarified that money appropriated for counseling is typically for college and career advisors, not mental health counseling.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:45 am.

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Representative Clow  
Chair

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Erica McGinnis  
Secretary