

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, January 20, 2021

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW41

MEMBERS: Chairman Clow, Vice Chairman Kerby, Representatives Boyle, Mendive, DeMordaunt, Moon, Ehardt, Marshall, Wisniewski, Galloway, Shepherd, Yamamoto, McCrostie, Berch, Toone

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Rep. Ehardt, Rep. McCrostie

GUESTS: Karlynn Laraway, SDE; Marilyn Whitney, SDE; Tim McMurtrey, SDE; Dr. Eric Studebaker, SDE; Aaron Mckinnon, SDE

Chairman Clow called the meeting to order at 9:01 A.M.

MOTION: **Rep. Toone** made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 13th, 14th, and 18th, 2021 meetings. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Marilyn Whitney, Deputy Superintendant of Communications & Policy, State Department of Education, introduced herself and her team including the two speakers who would be presenting today.

Dr. Eric Studebaker, Director of Student Engagement and Safety Coordination, State Department of Education, presented the Advanced Opportunities Report. He explained how Advanced Opportunities in Idaho Education includes, but is not limited to, dual credit, course overload, A.P. testing, and C.T.E. workforce exams. He discussed the changes in participation in these programs over the past two years. Furthermore, he explained the demographics of the students participating, how the A.O. money is utilized for these different programs, as well as 2021 preliminary information.

In response to committee questions about validity of dual credits, **Dr. Studebaker** discussed how dual credit courses earned in Idaho high schools are always accepted by Idaho public colleges.

In response to committee questions about consistency between high schools administering these programs in regard to both teaching and advising, **Dr. Studebaker** explained they are operating under best practices and dual credit courses are delivered based on national standards. He pointed out their virtual training conference this year had more attendees than previous years.

Rep. Berch asked if there was data on how many high school students completing dual credit have graduated college. **Dr. Studebaker** answered explaining the State Board of Education is working on an updated report including success rates, grades, transfer credits, and graduation rates of A.O. students.

Dr. Studebaker then gave a presentation on the Various Student Behavior Initiatives. This presentation covered demographics, types of services offered and how they are funded, perceptions of efficiency barriers and impact, and next steps for the State Dept. of Education.

The committee voiced concern regarding if the data presented was from surveys and asked if there was any qualitative data. **Dr. Studebaker** discussed how the state does not have qualitative data reported, but it could be accessible at the local level.

Aaron Mckinnon, Coordinator for Master-Based Education, State Department of Education, presented the Master Base Education Initiative Report. He discussed the grants available to both exploring and practicing schools, the numbers of new cohorts, the staging guide for mastery education, and college and career readiness. He concluded his presentation by explaining the next steps for the program.

In response to committee questions about the number of schools participating and the amount of funds allotted for the program **Mr. Mckinnon** explained there are multiple cohorts of schools participating and some schools are part of multiple cohorts. He discussed how they predicted growth for this year, but saw even higher growth than expected. **Deputy Superintendent Whitney** clarified the money given to these schools for this program is start-up money, and some of the schools from the first cohort have now worked the program into their budget and no longer receive grant money, as is the intention for all participating schools.

In response to committee questions about grading in a mastery based education program, **Mr. Mckinnon** explained that a pillar of this model of instruction is student involvement, and that while some institutions run mastery-based learning on a traditional grading scale, other schools allow teachers and students to work together to decide what level of mastery needs to be reached.

Rep. DeMordaunt urged the committee members to check out the State Board of Education Website for additional information about the presentations they saw today, specifically relating to C.T.E. exams.

Chairman Clow informed the committee of the current information regarding remote testimony for this legislative session. The committee discussed their concerns and the chairman answered any questions he could.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:23 A.M.

Representative Clow
Chair

Kennedy Jones
Secretary