

MINUTES  
**JOINT FINANCE-APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Thursday, January 28, 2021

**TIME:** 8:00 A.M.

**PLACE:** Room C310

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Co-Chairman Bair, Senators Agenbroad, Crabtree, Woodward, Lent, Riggs, Cook, Ward-Engelking, and Nye.  
Co-Chairman Youngblood, Representatives Troy, Horman, Amador, Syme, Bundy, Giddings, Nate, Green, and Nash.

**ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** Senator Grow

**CONVENED:** **Chairman Bair** called the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee (Committee) meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

**AGENCY PRESENTATION:** **PUBLIC SCHOOL SUPPORT (K-12), Sherri Ybarra, Superintendent of Public Instruction; Jared Tatro, LSO Analyst**

The Public School Support budget provides state and federal funding for public education in grades K-12 at 115 local school districts, 66 public charter schools, and one fiscal agent (COSSA Academy). Funding is provided to meet the requirements of Article IX, Section 1 of the Idaho Constitution.

Historical Summary: The total appropriation for the Public School Support is divided into seven programs:  
Administrators is 4.5 percent,  
Teachers is 46.3 percent,  
Operations is 32 percent,  
Children’s Programs is 13.7 percent,  
Facilities is 2.6 percent,  
Central Services is .5 percent  
Deaf and Blind Educational Service is .5 percent  
84 percent of the funds come from the General Fund, 4 percent from dedicated funds, and 12 percent from federal funds.

Performance Report: **Superintendent Ybarra** shared measures and accomplishments, discussed the following goals and objectives:

- Fully implement the Idaho Content Standards
- Provide pathways to success post-high school
- Expand participation in Idaho Mastery Education Network

The FY 2021 Appropriation and Proposed FY 2022 Budget Requests Report detailed statutory distributions, other program distributions, and the state discretionary funds distribution. Additional information was provided that included the Public School Funding Formula Terminology, the FY 2021 Public School Funding Formula, the District and Charter School Enrollment (Headcount) chart for 2019 - 2020, school year metrics and the FY 2020 Federal Grant Fund Expenditures.

FY 2021 Budget: There were three line items. The first line item in the Teachers Division included \$8.315 Million for the Career Ladder, AP, 3rd Ruling, \$1 million for additional professional development and the reduction of federal funds by \$4 million. The second line item in the Operations Division was for \$7.434 million for additional health ins, discretionary, and the third was in the Children’s Program Division and included \$3.156 million for Literacy Proficiency and the reduction of federal funds for \$10,115,000.

FY 2021 Supplemental requests included:

- Restoration of Board of Education (BOE) appropriation reductions
- ADA/Enrollment Rule Change
- Children’s Reading Program Fund – BIF
- COVID-19 Round 2 of Stimulus Funds

FY 2022 Budget Request: There were nine line items detailing the Agency’s request and the Governor’s recommendations:

1. Health Insurance – Discretionary
2. Increase Classified Staff Salary
3. Reduce IT Staff Support
4. Reduce Technology Funds
5. Reduce Profession Development
6. Zero Out Gifted and Talented
7. Reduce/Zero Content/Curriculum
8. Reduce Remediation Funds
9. CARES Act Funding

Individual program budgets detailing FY 2021 appropriations and the FY 2022 proposed budgets are available online.

**Superintendent Ybarra** detailed successes of schools, teachers, and students; and spoke in detail about several line items in the FY 2022 budget request.

**Superintendent Ybarra** answered numerous questions from the Committee.

See [Presentation](#) and [Audio](#) here.

**AGENCY  
PRESENTATION:**

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, Sherri Ybarra, Superintendent of  
Public Instruction;  
Jared Tatro, LSO Analyst**

The State Department of Education is an executive agency of the State Board of Education and is established pursuant to Idaho Code § 33–125. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction serves as the executive officer of the department and has the responsibility for carrying out policies, procedures, and duties authorized by law or established by the board for all elementary and secondary school matters.

Historical Summary: There are two budgeted programs, Administration and Student Services. The Department is requesting a 4.7 percent increase and Governor is recommending a 4.5 percent increase with most of the funding coming from federal funds.

Organizational Chart: There are 124 FTP and 10 vacant positions

FY 2020 Actual Expenditures Variance Report. There were 4 expenditures highlighted:

- Indirect Cost Recovery
- Driver's Training
- Broadband Infrastructure
- Federal Grants

All fund percentages have been consistent over the last 4 to 7 years.

FY 2021 Budget Request included three line items. The first moved \$26,105,200 from the Administration Program into the newly created Student Services Program. The second transferred \$2,714,800 from the department to the Office of State Board of Education for IT and data management. The third reduced \$100,000 for unspent online class portal funds.

There was a noncognizable adjustment of \$2,021,700 for the ID-AWARE and the State Personnel Development Grants. These are five-year grants, which the department requests in ongoing appropriations, and detailed in the FY 2022 Budget line items requests. There was an appropriation reduction of \$400,500 from the Indirect Cost Recovery Fund.

FY 2022 Budget Request included the standard adjustments and two line items. The first was for \$819,700 for Professional Development for K-3 Disabled Students, and the second was \$1,202,000 for ID-AWARE Rural Mental Health Clinic.

**Superintendent Ybarra Marilyn Whitney , Dr. Eric Studebaker and Alex Adams** answered numerous questions from the Committee.

See [Presentation](#) and [Audio](#) here.

**AGENCY  
PRESENTATION:**

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICES FOR THE DEAF & BLIND, Brian Darcy,  
Administrator  
Jared Tatro, LSO Analyst**

The Educational Services for the Deaf & Blind is an outreach program that serves approximately 2,250 students from birth to age 21 years old. The campus program serves 115 students, ages 3-21 years old.

Historical Summary: There are two programs in this Division: the Campus Operations and Outreach Programs. The fund sources are from General Funds, dedicated funds, and federal funds. The FY 2021 appropriation was for \$11,836,600. The agency is requesting a 2.5 percent increase and the governor recommends a 2.3 percent increase.

Organizational Chart: There is no authorized FTP Cap.

FY 2020 Actual Expenditures Variance Report: There were three funds highlighted:

- \$109,900 in the General Fund relates to the Governor's holdback of 1 percent
- Miscellaneous Revenue – appropriated but not tracked and shown as 100 percent expended.
- Federal Grant Fund - appropriated but not tracked and shown as 100 percent expended.

Comparative Summary: The Agency requested a 2.5 percent increase and the Governor recommended a 2.3 percent increase.

FY 2021 Budget had two line items. The first provided \$193,700 for career ladder equivalence for staff and the second provided \$190,600 for two additional certified teachers. There was a onetime noncognizable adjustment for \$565,200 from the federal coronavirus relief funds and there was an endowment distribution of \$6,300 to be used in operating expenditures.

FY 2022 Budget included the standard adjustments in benefits and CEC. There was one line item pertaining to the Career Ladder Equivalence. The Governor recommended \$200,600 in ongoing personnel costs from the General Fund for certified teachers for the blind, deaf and pupil service personnel; \$102,900 in Campus Operations Program; and \$97,700 in Outreach Programs. There is funding included that typically is included in the CEC portion.

See [Presentation](#) and [Audio](#) here.

Due to time constraints, the Supplemental Appropriations and the Briefing on the Governor's 5 percent holdback were not heard.

**ADJOURNED:**

There being no further business before the Committee, **Chairman Bair** adjourned the meeting at 10:33 a.m.

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Senator Bair  
Chair

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Denise B. McNeil  
Secretary