

POLICY OBJECTIVES

- "...Establish and maintain a general, uniform and thorough system of public, free common schools."
- Increase the ability to fund school facilities
- Property tax relief
- Workable authorization requirements
- School district accountability
- Fiscal responsibility
- Adherence to best practices
- Increase facility efficiency
- Proper role of government

The stability of a republican form of government depending mainly upon the intelligence of the people, it shall be the duty of the legislature of Idaho, to establish and maintain a general, uniform and thorough system of public, free common schools."

- Article 9, Section 1, Constitution of the State of Idaho

Additional criteria:

Leverage existing resources	Can it be administered equitably	
Effectively utilize one-time money	Minimal regulatory process changes required	General population support
Leverage existing programs	Achievable by all sizes of Districts	Easily explained
	Keep all stakeholders whole	Repair/Remodel/Rebuild

POLICY POSSIBILITIES

Idaho Bond Bank Authority

- Statewide pooled financing
- Leverage investments
- Bonds sold competitively

Create Revolving Loan Fund for School Facilities

- Combined with IBBA; Expand funds to cover all the need
- Subsidized rates; IBBA bond debt service is paid by RLF funds
- Administered by DOE for Education Facilities (like DEQ SRF)

State Funded Public Improvement Plan (PIP), Master Facility Plan (MFP) & Comprehensive Financial Plans (CFPs)

- Funds for districts to complete PIP/MFP/CFPs
- Require annual update to plans
- Required to be able to apply for State programs
- Must be professionally done by an architect and municipal advisor

School Bond Guarantee

- If district has a CFP they can qualify for fee waiver
- Bonds sold competitively

EFIB Guarantee:

- Priority on facilities
- Consider using principal

Municipal Grant Assistance Program

- Require PIP/MFP/CFPs
- State funded FTEs

Remove Requirement to Submit Maintenance Plan

School District Debt Relief

State Grant Matching Funds Pool

Local Option Sales Tax

Direct Grants

- Require PIP/MFP/CFPs
- Prioritization municipalities most in need
- Partial grants that support bigger projects
- Voter approval
- State covers half; districts cover half

Impact Fees for School Districts:

- Require PIP/MFP/CFPs

Income Tax Benefits for Donated Land:

- Developers who donate land to support municipal facilities (schools) qualify

Bond Levy Equalization Program

- Revise formula to create more benefit
- State covers a larger proportional share of disadvantaged districts

Standardized School Designs

Reduce Voter Thresholds:

- Require PIP/MFP/CFPs
- Plant Facilities Levy extended term to 20 years
- 60% for GO Bonds
- No Threshold for Revenue Bonds
- Enable long term leases

COMBINATION!!

Policy Section Criteria

Policy Strategy	Ranking (1 – 5)	Explanation/Logic	
1			
2			
3			
4			