

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, January 19, 2022

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW41

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

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Rep. DeMordaunt and Ehardt

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of the session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

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

Alex Adams, Division of Financial Management Administrator, Office of the Governor, discussed key considerations within the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Recommendation. He shared that Idaho currently has the largest budget surplus and lowest unemployment rate in Idaho history. The largest budget surplus was the result of a nine percent increase in revenue while the spending maintained at four percent. Mr. Adams shared how **Governor Little's** proposal contains an eleven percent increase in K12 budget and a ten percent increase in teacher pay and benefits. The proposal also contains an investment in transportation, tax relief, natural resources, while maintaining fiscal prudence. Additionally, Mr. Adams spoke to the proposed budget for School Employee Benefits, Literacy Enhancement Fund, Empowering Parents Grant, Career and Technical Education (CTE) for K12 and Community Colleges Fund, and Workforce Development Council.

In response to Committee questions, **Mr. Adams**, discussed how the CTE for K12 and Community Colleges Fund will be dispersed among the community colleges. He shared how the budget of seventeen million dollars for the one thousand dollar teacher bonuses would be created. Mr. Adams, brought to the Committee's attention that the fifty million dollar Empowering Parents Grant would be distributed through a policy created this session. Mr. Adams, shared there will be a seven point one percent increase in budget for college funding with a focus on facilities.

Tracie Bent, Chief Planning and Policy Officer, State Board of Education, in response to Committee questions, shared that they looked at schools who were offering full-day kindergarten to determine the participation percent in full-day kindergarten. This number is then used to determine the amount of money being appropriated to fund full-day kindergarten.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:52 am.

Representative Clow
Chair

Elbia Christensen
Secretary