

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, January 22, 2025

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW41

MEMBERS: Chairman Pickett, Vice Chairman Hawkins, Representatives Clow, Mendive, Ehardt, Wisniewski, Garner, Nelsen, Sauter, Harris, Marmon, Tanner(13), Mathias, Church

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** None

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

Chairman Pickett called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

MOTION: **Rep. Church** made a motion to approve the minutes of January 21, 2025. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Dr. Terri Sorensen, Executive Director, Idaho Home Learning Academy, gave an overview of IHLA. She spoke about school choice options and said IHLA provides a complete curriculum for public school students who want to study virtually at home. She explained main features IHLA provides, enrollment, and accountability.

In response to committee questions, **Dr. Sorensen** said this is IHLA's ninth year but first year as a charter school. She explained funding, student enrollment, on-line curriculum models, IHLA partners and mentioned Idaho code, school choice and vouchers. She spoke about educators and administrators, student support, special education, and curriculum choices. Committee members asked about Empowering Parents grants, federal requirements, partner funding and test scores.

Jon Abrams, Superintendent of Onieda School District, spoke about the State Department of Education and Special Education.

ADJOURN: There being no other business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:02 am.

Representative Pickett
Chair

Amy Bengtzen
Secretary