

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, January 29, 2026

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room EW41

MEMBERS: Chairman Hawkins, Vice Chairman Handy, Representatives Mendive, Ehardt, Wisniewski, Garner, Nelsen, Sauter, Marmon, Pickett, Hostetler, Veile, Mathias, Galaviz

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Rep. Ehardt

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 Hawkins called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

H 515: **Rep. Mathias** presented **H 515**, legislation regarding intimidation, harassment, and bullying. He spoke about changes made from previous legislation. He explained this would ensure families whose students are involved in a serious bullying incident are notified so they can respond accordingly.

MOTION: **Rep. Garner** made a motion to send **H 515** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

Quinn Perry, testified in support of **H 515** and said it strengthens communication, accountability, and trust between schools and families when serious incidents occur.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Chairman Hawkins** called for a vote on the motion to send **H 515** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Mathias** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

Dr. Brooke Blevins, Dean of the College of Education, Health and Human Sciences, University of Idaho, spoke about preparing educators for Idaho classrooms. She explained how the Idaho Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (IACTE), are preparing educators and meeting Idaho's needs. She mentioned resources available for rural schools and literacy.

Committee members inquired about literacy, phonics, and continuity. They discussed student preparation for college or career readiness, and classroom management.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:42 am.

Representative Hawkins
Chair

Amy Bengtzen
Secretary