

MINUTES
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, February 04, 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:** 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 Hawkins called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

RS 33030C2: **Rep. Pickett** presented **RS 33030C2**, proposed legislation regarding virtual public education.

MOTION: **Rep. Mendive** made a motion to introduce **RS 33030C2. Motion carried by voice vote.**

Jeff Simmons, Superintendent, Idaho Digital Learning Alliance (IDLA), gave an annual report on the impact of IDLA. He spoke about funding, enrollment growth, and faculty requirements. He mentioned innovation in education, AI, and parental involvement.

Anthony Butler, Superintendent, Cambridge School District, shared success stories of students who have taken advantage of the opportunities available through IDLA. He said IDLA provides options which allow students to make more informed decisions and spoke about dual credit opportunities, digital literacy, and credit recovery courses.

In response to committee questions, **Jeff Simmons** discussed statute, rural schools, budget increases, enrollment growth, and operational improvements. He explained IDLA is available to all Idaho students.

Committee members asked for statute clarification and inquired about internal audits, recommended budget cuts, graduation success, and how IDLA plans to ration resources. They asked about accountability and reporting systems.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:11 am.

Representative Hawkins
Chair

Amy Bengtzen
Secretary