

MINUTES  
**HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Thursday, March 26, 2026

**TIME:** 8:30 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 8:31 am.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Mathias** made a motion to approve the minutes of March 17, 19, 20, and 23, 2026. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**Chairman Hawkins** recognized the Education Committee page and put the committee at ease for one minute.

**S 1412:** **Rep. Ehardt and Sen. Nichols** presented **S 1412**, legislation regarding student safety. This legislation creates the Idaho Student Safety and Educator Disclosure Act to strengthen transparency and reporting requirements related to misconduct involving students. They explained proper protection for students and spoke about retaliation, and closing loopholes.

**Lauretta Boulton**, Phoenix Advocacy Agency, and **Moses Espinoza** testified in support of **S 1412**.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Hostetler** made a motion to send **S 1412** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

**Debbie Critchfield**, Superintendent of Public Instruction, State Department of Education, answered committee member's questions regarding future employment, investigations, mandatory reporting, and Professional Standards Commission requirements.

**VOTE ON MOTION:** **Chairman Hawkins** called for a vote on the motion to send **S 1412** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Ehardt** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:03 am.

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Representative Hawkins  
Chair

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Amy Bengtzen  
Secretary