

November 30, 2004

STATE BOARD MEETS IN POCATELLO DECEMBER 2

POCATELLO - The Idaho State Board of Education will meet at Idaho State University Thursday, December 2 beginning at 8 a.m. The meeting will be held at the Pond Student Union Building, Salmon River Suite. The Board will meet in executive session Wednesday evening.

A list of Thursday's agenda highlights is included below:

Idaho State University: President Richard Bowen will present an ISU progress report to the Board. The Board will also consider a land swap between ISU involving 1 ½ city lots owned by Varsity Square.

Boise State University Student Services Center: BSU is requesting a \$3.5 million increase in the Student Services Center project. The Board approved the Student Services Center in January 2004 at a cost of \$5 million for a 34,000 square foot building.

University of Idaho Fraternity House: The UI is approaching the Board for authorization to purchase a former fraternity house on campus for \$400,102.

University of Idaho Fee Increase: The UI is asking the Board for permission to request 2005-2006 student fee increases above 10 percent. While fee proposals will be reviewed and set in April, according to Board policy, institutions cannot request more than a 10 percent increase unless the Board has given prior approval.

University of Idaho Employee Health Insurance: UI is presenting the Board with information regarding the potential to shift from an external health insurance plan to a self-insured plan. University officials believe a self-funded insurance program would save the university up to \$1 million a year. The Board is hearing the university's idea only; no decision is requested at this time.

University of Idaho/Water Center: The UI is requesting permission to make up to \$3 million in tenant improvements at the Idaho Water Center in Boise. The \$3 million includes \$1.3 million to be financed by the Idaho State Building Authority and \$1.7 million from institution funds.

Lewis-Clark State College New Residence Hall Proposal: LCSC will present a proposal to build a 100 to a 120-bed residence hall financed by a private developer. The College intends to lease the building from the developer.

Additional Yearly Growth Awards Distribution: Federal "No Child Left Behind" legislation requires states to outline a plan to reward schools for exemplary performance. The Board will announce those schools that received the award at the Board meeting.

Twin Falls/Filer Boundary Change: The Board will consider a petition to transfer approximately 3.5 square miles of land from the Twin Falls School District to the Filer School District.