

October 10, 2006

Board Meets At Lewis-Clark State College

LEWISTON - The State Board of Education will meet in Lewiston on the Lewis-Clark State College campus Thursday, October 12 to discuss higher education and public school issues.

The Board will meet beginning at 8 a.m. Thursday at the Williams Conference Center. State Board meetings are held every six weeks on college and university campuses throughout Idaho.

Topics on the agenda include:

Lewis-Clark State College Progress Report: President Dene Thomas will welcome the Board to the LCSC campus and update members on the issues facing the college.

Dual Credit Findings: The State Board of Education is strongly focusing on high school students taking advantage of dual credit opportunities, where students complete college courses while in high school at a lower tuition cost. The Board requested information on the number of courses institutions offer as well as the number of students taking courses and the return rate of students after taking dual credit courses.

College of Engineering Programs: Institutions responded to a Board request for more information on the delineation of engineering programs throughout the state.

Best Practice Wallace High School Seniors in Transition: The Board is beginning a regular segment at its meetings dedicated to best practices in K-12 and higher education. The Board will hear from parents from Wallace Junior-Senior High School who created a program targeted at seniors. The program assists students in career development, scholarships and college counseling.

Blind and Deaf Workgroup Recommendations: The State Board has evaluated the quality and availability of quality deaf and blind education programs since 2005. The Board first appointed a study committee, which outlined significant and broad issues in improving the state's programs. A workgroup developed a timeline for action as well as specific programmatic steps that must be taken for students. Recommendations focus on a standards-based approach for deaf students and blind students and extending programs across the state.