

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
February 5, 2004

SUBJECT

Technical Advisory Committee Under Idaho's Compliance Agreement

BACKGROUND

On March 19, 2002 the State of Idaho entered into a compliance agreement with the U.S. Department of Education providing a direction for the development of our state assessment system. As part of that compliance agreement the state is required to organize a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) made of outside experts to provide independent advice on our testing system.

DISCUSSION

With the shift of responsibility of the State Education Agency the Board is now responsible for the management of that compliance agreement, including the TAC. The agreement outlines specific steps, which are to be completed in order to maintain the flow of education dollars into the state.

Idaho is now beginning work on the new state science exam, which will be added to our assessment system within the next three years. Additionally, we will be working to refine our existing ISAT test to maximize their consistent application with the RIT scale.

As a result of these new directions staff recommends a reconstitution of the existing TAC. Board staff has worked with the U.S. Department of Education, NWEA, and our external review consultant to collect a list of recommendations for the TAC. An initial list of proposed members is attached and we anticipate adding an additional 3-4 members in the next quarter.

IMPACT

This will strengthen the committee in its ability to work with our RIT based test and improve our assessment system.

STAFF COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends reconstituting the committee and appointing the members as listed.

BOARD ACTION

Appointment of members by Board President. Any action will be at the Board's discretion.

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PROPOSED NAMES

IDAHO TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Dr. Judy Elliott, Assistant Superintendent
Long Beach Unified School District

Dr. David Francis, Director
Texas Institute for Measurement, Evaluation, & Statistics

Dr. Gary Hargett
Consultant, LEP

Dr. Carolyn Keeler, Professor
Educational Leadership
University of Idaho-Boise Center

Dr. Skip Kiefer, Professor
College of Education
University of Kentucky

Dr. Michael Kozlow, Director
Assessment Programs
Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory (NWREL)

Dr. Jim Leffler, Unit Manager
Planning and Program Development
Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory (NWREL)