



**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
TRUSTEES OF BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY
TRUSTEES OF IDAHO STATE UNIVERSITY
TRUSTEES OF LEWIS-CLARK STATE COLLEGE
BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO
STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL-TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

**APPROVED MINUTES
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
March 19, 2015
Office of the State Board of Education
Len B. Jordan Building, 3rd Floor
Boise, Idaho**

A special meeting of the State Board of Education was held March 19, 2015 in the large conference room of the Office of the State Board of Education, Len B. Jordan Building, in Boise, Idaho. Board President Emma Atchley presided and called the meeting to order at 10:00 am Mountain Time. A roll call of members was taken.

Present:

Emma Atchley, President
Don Soltman, Secretary
Dave Hill
Sherri Ybarra, State Superintendent

Richard Westerberg
Bill Goesling
Debbie Critchfield

Absent:

Rod Lewis, Vice President

STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

1. State ESEA Flexibility Waiver

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Ybarra/Soltman): To approve Idaho's ESEA Flexibility Waiver with additions and deletions as noted. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 7-0. Mr. Lewis was absent from voting.

Ms. Ybarra introduced Special Assistant Mr. Tim Corder along with Ms. Marcia Beckman, Associate Deputy for Title One Services, both from her office. She introduced the item indicating in 2014 the US Department of Education approved a one-year waiver. As a result of its upcoming expiration, it is necessary to create another waiver which will be a three-year waiver. The deadline to submit the waiver is March

31, 2015. She indicated that a redlined version of the existing waiver and changes to the new waiver, along with changes to Principles 1, 2, and 3 were included in attachments to the agenda materials.

Ms. Ybarra provided a high-level overview of the changes to the ESEA Flexibility waiver and pointed out some clarifications. She commented that references were removed to specific tools, such as SchoolNet, the Wise tool, and the repealed Students Come First; the Common Core State Standards will now be referred to as the Idaho Core Standards; and changes were made to the timeline. Ms. Ybarra reported going forward they are attempting to give Idaho more flexibility by removing reference to specific products and services (such as SchoolNet), and by suspending the 5-star accountability rating system. They wish to suspend the 5-star rating system this year because this is the first year there is baseline data available from the SBAC. In moving forward they will be building a new accountability model which is due in January 2016. The new model will contain broader measures on standards.

Mr. Soltman asked if the Department feels the changes would be satisfactory to the Feds. Ms. Ybarra responded they had a team at the ESEA Flexibility Waiver Training last week who meet with the Feds and worked on the item together. She pointed out Idaho is not the only state asking for a waiver. The Feds were in agreement with removing reference to specific products and programs to provide more flexibility, and clarified that amendments could be made going forward. Dr. Rush pointed out there is still a requirement for a learning management system, but it is not given a specific name such as School Net for example. Ms. Critchfield asked the reason for leaving the 5-star language in this waiver. Ms. Ybarra responded it is a historical reference and place holder; the Federal requirement is for there to be a system in place to reward achieving schools based on criteria the state sets. The Department will be working on a new accountability model and ranking. Ms. Atchley asked what criteria will be used to rank the schools. Ms. Beckman responded the only measure they will use this first year will be achievement as a result of this being a transition year in moving to the SBAC.

The Board's Executive Director, Dr. Rush, indicated the Board office and Department office would develop a process for working together on the waiver going forward allowing Board members to provide additional input and involvement.

Ms. Tracie Bent pointed out for the record there was a reference to an additional section in the waiver that was highlighted but not deleted – clarifying it needed to be deleted. Ms. Ybarra acknowledged that change which is on page 30 of the materials provided.

OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was entertained.

M/S (Goesling/Soltman): To adjourn the meeting at 10:34 a.m. The motion carried unanimously.