A regularly scheduled meeting of the State Board of Education was held June 17-18, 2015 at North Idaho College, Student Union Building in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho.

Present:
Emma Atchley, President
Bill Goesling
Rod Lewis, Vice President
Richard Westerberg
Don Soltman, Secretary
Debbie Critchfield
Sherri Ybarra, State Superintendent
Dave Hill

Board President Emma Atchley presided and called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Pacific Time. The meeting entered immediately into Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Closed to the Public)

M/S (Lewis/Westerberg): To meet in executive session pursuant to section 67-2345(1)(a), Idaho Code, to consider hiring a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, wherein the respective qualities of individuals are to be evaluated in order to fill a particular vacancy or need. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. Board members entered into Executive Session at 10:00 a.m. Pacific Time.

Ms. Atchley requested unanimous consent to go out of executive session at 12:25 p.m. Pacific Time and recess the meeting for lunch. There were no objections.

The meeting resumed for regular business at 1:00 p.m. Pacific Time. President Atchley thanked Dr. Dunlap and North Idaho College (NIC) for their hospitality and announced a groundbreaking ceremony today at NIC’s new Career Technical Education building and that transportation would be provided for those who would like to attend.

BOARDWORK
1. Agenda Review / Approval

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Lewis/Soltman): To approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Minutes Review / Approval

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Lewis/Hill): To approve the minutes from the April 15-16, 2015 Regular Board meeting, and the May 15-16, 2015 Board Retreat submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Rolling Calendar

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Lewis/Soltman): I move to set May 18-19, 2016 as the date and Boise, Idaho as the location for the 2016 Board Retreat, and to set June 15-16, 2016 as the date and Eastern Idaho Technical College as the location for the June 2016 regularly scheduled Board meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

WORKSESSION

A. FY17 Line Item Budget Requests

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Lewis/Westerberg): To direct the Business Affairs and Human Resources Committee to review the FY 2017 budget line items as listed on the Line Items Summary at Tab A pages 3-4, and to bring recommendations back to Board for its consideration at the regular August 2015 Board meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Freeman, Chief Fiscal Officer from the Board Office, reviewed the budget line item request process for the Board pointing out that since April institutions and agencies have developed their budget requests for the next fiscal year. He indicated they are seeking input today from the Board on anything the Business Affairs and Human Resources (BAHR) Committee should take into consideration related to the budget line items in developing a recommendation to the Board at its August meeting. Mr. Westerberg remarked on his comfort of the guidelines and process established by the BAHR Committee.
Mr. Lewis indicated the BAHR Committee would like input from the Board on if it would like to use a philosophy in submitting line items; such as whether to submit all the line items of the institutions or to submit institutions’ top three requests.

Related to deferred maintenance, Mr. Hill suggested an integrated approach might make more sense, and asked what the approach to deferred maintenance is at the Board level. Mr. Freeman responded that if there is desire by the Board to address deferred maintenance at the system wide level it could be developed by the June meeting. Mr. Hill remarked that deferred maintenance often gets deferred further unless it is separated and treated as a problem to be solved. He requested the BAHR Committee look at deferred maintenance as a broad issue across the institutions. Mr. Westerberg agreed and pointed out it would need to be prioritized along with other system wide line items for the institutions.

Mr. Freeman directed Board members to page 165 of their materials regarding WWAMI and medical education. He provided some background in that the Idaho Medical Association has a Medical Education Subcommittee that meets quarterly to develop recommendations for funding for medical education at various levels. The Board received notice that the University of Utah would have capacity to bring two more seats in for Idaho. Mr. Freeman indicated he did include in the budget request the two additional seats. Dr. Goesling asked about the cost. Mr. Freeman responded the cost is $41,500 each. Mr. Lewis commented that he felt it would be good sense to expand the seats if possible. Dr. Rush also pointed out that expansion of the seats is something the Board has adopted and is consistent with past work. Ms. Atchley commented that the Board would not object to the request being included.

Mr. Freeman requested guidance to the BAHR Committee regarding a cap being set at 10% of the general fund appropriation. He pointed out that in the Board materials it shows what that equates to for each institution, along with the cumulative amount for each institution. There was discussion about prioritizing the institution budget requests. Mr. Lewis asked if they should think in terms of a percentage in regards of the request and suggested a higher amount than requested in the past. Mr. Lewis recommended having the institutions indicate whether deferred maintenance is one of their priority line items. Mr. Westerberg felt the Board should prioritize on a system wide basis individual line item requests. Mr. Lewis echoed those remarks, adding that it may be a challenge in communicating needs to the legislature. Mr. Lewis remarked that it made sense for BAHR to look at the system wide requests, and ask the institutions to prioritize their top three or four, then set a cap (whatever the percentage may be) on that. Ms. Atchley recommended a proportionate expectation (percentage or otherwise) on the institutions as some way to limit the total amount of the request.

**B. Program Prioritization Update**

Mr. Soltman introduced the item reviewing the program prioritization process for the Board members. He indicated the four-year institutions would make brief presentations
on their progress to date. Each institution prepared a written report which was included in the agenda materials.

Dr. Jim Munger, Vice Provost for Academic Planning at Boise State University (BSU), filled in for Provost Dr. Marty Schimpf to provide an update to the Board. He was accompanied by Ms. Stacy Pearson, Vice President for Finance and Administration. Dr. Munger clarified the overview would contain implementation progress of the 2013-14 planned actions, and progress in achieving sustainability of process. There were 240 programs under Administrative and Support with 256 actions proposed. Of that, 142 actions have been completed, and 157 are in progress, equaling 84% complete or in progress. He reported they have fully implemented organizational changes in the Division of Academic Affairs. They have evaluated 135 degree and graduate certificate programs and reviewed their rank based on metrics. Twenty nine programs require substantive change, discontinuation, or consolidation. They are evaluating the programs yearly. Dr. Munger reported on sustainability and that integration with accreditation in the on-going process will be necessary. Aligning program prioritization with the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) provides a basis to evaluate contributions to the mission of the units that comprise the university. He discussed two key aspects of integration with accreditation. He reported on enhancement of analytics and the focus on enhancing data integrity and quality, and on the simplification and focus in key performance indicators.

Ms. Pearson reviewed the program prioritization process integration with the budget process. All university departments were asked to identify budget reductions based on current needs and program prioritization initiatives. She reported that for their FY16 budget, they actually set target reductions and provided the percentages for each unit. Ms. Pearson pointed out that departments were also able to seek increases for new initiatives. She reviewed highlights from the human resources, information technology, advancement/foundation, and campus operations areas. Ms. Pearson pointed out that a priority is to create a public safety office at BSU. In addition to expense reductions, she reviewed ways to enhance revenue such as increase enrollment in programs and classes, and proposals from departments and colleges.

Dr. Goesling asked how they are dealing with programs that have MOUs with other institutions. Dr. Munger responded they haven’t encountered that yet, but the bottom line is the students are priority and will be taken care of. Mr. Soltman remarked on their emphasis on sustainability and thanked BSU for their work. Ms. Atchley asked about their measures for programs that involve graduation rates. Dr. Munger clarified the measure it is the number of graduates being produced by a specific program.

Dr. Laura Woodworth-Ney, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Mr. Jim Fletcher, Vice President for Finance and Administration, reported for Idaho State University (ISU). Dr. Woodworth-Ney proceeded to report on the goals and planning, and pointed out ISU built a data system to support the program prioritization effort. On the academic side they linked their effort to the accreditation process and to ISU’s core themes. They evaluated 270 academic programs and 177 academic programs were
independently scored. She provided details of ISU’s in-house viability data system which provides program-level evaluation data to all deans, chairs, and program directors. Dr. Woodworth-Ney provided highlights of their outcomes, recommendations, and action plans, which included consolidations and program eliminations. She reported they have had 104 total programmatic changes and 65 program changes completed to date. She did report they hosted an external consultant to assist with implementation. Dr. Woodworth-Ney reported on the opportunities identified by ISU throughout this process. They intend to expand the data system built for this process for many other uses. She reported they have discovered additional opportunities within ISU’s region and are looking at data differently for each of ISU’s campuses and centers, and how location plays a role. She reported that their accreditors were very supportive of program prioritization, adding their program viability tool will assist them on-going.

Mr. Fletcher reviewed the non-academic program prioritization progress, reviewing goals and outcomes. He pointed out their non-academic programs link to their academic programs and reported ISU established two key objectives that the university plans to fund as a result of program prioritization. First is an on-going university-wide compensation plan for faculty and staff; and second is on-going student programs for maximizing student success related to access, opportunity, and retention. He reviewed measurement criteria for non-academic programs and that they used a survey approach to address six major areas. Mr. Fletcher reported on the number of non-academic programs evaluated which totaled 174, and their various placement in quintiles. For each program identified in the fifth quintile, an action plan was submitted to either consolidate or eliminate the program. He reviewed their implementation process, and the challenges and opportunities they discovered, and how the exercise is an on-going process. He pointed out they received applause from the NWCCU for their work on the program prioritization process.

Dr. Goesling asked how they are dealing with programs that have MOUs with other institutions. Dr. Woodworth-Ney responded the majority of programs were potential expansions with CSI and they are working together on them. Mr. Freeman complemented them on their work in building the data viability system they are using.

Dr. John Wiencek introduced himself as the new Provost and Executive Vice President for the University of Idaho (UI) and provided a high level report to the Board on the institution’s program prioritization process. He summarized by stating that quality and quantity matter – that one drives the other. In sustaining the momentum, they recognize that synergies between academic and operational processes are necessary. He reported that they reviewed a total of 358 programs in both academic and non-academic areas. Related to degree programs, they moved or restructured six, restructured 12, renamed one, and discontinued 19. He pointed out some challenges such as the new NWCCU process is not always consistent with SBOE program prioritization process. He reviewed opportunities such as identification of resources to invest in important initiatives, and ways to improve current operations. Dr. Wiencek pointed out they are coming into a new strategic planning process and view that as a tremendous opportunity to converge the items together to help sustain the long term
plan. He remarked on long term institution sustainability which requires more than program prioritization. He indicated UI needs to continue to focus on selective excellence, innovation, prioritization, planning and execution, and budget models.

Mr. Westerberg remarked that the other institutions reported on their institutionalization of the principles of program prioritization and resource allocation and asked about it for UI. Dr. Wiencek responded that as part of the previous leadership and process it hasn’t been formalized yet, adding that the feeling is a new leadership team will help address and finalize a plan going forward. He added that from his perspective one of the main issues that needs to be dealt with is how to move resources around the campus in a fluid way. Mr. Westerberg requested a progress update from UI as they move through the process.

Dr. Lori Stinson, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Mr. Chet Herbst, Vice President for Finance and Administration from Lewis-Clark State College (LCSC), presented the program prioritization progress report to the Board. Dr. Stinson reviewed their strategic plan goals and processes. She reported during the last year the focus has been on implementation of the action plans, conducting major reviews, and sustainability of the process. All instructional and non-instructional programs were quintiled, with 23 programs in each quintile. Dr. Stinson provided some specific examples within each quintile. She remarked on some of the challenges around coordination between program prioritization outcomes with strategic enrollment growth, along with melding program prioritization into their accreditation process. She remarked on opportunity and the cross-campus dialogue this process has opened up, and reported they have had some good gains with this program prioritization process. Dr. Stinson discussed sustainability where they intend to continue with follow-up from action plans and major reviews, viability expectations, to continue to integrate into budget/planning processes and to continue to look for efficiencies and resources that can be reallocated to strategic enrollment initiatives.

Dr. Stinson commented on the need of data and that they will have a new Institutional Research Director starting July 1st. She pointed out the need for good data at a program level and that they have engaged in the Delaware Study for the past two years which has helped for some programs. She pointed out there is still a need for more program-specific data, and LCSC has engaged ISU regarding their system and suggestions in developing a framework for LCSC to use.

Dr. Stinson reported on what’s next for LCSC which includes implementation of all components of major program reviews and resultant actions plans. The ongoing tracking of action plans, seeking resources for quintile one and two programs, and looking at the resources that have been flagged for reallocation. Dr. Stinson pointed out that they did not conceptualize their administrative units as programs in the prioritization process, and intend to look at alignments at that level which might help with efficiencies.

Dr. Goesling asked about their joint programs with other institutions and how they are prioritized. Mr. Herbst responded they take into account those programs with outside
entities and have also used the process to leverage additional resources for those programs. He added that the process has helped them with their budget line item request process. Mr. Soltman commended LCSC for their work.

Mr. Freeman reminded board staff that Mr. Westerberg requested a progress update from ISU and asked if the Board would like any additional progress reports on program prioritization. Mr. Westerberg recommended regular updates to IRSA and annual updates to ensure institutionalizing the process. Ms. Atchley added that reviewing the annual operating budgets and how they align with program prioritization may be helpful.

The meeting was recessed at 3:08 p.m. Pacific Time.

**Thursday June 18, 2015, 8:00 a.m., North Idaho College, Student Union Building, Coeur d’Alene, Idaho.**

Board President Atchley called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. Pacific Time for regularly scheduled business.

**OPEN FORUM**

There were three requests to address the Board during Open Forum.

Mr. Murray Stanton, Chair of the Board for the Idaho Distance Education Academy (IDEA) Charter School/Gem Innovation Schools, addressed the Board regarding the 2016 legislative ideas list which includes an item on charter school non-profit corporation limits. He felt that a charter management organization (CMO) structure is optimal for a number of reasons including efficiency and maximization of resources. He indicated they are also exploring a blended learning approach through a pilot program in Pocatello.

Ms. Barb Femreite, Director of Business Operations at IDEA Charter School, commented to the Board they are a homegrown school with a solid team. She further remarked they are a five star school and would like to expand their team into the blended learning area, and would like to be able to expand options to students throughout the state of Idaho.

Ms. Evanlene Melting Tallow, American Indian and International Student Advisor at North Idaho College, and serving on the Indian Education Committee, addressed the Board regarding the Indian Education Summit held last week in Boise. She pointed out that Idaho does not have any curriculum or lesson plans in K-12 for Idaho tribes. Washington, Oregon, Wyoming, and Montana all have curriculum plans that teachers in the public schools can access to develop lesson plans for K-12 in Math, English, History, etc. She felt it would be very important for Idaho be a part of that and for Idaho to build it into its system to honor and represent Idaho tribes.
At this time, Board President Atchley recognized Dr. Steve Albiston, President of Eastern Idaho Technical College, who is retiring this year after 34 years at the college in various roles. She presented a plaque in recognition of his service to EITC and the State of Idaho. Ms. Atchley recognized Dr. Mike Rush who has accepted a position with South Dakota Board of Regents. Ms. Atchley commented on his outstanding leadership and outgoing nature; he has been serving the state of Idaho in education for 30 years. Ms. Atchley then went on to recognize Rod Lewis for this long and outstanding service to the Board over the last 15 years. She remarked on his dedication to the Board and to education, serving three full terms.

CONSENT AGENDA

M/S (Lewis/Goesling): To approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

BAHR – Finance

1. Boise State University – Multi-Year Air Charter Contract

By unanimous consent to approve Boise State University’s request to enter into an agreement with Sun Country Airlines for air charter services for the 2015-2019 football seasons and to authorize the Vice President for Finance and administration to execute the current agreement and renewal agreements through 2019.

2. Boise State University – Purchase of Video Board for Taco Bell Arena

By unanimous consent to approve the request by Boise State University to purchase a video board, score board, and closed captioning displays for placement in the Taco Bell Arena at a cost not to exceed $1.5 million.

3. University of Idaho – Idaho Water Center – Partial Termination of Sublease with CH2M Hill and Simultaneous Sublease to St. Luke’s Regional Medical Center

By unanimous consent approve the request by the University of Idaho for authority to amend the existing sublease with CH2M HILL and to enter into a new sublease with St. Luke’s Regional Medical Center, both in substantial conformance to the forms submitted to the Board in Attachments 1 and 2; and to authorize the University’s Vice President for Finance to execute these and any other related transactional documents.

4. Eastern Idaho Technical College – Eastern Idaho Technical College Foundation – Short Term Pay Increase to the Executive Director of the Foundation
By unanimous consent approve the request by Eastern Idaho Technical College for the Eastern Idaho Technical College Foundation to award a short term merit pay increase to the Executive Director of the Foundation.

IRSA

5. WWAMI admissions Committee Appointment

By unanimous consent approve the request by Idaho WWAMI Medical Education Program/University of Washington School of Medicine to appoint Dr. Lance Hansen to the Idaho WWAMI Admissions Committee effective July 1, 2015.

6. Programs and Changes Approved by Executive Director – Quarterly Report

This item was included for informational purposes.

PPGA

7. Indian Education Committee Appointment

By unanimous consent to appoint Mr. Nolan Goubeaux, representing the College of Southern Idaho to the Idaho Indian Education Committee, effective immediately.

8. State Rehabilitation Council Appointment

By unanimous consent to approve the reappointment of Lonnie Pitt to the Vocational Rehabilitation State Rehabilitation Council as a representative of a former applicant or recipient of VR for a term of three years effective July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2018.

By unanimous consent to approve the reappointment of Angela Lindig to the Vocational Rehabilitation State Rehabilitation Council as a representative of a parent training and information center for a term of three years effective July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2018.

By unanimous consent to approve the reappointment of Lori Gentillon to the Vocational Rehabilitation State Rehabilitation Council as a representative of a community rehabilitation program for a term of three years effective July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2018.

By unanimous consent to approve the appointment of Suzette Whiting to the Vocational Rehabilitation State Rehabilitation Council as a representative of a Vocational Rehabilitation counselor for a term of three years effective July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2018.
9. Data Management Council Appointment

By unanimous consent to approve the reappointment of Georgeanne Griffith, Tami Haft, Carson Howell, Todd King, Heather Luchte, and Vince Miller and appointment of Chris Campbell to the Data Management Council.

10. Boise State University – Alcohol Permit for 2015 Home Football Games – Pre-Game Events

By unanimous consent to approve the request by Boise State University to establish secure areas under the conditions set forth in this request, and in full compliance with Board policy I.J., for the purpose of allowing alcohol service during pre-game activities for the 2015 home football season, a potential conference championship game, the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl, and the 2016 Spring Game; a request will be brought back to the Board after the conclusion of the 2015 season for reconsideration for 2016.

11. Idaho State University – Alcohol Permit for 2015 Home Football Games

By unanimous consent to approve the request by Idaho State University to establish secure areas as specified in Attachments 1 and 2, for the purpose of allowing alcohol service during pre-game activities in full compliance with Board Police I.J. during the 2015 season home football games.

12. University of Idaho – Alcohol Permit for 2015 Home Football Games – Pre-Game Events

By unanimous consent to approve the request by the University of Idaho to allow alcohol service during the 2015 football season and 2016 spring practice game in the North Kibbie Field and the Student Activities Field, under the conditions outlined in Board policy section I.J. subsection 2.c.


By unanimous consent to approve the request by the University of Idaho to allow alcohol service during the 2015 football season and during the spring 2016 football scrimmage, in the Litehouse Center/Bud and June Ford Club Room located in the ASUI Kibbie Activity Center under the conditions outlined in Board Policy I.J. subsection 2.c.

14. President Approved Alcohol Permits

This item was included for informational purposes.
SDE

15. Professional Standards Commission Appointment

By unanimous consent to reappoint Margaret Chipman as a member of the Professional Standards Commission for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2018, representing School Board Members.

By unanimous consent to reappoint Kristi Enger as a member of the Professional Standards Commission for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2018, representing Professional-Technical Education.

By unanimous consent to appoint Dana Johnson as a member of the Professional Standards Commission for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2018, representing Private Higher Education.

16. Request for Waiver of 103% Student Transportation Funding Cap

By unanimous consent to approve the request by Garden Valley School District for a waiver of the 103% transportation funding cap, at a new cap percentage rate for the fiscal year 2015 of 133% for a total of $43,087 in additional funds from the public school appropriation.

By unanimous consent to approve the request by Genesee School District for a waiver of the 103% transportation funding cap, at a new cap percentage rate for the fiscal year 2015 of 143% for a total of $10,801 in additional funds from the public school appropriation.

By unanimous consent to approve the request by Highland School District for a waiver of the 103% transportation funding cap, at a new cap percentage rate for the fiscal year 2015 of 143% for a total of $2,811 in additional funds from the public school appropriation.

By unanimous consent to approve the request by Kamiah School District for a waiver of the 103% transportation funding cap, at a new cap percentage rate for the fiscal year 2015 of 136% for a total of $981 in additional funds from the public school appropriation.

By unanimous consent to approve the request by Kellogg School District for a waiver of the 103% transportation funding cap, at a new cap percentage rate for the fiscal year 2015 of 108% for a total of $23,602 in additional funds from the public school appropriation.

By unanimous consent to approve the request by Meadows Valley School District for a waiver of the 103% transportation funding cap, at a new cap percentage rate.
for the fiscal year 2015 of 153% for a total of $26,816 in additional funds from the public school appropriation.

By unanimous consent to approve the request by Moscow School District for a waiver of the 103% transportation funding cap, at a new cap percentage rate for the fiscal year 2015 of 119.6% for a total of $51,146 in additional funds from the public school appropriation.

By unanimous consent to approve the request by Mountain View School District for a waiver of the 103% transportation funding cap, at a new cap percentage rate for the fiscal year 2015 of 129% for a total of $4,716 in additional funds from the public school appropriation.

By unanimous consent to approve the request by Plummer-Worley School District for a waiver of the 103% transportation funding cap, at a new cap percentage rate for the fiscal year 2015 of 111.3% for a total of $3,541 in additional funds from the public school appropriation.

By unanimous consent to approve the request by Salmon School District for a waiver of the 103% transportation funding cap, at a new cap percentage rate for the fiscal year 2015 of 115.5% for a total of $10,341 in additional funds from the public school appropriation.

17. Transport Students Less than One-and-One-Half Miles for the 2014-2015 School Year

By unanimous consent to approve the requests by ninety five (95) school districts and twelve (12) charter schools for approval to transport students less than one and one-half miles as listed in Attachment 1.

AUDIT

18. Idaho State University – Foundation Operating Agreement

By unanimous consent to approve the update to the Operating Agreement between the Idaho State University Foundation, Inc. and Idaho State University as presented.

19. University of Idaho – Alumni Association Operating Agreement

By unanimous consent to approve the Operating Agreement between the University of Idaho Alumni Association, Inc. and University of Idaho as presented.

PLANNING, POLICY & GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS (PPGA)

1. North Idaho College (NIC) Progress Report
President Joe Dunlap provided North Idaho College’s annual report to the Board. He reported that the three community colleges have implemented the voluntary framework of accountability (VFA) student success measure. One of their key measures is the licensure pass rates which have improved steadily since 2012. Dual credit annual enrollment has also increased since 2012. Dr. Dunlap reported NIC is pilot testing a program called Dual Enrolled.com. Regarding remediation, the number of students going to NIC who need remediation has declined slightly to 66.5%. He pointed out related to their budget, NIC has reduced it by $3 million based on declines in enrollment which peaked in 2012. Fall enrollment at NIC has declined by 10% last year and the year before; the peak for enrollment was in 2012.

Dr. Dunlap provided updates on initiatives such as funding support from the J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Foundation for the PTECH Network and the Village Project. NIC was designated the state entity for the Federal Mining Safety Health Administration training grant. He commented on remediation reform success, particularly with their English 101+ course. He also pointed out their Physical Therapy Assistant program has received accreditation. The program is a collaboration between NIC, CWI, CSI and LCSC. He reported on a number of grants recently received by NIC such as the Idaho Center of Excellence (ICE) Healthcare partnership for $4.6 million. It is a collaborative grant along with LCSE and ISU, where they are partnered with a number of industry representatives. A Wood Products Manufacturing Center for Excellence grant that works with three industry partners serving 11 mills in Idaho and impacts over 1,406 jobs combined. Estimated combined revenue is $607M. The Healthcare Career Pathway Grant which fosters development of a career pathway for nursing assistants (CNAs); NIC is partnering with three north Idaho healthcare providers. He also reported on the new Career Technical Education Building next to KTEC High School which will be open for classes by Fall 2016. He commented on a student wellness center which is self-funded, and a joint use facility which is a collaborative project with LCSC and University of Idaho, along with the City and Lake City Development Corporation and Kootenai Health, that will serve as a one stop student service center. He closed by highlighting their three outreach centers in Bonners Ferry, Sandpoint, and Kellogg.

2. President’s Council Report

Dr. Joe Dunlap, President of North Idaho College and current chair of the President’s Council provided a report to the Board summarizing the two most recent President’s Council meetings in May and June. He reported on institution immunization policies and that discussion suggested having a statewide policy would align with best practices used around the country, would ensure high vaccination rates, be a good mechanism for tracking compliance, and would allow institutions to make good decisions in cases of an outbreak. Questions for consideration are which immunizations should be included, target groups, who will track and enforce the mandate, etc. It was recommended that the Board office convene a small group to develop a policy and target the August Board meeting for a presentation to the Board.
Dr. Dunlap provided a direct admissions update and that the task force was currently working on mechanisms needed to provisionally admit high school seniors and how to continue the help once admitted. He reported that Board staff would be presenting additional information on the item at this meeting. Dr. Dunlap reported on the statewide higher education economic impact study being conducted by EMSI that will have aggregate breakout reports for the 4-year and 2-year institutions. Regarding the Blue Ribbon Commission on Higher Education, chaired by Lt. Governor Brad Little, he reported its focus is on improving funding for the 4-year institutions with an ongoing impact. Presidents discussed other members of the commission should include university and college presidents, business representatives, and industry leaders.

Dr. Dunlap reported that Dr. Staben expressed an interest in mid-year presidential assessments conducted by the Board in addition to the end of year evaluations they currently received. There was varied consensus as to whether this would be helpful for other presidents. Dr. Rush indicated the mid-year assessments would only be done by request.

At the June President’s Council meeting, Dr. Rush informed presidents that members of the institutions’ general counsel were contacted in an attempt to develop ideas for alternatives to the state’s risk management program. Additionally, an update was provided on the common application which is progressing.

Dr. Dunlap reported that Dr. Tony Fernandez would be taking over as chair of the President’s Council. Dr. Fernandez reported there would be no July meeting, but they would be having a meeting and retreat in August. The August meeting will be hosted by ISU at their Meridian campus instead of their main Pocatello campus.

3. Idaho Public Television (IPTV) Annual Report

Mr. Ron Pisaneschi, General Manager of IPTV, provided an annual report to the Board. He gave an overview of IPTV, reviewed content and services, successes, budget, statewide delivery system issues, and other challenges.

Mr. Pisaneschi reviewed their program structure which is divided into two areas; the statewide delivery system (the technology) and educational content. This year they celebrate their 50th anniversary and there will be two kick-off events: October 8th in Boise and 9th in Moscow; invitations are forthcoming. For the third year in a row IPTV has been the #1 viewed station per capita in Idaho. IPTV can be accessed online via desktop and mobile. This year they have already won over 47 national and regional awards. He reported that donor funding is critical to their success in providing high quality programming and IPTV has more than twice the donations per capita than other statewide systems.

Mr. Pisaneschi reported this year the IPTV Board has an initiative to grow its endowment to $5 million. They are currently at $4.6 million. He reported on content partnerships and initiatives which include an EPScoR project, partnerships with Idaho
universities, K-12 oversight and learn channel, 12 hours of weekday children’s education content, and on-line resources for teachers and students. They have also partnered with the State Board office on the Educate Idaho initiative, and reported on a number of successful local productions.

Mr. Pisaneschi reported on the IPTV budget, pointing out equipment replacement funding continues to be a challenge. He provided a peer group comparison which shows Idaho receiving the least amount of state funding. He reported for the FY17 budget request, they are seeking fund-shift from dedicated to state funds for three accounting positions and three engineering positions. They are also asking to make several temporary positions to part-time classified which requires no cost. He reported on challenges such as operational funding and congressional funding to Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) which is flat or shrinking, and that operational costs continue to be squeezed when there is a CPB expense. Depreciation of equipment continues to be a challenge with $24 million in assets, and 77% of that is depreciated. He reported on the pending spectrum auction/repacking with the FCC. The translator costs are not covered and the channel frequencies are not guaranteed; it will have an impact on IPTV in a variety of ways. They may have to move channels and not have the funds to do so, or if they do move channels, there may not be frequencies to do so. It is still uncertain how it will play out.

4. 2016 Legislative Ideas

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Westerberg/Hill): To approve the legislative ideas 1-8 and 10-16 as submitted and to authorize the Executive Director to submit these and additional proposals as necessary through the Governor's legislative process. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Tracie Bent, Chief Planning and Policy Officer from the Board office, provided a summary of legislative ideas for the 2016 legislative session. She noted there was one item submitted by the University of Idaho which was not included in the agenda materials as it required additional follow-up; it will be provided in August for consideration. She summarized the following legislative ideas:

1. The Youth Education Account, – Money from the fund would be used exclusively for the production and purchase of radio and television advertising designed to advise children of the risks and problems associated with the use of alcohol and drugs.

2. State Residency for Tuition Purposes – This would streamline the residency determination process to allow for greater success to students as well as reduce the staff time necessary to make these determinations. Dr. Goesling requested a greater discussion which would include the Native American Tribes. Ms. Bent clarified that any Tribes with historical boundaries in the state are eligible.
3. Transfer of Sick Leave between Educational Entity’s – This provides clarification on how accrued sick leave is handled between educational entities and the use of transferred sick leave at the time of retirement. The changes would include clarifying between school district employees, IDLA employees and the public institutions.

4. Charter School Non-profit Corporation Limitations – Adds clarification that a non-profit corporation authorized to engage and manage a public charter school may not operate enterprises other than the public charter school. It would also address issues regarding the number of charter schools that may be organized and managed under a given non-profit corporation.

5. Tax Commission Reporting – This would remove the requirement that the Tax Commission report to the Department of Education.

6. School Counselors – This provides a technical correction to language in Section 33-1212, Idaho Code, regarding the certification requirements for individuals licensed as social workers who wish to work in Idaho public schools. The amendments would provide clarification.

7. Acquisition of Real Property Requirements – This will require community colleges to acquire an appraisal prior to entering into a purchase agreement for real property.

8. Scholarship Technical Corrections – The amendment will provide clarifying language regarding the disability determination of the Armed Forces and Public Safety Officer Scholarship and to make technical corrections. Dr. Goesling asked about adding back in the Grow Your Own Scholarship. Ms. Bent responded there were some legal implications with that scholarship where some of the federal requirements were not being met. Something similar to that scholarship would require a statewide analysis to determine whether or not affected populations were discriminated against. Ms. Bent reported they will look at the data and have a broader discussion forthcoming.

9. Attendance at Schools – This has to do with expanding the compulsory attendance requirements which may help reduce drop-out rates to increase academic achievement throughout a student’s educational experience. Ms. Critchfield would like to see additional research and asked about the compliance piece; she would generally like more information on the item. Ms. Bent suggested adding it to the August meeting agenda if the Board would like a deeper discussion on the item. Ms. Ybarra indicated it should have additional discussion and was concerned it should be vetted properly and for the public to be included. Based on discussion, the motion will exclude this item, with the notion there will be further discussion and research on the item. The PPGA Committee will do more research on the item and return to the Board for discussion.

Governor’s Task Force Recommendations/Subcommittee Implementation

10. Career Ladder Pupil Service Staff – This would amend existing law to establish outcome based criteria for Pupil Service Staff would be placed on the Career Ladder.
Additional technical corrections would also be made. There was discussion on the evaluation and whether the Danielson Model should be used to improve teaching and professional development training or as a method of evaluation. Mr. Westerberg would like reports to the Board on how the review goes by the Department and what they discover after looking at the data. Ms. Ybarra agreed indicating she would provide that information to the Board when it is available. Mr. Lewis suggested there may be an administrator issue in improperly evaluating those they have responsibility over. Dr. Hill recommended not having a lengthy discussion on the tool, but what it is designed to improve and how we get the most out of it to help teachers. Mr. Lewis was concerned about conflating the issue.

11. Student Literacy – The proposed changes would clean-up existing language and expand reading interventions for students in kindergarten through grade three, including full day kindergarten for students who have been identified at or below a specified level of proficiency. Changes would also make technical corrections regarding the state’s reading assessment and remove unnecessary details and repealing a portion of the section that has become outdated and unnecessary. The Literacy Subcommittee will bring forward formal recommendations for Board consideration prior to the submittal of the final legislation for Board consideration.

12. School District Continuous Improvement Plans – This incorporates the recommendations from the Accountability and Autonomy Task Force subcommittee into the school district continuous improvement plan process.

13. Public School Funding – This serves as a place holder for work the Task Force’s subcommittee on Public School Funding is doing. Ms. Bent added that because of the complexity of the issue, it will likely not be completely resolved this year; but there are initial things that may be forwarded to the Governor prior to the 2016 legislative session.

Agency Submitted Legislative Ideas

14. Vocational Rehabilitation – Federal Aid – This piece makes necessary updates related to changes in the federal regulations impacting the Rehabilitation Act.

15. Professional-Technical High School Funding Model – This amends the professional-technical funding model from an Average Daily Attendance (ADA) based model to an Enrollment based model plus incentive funding based on performance standards.

16. PTE Secondary Programs Incentive-Based Funding – This amends the section of code to provide funding for exemplary PTE secondary programs.

Mr. Lewis added it would be good to see new legislation for four years of math instead of three, and that Algebra 2 be required. He also commented that the Board is not an executive agency, but rather that the Board is a constitutional body.
5. Institution/Agency and Special/Health Programs Strategic Plans

**BOARD ACTION**

M/S (Westerberg/Soltman): To approve the Institution, Agency, and Special/Health programs strategic plans as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

Related to the Department’s strategic plan, Mr. Soltman recommended a change to the page two in the language where it states, “. . . The State Department of Education partners with independent school districts”, and changing it to just say “. . . partners with school districts.” Ms. Ybarra agreed and indicated she would direct the change.

6. Indian Education Committee Strategic Plan

**BOARD ACTION**

M/S (Westerberg/Goesling): To approve the 2016-2021 Idaho Indian Education Strategic Plan as submitted in Attachment 1. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Patty Sanchez, Academic Affairs Program Manager from the Board Office, introduced the item indicating she provides staff support to the Indian Education Committee. She was accompanied by Ms. Chris Mahoney-Minor member of the Coeur d’Alene Tribe, Vice Chair of the Committee, and Director of the Department of Education for the Coeur d’Alene Tribe. She indicated Chairman Bob Sabbota was unable to attend the meeting. Ms. Mahoney-Minor reviewed the strategic plan, reporting on the status of Indian education in Idaho. She indicated the gap between native and non-native students on achievement tests is persistent, pointing out native students are less likely to be college ready in Math, Reading, English, Science, and History. She reported they hope to address these issues in their strategic plan and shared the plan’s vision and mission statements.

Dr. Yolanda Bisby is the Executive Director of Tribal Relations for the University of Idaho, member of the Indian Education Committee, and Nez Perce Tribal member. She reported the Indian Education Committee has identified two goals: to promote academic excellence for American Indian students, and to increase culturally relevant pedagogy in teacher education programs. Dr. Bisby identified the objectives to each of the goals.

Ms. Sanchez reported the Committee would be working with Board staff to extract data to help formalize benchmarks and performance measures, bringing those back before the Board in October for consideration.

Dr. Goesling recognized the efforts of Ms. Johanna Jones from the Department, and Ms. Sanchez of the Board office and thanked them for their work with the Tribes.

7. Amendment to Board Policy Section I.Q. Accountability Oversight Committee – Second Reading
BOARD ACTION

M/S (Westerberg/Critchfield): To approve the second reading of Board Policy I.Q. Accountability Oversight Committee as submitted in Attachment 1. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Amendment to Board Policy – Section I.S. Institutional Governance – Second Reading

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Westerberg/Hill): To approve the second reading of amendments to Board Policy I.S. Institutional Governance as submitted in Attachment 1. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Proposed Rule IDAPA 08.02.01.650 – General Education Development Test/Idaho High School Equivalency Certificate

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Westerberg/Soltman): To approve the Proposed Rule amendments to IDAPA 08.02.01.650 as submitted in Attachment 1 as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Bent provided background and reviewed the proposed rule which makes changes to the language regarding the requirements for the General Educational Development (GED ©) test, and specifically as it applies to the Idaho High School equivalency certificate. Mr. Lewis asked about the proficiency level and Ms. Bent responded it would be added. After discussion on the item, the motion was amended to include the proficiency level as “passing” for the GED testing level as established by the GED testing service.

BUSINESS AFFAIRS & HUMAN RESOURCES (BAHR)

Section I – Human Resources

1. Chief Executive Officer Employment Agreements/Terms

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Lewis/Soltman): To approve the amended employment agreement for Dr. Robert Kustra as President of Boise State University. The motion passed unanimously.
M/S (Lewis/Soltman): To approve the amended employment agreement for Dr. Chuck Staben as President of the University of Idaho. The motion passed unanimously.

M/S (Lewis/Goesling): To approve the amended employment agreement for Dr. Art Vailas, as President of Idaho State University. The motion passed unanimously.

M/S (Lewis/Hill): To approve the amended employment agreement for Dr. Tony Fernandez as President of Lewis-Clark State College. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Amendment to Board Policy Sections II.H. – Coaches and Athletic Directors - Second Reading

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Lewis/Hill): To approve the second reading of proposed amendments to Board Policy Sections II.H., as presented in Attachment 1. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Boise State University – Multi-Year Employment Agreement – Football Defensive Coordinator

M/S (Lewis/Soltman): To defer item back to the BAHR committee for technical corrections. The motion passed unanimously.

BSU Vice President and Legal Counsel, Mr. Kevin Satterlee, requested the item be deferred for technical corrections and brought back before the Board at the August meeting. There were no objections.

4. Idaho State University – Multi-Year Employment Agreement – Head Women’s Soccer Coach

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Lewis/Goesling): To approve to approve the request by Idaho State University to extend the multi-year employment agreement with Allison Gibson, Head Women’s Soccer Coach, for a term commencing January 19, 2016 and terminating January 19, 2019 at a base salary of $65,894 and supplemental compensation provisions in substantial conformance with the terms of the agreement set forth in Attachment 1. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Soltman appreciated the Board seeing the contract before its effective date.

5. University of Idaho – Multi-Year Employment Agreement – Head Women’s Volleyball Coach
BOARD ACTION

M/S (Lewis/Goesling): To approve the University of Idaho’s multi-year employment contract with Debbie Buchanan, Women’s Volleyball Team Head Coach for a term effective August 1, 2015 and extending through July 31, 2020, in substantial conformance to the form submitted to the Board in Attachment 2. The motion passes unanimously.

6. Office of the State Board of Education – Hiring of Executive Director

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Lewis/Goesling): To appoint Matthew Freeman as the Executive Director of the Idaho State Board of Education at a salary of $67.31 an hour or $140,004.80 annual pay, effective June 29, 2015. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Lewis enthusiastically announced that the Board is extremely fortunate to have a person of Matt’s integrity and intelligence to be available and willing to serve as the Board’s Executive Director. Ms. Atchley echoed those remarks.

Section II – Finance

1. FY 2016 Operating Budgets

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Lewis/Hill): To approve the FY 2016 operating budgets for the Office of the State Board of Education, Idaho Public Television, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, College and Universities, Postsecondary Professional-Technical Education, Agricultural Research & Extension Service, Health Education Programs and Special Programs, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Freeman indicated this is an annual item that comes before the Board in June, and is approval of the operating budgets for all the agencies and institutions under the governance of the Board. He pointed out this report shows how many positions have been added at the institutions in the last twelve months. Ms. Atchley asked, related to instruction, about revenue by source and expenses by function, then under expenses by class it shows under personnel class “faculty salary”. Ms. Atchley asked why there is a difference in the two numbers. Mr. Freeman responded the expense categories for instruction includes compensation for faculty and personnel costs; a number of expense categories include personnel costs. Ms. Pearson helped explain the details on behalf of the institutions; each college includes it as part of their instructional line; it includes the faculty, staff, operating expenses and capital outlay.

2. Athletics – FY2016 Operating Budget Reports
BOARD ACTION

M/S (Lewis/Goesling): To approve the Athletics Operating Budget reports for Boise State University, Idaho State University, University of Idaho and Lewis-Clark State College, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Amendment to Board Policy – Section V.K. – Construction Projects – First Reading

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Lewis/Hill): To approve the first reading of proposed amendments to Board policy V.K., Construction Projects, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Lewis introduced the item which is an amendment to Board policy that asks institutions to bring forward for Board approval their long range Campus Master Plans. Mr. Soltman asked if this applies to community colleges.

There was discussion about the definition of “long range” which isn’t defined and is left to the interpretation of the Board. The responses suggested around 15 years was reasonable. Once the Board starts to look at the plans, it can gain more specificity. Mr. Freeman reminded the Board this is a plan and that policy V.K. still requires the institutions to have Board approval for every step along the way; on a project-by-project basis.

Mr. Lewis remarked that having institutions think about growth long term will help guide them in the short term. He asked if the institutions had any input. The institutions were supportive of the plan and Mr. Satterlee added that it gives a more practical approach to looking at a long term vision and its phases.

4. Amendment to Board Policy – Section V.W. – Litigation – First Reading

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Lewis/Soltman): To approve the first reading of proposed amendments to Board policy V.W., Litigation, as presented in Attachment 1. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Lewis reviewed the item where currently Board policy limits acceptance of service process at the Board Office to only the Executive Director. The proposed amendment would extend authority to the Boards’ deputy attorney’s general.

5. Boise State University – Proposed Student Housing Project
Mr. Kevin Satterlee and Ms. Stacy Pearson from BSU provided an update and visual illustrations for the Board on the student housing project. The designs have been expanded, and Ms. Pearson reviewed the updates on the revised site planning, facility layout and design, and to discuss the current status on negotiations and business terms. BSU’s intent is to finalize negotiations and agreement, and submit them for the August Board meeting.

Mr. Satterlee reviewed the revised site plan for the Board members. He pointed out one of the previous concerns was the use of University Drive frontage, and the redesign pulls it back to preserve the space of concern for future academic expansion or other development. There was discussion about the Honors College. Dr. Kustra pointed out it was a deliberate move to put the Honors College across from the Student Union Building on University Drive as it is a community program that highlights and attracts students by having a prominent place on campus.

There was also discussion about the rent costs and the contract with EDR. In February, the Board expressed concern that EDR had a debt rating equal to the minimum standard for investment grade debt. BSU provided information demonstrating the financial strength and positive momentum of EDR since 2010. Mr. Lewis thanked BSU for their transparency with this project.

At 12:10 p.m. time the meeting recessed for lunch. They resumed at 1:52 p.m.

6. Boise State University – 2015 Master Plan Update

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Lewis/Hill): To approve Boise State University’s 2015 Campus Master Plan update as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Satterlee highlighted changes to the university’s Master Plan. He indicated that in substance, this is the same presentation as at the last Board meeting. Mr. Satterlee pointed out the concept for a long term vision and that the master plan is built on a 30-year time line. They have three distinct parts: academic buildings and core and how it flows through the campus; the housing plan integrated throughout the campus; and the circulation of parking – so that these three components all fit and work together within the master plan. He showed some slides for a visual illustration. Dr. Goesling asked about the downtown location and if it will be developed. Mr. Satterlee responded that only programs suitable for that location would be considered.

7. University of Idaho – Wallace Residence Center Project – Planning and Design Phase

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Lewis/Hill): To accept the University of Idaho’s updated six-year capital plan to include the proposed renovation and modernization at the Wallace Residence Center. The motion passed unanimously.

AND

M/S (Lewis/Goesling): To approve the request by the University of Idaho to implement the planning and design phase of a Capital Project for the renovation and modernization of the Wallace Residence Center. Authorization includes the authority to execute all necessary and requisite consulting contracts to fully implement the planning and design phases of the project. Construction Authorization will require a separate authorization actions at later dates to be determined. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Dan Ewart, the new Vice President of Infrastructure for the University of Idaho, introduced the item and provided some background on the Wallace Residence Center (Wallace) which was originally built in the mid-1960’s. He commented that over the last several years, UI has undertaken small-scale improvements on a number of the floors of Wallace, with much of the work performed in-house. He indicated the University looks to contract out much of the remaining work, to more expeditiously complete these improvements for the balance of the complex in one combined capital project. The work to be contracted will also include limited HVAC improvements in the lounges, and floor and wall tile refurbishment in the bathrooms.


BOARD ACTION

M/S (Lewis/Hill): To approve the request by the University of Idaho to accept the Finance Plan and to implement the bidding and construction phases of a Capital Project for the University of Idaho Library Renovation and Improvements, in the amount of $1,300,000. Authorization includes the authority to execute all necessary and requisite contracts to fully implement the construction phase of the project. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Dan Ewart indicated the University of Idaho is requesting authorization to proceed with the finance plan and construction phase of a Capital Project to provide for renovations and improvements to the University of Idaho Library. Estimated project cost was originally $1.4 million, but has dropped by $100,000 during the design phase. Mr. Soltman asked if this was just for the first floor. Mr. Ewart responded in the affirmative with a description of configuration during construction. Mr. Lewis asked for clarification to the reference on funding. Mr. Ewart responded the funding is from the university’s reserves. Mr. Westerberg asked about the actual disposable reserves of the university. Mr. Ewart responded the FY 14 numbers submitted reported about $15.4 million, which does fall below the Board’s recommended level of 5% of operating costs.
There was additional discussion about using reserves when they are below the amount recommended by the Board. Mr. Ewart responded both projects are high profile and the university feels they are critical to enrollment activities. The university feels that this is a good use of reserve funds. He indicated he would be providing an FY 15 report to the Board very soon on unrestricted assets.

9. University of Idaho – Independent Study in Idaho (ISI) fee

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Lewis/Hill): To approve the request to set the per-credit fee for ISI’s online, undergraduate-level courses at $160 per credit, and the per-credit fee for graduate-level courses at $200 per credit. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Freeman introduced the item, also indicating policy V.R. would be amended in the future. Ms. Critchfield asked how UI has been operating since the last increase was in 2004. Dr. Staben responded it has been somewhat of a break-even level.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

1. Superintendent of Public Instruction Update

Superintendent of Public Instruction, Ms. Sherri Ybarra, provided a brief report from the State Department of Education. Ms. Ybarra reported they are working on an improved budget process, and Council for Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) recently completed a capacity review of resources to review the ability of the Department to carry out its vision. The Department has hired a professional planner to assist with their strategic plan, along with a performance officer to assist with carrying out that vision. Related to mastery based education, the Department will use CCSSO for input. She reported on possible legislation with regarding rural schools and also transportation.

Ms. Atchley asked about convening a committee to look at standards. Ms. Ybarra responded they review the standards every five years and have started the Idaho Core Challenge where people can give their comments on the standards. Dr. Rush asked how they intend to vet the comments with the broad general public on whether they support or do not support the content. Ms. Ybarra responded they have a process and group in place for vetting.

2. Proposed Rule – IDAPA 08.02.03.004., Rules Governing Thoroughness - Documents Incorporated by Reference

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Ybarra/Critchfield): To approve the Proposed Rule amendment to IDAPA 08.02.03.004 Rules Governing Thoroughness, Incorporation by Reference, as submitted in Attachment 1. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Annual Report - Hardship Elementary School – Cassia County School District #151, Albion Elementary School

Ms. Ybarra reported on the information item related to a school to be considered a hardship school requires the district to inform the Board of the hardship status. This particular school has been in hardship status since 1999. Ms. Atchley asked what the impact is of having hardship status. Mr. Tim Hill, Deputy Superintendent from the Department, responded that by granting a school a hardship status it is funded as a separate school defined in statute as being more than ten miles away from the nearest elementary school in the district as well as the administrative office. In so doing, the school district receives an additional $100,000 for that school. Per the district, they would not be able to operate the school without the additional funding, and would need to bus the student over a dangerous route to another school.

Mr. Westerberg and Mr. Hill asked who evaluates whether the school meets the hardship requirement. Ms. Bent responded that the past practice has been for the Department to do the evaluation and provide a recommendation. Ms. Ybarra indicated their executive team reviews the hardship schools.

INSTRUCTION, RESEARCH & STUDENT AFFAIRS (IRSA)

1. College Admissions Initiatives

Mr. Blake Youde, Chief Communications Officer, and Mr. Carson Howell, Director of Research, both from the Board office, introduced the item. Accompanying them from Strategies 360 was Casey Bender, Senior Account Manager for Idaho. As an introduction, Mr. Howell reported on the go-on rates that 55% of students go on to college, 32% go to a public college, and 18% go on to other. About 50% do not go on to college. Mr. Youde reviewed the college admissions initiative and its intent of getting high school graduates to go on to college. The purpose is to proactively admit high school seniors to Idaho colleges and universities based on their GPA and college admissions test score. The initiative supports the Board’s goal of having a well-educated citizenry as well as its 60% goal.

Mr. Youde indicated the three (3) initiatives are: Direct Admissions, Next Steps Idaho website, and the On-Line Common Application. He described each of them and that Board staff has worked closely with the College and University Presidents to develop the Direct Admissions proposal. He pointed out that if approved by the Board, the Direct Admissions proposal can be implemented in Fall 2015 for students entering higher education in Fall 2016.

Mr. Youde reviewed the language contained in the admissions letter a student might receive. For students below the benchmark, they would also get a letter from the State Board notifying them of admission to six Idaho public higher education institutions. Students will be encouraged to review the individual admissions requirements for those
institutions. Mr. Youde reviewed the schedule for direct admissions and remarked that there may be a way to credit their application fee back to the student and they are currently working through details with the institutions.

Ms. Casey Bender highlighted the Next Steps Idaho website that will serve as a clearinghouse for students, parents and educators. She highlighted what has come from their research and that students seek information from trusted research. In collaboration with the state Board staff, they have created a brand which is Next Steps Idaho. The website is scheduled to go live on August 1, 2015. While the emphasis is on college, there will be information on professional technical courses, etc. She reviewed the different pages of the website and how it is designed for students, parents, educators, etc. Mr. Howell and Mr. Youde clarified additional questions about the direct admissions initiative.

2. Amendment to Board Policy – Section III.Z. – Planning and Coordination of Academic Programs and Courses – First Reading

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Soltman/Goesling): To approve the first reading of proposed amendments to Board Policy III.Z, Planning and Delivery of Postsecondary Programs and Courses as submitted in Attachment 1. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Sanchez provided a brief overview of the proposed amendments indicating Board staff worked with the CAAP Committee to propose policy amendments that would remove the needs assessment and budget piece requirement from the planning process; change the review cycle to an annual review; and other minor stylistic changes. She indicated that removing that level of specificity removes unnecessary burden on Board staff and on the institutions. Additionally, the previously required level of information has not historically been shared with the Board because of the speculative level of the responses. Board staff and the provosts believe it would be more valuable to provide such detail at the program proposal development stage (where it is currently provided). She reviewed the original intent of the policy which is to assure the educational and workforce needs of the state are met and to prevent inefficient duplication of effort.

Dr. Goesling requested staff review the multi-state program partnerships related to the policy.

3. Amendment to Board Policy – Section III.N. – General Education – Second Reading

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Soltman/Hill): To approve the Second Reading of the proposed amendments to Board Policy III.N, General Education as presented, effective Fall 2015. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Amendment to Board Policy – Section III.O. – Curriculum Equivalency Schedules – Repeal – Second Reading

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Soltman/Hill): To approve the Second Reading of amendments to Board Policy III.O, Curriculum and Equivalency Schedules, repealing the section in its entirety. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Amendment to Board Policy III.S. – Developmental and Remedial Education – Second Reading

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Soltman/Goesling): To approve the Second Reading of proposed amendments to Board Policy III.S. Remedial Education as submitted in Attachment 1. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Amendment to Board Policy – Section III.V. – Articulation and Transfer – Second Reading

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Soltman/Hill): To approve the Second Reading of proposed amendments to Board Policy III. V, Articulation and Transfer as submitted in Attachment 1. The motion passed unanimously.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

M/S (Westerberg/Hill): To elect Don Soltman as Board President, Emma Atchley as Vice President, and Bill Goesling as Secretary. The motion passed 8-0.

Mr. Westerberg thanked and recognized the work of Ms. Atchley as Board President over the past year and remarked on the progress made by the Board under her leadership.

OTHER BUSINESS

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

M/S (Hill/Goesling): To adjourn the meeting at 3:47 p.m. Pacific Time. The motion carried unanimously.