A regular meeting of the Idaho State Board of Education was held via Zoom teleconference on Wednesday, June 10, 2020. Board President Debbie Critchfield presided and called the meeting to order at 9:00am (MST). A roll call of members was taken.

Present
Debbie Critchfield, President
Andrew Scoggin, Vice President
Kurt Liebich, Secretary
Dr. David Hill
Emma Atchley
Dr. Linda Clark
Shawn Keough
Sherri Ybarra, State Superintendent

Wednesday, June 10, 2020, 9:00 a.m. (MST)

BOARDWORK

1. Agenda Review / Approval

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Scoggin/Clark): I move to approve the agenda as amended. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

Board Vice President Scoggin requested unanimous consent to move the State Department of Education’s agenda items before the Work Session. There were no objections.

2. Minutes Review / Approval

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Scoggin/Atchley): I move to approve the minutes from the April 6, 2020, April 13, 2020, April 20, 2020, April 22, 2020, April 27, 2020, April 30, 2020, May 4, 2020, June 1, 2020 Special Board meetings, and the April 16, 2020 and May 13-14 2020 Regular Board meeting minutes. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.
3. Rolling Calendar

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Scoggin/Keough): I move to set June 16, 2021 as the date via video conference for the June 2021 regularly scheduled Board Meeting. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

4. K-20 Performance Measures
   This item was provided in the agenda materials as an information item.

Board President Critchfield discussed that the Work Session later in the meeting agenda will focus on several areas of the K-20 Performance Measures. She also reminded the group that the Board Retreat, held May 13-14, 2020, focused on the Board’s mission, vision, values, and strategic plan, and stated that the Board will consider revisions to the strategic plan during the upcoming August Board Meeting.

There were no questions or comments from the Board.

CONSENT

BAHR
Section II
1. Boise State University – Ada County Highway District Easement

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Scoggin/Hill): I move to approve the request by Boise State University to grant an easement to ACHD in substantial conformance with the attached agreement. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

2. Boise State University – Student Health Insurance Contract

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Scoggin/Hill): I move to approve Boise State University’s request to extend its student health insurance contract with Relation Insurance Services-Education Inc. for a maximum of two years for a total cost not to exceed $6 million, and to delegate authority to the president to execute any applicable agreements in accordance with the information provided herein. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

3. Idaho State University – Bookstore Agreement

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Scoggin/Hill): I move to approve the request by Idaho State University to enter into a five-year contract to outsource ISU bookstore management to
Barnes and Noble College as set forth in Attachment 1. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

4. Idaho State University – Meridian Parking Lot Agreement

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Scoggin/Hill): I move to approve the request by Idaho State University to execute legal documents for Meridian parking lot project as presented in Attachments 1 and 2. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

5. Idaho State University – Six Year Capital Plan Update

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Scoggin/Hill): I move to approve the request by Idaho State University to proceed with amending the Six Year Capital Improvement Plan to include renovations to Leonard Hall College of Pharmacy Research Labs and Offices. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

IRSA
6. University of Idaho – Master of Arts, Teaching Program

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Scoggin/Hill): I move to approve the request by the University of Idaho to create an online Master of Arts in Teaching in Secondary Education as presented in Attachment 1. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.


BOARD ACTION
M/S (Scoggin/Hill): I move to approve the request by the University of Idaho to discontinue the Material Science and Engineering and Metallurgic Engineering programs as presented in Attachment 1. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

8. University of Idaho – Master of Education and Master of Science in School Counseling Discontinuance

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Scoggin/Hill): I move to approve the request by the University of Idaho to discontinue their M.Ed. and M.S. in School Counseling programs in substantial conformance to their program proposal as submitted in Attachment 1. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.
9. General Education Committee Appointments

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Scoggin/Hill): I move to appoint Martin Gibbs, representing Lewis-Clark State College, to the General Education Committee, effective immediately. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

10. Graduate Medical Education Committee Appointments

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Scoggin/Hill): I move to approve the reappointments of the Graduate Medical Education committee members provided in Attachment 1 for an additional five (5) year term, effective immediately and expiring on June 30, 2025. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

11. Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho (WWAMI) - Committee Appointments

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Scoggin/Hill): I move to approve the reappointment of Robert McFarland, MD, and Jennifer Gray, MD, to the Idaho WWAMI Admissions Committee for a term of three years, effective July 1, 2020, ending June 30, 2023. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

PPGA

12. State Rehabilitation Council – Appointments

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Scoggin/Hill): I move to approve the appointments of Danielle “DR” Reff as representative of current or former applicants for, or recipients of, vocational rehabilitation services; Lynn Jorgensen and Paul Tierney as business, industry, and labor representatives; and Nathan Ogden as a representative of the disability advocacy group and to reappoint Kendrick Lester to serve his second term as a representative of the State educational agency responsible for the public education of students with disabilities who are eligible to receive services under this part and part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act for three (3) year terms effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

SDE

13. Transportation Funding Cap Waiver

14. 

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Scoggin/Hill): I move to approve the request by #061 Blaine County District for a waiver of the 103% transportation funding cap, at a new cap
percentage rate for the fiscal year 2019 of 105.33%, for a total of $104,849 in additional funds from the public school appropriation. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

AND

M/S (Scoggin/Hill): I move to approve the request by #244 Mountain View School District for a waiver of the 103% transportation funding cap, at a new cap percentage rate for the fiscal year 2019 of 163%, for a total of $113,022 in additional funds from the public school appropriation. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

AND

M/S (Scoggin/Hill): I move to approve the request by #304 Kamiah Joint District for a waiver of the 103% transportation funding cap, at a new cap percentage rate for the fiscal year 2019 of 113%, for a total of $10,087 in additional funds from the public school appropriation. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

AND

M/S (Scoggin/Hill): I move to approve the request by #340 Lewiston Independent District for a waiver of the 103% transportation funding cap, at a new cap percentage rate for the fiscal year 2019 of 114.32%, for a total of $8,238 in additional funds from the public school appropriation. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

AND

M/S (Scoggin/Hill): I move to approve the request by #391 Kellogg Joint District for a waiver of the 103% transportation funding cap, at a new cap percentage rate for the fiscal year 2019 of 105.63%, for a total of $29,590 in additional funds from the public school appropriation. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

AND

M/S (Scoggin/Hill): I move to approve the request by #401 Teton County District for a waiver of the 103% transportation funding cap, at a new cap percentage rate for the fiscal year 2019 of 108.56%, for a total of $76,336 in additional funds from the public school appropriation. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.
15. Emergency Provisional Certificates

M/S (Scoggin/Hill): I move to accept the recommendation of the Professional Standards Commission to issue one-year emergency provisional certificates for Charles Darrough and Rebecca Wayne, to teach the content area and grade ranges at the specified school districts as provided herein for the 2019-2020 school year. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

At this time, President Critchfield welcomed the College of Southern Idaho’s new President, Dean Fisher, whose official start date was June 8, 2020. President Fisher is replacing President Jeff Fox, who retired during the previous week after serving as CSI’s President for over six years.

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO BOARD OF REGENTS

PLANNING, POLICY AND GOVERNMENTALAFFAIRS

1. University of Idaho Annual Report
   This item was provided in the agenda materials as an information item.

C. Scott Green, University of Idaho President, presented an annual report for the University of Idaho (UI), sharing that despite facing several challenges, the UI is excelling in fulfilling their land grant university mission and recently celebrated the largest graduating class in the history of the institution.

President Green discussed the UI’s ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and stated that it is anticipated that students will return to in-person courses for the fall 2020 semester, but that the UI is preparing contingency plans in the event of changes in the public health situation. He discussed that the UI has implemented a hybrid, flexible course model and is continuing to improve online course offerings in order to “meet students where they are”.

The UI’s annual report also provided a budget update, in which President Green discussed the measures that have been implemented in order to address the prior budget situation as well as the 5% State holdback for FY2021. He shared that the UI has taken steps including reductions to post-retirement benefits, the outsourcing of textbook sales and IT reorganization, program prioritization (eliminating and restructuring several programs), headcount reductions by means of early voluntary separations, and a mandatory employee furlough. The UI would have eliminated their budget deficit by FY2022 had it not been for the financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

President Green also shared the results and uses of ongoing fundraising efforts, and discussed that the UI has received seven donations of $1 million this year that will go toward student scholarships, UI’s research enterprise, and cybersecurity. During the recent annual “Vandal Giving Day”, the UI received $600,000 that will be allocated to
students in an effort to offset financial hardships that have occurred as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. President Green also discussed several of UI’s scholarship initiatives, including the Vandal Promise Scholarship, which is a need-based scholarship that awards up to $5,000, and the Chobani Scholars program, which awards $20,000 to Idaho students interested in dairy production. He also shared his praise for UI’s student athletes, stating that the department posted a cumulative GPA of 3.5 during the spring 2020 semester.

The UI has seen a 1.9% increase in first-year freshman enrollment and a 2.6% increase in graduate enrollment over the last year. President Green discussed the national trend of declining enrollment as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, but was happy to share that the UI’s application rate is up 16% over last year and their admission rate is up 13% over last year. He was optimistic that recruitment events later in the summer will aid in increasing enrollment rates for the fall 2020 semester.

President Green discussed the UI’s ongoing research projects, stating that the UI has reached a new record of $113.1 million in research expenditures. He discussed two specific projects: “Dragonfly”, which is a project working to send a robotic rotocraft to Saturn’s largest moon, Titan, and the Center for Agriculture, Food, and Environment (CAFE), which, when completed, will be the world’s largest research dairy and will support Idaho’s dairy industry, which is the third largest in the nation. He also mentioned several partnerships that are involved in the UI’s research programs, including Idaho Fish and Game, Idaho National Laboratory, INBRE, and the Idaho EPSCoR partnership.

Lastly, President Green discussed the UI’s donor-funded marketing campaign encouraging higher education and promoting the UI, including the “Enroll Idaho” program, which touts the benefits of higher education via tours across the state. President Green also shared his appreciation for the Board’s support during the past year.

Board Vice President Scoggin voiced his praise for President Green’s efforts during his first year with the UI and commented on the progress that has been made in several areas. Board Member Atchley and Board President Critchfield echoed his comments.

There were no additional questions or comments from the Board.

**STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Prior to beginning the State Department of Education agenda, Superintendent Ybarra requested unanimous consent to move the first item, Developments in K-12 Education, to the end of the SDE agenda to support the Board’s discussion during the Work Session. There were no objections.
1. Educator Certification Standards and Review Process
   This item was provided in the agenda materials as an information item.

Superintendent Ybarra introduced the item, providing the background that the legislature, the Professional Standards Commission, and the Idaho Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (IACTE) have requested a review and revision to Idaho’s initial teacher and school personnel certification standards. In response to this request, the State Department of Education (SDE) has put together a plan for the review of teacher certification and endorsements.

Supt. Ybarra then introduced Lisa Colon-Durham, Director of Certification and Professional Standards for the SDE, to discuss the plan in greater detail. Ms. Colon-Durham shared a brief summary of the review plan as well as an overview of the stakeholder workgroup meeting that took place during the prior week. The stakeholder group is comprised of representatives from various Idaho education organizations. The review plan is comprised of three phases: Phase 1-Educator Standards Review, which will review the Idaho Standards for Initial Certification of Professional School Personnel, Phase 2-Certification & Endorsement Review, which will aid in aligning the requirements with the criteria outline in IDAPA 08.02.02 (Rules Governing Uniformity), and Phase 3-Program Review and Approval Process, which will evaluate certification standards guidance and procedures for education preparation program review and approval.

During the initial stakeholder work group meeting, the goals and process of the review process were discussed and the first phase of the process was discussed. The first phase of the review process, which is expected to be completed by October 2020, is to reduce the regulatory burden for educator preparation programs while maintaining high standards for beginning teachers, administrators, and pupil service staff.

Board Secretary Liebich inquired how the recent discussions regarding the implementation of blended learning programs and educational technology resources will be incorporated into educator training and certification. Ms. Colon-Durham responded that one of the certification standards is called “Pre-Service Technology”, which will be reviewed and revised to consider the implementation of technology and blended learning methods.

Board Member Clark, who is a member of the stakeholder work group, shared her optimism for the upcoming results of the review process and her praise for Ms. Colon-Durham, who organized and led the work group’s initial meeting.

There were no additional questions or comments from the Board.
2. Professional Standards Commission Appointments

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Ybarra/Hill): I move to appoint Dr. Jamee Nixon as a member of the Professional Standards Commission effective July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2022, representing Colleges of Letters and Sciences. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

Superintendent Ybarra introduced the item and shared that this motion is a recommendation from the Professional Standards Commission to replace Mary Flores, who is retiring; her departure would leave a vacancy on the PSC through the end of her term. The Idaho Association of Colleges for Teacher Education submitted three nominees, and recommended the appointment of Dr. Jamee Nixon, Dean of the College of Engineering, Mathematics and Science at Northwest Nazarene University.

There were no questions or comments from the Board.

3. Idaho Science Content Standards

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Ybarra/Atchley): I move to approve the technical correction to the Idaho Science Standards incorporated by reference document, approved by the Board on August 10, 2017 as submitted in Attachment 1. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

The State Department of Education (SDE) proposed revisions to the science content standards, with the revisions being incorporated in 2017. The incorporated by reference document included the standards as well as supporting content. This motion is a technical correction to remove the supporting content, which is somewhat confusing and unnecessary. The removal of the supporting content does not change the original action of implementing the standards. Supt. Ybarra stated that it is important for the Board to acknowledge the technical correction publicly, and that the legislature is also in support of removing the supporting content.

Board Vice President Scoggin reiterated that there are no changes being made to the standards themselves, and inquired why the action is removing all supporting content rather than just the incorporated by reference document that is considered to be confusing. Supt. Ybarra discussed that Idaho is one of the only states that included the supporting content within the standards, and that there has been confusion around whether or not it is required. She went on to say that the supporting content will still be available on the SDE website, but it will not be included in the standards to make it appear that it is required. She also clarified that the supporting content contains examples of instructional activities.
Board President Critchfield shared that she was present for the content standards hearings during the 2020 Legislative Session, and reiterated that the supporting content has nothing to do with the standards themselves. She also stated that the supporting content simply outlines the support that is available for teachers. Board Member Atchley stated that there has been confusion for the public regarding the difference between the standards and the curriculum, and that it will be helpful to show the division between the content standards and what is taught in the classroom.

Board Member Clark inquired if the Board will take the same action for the other content standards, and discussed that it would be beneficial for the standards to share the same format in the future. Supt. Ybarra stated that the Board can discuss this and take action at a later date if necessary. Board Member Keough echoed these comments and discussed that it is important to differentiate between the requirements at the State level and the local responsibilities for curriculum development.

There were no additional questions or comments from the Board.

4. Developments in K-12 Education
   This item was provided in the agenda materials as an information item.

Superintendent Ybarra introduced the item and began her update by discussed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. $43 million of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds have been allocated to Idaho’s Local Education Agencies (LEAs) based on the allocation of 2019-2020 Title I funds. On May 8, 2020, the US Department of Education determined that new or expending LEAs and charters for the 2020-2021 school year will also be eligible to receive the funds. Distribution of the funds can be subject to change, and will be calculated in the fall. The State Department of Education (SDE) has reserved approximately $170,000 to offset this redistribution of funds in the fall.

Supt. Ybarra also discussed additional funding that is available for public schools that will be allocated by Governor Little Coronavirus Financial Advisory Committee (CFAC) and distributed to schools who are not receiving Title I funds to assist with costs incurred for technology needs and child nutrition programs. The SDE has received $4 million which will be distributed as follows: $1 million for non-Title I schools (with a base amount being distributed to LEAs who did not receive a Title I allocation for the 2019-2020 school year), $2 million for child nutrition programs, and the remaining $1 million to be distributed to areas that will benefit closing achievement gaps in low-income and rural areas.

Board President Critchfield inquired about the timeline of distribution for the 90% of the ESSER funds that will be dispersed directly to the LEAs, and Supt. Ybarra stated that the funds will be distributed in approximately two weeks once the internal system is live. Board Secretary Liebich inquired about the usage of the 90% of ESSER funds and asked for clarification on their use for private school needs. Supt. Ybarra responded that
Congress’ intent was that states follow Title I laws, and that guidance has been given for fund distribution to private schools. She also shared that the USDE is going out for public comment, and that while the SDE has not provided any guidance yet, they are instructing districts to meet with schools interested in accessing the funds and will provide guidance once it is available.

Board President Critchfield asked for clarification on the distribution of the $4 million in CFAC funding. Supt. Ybarra discussed that LEAs will receive an established base amount in ESSER funding, and that the SDE will utilize the CFAC funds to make up the difference for schools that fell below the base amount, and the remainder of the funds will be used to support technology needs, child nutrition programs, and closing achievement gaps in rural and low-income areas. Board Member Clark inquired if the funds will be used to reimburse districts, and Supt. Ybarra clarified that the funds will help to bridge the gap for areas of child nutrition programs not fully funded by the USDA.

Next, Supt. Ybarra shared that the SDE has secured 336-gallon barrels of hand sanitizer for each region as part of a donation from Exxon Mobil, as well as masks for staff, which will be available for distribution over the next few weeks in order to ease concerns surrounding schools reopening in the fall. Instructions for distributing the hand sanitizer will be provided to districts in the coming weeks as well.

Supt. Ybarra then discussed that the SDE is seeking to provide a Learning Management System (LMS) for LEAs who do not have the resources or opportunity to implement a robust LMS for their students. The SDE is looking at different providers and working to develop a solution in conjunction with the Governor’s Digital Divide Taskforce LMS Subcommittee. The SDE hopes to have resources in place before August so that opportunities for professional development can be made available for teachers and staff.

Chris Campbell, Chief Technology Officer for the SDE, echoed Supt. Ybarra’s comments and discussed how the work being done in the SDE will complement the work being done by the Digital Divide Taskforce. Mr. Campbell shared that both groups are working on an accelerated timeline, and are following the example of other states that have gone through the procurement procedures for similar systems in order to expedite the RFP process.

Board Secretary Liebich discussed that it will be crucial to acknowledge that local school boards and superintendents are going to have to make tough decisions that are best for their districts. Supt. Ybarra agreed and discussed that the survey results provided last month have been updated, as well as the results of the CARES Act survey, and shared that a parent survey will be open through June 19, 2020 to gather feedback from parents regarding their students’ needs. The survey will be available in written/verbal format for those who do not have internet connectivity.
Next, Supt. Ybarra focused her update on the content standards review for English language arts, math, and science, and reiterated her previous discussion of the work groups that will conduct the review of Idaho content standards and make recommendations for revisions that will satisfy the requests in the letter that was sent to the SDE as well at the State Board of Education by the House and Senate Education Committees in March.

Todd Driver, Director of Content and Curriculum for the SDE, shared that the SDE is responsible for conducting reviews of the English language arts, math, and science content standards. The review will be conducted by work groups comprised of 50% educators and 50% stakeholders nominated by the Idaho Education Association, the Northwest Professional Educators Association, Idaho Business for Education, the Indian Education Committee, Bluum, the Idaho Charter School Network, the Division of Career Technical Education, and the State Board of Education. The first review draft is expected to be completed by December 2020, followed by a public comment period and update to the legislature in January 2021. The second draft will then be submitted to the State Board of Education by June 2021, followed by a second public comment period, and the final recommendations will be presented to the State Board of Education in October of 2021. An interim legislative committee has also been established to ensure that the work group’s recommendations are consistent with the House and Senate Education Committees’ requests.

Board Secretary Liebich discussed that the work groups conducting the review should do everything possible to maintain rigor in the standards in order to ensure that all K-12 students are prepared to “go on” to higher education. Supt. Ybarra agreed and shared that she will ensure that sentiment is carried throughout the review process.

Supt. Ybarra concluded her update with an overview of the high school accountability assessments, which led the Board into the Work Session discussion. Karlynn Laraway, Director of Assessment and Accountability and Director of Communication for the SDE, discussed that Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 120, passed during the 2020 Legislative Session, directs the State Board of Education and the State Department of Education to “research options to replace the High School ISAT with another assessments such as the SAT”. Ms. Laraway also provided a brief summary of previous Board considerations regarding high school assessment requirements, which included moving the ISAT to grade 11 based on a recommendation from the Accountability Oversight Committee, removing the graduation requirement of a college entrance exam but continuing to offer the exam for all students, and removing the graduation requirement of proficiency on the ISAT but maintaining the requirement for students to take the exam.

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires that each state administer an assessment aligned to State standards in grade 3-8, and provides for flexibility for states to utilize a national recognized assessment once students reach high school. Ms. Laraway discussed that the earliest administration of a possible new high school
assessment is spring of 2022, which would allow time for the rule making process, RFP and contracting processes, and employee training. Ms. Laraway also discussed that implementing a new accountability assessment will reset the high school accountability identification, which relies on three years of data; the next three year cycle will begin after the spring 2020 assessment. She also shared that an amendment to Idaho’s ESSA plan requires stakeholder engagement as well as a submission and review/approval process. Ms. Laraway reminded the Board to consider that Federal assessment peer review is required for alignment to State standards, and that the assessment must be appropriate and accessible for all students, including students with disabilities, ESL students, and CTE pathway students. As a transition into the Work Session, Ms. Laraway asked the Board to consider the purpose of the assessment(s), what the Board is hoping the assessment(s) will measure, and what is best for the students.

There were no additional comments or questions from the Board.

At this time the Board recessed for 10 minutes, returning at 11:10am (MST).

WORK SESSION

PLANNING, POLICY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

A. K-12 Education Accountability Discussion
   This item was provided in the agenda materials as an information item.

Board President Critchfield introduced the item and shared that the Board has spent time discussing graduation and assessment requirements recently as feedback on ESSA data has been received. She elaborated that certain items precipitate others, and that the Board should continually revisit these items to ensure that the requirements are driving the intended outcomes.

Accountability Oversight Committee – Annual Report
Board President Critchfield discussed that the Accountability Oversight Committee (AOC) is comprised of representatives of higher education, K-12 special education, and stakeholders appointed by the Board. She then introduced Roger Stewart, Chair of the AOC, and Alison Henken, the AOC Office of the State Board of Education staff member, who presented the AOC’s annual report. The report summarized data highlights, progress toward Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) goals, and the AOC’s recommendations. Mr. Stewart shared that the report was developed by the AOC, the Office of the State Board of Education, and the State Department of Education. He also shared that the AOC’s recommendations presented during the report are based on the 2018-2019 outcomes report developed by the State Department of Education. The entirety of the AOC report, including detailed data and recommendations, can be found within the meeting agenda materials.
Board Member Clark inquired if the AOC has examined the correlation of the improvement of PSAT and SAT scores for students who used the Kahn Academy or other additional resources, and how instruction methods may have changes with the PSAT and SAT score data in mind. Mr. Stewart responded that this comparison has not been examined specifically, but Karlynn Laraway, Director of Assessment and Accountability and Director of Communication for the SDE, discussed that there has been correlation between the PSAT and the SAT. She discussed that the PSAT is an optional assessment, with only 80% opting to take it, but there is data demonstrating that there is consistent positive performance trajectory between the fall PSAT and the spring SAT. For reference, Ms. Laraway added that the Kahn Academy allows students to enter their PSAT scores and then directs them to specific activities that will assist in increasing their SAT score.

State Accountability Assessments
Board President Critchfield shared her belief that high school accountability assessments should be administered in grade 11. Board Secretary Liebich agreed, but discussed that it is valuable to have a benchmark exam score recorded during grade 10 in order to strategically prepare students for the assessment during grade 11.

Board Vice President Scoggin requested clarification on the section of the AOC report that recommended that the SAT benchmark score in Grade 12 replace the SAT benchmark score in Grade 11 as it pertains to college readiness requirements. Ms. Laraway discussed that the College Board has a vertical scale in place that sets benchmarks for the PSAT and SAT. The PSAT benchmark is appropriate for Grade 10, with a Grade 11 benchmark for the SAT, and a corresponding college readiness benchmark, which indicates the probability of a student earning a “C” or better for college coursework. Tracie Bent, Chief Planning and Policy Officer, discussed that the Board’s K-20 Strategic Plan utilizes the college entrance exams as college readiness as a college readiness benchmark.

Board President Critchfield proposed that the Board and the Accountability Oversight Committee could research different assessments that are available, and determine how various assessments or assessment timelines would lend themselves to graduation and college readiness requirements. Board Member Keough agreed with Board President Critchfield, and echoed her fellow Board Members’ comments during the AOC report discussion. Board President Critchfield will work with Mr. Stewart and the AOC following the meeting to establish a timeline and deliverables for this work.

Graduation Requirements
Board President Critchfield inquired if the Board would be interested in having the AOC present recommendations for how the Board’s graduation requirements can satisfy the changing needs of students. Board Members Hill, Keough, and Clark supported this, and Board Member Hill elaborated that revising the requirements would allow more flexibility for the different routes to graduation, including dual credit and Career Technical Education programs.
Board President Critchfield and Supt. Ybarra then shifted the discussion to senior math requirements, remind the Board that currently, three years of math are required for graduation, one of which must be the senior year. During the 2019 Legislative Session, there were changes that removed this requirement in statute, but the Board has not revised the requirement. Board President Critchfield discussed that there has been confusion around this requirement, and that students are inclined to take the easiest path toward satisfying the requirement. Supt. Ybarra shared that feedback from the districts has indicated that this requirement should be decided at the local level, and that the number of required credits should remain the same districts should be able to decide how the requirement is achieved.

Board President Critchfield discussed that the set graduation requirements, in general, should be reviewed, and that it would be beneficial to propose a rule change that would remove the senior math requirement in order to be consistent with the 2019 legislative action. Board Member Hill discussed that the senior math requirement was initially put in place in order to mediate the math achievement gap for college freshman, and shared his hesitation to remove the requirement. Board Member Atchley echoed Board Member Hill’s comments. Board President Critchfield responded that the concern is not that math is invalid or unimportant, it is the prescriptive nature that it must be taken during the senior year.

Board Member Keough inquired if there could be pathways for students who plan to “go on” to higher education and for those who are not planning to “go on”, adding there could be options for students who need college math and those who need “life math”. Board Member Clark recognized that it is important to revise the Board requirements in order to reflect the 2019 legislative action, and echoed Board Member Hill and Board Member Keough’s comments regarding tailoring requirements based on a student’s chosen pathway. Torrey Lawrence, Interim Provost and Executive Vice President at the University of Idaho, discussed that math preparation continues to be a challenge for incoming freshman, and that continued support by means of requirements at the secondary level would be helpful.

Board President Critchfield shared that discussions during the Work Session will be used as a reference point for work group and taskforce efforts to determine next steps.

There were no additional questions or comments from the Board.

At this time the Board recessed for 30 minutes, returning at 1:00pm (MST).
BUSINESS AFFAIRS AND HUMAN RESOURCES
Section I-Human Resources
1. Chief Executive Officer Contracts

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Atchley/Clark): I move to approve Kevin Satterlee’s contract as President of Idaho State University for a three-year term commencing June 18, 2020. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

AND

M/S (Atchley/Clark): I move to approve Cynthia Pemberton’s contract as President of Lewis-Clark State College for a three-year term commencing July 1, 2020. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

Board Member Atchley asked Todd Kilburn, Chief Financial Officer to discuss the item. Mr. Kilburn shared that there are no increases to the four-year institution Presidents’ salaries this year, however Kevin Satterlee, Idaho State University President, and Dr. Cynthia Pemberton, Lewis-Clark State University President were at the end of their terms, and this motion effectively extends their contracts.

There were no questions or comments from the Board.

Section II-Finance
1. FY 2021 Operating Budgets

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Atchley/Hill): I move to approve the FY2021 operating budgets for the Office of the State Board of Education, Idaho Public Television, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Colleges and Universities, Career Technical Education, Agricultural Research and Extension Service, Health Education Programs and Special Programs, as presented in Attachments 1-27. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

Todd Kilburn provided background for the item, sharing that the Board would normally approve operating budgets for the next Fiscal Year at this time, including line items and occupancy costs. However, due to circumstances and financial impact as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, line items and occupancy costs were not able to be included without affecting other budgets. He elaborated that the day before budgets were due to the Board office, Governor Little requested a 5% holdback. Institutions and agencies will bring their budgets back to the Board for review and approval at a later date, once the budget cuts are calculated and included in the supporting agenda materials.

Board Vice President Scoggin inquired as to why the Board is acting to approve budgets that are not yet accurately represented, and shared his hesitation to approve
budgets that are not yet finalized. Board Member Atchley responded that the BAHR committee brought the budgets forward for Board recognition with the acknowledgement that they will be finalized at a later date. Matt Freeman, Executive Director, added that the Board normally approved operating budgets during the June Board Meeting in order to accommodate the start of the fiscal year on July 1.

Mark Heil, Vice President for Finance and Administration at Boise State University, discussed that the budgets could be approved as presented with the holdbacks being approved separately. Brian Foisy, Vice President for Finance and Administration at the University of Idaho, and Glen Nelson, Vice President for Finance and Business Affairs at Idaho State University echoed Mr. Heil’s comments and discussed that it would be helpful to have the base budget approved by the Board prior to the start of the fiscal year.

Board Secretary Liebich inquired as to how anticipated enrollment data will affect operating budgets. Mr. Heil shared that BSU’s enrollment is expected to decrease by a small percentage. Mr. Foisy shared that enrollment at UI is expected to decrease by 5-8%, and Mr. Nelson shared that ISU shared that their budget was constructed assuming “flat” enrollment data, but enrollment data is higher than what it was this time last year. Julie Crea, Senior Budget Director at Lewis-Clark State College, shared that LCSC has been evaluating models for possible 5-20% declines in enrollment and have established contingency plans of action. Kevin Satterlee, Idaho State University President, added that ISU has contingency plans in place for circumstances where enrollment targets are achieved or not achieved.

Board Member Atchley inquired if the Board can expect a report from the institutions indicating whether or not enrollment has impacted their operating budgets. Mr. Kilburn stated that institutions are unaware of what enrollment data will reflect at this point in the year under normal circumstances, and that the uncertainty is exaggerated by the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Board Member Keough inquired about the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation’s (VR) operating budget, requesting clarification on the reduction for the Community Support/Employment Services line. Jane Donnellan, State Administrator for the Division of VR, and Kean Miller, Fiscal Operations Manager for the Division of VR, explained that 6% of the general fund appropriation for the Division of VR was transferred to the Department of Health and Welfare and Medicaid to match the rate increase of service providers, and that the funds that were transferred were monies that would have been reverted at the end of the fiscal year. Ms. Miller added that a survey at the end of fiscal year 19 showed that a variety of services as part of the Extended Employment Services program were being paid by Medicaid, and reallocating a portion of those funds assists individuals who depend on Medicaid for long-term support services.

Board Secretary Liebich inquired if the Board approves a capital budget for each institution in addition to an operating budget, and Mr. Kilburn discussed that the Board
will review a list of capital projects for presentation to the Division of Public Works during the August Board Meeting, but the Board does not approve capital budgets for the institutions.

Board President Critchfield reiterated that institutions and agencies will present a revised operating budget during a future Board Meeting to reflect the 5% holdback.

There were no additional questions or comments from the Board.

2. Board Policy – V.R. Establishment of Fees – Partial Waiver

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Atchley/Scoggin): I move to approve a waiver of the provisions in Board Policy V.R. subsections 3.b. and 3.c. requiring the use of funds collected through student fees only be used for the purpose it was collected, effective immediately through the end of the 2020-2021 academic year. A report of all redistributions of fees under this waiver shall be submitted by each institution to the Board for the August 2021 Board Meeting. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

Todd Kilburn, Chief Financial Officer, discussed that this item is a request for the Board to waive two subsections of Board Policy V.R., which requires that funds collected through student fees should only be used for the purpose for they were collected. The waiver would allow for the redistribution of student fees. Mr. Kilburn provided the example of professional fees pertaining to a program that has moved online, in which the waiver would allow the program to use fees to aid students in the new format. The motion also requires that institutions report any redistributions of fees during the August 2021 Board Meeting.

Board Member Hill inquired if the BAHR committee should review this Board Policy to provide more flexibility for institutions, in general, without a waiver. Board Member Atchley responded that the BAHR committee has previously discussed this and will continue to address this matter moving forward.

There were no additional questions or comments from the Board.

3. Board Policy – V.T. – Fee Waivers - Partial Waiver

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Atchley/Clark): I move to approve a waiver of the non-resident tuition caps established in Board Policy V.T.2.b. for the 2020-2021 academic year to accommodate those athletes who have been granted an additional year of eligibility by NCAA or NAIA. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0. Todd Kilburn, Chief Financial Officer, discussed that this motion addresses two items. The motion provides an extra year of eligibility for student athletes who were affected by the COVID-19 pandemic during their 2020 seasons, and would allow institutions to
expand their rosters for the next year in order to accommodate the extended eligibility under NCAA and NAIA guidelines. Additionally, the motion would provide a waiver for the cap of non-resident student athletes’ fee waivers.

Board Member Atchley added that this is a one-time waiver to provide flexibility for the institutions, and that there are very few students who will be affected since many seniors who graduated in spring 2020 have opted not to return in the fall to participate in their sport.

There were no additional questions or comments from the Board.

4. Board Policy – V.X. – Intercollegiate Athletics - Partial Waiver

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Atchley/Keough): I move to approve a waiver of the caps for athletics spending from State General Funds and Institutional Funds established by Board Policy V.X.3. for the 2020-2021 academic year only to accommodate those athletes who have been granted an additional year of eligibility by NCAA or NAIA. A report on the utilization of the waiver is to be provided to the Board at the August 2021 meeting of the State Board of Education. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

Todd Kilburn, Chief Financial Officer, explained that in order to accommodate the extended eligibility for the next year (which was approved during the previous motion), the Board is being asked to waive caps for athletics spending for scholarships. He added that a report on the utilization of the waiver will be provided to the Board during the August 2021 Board Meeting.

There were no comments or questions from the Board.

5. University of Idaho – Disposal of Real Property – Caine Center

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Atchley/Keough): I move to approve the request by the University of Idaho to authorize sale of the Caine Center building and surrounding land for a total purchase price of $800,000.00 under the terms and conditions set forth in the Purchase and Sale Agreement, Attachment 1, in the materials submitted to the Board; and to authorize the Vice President for Finance and Administration for the University of Idaho to execute all necessary transaction documents therefor. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

Board Member Atchley introduced the item and asked Brian Foisy, Vice President for Finance and Administration at the University of Idaho, to provide background. Mr. Foisy reminded the Board that the UI College of Agricultural and Life Sciences closed the Caine Center in 2016 with the goal of reallocating resources to other programs. The
Board approved the disposal of the property in 2017 with the intention of selling the property by means of public auction through the Department of Public Lands. However, the estimated sale price of the land and the building was lower than anticipated, and the UI opted to pursue marketing and private sale of the property. In June of 2019, the Board approved the sale of 27 of the 40 acres of the land for approximately $540,000. This motion asks for Board approval to sell the remaining 13 acres of land and the building on the property for a sale price of $800,000.

There were no additional questions or comments from the Board.

6. University of Idaho - Planning and Design Authorization – Idaho Center for Plant and Soil Health

**BOARD ACTION**

M/S (Atchley/Clark): I move to approve the request by the University of Idaho to implement the Planning and Design phases of the proposed Idaho Center for Plant and Soil Health Facility, with a projected total cost of $7,000,000, as described in the materials submitted to the Board. Planning and design authorization is provided at $780,000, including the authority to execute all necessary and requisite consulting and vendor contracts to fully implement the planning and design phases of the project. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

Brian Foisy, Vice President for Finance and Administration at the University of Idaho, discussed that this item requests Board authorization for the planning and design phases for the Idaho Center for Plant and Soil Health in Parma, Idaho. The center will replace and outdated existing facility in the same location.

Board Vice President Scoggin inquired if this center will require demolition or the acquisition of new real estate. Mr. Foisy responded that the new center will be built at the same location, requiring no new real estate, and Scott Green, University of Idaho President, added that the center will replace the double-wide trailers currently located on the property with new buildings.

There were no additional comments or questions from the Board.

At this time, Board President Critchfield thanked Board Member Atchley for her service as BAHR Committee Chair, and recognized Board Member Hill, who will be taking over that role.
INSTRUCTION, RESEARCH AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

1. Board Policy III.E. – Certificates and Degrees – First Reading

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Clark/Atchley): I move to approve the first reading of the proposed amendment to Board Policy III.E. Certificate and Degrees as submitted in Attachment 1. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

Adrian San Miguel, Program Services Coordinator for the Division of Career Technical Education, discussed that this amendment would provide an opportunity for individuals who already hold a degree or certificate to pursue a specialized certificate. Board Member Hill inquired why the specialized certificates require a separate category, and Mr. San Miguel responded that it provides an opportunity to recognize additional skillsets and professional certifications.

There were no additional questions or comments from the Board.

2. Board Policy III.Z. – Planning and Delivery of Postsecondary Programs and Courses – First Reading

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Clark/Scoggin): I move to approve the first reading of proposed amendments to Board Policy III.Z., Planning and Delivery of Postsecondary Education, as submitted in Attachment 1. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

Board Member Clark introduced the item, and asked TJ Bliss, Chief Academic Officer, to provide details. Mr. Bliss discussed that there is a list of programs within the policy and if a program name changes, the change must be approved by the Board so that the change is mirrored within the policy. He added that this is the first reading of the policy, and it will be brought back with revisions for a second reading during the August 2020 Board Meeting.

There were no questions or comments from the Board.

At this time, Board President Critchfield thanked Board Member Clark for her service as IRSA Committee Chair, and recognized Board Member Liebich, who will be taking over that role.

3. Board Policy III.G. – Postsecondary Program Approval and Discontinuance – Waiver of Program Modification Requirements

BOARD ACTION

M/S ( ): I move to waive the requirement for a full proposal in Board Policy III.G.d and 4.d for modifications to academic programs, career technical
programs, and instruction and administrative units until June 30, 2021. In lieu of full program proposal requirement, institutions will use the letter of notification process during this time period.

The Board opted to take action on this item at a future Board Meeting in order to revise the motion’s verbiage prior to Board approval.

TJ Bliss, Chief Academic Officer, discussed that this item provides flexibility for institutions to modify programs by means of letters of notification rather than via full program proposals until June 30, 2021. Mr. Bliss stated that this flexibility will be important as institutions revise program delivery methods as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. He also added the revision allows for the Executive Director to request a full program proposal if necessary, and that any modifications to programs relating to an institution’s statewide responsibility will still require a full program proposal.

Board Member Clark and Mr. Bliss requested that the Board take action on this item during a future Special Board Meeting in order to revise the language of the motion to include the exemption of programs that relate to an institution’s statewide responsibility.

There were no additional questions or comments from the Board.


BOARD ACTION
M/S (Clark/Scoggin): I move to waive Board Policy III.Q.4.a, the college entrance exam score as an Idaho public postsecondary minimum admissions requirement, for students seeking admission for the 2020-2021 academic year. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

Board Member Clark discussed that during the March 27, 2020 Special Board Meeting, the Board took action to waive the college entrance exam as a graduation requirement for students graduating during the spring 2020 semester. This item waives the college entrance exam score as an Idaho public postsecondary minimum admissions requirement for students seeking admission for the 2020-2021 academic year.

Board Vice President Scoggin inquired if an institution may still keep the requirement in place, even if the Board has waived the requirement. Mr. Bliss responded that yes, an institution may keep the requirement if they wish to do so.

There were no questions or comments from the Board.
5. Board Policy III.Z. – Planning and Delivery of Postsecondary Programs and Courses – Waiver of Requirement to Update Three Year Plans

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Clark/Keough): I move to waive the requirement in Board Policy III.Z.2.a.i. that the three year plan be reviewed and approved by the Board at the August 2020 Board Meeting. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

Board Member Clark discussed that this item provided flexibility to institutions in regard the review and approval of three-year plans. TJ Bliss, Chief Academic Officer, stated that, typically, institutions draft their three-year plans in March for presentation to the Board approval in August. This motion provides additional time for institutions to make revisions to their three-year plans that may be necessary due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

There were no questions or comments from the Board.

6. Higher Education Research Council Annual Update
   This item was provided in the agenda materials as an information item.

TJ Bliss, Chief Academic Officer, discussed that the Higher Education Research Council (HERC) is responsible for providing approximately $4.2 million each year to institutions for research programs, and it is required by policy that an annual report is provided by the Board. Harold Blackman, Vice President of Research at Boise State University and Chair of the Higher Education Research Council, presented the annual report. Mr. Blackman discussed that the mission of the HERC is to strengthen research capabilities at the four-year public higher education institutions while contributing to economic development in the State of Idaho. The HERC is comprised of the Vice Presidents of Research from each of the four-year institutions, as well as industry representatives from Alturas Analytics, JR Simplot Co., and Idaho National Laboratory.

Mr. Blackman began the report by discussing one of the main focuses of the HERC, research infrastructure, which encompasses funding to support science, engineering, and other research infrastructure. The HERC’s FY2019 budget for research infrastructure was $950,000, funding several large research program line items for Boise State University, Idaho State University, the University of Idaho, and Lewis-Clark State College that contributed to start-up funds for new hires, facility technician support, and equipment and hardware upgrades.

Mr. Blackman then discussed undergraduate research, for which the HERC provides funding to support students in research projects and travel to conferences. The HERC provided approximately $185,000 in FY2019 and supported 67 undergraduate students. Mr. Blackman also discussed the Idaho Conference on Undergraduate Research (ICUR), which hosted 422 attendees from 48 different organizations and institutions in FY2019. This year’s ICUR will be held July 23-24, 2020 via a virtual platform.
Next, Mr. Blackman provided an overview of the Idaho Global Entrepreneurial Mission Fund (IGEM), which is a “competitive grant program used as seed funding for strengthening Idaho’s future by strategically investing in the development of expertise, products, and services which result in state economic growth.” IGEM funds 1-3 year grants of up to $700,000 per year. In FY2019, IGEM grants awarded approximately $2.1 million to fund 4 projects, including one project at Boise State University, one project at Idaho State University, and two projects at the University of Idaho. UI’s projects are focused on sustaining the competitiveness of the food industry in Southern Idaho by means of integrated water, energy and waste management, and on the cellulosic 3D printing of modular building assemblies. BSU’s project is focused on nucleic acid memory, and ISU’s project is focused on disaster response for complex emergency responders in Idaho.

Then, Mr. Blackman discussed the incubation fund grant program, which is a competitive grant program used to develop research and infrastructure, promote STEM education, and foster innovation and technology. The program funds 1-year grants of up to $75,000, and funded $225,000 for 3 projects during FY2019.

The final component of the report summarized the FY2020 HERC budget allocation, which Mr. Blackman outlined as follows:

- Idaho Global Entrepreneurial Mission Fund (IGEM) - $2,066,500
- Infrastructure Funds - $850,000
- Matching Grants, Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) - $800,000
- Incubation Fund - $244,670
- Undergraduate Research - $217,000
- Administrative Costs - $2,700

Board Secretary Liebich inquired where the HERC budget rolls up to, and Tracie Bent, Chief Planning and Policy Officer explained that the appropriation is through the State Board of Education, Colleges and Universities budget under the system-wide needs line item.

There were no additional questions or comments from the Board.

At this time the Board recessed for 10 minutes, returning at 3:05pm (MST).

PLANNING, POLICY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

2. Institution and Agency FY2021 – FY2025 Strategic Plans

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Hill/Atchley): I move to approve the FY2021 – FY2025 strategic plans as submitted in Attachments 1 through 12 and delegate the approval of the special and health program strategic plans to the Board’s Executive Director. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.
Board Member Hill introduced the item, and mentioned that the plans themselves are not strategic but are part of each institution’s functions and strategies, as required by the Division of Financial Management. Tracie Bent, Chief Planning and Policy Officer, discussed that the plans for the institutions and agencies have been reviewed and fall under the umbrella of the Board’s K-20 Strategic Plan. She added that if the Board makes changes to their K-20 Strategic Plan, the plans for the individual institutions and agencies will not change until the next cycle, and that the plans are reviewed to ensure that they meet the statutory requirements set by the Board.

Normally, the Board approved 23 strategic plans, but this motion delegates the approval strategic plans for special and health programs to Matt Freeman, Executive Director.

Board Secretary Liebich discussed the K-12 strategic measurements and inquired how those types of benchmarks relate to higher education. Ms. Bent responded that the benchmarks are set by the institutions and are derived from the Board K-20 Strategic Plan.

There were no additional questions or comments from the Board.

3. 2021 Legislative Ideas

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Hill/Liebich): I move to approve the Legislative Ideas 1-9 in substantial conformance to the form provided in Attachment 1 and to authorize the Executive Director to submit these and additional proposals that may be identified between the June Board Meeting and July submittal deadline as necessary through the Governor’s legislative process. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

Board Member Hill introduced the item and asked Tracie Bent, Chief Planning and Policy Officer, to provide background for each of the proposed legislative ideas for presentation during the 2021 Legislative Session. Ms. Bent stated that the ideas presented in the agenda materials are derived from stakeholder groups or from the Governor’s K-12 Taskforce, which convened last year. Ms. Bent outlined the proposed legislative ideas as follows:

1. Amend Section 33-1001, Idaho Code – definitions related to the Career Ladder
2. Amend Section 33-1201A, Idaho Code – clarify compact reference, “Compact state other than Idaho” for endorsements tied to the Career Ladder
3. Amend Section 33-512, Idaho Code – expand required administrator evaluation language to reference minimum metrics as part of evaluation: Grade 3 literacy, Grade 8 mathematics, and high school graduation rate
4. Add new section, setting training expectation for local boards of trustees
5. Literacy Intervention – amend existing literacy intervention statutory requirements to move to a single chapter of Idaho Code and update language based on Task Force recommendations

6. Funding Flexibility – Amendments would retain line item funding for college and career advisors, Advanced Opportunities, and literacy intervention line items, with the aim of making important updates to improve their effectiveness and accountability and collapse some statutory line items to provide more financial flexibility for local school districts and charter schools

7. Amend Section 33-201, Idaho Code – provide flexibility for parents and schools to enroll students near the minimum school age definition when determined at the local level that the student is ready

8. Amend Section 33-515, Idaho Code – remove the requirement to receive a Professional Endorsement to eligible for a continuing contract

9. Amend Section 33-1006, Idaho Code – amend transportation funding reimbursement and contracting to be able to respond in times of crisis long-term

Board Member Hill stated that the Board can opt to approve some, all, or none of the proposed ideas. Board President Critchfield added that approval of these ideas would allow Board Staff to develop more thorough proposals and provide in-depth background on the items prior to bringing the ideas before the legislature.

Board Vice President Scoggin requested clarification on the sixth item on the list regarding funding flexibility for college and career advisors, Advanced Opportunities, and literacy intervention line items. Ms. Bent elaborated that amendment would allow for the consolidation of line items that do not necessarily lend themselves toward broader statewide priorities, such as literacy proficiency.

Superintendent Ybarra stated that the seventh item on the list pertaining to the definition of school age was a point of contention during the previous year, and voiced her concern over methods for assessing students who did not meet the deadline. Ms. Bent responded that the proposal would designate the assessment to the discretion of the Local Education Agency. Board Member Clark discussed that a different approach for assessment for each LEA could cause conflicts. Board President Critchfield suggested a survey for the LEAs to gauge the need for legislative action.

Board Member Keough inquired about the verbiage of the motion, and Ms. Bent clarified that, once approved, the list would be presented to Governor Little’s office, and then those staff members would recommend which items should move forward for presentation to the legislature.

There were no additional questions or comments from the Board.
4. IDAPA 47.01.01 – Temporary/Proposed Rule – Vocational Rehabilitation Programs

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Hill/Scoggin): I move to approve Temporary and Proposed Rule Docket No. 47-0101-2001 as submitted in Attachment 1. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

Board Member Hill introduced the item and asked Tracie Bent, Chief Planning and Policy Officer, to provide a summary. Ms. Bent reminded the Board that Idaho Administrative Code, IDAPA 47.01.01 was not extended by the legislature and expired on June 30, 2019. During the November 26, 2019 Special Board Meeting, the Board approved a temporary rule reestablishing the rules for the services provided by the Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, allowing the division time to collaborate with stakeholders and complete revisions of the rules governing those programs. This motion prompts the Board to approve temporary and proposed rules which will move through the formal rule making process and be forwarded for approval during the 2021 Legislative Session.

There were no questions or comments from the Board.

5. Board Policy IV.E. – Partial Waiver – Quality Program Grants

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Hill/Scoggin): I move to waive the Idaho Agricultural Education Quality Program Standards indicators 3.4, 5.4, and 6.6 for the FY2021 grant award cycle. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

Clay Long, State Administrator for the Division of Career Technical Education, provided background information for the item, explaining that because of the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, several of the Idaho Agricultural Education Quality Program Standards were not able to be met. This item allows for the Board to waive several of the quality indicators (3.4-Business Safety Inspection, 5.4-FFA Chapter Participation, and 6.6-Follow-up Data) for the FY2021 grant award cycle. Mr. Long clarified that data from FY2020 is used to determine funding for the FY2021 grant award cycle, and this motion would allow the use of FY2019 data.

There were no questions or comments from the Board.

6. Career Technical Education –IDAPA 55.01.03 Career Technical Schools - Partial Waiver

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Hill/Keough): I move to waive the requirement in IDAPA 55.01.03.104 providing flexibility in the enrollment year used in determining the distribution of
the career technical school added cost funds through fiscal year FY2021. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

Clay Long, State Administrator for the Division of Career Technical Education, discussed that the Board granted a waiver in March for Board Policy IV.E.7, which effectively waived the requirement for secondary programs to administer workplace readiness assessments and technical skills assessments for Career Technical programs for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. This motion asks the Board to waive this reporting requirement and utilize data from FY2019 as it relates to the distribution of Career Technical School added cost funds for FY2021.

There were no questions or comments from the Board.

7. CARES Act Funding

BOARD ACTION
M/S (Hill/Scoggin): I move to approve use of the ESSER 10% SEA reserve funds towards grants to local education agencies and for funding for professional development; and to forward a request from the Coronavirus Financial Advisory Committee funding for grants to local education agencies and creation of a public postsecondary digital campus totaling $34 million; and to forward an additional recommendation to the Governor for GEER funding use as identified in Handout 1. This motion was withdrawn by Board Member Hill, and the motion to withdraw was seconded by Board Vice President Scoggin.

M/S (Hill/Clark): I move to approve use of the ESSER 10% SEA reserve funds towards grants to local education agencies and for funding for professional development to provide social emotional and behavioral health supports remotely; to request from the Coronavirus Financial Advisory Committee funding for grants to local education agencies and creation of a public postsecondary digital campus totaling $34 million; and to forward an additional recommendation to the Governor for GEER funding use as identified in Handout 1. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

Board Member Hill introduced the item and prefaced several items that the Board needed to discuss, including:

- The minimum amount of funds to be distributed to non-Title I schools
- Proposed utilizations for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) State Education Agency (SEA) Reserve ($4.8 million)
- Proposed utilizations for the funding request for Governor Little’s Coronavirus Financial Advisory Committee (CFAC)
- Proposed utilizations for the remainder of the Governor’s Emergency Education Relief (GEER) funding

As Superintendent Ybarra discussed during the “Developments in K-12 Education” as part of the State Department of Education’s agenda, the minimum amount of funds for
distribution to non-Title I schools has been raised to approximately $34,000. Board Member Clark shared her belief that this amount is adequate based on the applicable districts’ enrollment data. Supt. Ybarra added that the amount was based on feedback from the districts as well as a comparison to other states’ models for fund distribution.

Board Member Hill then directed the Board Members’ attention to the fact that a “Statewide Blended Learning Model” is a proposed item for each of the three columns of funds. Board President Critchfield stated that since the Board was made aware of funds being distributed, the Board has spent a considerable amount of time discussing priorities and potential uses of the funds during the recent Special Board Meetings held Monday afternoons. Board Secretary Liebich, who is co-chairing the Digital Divide Taskforce, shared that the goal of the taskforce is to address the achievement gaps that have been widened with the implementation of blended and virtual learning as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. He added that blended learning will likely be a new normal moving forward until a vaccine is developed for the Coronavirus.

Board Member Liebich discussed that the Digital Divide Taskforce is comprised of representatives from the statewide K-12 system as well as private industry. The taskforce is co-chaired by Greg Wilson, Senior Policy Advisor to Governor Little. Board Member Liebich stated that the initial focus of the taskforce, who met for the first time last week, is to consider how the private industry can be engaged to support Idaho’s public education system. He also directed the Board Members to the three remaining funding sources, including the remaining 10% of the ESSER SEA funds, the CFAC funding, and the GEER funding. An outlined of the proposed uses for these funds is provided in the meeting agenda materials.

Superintendent Ybarra inquired if Board Secretary Liebich was suggesting that the remaining ESSER SEA funds be used for grants to the Local Education Agencies (LEAs). Board Member Liebich responded that the LEAs could potentially apply for grants for professional development, devices, or other necessary areas of the proposed blended learning model. Supt. Ybarra agreed that devices and connectivity are crucial elements of the system, but discussed that she strongly believes that all districts should benefit from the funds and prefers to utilize those funds to develop an effective Learning Management System (LMS).

Board Member Clark discussed that the funding uses proposed by Board Member Liebich and Supt. Ybarra are not mutually exclusive. She added that there was discussion during the K-12 Emergency Council meetings where the districts indicated that they would like to be able to apply for grants for certain intended uses. Board Member Clark also shared that she supports the Board’s initiative to create and implement a Blended Learning Model, but feels that the 10% ESSER SEA reserve should be distributed to the districts as soon as possible.

Board Member Keough echoed Board Member Clark and Supt. Ybarra’s comments, and reiterated that an LMS is beneficial in conjunction with the other proposed
initiatives. She also shared that CFAC passed a recommendation that would allocate $50 million to address the first, middle, and last “miles” of providing connectivity; these funds would also apply to the districts. Board Member Keough inquired if the proposed $30 million CFAC funding request is sufficient.

Board Secretary Liebich agreed with Board Member Keough, and discussed the survey results that indicated the quantity of devices that will be necessary. Mr. Wilson discussed that the proposed $30 million CFAC funding request was arrived at based on the survey results as well as the assumption that the monies could be supplemented by other areas of funding. Board Member Keough stated that the CFAC committee would meet the following day, and emphasized that the Board needed to act quickly in order to request the funds.

Board President Critchfield shared her previous assumption that the 10% ESSER SEA reserve funds would be distributed to the districts, but now understands that the Board can determine what those funds are specifically and strategically used for. Board Secretary Liebich discussed that the main priority should be positioning LEAs for an effective reopening utilizing a blended learning model in the fall, and that the Board has the ability to make a strategic investment to assist with that. Supt. Ybarra discussed that it will be difficult to remain consistent and equitable if grants are utilized to distribute the remaining ESSER SEA funds. She added that she is concerned that districts will not be motivated to apply for grants considering the extra responsibilities that have been added as a result of the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Board Member Hill refocused the conversation by inquiring if the possible $30 million CFAC funding request. Mr. Wilson shared that he feels $30 million is an appropriate request for CFAC, and Board Member Hill called attention to the additional $4 million request for CFAC to be utilized for a Higher Education Digital Campus. TJ Bliss, Chief Academic Officer, gave a brief overview of the goals of the Digital Campus initiative and discussed that it was a recommendation from the Higher Education Taskforce in 2017. Board Member Hill discussed that there will be upcoming changes and restructuring at all levels of the public K-20 education system, and that it is important to take advantage of this opportunity to implement effective changes. Board Member Atchley echoed these comments, and shared that it is important to support postsecondary institutions in this manner so that students located anywhere in the state are able to take courses from any of Idaho’s public institutions of higher education.

Board Member Hill discussed that, based on Mr. Wilson’s recommendations as well as the overview of the Higher Education Digital Campus, the Board should request $34 million from CFAC. He then shifted the conversation back to the proposed utilization of the 10% ESSER SEA reserve, reminding the group that Supt. Ybarra is in favor or focusing on implementing an LMS. Board Secretary Liebich reiterated that the LMS will be a major component of the proposed blended learning model. He also shared that the benefit of a grant process for distribution of the 10% ESSER SEA reserve would prompt
districts to focus on the intended implementation methods for the components of the blended learning model.

Following Board Member Hill’s initial motion, Board Member Clark discussed that the element of social-emotional health support must be included in the motion. Board Member Hill opted to withdraw the motion in favor of revision to include verbiage regarding the inclusion of social-emotional health support.

Board Member Atchley requested unanimous consent to recognize that the component of a Learning Management System is essential to all items discussed as part of the proposed blended learning model. There were no objections.

There were no additional questions or comments from the Board.

Before the Board adjourned, Matt Freeman, Executive Director, voiced his appreciation for Board Member Atchley for her years of service. Board Member Atchley’s term expires at the end of June and she has chosen not to seek reappointment. She has served two full terms as a Board Member, including two non-consecutive terms as Board President. Board President Critchfield echoed Mr. Freeman’s comments.

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

**BOARD ACTION**

M/S (Atchley/Scoggin): I move to adjourn the meeting at 4:54pm (MST). The motion carried 8-0.