



**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
October 19, 2020**

**Office of the State Board of Education
Len B. Jordan Building
650 W State Street, 3rd Floor
Boise, Idaho**

A special meeting of the Idaho State Board of Education was held via Zoom teleconference on Monday, October 19, 2020. Board President Debbie Critchfield presided and called the meeting to order at 3:00pm (MST). A roll call of members was taken.

Present

Debbie Critchfield, President
Andy Scoggin, Vice President
Kurt Liebich, Secretary
Dr. Linda Clark

Emma Atchley
Shawn Keough
Dr. Dave Hill
Sherri Ybarra, State Superintendent

Monday, October 19, 2020, 3:00 p.m. (MST)

PLANNING, POLICY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

1. ClassWallet Contract – Action Item

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Clark/Atchley): I move to authorize the Executive Director to execute the contract in substantial conformance to the form provided in Attachment 1. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 8-0.

Board Member Clark introduced the item and provided background information. The Office of the Governor submitted a request to the Coronavirus Financial Advisory Committee (CFAC) for \$50M in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds to be utilized for the *Strong Families, Strong Students* initiative. The *Strong Families, Strong Students* initiative will, “cover critical educational expenses due to school building closures caused by COVID-19 and provide economic support to parents so they do not have to exit the workforce to ensure their children receive a quality education experience.” CFAC recommended approval of the request and

Governor Little approved the recommendation on September 15, 2020, and directed the Board office to administer the program.

Board Vice President Scoggin inquired about the process for selecting “ClassWallet” as the vendor for the program. Tracie Bent, Chief Planning and Policy Officer, discussed that the Board office went through a grant application process earlier this year with Bluum, which involved researching an identifying a possible vendor to administer the grant. Ms. Bent outlined that Board staff sought a company that could provide a virtual marketplace while simultaneously managing the application and approval process; the only vendor that could provide that service without designing a custom program was “ClassWallet”. Jenifer Marcus, Deputy Attorney General, added that the Board office was granted a purchasing exemption, which is attached as an exhibit to the contract that is provided within the meeting agenda materials.

Board Secretary Liebich inquired about the reimbursement process and asked how “ClassWallet” will determine if submitted expenses are reimbursable. Ms. Bent discussed that the Board office will be responsible for verifying reimbursement eligibility. She detailed that families will attest that submitted expenses are eligible for reimbursement, and the Board office will audit submissions.

Board Member Clark asked for examples of documentation that could be submitted to determine program eligibility. Ms. Bent stated that applicants may provide, among other forms of documentation, a printout of student information from their school’s learning management system, a report card from the previous term (between March 1- December 30, 2020), or an acceptance letter from a private school. She added that “ClassWallet” will provide customer service to assist families with determining eligibility as well as the application process.

Board President Critchfield stated that, upon approval of the motion, the Board office will begin the process of communicating program information broadly across the state.

There were no additional questions or comments from the Board.

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

BOARD ACTION

M/S (Keough/Liebich): I move to adjourn the meeting at 3:13pm (MST). The motion carried 8-0.

The State Board of Education tentatively plans to convene weekly for a virtual Special Board Meeting during the COVID-19 pandemic to receive updates on the status of public education in Idaho and to take action as necessary.