

**BOARDWORK**  
**JUNE 12-13, 2024**

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1. Agenda Approval

Changes or additions to the agenda.

**BOARD ACTION**

I move to approve the agenda as posted.

2. Minutes Approval

**BOARD ACTION**

I move to approve the minutes for the April 17-18, 2024, Regular Board meeting and the May 2, 2024, and May 31, 2024, Special Board meetings.

3. Rolling Calendar

**BOARD ACTION**

I move to set June 16, 2025, as the date and Idaho State University as the location for the Executive Officers performance evaluations.

**AND**

I move to set June 17-18, 2025, as the date and Idaho State University as the location for the June 2025 regularly scheduled Board Meeting.

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**DRAFT Minutes April 17-18, 2024**



**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
April 17-18, 2024  
University of Idaho  
Pitman Center, 2nd Floor  
709 Deakin Avenue  
Moscow, ID 83843**

A regular meeting of the Idaho State Board of Education was held at the University of Idaho on April 17 – 18, 2024. Board President Dr. Linda Clark presided and called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. (PT).

**Present**

Dr. Linda Clark, Board President	Shawn Keough
William G. Gilbert, Vice-President	Cally Roach
Superintendent Critchfield, Secretary	Cindy Siddoway
Kurt Liebich	

**Absent**

Dr. David Hill

**Wednesday, April 17, 2024 – 9:00 a.m. (PT)**

**BOARDWORK**

1. Agenda Review and Approval – Action Item

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to approve the amended agenda with the removal of PPGA item seven as posted.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

2. Minutes Review and Approval – Action Item

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Gilbert / Keough) I move to approve the minutes for the February 27-28, 2024, Regular Board meeting.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

3. Rolling Calendar – Action Item

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**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Gilbert / Critchfield) I move to set April 16-17, 2025, as the date and the University of Idaho as the location for the April 2025 regularly scheduled Board Meeting.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

**CONSENT**

**BAHR**

1. FY 2025 Appropriations – Action Item

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to approve the allocation of the FY 2025 appropriation for Boise State University, Idaho State University, University of Idaho, Lewis-Clark State College, and system-wide needs, as presented on Tab 1a, Attachment 1.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

2. FY 2025 Opportunity Scholarship – Educational Costs – Action Item

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to approve the FY 2025 educational cost for the Idaho Opportunity Scholarship award be set not to exceed the amounts set forth in Attachment 1.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

**AND**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to approve the Opportunity Scholarship maximum award amount for FY 2025 to be set at \$3,500.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

**AND**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to approve the FY 2025 student contribution be set at \$3,000 and to accept student-initiated scholarships and non-institutional and non-federal aid as part of the student contribution.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

3. Boise State University – Collegiate Licensing Company – Agreement Extension – Action Item

**BOARD ACTION**

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**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to approve the request by Boise State University to enter into a 10-year addendum to the agency agreement with the Collegiate Licensing Company in accordance with the terms outlined herein.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

4. Boise State University – Online Undergraduate Program Fee Request– AI for All – Action Item

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to approve the request by Boise State University to charge an online program fee of \$375 per credit for the undergraduate certificate in AI for All.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

5. University of Idaho – Renewal of Existing Lease – CSI/UI College of Agriculture & Life Science Research & Extension Programs in Twin Falls – Action Item

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to approve the request by the University of Idaho to enter into a lease with the College of Southern Idaho in substantial conformance to the form submitted to the Board in Attachment 1 and to authorize the University’s Associate Vice President for Budget and Planning to execute the lease and any related transactional documents.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

6. University of Idaho – Renewal of Existing Lease – CSI/UI Admissions Office in Twin Falls – Action Item

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to approve the request by the University of Idaho to enter into a lease with the College of Southern Idaho in substantial conformance to the form submitted to the Board in Attachment 1 and to authorize the University’s Associate Vice President for Budget and Planning to execute the lease and any related transactional documents.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

7. University of Idaho – Renewal of Existing Lease – UI College of Agriculture & Life Science Agribusiness Incubator in Caldwell – Action Item

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to approve the request by the University of Idaho for authority to enter into a lease with Nature’s Indulgence, Inc. in substantial conformance to the form submitted to the Board in Attachment 1 and to authorize the University’s Associate Vice President for Budget and Planning to execute the**

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**lease and any related transactional documents.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

8. University of Idaho - Amendment to Master Agreement between University of Idaho and Sitecore USA, Inc. – Action Item

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Gilbert/ Roach) I move to approve the request by the University of Idaho to sign a five-year agreement with Sitecore for the subscription to and implementation of a platform of products for web content management and digital marketing in substantial conformance to the materials presented to the Board.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

9. Lewis-Clark State College - Foundation Operating Agreement – Action Item

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to approve the request by Lewis-Clark State College to enter into the proposed Operating Agreement with the Lewis-Clark State College Foundation.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

**IDE**

10. Emergency Provisional Certificate Recommendations – Action Item

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to approve the request by #341 Lapwai School District for a waiver of the 103% transportation funding cap, at a new cap percentage rate for the fiscal year 2023 of 147.44%, for a total of \$5,876 in additional funds from the public-school appropriation.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

**AND**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) 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 2023 of 149.43%, for a total of \$11,173 in additional funds from the public-school appropriation.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

**AND**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to approve the request by #171 Orofino School District for a waiver of the 103% transportation funding cap, at a new cap percentage rate for the fiscal year 2023 of 130.59%, for a total of \$33,531 in**

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**additional funds from the public-school appropriation.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

**AND**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to approve the request by #281 Moscow School District for a waiver of the 103% transportation funding cap, at a new cap percentage rate for the fiscal year 2023 of 128%, for a total of \$77,595 in additional funds from the public-school appropriation.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

11. Request for Approval to Transport Students Less than One and One-Half Miles for SY2023-2024 - Action Item

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to approve the requests by eighty-eight (88) school districts and twenty-six (26) charter schools for approval to transport students less than one and one-half miles as submitted in Attachment 1.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

12. Student Transportation 103% Cap Waiver – Action Item

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to approve the request by #341 Lapwai School District for a waiver of the 103% transportation funding cap, at a new cap percentage rate for the fiscal year 2023 of 147.44%, for a total of \$5,876 in additional funds from the public-school appropriation.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

**AND**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) 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 2023 of 149.43%, for a total of \$11,173 in additional funds from the public-school appropriation.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

**AND**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to approve the request by #171 Orofino School District for a waiver of the 103% transportation funding cap, at a new cap percentage rate for the fiscal year 2023 of 130.59%, for a total of \$33,531 in**

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**additional funds from the public-school appropriation.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

**AND**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to approve the request by #281 Moscow School District for a waiver of the 103% transportation funding cap, at a new cap percentage rate for the fiscal year 2023 of 128%, for a total of \$77,595 in additional funds from the public-school appropriation.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

13. Consideration of Appointments to the Professional Standards Commission –  
Action Item

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to appoint Melissa Green of Brigham Young University-Idaho, representing private higher education/teacher education, to the Professional Standards Commission for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2024.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

**AND**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to reappoint Angela Gillman of Idaho Falls School District, representing certificated classroom teachers, to the Professional Standards Commission for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2027.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

**AND**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to reappoint Kristi Enger, representing the Idaho Division of Career Technical Education to the Professional Standards Commission, for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2027.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

**AND**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to reappoint Karen Pyron, representing the Idaho School Boards Association, to the Professional Standards Commission for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2027.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

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**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to approve the consent agenda.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

**UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO BOARD OF REGENTS**  
**UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO COMMUNITY FORUM**

1. University of Idaho Students address the Board

The following students addressed the Board. They were Matt Angelo, Tim Johnson, Saloni Khetan, Sophia Mangini, Maddie Mooney, EmmaRae Parsons, and James Stone.

Mr. Gilbert asked the students for their perspectives on the overall environment on campus. They have experienced a tough couple of years on campus with recent events and it seemed to him that things have rebounded well and perhaps even flourished a little and he wondered what they had to share. The students agreed with that assessment that not only had things returned to a better place, saying with the events of the past few years it really brought the students closer together which was facilitated by campus leadership. Leadership were very vocal in telling students they were there for them and that mental health counseling was available for those who needed it. Other students shared that the community support outside of the campus has been very strong which also helped them weather the tumult of the last couple of years.

Mrs. Roach asked the students why they chose U of I, how much college debt might they be facing upon graduation, and did they feel that cost was worth it. The students shared that they had family who attended the UI and it seemed like a good fit for them as well. Many were offered scholarships that made coming here feasible. Another student mentioned that with all of the undergraduate research opportunities that were available it really made it hard to pass up enrolling at UI.

The students were asked how many dual credit courses did they take while in high school. The students answers ranged from 15 to 60 dual credits.

Superintendent Critchfield asked the students if they thought there was a magical age when students began to think about their futures and perhaps what courses did they need to succeed. The students shared that many of them began thinking about their futures as freshmen and sophomores but they didn't really finalize what career path they wanted to head into until their senior year because that is when the reality set in that they needed to pick a path forward. The students agreed that having career exploration courses for students in high school was really important.

Mr. Gilbert asked the students how many of them when they graduated would be staying in Idaho since it's the Board interest to help raise leaders that want to stay in Idaho and help the state grow. One student affirmed that after his military service was



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over, and because all of his family lives in Idaho, he would be returning to live and work here. Other answers ranged from students already having job offers and moving to eastern Idaho and wanting to be closer to the Idaho National Lab.

Mrs. Siddoway asked the students if they felt prepared to enter college both in subject matter and study skills and is enough being done in the lower grades to help students be better prepared for college. The students said they felt prepared and had a good foundation from their schools on what would be expected of them in college. As a follow up question the students were asked how confident they felt about their math abilities. All of the students said they felt completely comfortable with their math abilities and they were prepared well in high school.

Board President Dr. Clark asked the students if there was anything the Board didn't ask that they wanted to share. One student shared that continuing to fund the experimental learning programs should be a top priority. These programs allow students to have real world opportunities instead of just learning concepts in a classroom. Another student shared that the guest speakers who have come to the campus have stressed the opportunities that are available to the students in federal and state agencies, state and even in the private sector.

There were no further comments or questions from the Board.

At this time the Board took a 10-minute recess returning at 9:38 a.m. (PT).

2. University of Idaho Employees address the Board

The following UI employees addressed the Board. Mya Groza, Robert Heinse, Hanna Long, Spencer Martin, Kristopher Waynant, Brian Fowler and Blaine Eckles.

Mr. Gilbert asked what impact have they noticed in the students especially after the devastating circumstances over the last few years. What the students have been dealing with goes beyond academic goals but delves into their soft skills, so how do you see them coping. The teachers agreed that the murders which took place did cause a disruption in the students learning and led to student disengagement but the students have rallied and there is a willingness to learn and to become engaged once again. And more importantly the students seem to want to band together and have more interaction with fellow students and faculty. The students seem more open and more willing to share their thoughts and feelings and even to ask for help. And not to forget, the faculty had to deal with their sense of loss and grief as well, but they too have rallied.

Mr. Liebich asked for their perspective on the level of preparedness they found with the freshmen students around their general study skills and even their soft skills. The teachers shared that incoming students do seem to still be having a hard time shifting from high school to college as the classroom time commitment is much greater in college. They would also like to see students have a better grasp of Excel and the

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Microsoft Office experience mostly because industry will expect them to have those skills.

The teachers also shared a different slant on the students who enter college with a lot of dual credits and even though they can enter as a junior they simply are not ready to be done with the college experience in two years. They are not socially ready as adults nor as mature as the business world would prefer.

Mr. Liebich asked for their perspective on artificial intelligence and how that is going to change the way they teach, and how they prepare their students. The teachers said the students are going to need this knowledge in the corporate world however it really is disrupting how they teach students now. All short answer essay questions on quizzes taught online have been eliminated. However, there is no consistency in how AI is dealt with across the campus. The key would be in helping the students learn how to use AI as a tool and not a crutch because we're talking about critical development of their thinking processes and that's the biggest challenge faculty are facing. Giving faculty the tools to utilize AI as a teaching tool as opposed to a substitute for knowledge creation is key.

It was shared that President Green has an ongoing task force dealing with the artificial intelligence issue and they are having conversations on next steps and how to move forward as a college body. Mr. Freeman reminded the Board that Dr. Heidi Estrem is leading the AI Consortium which is getting input from all of the institutions, and it is perhaps important for this topic to be discussed at every Board meeting moving forward. Superintendent Critchfield asked that this be turned into a work session for the Board at a future meeting and to have each institution represented to tell the Board how they plan to monitor AI on their campuses.

Mr. Gilbert asked where is the state falling short in regard to the students. It was shared that having more research opportunities would greatly benefit the students. UI is discussing offering course-based research where the students can actually break down that barrier through a course-based activity and they can actually get into a lab or a creative activity. This would help get first year students more engaged.

The teachers shared that as far as gaps in education go there are no PhD offerings in Business across all of Idaho. They repeatedly get requests for such programs from other state employees and veterans. There was also a renewed request for mental health services for students as the rate of student suicides is very high.

Mr. Liebich asked for a sense of what the faculty morale is, after all the faculty had to weather the pandemic and the aftermath of the campus murders. The teachers shared that seeing President Green and Provost Lawrence invest so much into taking care of the faculty and students throughout all of the turmoil experienced over the last few years was reassuring and uplifting.

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Mrs. Roach asked why they chose to come and work at the UI, and why do they stay. One teacher imparted that UI has spousal accommodations, but they stay here because they love Idaho. Further the campus culture and environment lends itself to collaboration between researchers and other academics.

There were no further comments or questions from the Board.

At this time the Board took a 10-minute break returning at 10:33 a.m. (PT).

**PLANNING, POLICY, AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS**

1. University of Idaho Annual Report – Information Item

C. Scott Green, President, University of Idaho, gave the annual report to the Board sharing the following.

- Over the past three years UI has seen an increase in first generation students enrolling.
- One of the programs benefiting these students is the federal grant program CAMP (College Assistance Migrant Program), which provides academic and financial assistance to qualifying students with a goal of boosting graduation rates. Students in CAMP graduate at a higher rate. In 2022 the freshman retention rate was 15 percent higher than the university as a whole.
- CAMP also provides a community for students with similar backgrounds and a supportive environment for those who may not otherwise have the opportunity to attend college.
- For the fourth year in a row UI was named the number one best value of any public university in the west, by US News and World Report. This ranking recognizes the high quality of their programs in comparison to the net cost of attendance.
- Through UI's capital campaign they have raised \$131 million for scholarships for UI students to help ease the financial burden. These generous donations allows UI to offer students \$6400 scholarship funding per year to help pay for their education.
- Vandal Finish is a new initiative that helps former students complete their degrees or qualify for the newest associate degrees. Thirteen hundred former students were contacted to let them know about options to obtain an associate degree. Over 220 vandals responded and will be earning their associate degree from the college of letters arts and social sciences this spring.
- Engagement leads to graduation rate increases.
  - When a foundational college course moves from traditional lecture to active learning there is a 12 percent increase in graduation rate.
  - When students participate in undergraduate research there is a 4-10% increase in graduation rates.

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- When a student participates in undergraduate research in STEM there is a 13% increase in graduation rates.
- Studies show that students retain more when they are engaged in active learning.
- Co-Curricular Engagement
  - UI sends hundreds of students to foreign countries to gain real world experiences. Studies have shown that students who are engaged in study abroad exhibit higher retention and graduation rates and they tend to graduate in a shorter period.
  - UI has a new grant program to provide free passports for all UI students. There are also scholarships and financial aid for study abroad. Last year 86% of students used financial aid to help support their study abroad trip.
  - Experimental Learning is happening through co-ops, internships, and community engaged learning.
- UI is proposing three student success initiatives.
  - Expand and Enhance Common Experiences
  - Increase Use of Evidence-Based Teaching Practices
  - Provide Earlier Applied Learning Experiences
- UI is on track to reach R1 Research Designation which will allow UI to better compete for larger and more important grants that can play a key role in development of patents, startups, and commercial applications in the United States.
- CAFÉ (Center for Agriculture, Food and the Environment) will boost Idaho's dairy industry through research that helps farmers reach their goals in areas like reducing animal waste systems and infield applications.

Mr. Liebich expressed his disappointment that the University of Phoenix deal, which the Board supported, did not move forward due to a lack of support from the Idaho Legislature. He asked President Green where we are today and if there is a path forward. President Green said the sellers are aware that UI will most likely not be able to make the May 31, 2024 deadline to secure the deal. However, discussions with the seller are ongoing as well as discussions with the Governor's office and key legislators who have expressed that they see the value in such a purchase. There are still discussions which need to take place and UI's hope is to bring this topic to the Board in the near future.

Mrs. Roach asked what areas of expertise did President Green want to see UI move forward, and if Policy III.Z. were not a factor what would be the change. President Green responded that UI's statewide mission tends to be in the areas of agriculture, natural resources, law, and architecture. The problem that they've run into, particularly in the Magic Valley, is they would like to offer and expand agricultural offerings so having the restrictions on these service areas relaxed would be helpful. The concerns over the institutions competing with each other often works against collaboration.

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Perhaps it's time to relook at collaboration and if people aren't producing in a given region the other institutions should have the opportunity to fill that void.

Mr. Gilbert asked about the strategic initiatives related to being funded through the P3 initiative. President Green said UI receives earnings off the initiative which they then deploy into their strategic areas such as getting R1 research status, improvement in student success and more.

Mr. Gilbert asked as UI continues to see growth he wondered about budget sustainability and how realistically can they navigate that. President Green said he is well aware of the instructional constraints, but they also are looking at the housing constraints since they worry about an enrollment cliff, and no one knows what the full impact of that will be.

Mr. Gilbert followed up by asking about program prioritization and if that was a way to trim budgets. President Green said student headcount is still below where it was in 2019. His perspective on program prioritization is that it tears at the fabric of an institution and often doesn't deliver any real cost savings as the students end up having to go elsewhere to get the courses they need.

Mr. Liebich asked what the enrollment trend looked like. Dean Kahler, Dean of Strategic Enrollment, University of Idaho, said nationally there is a decline in FAFSA filers by around 40% which is a 37% decline from last year. Overall admissions are up only slightly. Growth from within the state is not strong, but non-resident applications are on the rise.

Mrs. Roach asked for clarity around the R1 designation President Green mentioned in his annual report. He responded that R1 institutions get the vast majority of federal funding for research. This designation helps UI in becoming a leader in research opportunities which is a huge draw for recruiting new students, which in turn excites faculty who want to be a part of these research opportunities.

There were no further comments or questions from the Board.

## **IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

### **1. Superintendent's Update – Information Only**

Greg Wilson, Chief of Staff, and Ryan Cantrell, Assistant Superintendent, Idaho State Department of Education gave the Superintendent's update. They shared the following with the Board.

### **SDE 2024 Legislative and Budget Update**

- During the Legislative Road Show, SDE staff talked with the districts about the supplemental to the FY 2024 budget for K-12 schools; the FY 2025 department

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budget; and for the K-12 system the implementation of House Bill 521 (the facilities bill).

- During these discussions they highlighted 10-18 distinct pieces of legislation that will have an impact on schools.
- SDE estimated the fiscal impact to the school districts going from enrollment-based funding to seat time funding would be in the range of \$145-\$161 million. This necessitated the need for a supplemental budget request to the Legislature. On March 22, 2024, the Legislature did act by providing a supplemental budget line item for \$145 million dollars.
- Looking toward the future, Superintendent Critchfield sees a request to the legislature to put money on the table as the districts continue to shift from enrollment-based funding to seat time funding.
- HB 521 creates a school modernization fund with a dedicated stream of sales tax of \$125 million a year. This dedicated stream of revenue allows the state to bond for over a billion dollars to provide school districts the choice to either receive an annualized portion for their facilities or a lump sum. Allowable expenses include facilities maintenance repairs, construction, renovation, replacing a building and site acquisition. To receive the funding districts must submit a 10-year facilities plan.
- Beginning next week, SDE will begin holding webinars to talk with school district leaders concerning the writing of their 10-year facilities plan. Included in the meetings will be experts in building maintenance, construction, and budgeting.
- By June, school districts will be provided with a template for a 10-year facilities plan and a process for helping the districts evaluate their facilities.
- Partial funding will begin to be disbursed by August for those districts with approved 10-year plans.
- SDE sought money to help with many of the Superintendent's initiatives. All were approved (Statewide Behavioral Health and suicide prevention tool, new auditor position, a regional director for regions 1 and 2 for Northern Idaho; 1 part-time position to support Charter School recodification).

Mr. Gilbert asked what were the reactions of the districts in regard to HB 521. Mr. Wilson said the feedback was very positive. Giving the districts concrete ways to use the money efficiently and helping them prioritize their needs will go a long way in using the money so that it can do the most good. This was a critical step that SDE took since the needs in the districts will outpace the billion dollars.

Mr. Liebich asked how did SDE plan to fix the school funding formula long term. Superintendent Critchfield shared that some of her legislation to fix the school funding formula did not make it through this legislative session, but she intended to bring those pieces of legislation back again next year.

**Assessment and Accountability Update**

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**Idaho Reading Indicator (IRI)** – SDE is working on an RFI and an RFP. There are currently two groups working on the RFP for the IRI and that RFP will be ready to go out in the middle of June. By the end of July, SDE expects to be able to award the contract to the chosen vendor.

**K-12 Report Card** - is going through a very similar process. By the middle of June, the RFP proposals will be due to the State Department of Education and by the middle of August, they intend to release a letter of intent to award that contract. The current platform being used will no longer be available thus the need to find a new vendor.

**ISAT** – as they did with the IRI, SDE will put out a survey to students and parents to ask them what is important for our students to know, and where should their subject mastery be. Work on the ISAT will begin next year.

## **2. Board Discussion, Minimum Student Instructional Day Requirements**

HB 521 was introduced on February 8, 2024, and amends, repeals, and adds to existing law to revise provisions regarding tax rates, school facilities funding, and school district bond and tax levy elections.

There are 179 total Local Education Agencies (LEA) in Idaho (i.e., school district or public charter school).

- 94 LEAs are at a 4-day school week.
- 85 LEAs are at a 5-Day school week.

The LEAs participating in a 4-day school week are overwhelmingly rural and/or under 1,500 total student population (IIIA and smaller in size, based on IHSAA classifications). Idaho Code 33-512 provides a statutory requirement for student hours while IDAPA 08.02.01 defines a school day or a “day in session” as 4 hours or more.

The average 4-day district’s students attend 1030 hours, while the average 5-day district’s students attend 1049.

- In 1963, the state mandated that schools could have no less than 9 months of school.
- In 1991, the state implemented hours to allow districts to meet required minimums, however they chose.

High performing districts are both 4 and 5-day. Many 4-day districts offer a hybrid day, with students coming on some Fridays and teachers always working on Fridays.

Local school districts and public charter schools have set, or are in the process of setting, their academic calendars for the 2024/2025 school year in line with the provisions of section 33-512, Idaho Code.

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This new requirement of the Board on setting minimum instructional days will be phased in and not have an immediate impact on these academic calendars.

The Board will consider taking action on establishing minimum instructional days at the June 2024 regular board meeting.

Mr. Cantrell asked the Board members what data would they like to see at the next Board meeting concerning this topic. Mr. Gilbert said seeing data surrounding the LEAs and the student test scores they have seen in the last few years surrounding the shift from 5 to 4-day school weeks would be helpful. Mr. Liebich said he would be interested in data about the top 5 performing states from a student achievement standpoint. Is there any commonality in terms of test scores as it relates to instructional hours verses required days and student mastery of subject. Are students in 4 day school weeks testing at a higher rate than students in a 5 day school week for example.

There were no further comments or questions from the Board.

At this time the Board took a break returning at 1:00 p.m. (PT).

**BUSINESS AFFAIRS AND HUMAN RESOURCES**

1. FY 2023 Financial Statement Audits – Action Item

Patrick Coulson, Chief Financial Officer, Idaho State Board of Education, shared that on March 29th, 2024, Clifton Larson Allen (CLA) the independent certified public accounting firm contracted by the board shared their single audit findings with the Audit and Risk Compliance Committee and board staff for Boise State University, Idaho State University, University of Idaho, and Lewis Clark State College.

There were no material weaknesses or significant deficiencies for any of the four institutions on their financial statements. However, there were material weaknesses and significant deficiencies found in the federal awards, mostly pertaining to student financial aid. Boise State University, Idaho State University, University of Idaho, and Lewis-Clark State College all received unmodified opinions from CLA that their respective financial statements present a true and fair reflection on their financial statements and compliance for major federal programs.

It should be noted that these findings are very common in higher education specifically when it comes to federal research and student grant funding. Corrective measures have already been implemented to prevent recurrence at the institutions.

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Gilbert / Liebich) I move to accept from the Audit Committee the FY2023 financial audit reports for Boise State University, Idaho State University,**



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**University of Idaho, and Lewis-Clark State College, as submitted by CliftonLarsonAllen LLP in Attachment 1.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

There were no comments or questions from the Board.

2. University of Idaho – Utility Public/Private Partnership – Amended and Restated Concession Agreement – Action Item

Brian Foisy, Vice President of Finance, University of Idaho, started by saying that in November of 2020 the Board approved UI's request to execute a 50-year concession agreement for the operation and maintenance of the eight utility systems currently supported by the university for domestic water, reclaimed water, sanitary sewer, storm sewer, steam chilled water, electricity, and compressed air.

After the approval of the Board of Regents, the University of Idaho (UI) executed a Long-Term Lease and Concession Agreement under which UI received an up-front payment of \$225,000,000 in exchange for UI leasing its Utility System assets, including operation and the exclusive right to perform capital improvements to infrastructure to Sacyr Plenary Utility Partners Idaho LLC (SPUPI) beginning on December 30, 2020.

After three years of operations under the Concession Agreement, the University and the Concessionaire have identified technical specifications, inefficiencies, market conditions, and other operational realities that warrant amendment to ensure the longevity of the agreement and mutually intended benefits to both parties.

Lee Espey, Division Operations Officer for Finance and Administration, University of Idaho continued the discussion.

The proposed amendments fall into five primary categories:

- **Insurance** – Article 13 - the University and SPUPI have agreed to amend the concession agreement to create a mechanism for paying for repairs and replacements if there is a casualty to uninsured assets in the Utility System.
- **Technical Operation Performance Standards** – Schedule 2 - describes the technical operational standards as well as performance standards. These amendments are intended to describe the utility system including clarification of the lines of demarcation where our facilities teamwork ends and the concessioner work begins including things like improving the accuracy of some of the requirements, like what is the steam pressure at the Steam Plant supposed to be now that we have three micro turbines that produce electricity for the campus.
- **Key Performance Indicators** – Schedule 15 - describes the key performance

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indicators which describe the requirements for availability for the eight utilities. UI worked with a concessionaire to align interests to encourage maximum availability of services and quick repairs to minimize any unplanned outage without encouraging the concessionaire to unnecessarily overbuild the infrastructure for which UI would be responsible for the costs.

- **Utility Fee Calculations** – Article 7 and Schedule 5 - describe the utility fees which is based on two components: a fixed fee and a variable fee. The variable fee is made up of two primary components; capital Improvements or predictions of capital Improvement spending as well as any operation and maintenance cost not captured in the fixed fee. The concession agreement is forecasted on an annual basis and reconciled on an annual basis forcing UI to incur incremental financing costs before the reconciliation took place. UI negotiated a semiannual forecast and reconciliation which should reduce both of those costs significantly.

- **Capital Improvement Funding** – Article 4 - describes capital improvement funding. The concession agreement states that the concessionaire has the sole right to perform capital improvements on the utility system and finance those. However, our partners recognize that there could be circumstances where UI receives funding for deferred maintenance from the state that UI may want to invest in the utility system and the way that this is described in the concession agreement would not allow for that, so this amendment gives UI some flexibility to use other funding.

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Gilbert / Critchfield) I move to approve the First Amended and Restated Long-Term Lease and Concession Agreement by and between The Regents of the University of Idaho and Sacyr Plenary Utility Partners Idaho LLC, dated as of November 2, 2020, in substantial conformity with the terms and conditions presented to The Board of Regents on April 17, 2024, and to authorize the University of Idaho’s Vice-President for Finance and Administration to execute and deliver documents in connection therewith.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

Mr. Liebich asked what the tone of the negotiations with the concessionaire were on these amendments. Mr. Foisy said everyone came to the table in good faith and everyone worked together to come up with solutions that made the most sense.

There were no further comments or questions from the Board.

3. University of Idaho – Updated 6-Year Capital Project Plan – Action Item

Kim Salisbury, Associate Vice President for Budget and Planning, University of Idaho, stated that the University of Idaho is providing an updated Six-Year Capital Plan to reflect the addition of one project to the plan – the Huckabay Medical Education building

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expansion. The current building was repurposed in 2019 from the business technology incubator to a building that serves the needs of the WWAMI medical education program. There's no material financial impact. The medical education curriculum and program are growing. The facility requires expansion to add space for additional faculty offices, classrooms, and to support the project which is key to the success of the University's strategic plan.

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Gilbert / Siddoway) I move to approve the revision to the FY25–30 University of Idaho's six-year capital plan as submitted in Attachment 1.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

Mr. Gilbert asked Mr. Foisy to expand on the need for the expansion of the Huckabay Medical Education building. Mr. Foisy said when the building was designed it was designed with future expansion in mind. However, the program has grown past what that expansion was predicted to be, so UI is seeking more spaces, more classrooms, more faculty offices, to accommodate this expansion.

There were no further comments or questions from the Board.

4. University of Idaho – Design and Construction - Addition to the Huckabay WWAMI Medical Education Building – Action Item

Ms. Salsbury said this is a request to authorize the design phase of a project to expand the Huckabay Medical Education Building. The proposed addition is approximately 5,000 square ft and the total estimated project costs are \$3,496,900 including contingencies. The new spaces will increase the number of faculty offices, expand student study areas, small group learning rooms, add a new flex room and add alternate event venues while also creating an additional new courtyard for study and collaboration. The source of funds for this project effort is WWAMI program funds set aside for this project initiative. Today's request is for authorization to proceed with the design phase of the proposed expansion. UI is asking for authority to spend \$85,500 for this design phase of the project.

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to approve the University of Idaho request to proceed with the design phase for the proposed expansion of the Huckabay Medical Education Building, for a total cost of \$805,540 as described in the materials presented. Approval includes the authority for the Vice President for Finance and Administration to execute all necessary and requisite consulting and vendor contracts to implement the planning and design phase of this project.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

There were no comments or questions from the Board.

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**INSTRUCTION, RESEARCH AND STUDENT AFFAIRS**

1. Board Policy III.G. Postsecondary Program Review and Approval – First Reading  
– Action Item

Dr. TJ Bliss, Chief Academic Officer, Idaho State Board of Education, said over the past 2.5 years of implementing the significantly revised policy, Board staff and institutions have noted several minor-to-moderate changes that would further streamline the program review and approval process. The proposed amendments include these changes.

It was also recognized by staff at the Board Office and the Idaho Division of Career Technical Education (Division) that review and approval authority of CTE programs in Policy III.G. is misaligned with Idaho Code. Specifically, Chapter 22, Title 33, which establishes the State Board for Career Technical Education, defines career technical education, and establishes Idaho's career technical education system (secondary through postsecondary).

Further, Idaho Code § 33-2205 identifies the administrator of the State Board for Career Technical Education as the administrator for the Division and authorizes the administrator to carry into effect the rules of the Board and coordinate all efforts in career technical education.

Additionally, language within Chapter 22 expands the administrator's role in carrying out all federal and state provisions, including the rules adopted by the Board for its own governance (generally referred to as Board policies), related to career technical education. The current language in Board Policy III.G. authorizes the administrator, or the Board's executive director, to approve career technical education programs. This language does not align with the statutory framework for the administration of career technical programs as that authorization is vested in the administrator for the Division.

Finally, the current policy requires an external peer review for all doctoral programs before proposal submission to the board. Multiple institutions have indicated that some doctoral programs require specialized accreditation that includes a robust preliminary external peer review by the programmatic accreditor before any students may be enrolled. Proposed amendments would allow for the accreditor's external review to supplant the required external peer review under certain conditions.

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Roach / Siddoway) I move to approve the first reading of proposed amendments to Board Policy III.G, Postsecondary Program Review and Approval, as submitted in Attachment 1.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

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There were no comments or questions from the Board.

2. Board Policy III.Q. Admission Standards – First Reading – Action Item

Dr. Heidi Estrem, Associate Chief Academic Affairs Officer, Idaho State Board of Education, said this was a new first reading of this policy. This policy was reviewed at the last board meeting and, while there have been no changes to the policy, a working group comprised of members from across Idaho’s institutions completed their work around Directed Admissions.

The proposed changes update and streamline this policy in multiple ways. First, the additional Direct Admissions descriptions will result in students receiving more tailored admissions communications. Secondly, the high school course requirements are clarified through removing specific course limitations that are no longer appropriate. Third, changes to Career Technical Education (CTE) program admissions clarify CTE admission procedures and remove descriptions of advising processes that are better described elsewhere. Fourth, revisions to the provisional (proposed “alternative”) admissions process better reflect options for admitting and serving students, and in particular, high-achieving students from high schools without high school accreditation from a Board-recognized accreditor.

Sara Scudder, College and Career Access Officer, Idaho State Board of Education, said the current Direct Admissions program has been around since 2015. During the pandemic colleges were not able to access college entrance exams. Instead, they used a student’s GPA for Direct Admissions. Since that time, there have been discussions about using a combination of GPA and college entrance exams for college admissions. To facilitate this, a work group was formed using funds from a Lumina Grant to look at what options might be available to aid Direct Admissions and to better prepare students and families for their greatest success in post-secondary education.

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Roach / Keough) I move to approve the first reading of proposed amendments to Board Policy III.Q, Admission Standards as presented in Attachment 1.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

Mr. Liebich asked for clarification on the scoring for the ISAT math results. Alison Henken, K-12 Accountability and Projects Program Manager, Idaho State Board of Education, said a three on the ISAT indicates that a student is proficient, a four on the ISAT would show they are advanced and those are standard levels that are set relative to academic content standards because that’s the way the test was designed. Further,

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a correlation was found between the score a student received on the ISAT and how well they did in their post-secondary education.

Superintendent Critchfield asked why did the data suggest that a student coming out of high school with a GPA of 2.25 would do better at ISU than at BSU or UI. Ms. Scudder said historically we have run a Direct Admission program with just two letters and through this work group process LC State and ISU requested that we take a little bit deeper look. It was discovered that both LC State and ISU, in their general admission criteria, have a lower academic entrance than BSU or UI. So, they requested to have a letter that was more accurately representative of being a reach goal for students but one that would provide a broader wealth of information to those students.

Dr. Bliss pointed out that in this revision if a student doesn't meet the basic admission criteria they can still apply and be admitted to the college of their choice. However, the letter might flag the student for additional support that they might need to be successful. In this new model every student gets a letter, so every student is qualified to go somewhere.

Superintendent Critchfield asked what the timeline was to get the letters out to the students. Ms. Scudder said the letters would be going out at the end of September, so they arrive in student mailboxes prior to the opening of Apply Idaho.

Mr. Freeman asked for a recap of the conversations held with the schools with respect to the ISAT now having a higher utility. Ms. Henken said in the beginning there were a lot of misunderstandings concerning the grading with schools thinking that if a student did not get a 3 / 4 on the ISAT students would be penalized and not be able to apply to the school of their choice. Once that was cleared up the feedback from the districts was very positive. They see this change as helping to inspire students to do their very best on the test.

There were no further comments or questions from the Board.

3. Board Policy III.N. Statewide General Education – Second Reading – Action Item

Dr. Estrem said there have been no changes between first and second reading. However, there was one minor technical correction made removing reference to “Figure 1.” The figure itself was removed in a prior amendment.

The proposed amendments describe committee roles, term limits, and responsibilities. They also clarify the purpose of the rubrics that have been developed for each Way of Knowing or disciplinary area.

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**M/S (Roach / Siddoway) I move to approve the second reading of proposed amendments to Board Policy III.N., Statewide General Education, as submitted in Attachment 1.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

There were no comments or questions from the Board.

4. Boise State University – Online Master of Arts in Digital Communications Management – Action Item

Dr. Zeynep Hanson, Vice Provost for Academic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness, Boise State University, said BSU proposes to offer a Master of Arts in Digital Communications Management which will provide the opportunity to transform entry- and mid-level professionals into industry leaders. Students will be taught advanced skills in managing projects, crafting compelling content, streamlining production, and fostering effective teams. They will delve into the driving forces of digital communication, with the intent of mastering the latest mobile technologies, intricacies of social media and location-based services, and the power of data-driven insights. Students will leverage data for strategic content creation, targeted messaging, and impactful campaigns, while cultivating effective leadership strategies tailored for the digital landscape. This versatile degree opens doors to diverse careers in journalism, broadcasting, advertising, public relations, content strategy, app development, sales, and beyond.

The program will be offered at \$525 per credit hour, which is lower than average by BSU's competitors. The total cost of the program is \$15,750 (30 credits at \$525 per credit). The program is fully supported through revenue generated from enrollment in the program.

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Roach / Keough) I move to approve the request by Boise State University to create an online Master of Arts in Digital Communications Management, as presented in Attachment 1.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

**AND**

**M/S (Roach / Keough) I move to approve the request by Boise State University to charge an online program fee of \$525 per credit for the MA in Digital Communications Management program, in conformance with the program budget submitted to the Board in Attachment 1.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

Mr. Liebich asked if there was a cost difference between in-state students and out-of-state students. Dr. Hanson said the cost is the same for all students. Dr. Bliss

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mentioned that the online program fee replaces the traditional tuition structure which is bifurcated with out of state / in state residential, non-residential tuition so that the institutions have more flexibility in establishing a flat rate.

There were no further comments or questions from the Board.

5. Idaho State University – Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice – Action Item

Rex Force, Vice President Health Sciences, Idaho State University said ISU is proposing a new doctoral program to train nurse anesthetists. The Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice (DNAP) program within the Idaho State University (ISU) School of Nursing will focus on preparing nurse anesthesiologists to practice within the full scope of anesthesia services for Idaho's diverse patient population. Developed as a public-private partnership with West Idaho Anesthesia LLP, the DNAP program at ISU will prepare exemplary nurse leaders who integrate education, service, and scholarship through practice and research to enhance the quality of life for all Idahoans by expanding and enhancing anesthesia services within the state. The ISU program will meet all the requirements for students to take the National Certification Exam (NCE). Passing the NCE is required to become a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthesiologist (CRNA).

If approved, the first class would matriculate in the fall of 2025.

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Roach / Keough) I move to approve the request by Idaho State University to create a Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice, as presented in Attachment 1. A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.**

**AND**

**M/S (Roach / Keough) I move to approve the request by Idaho State University to charge a professional fee of \$7,957 per semester for three semesters per year for the Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice, in conformance with the program budget submitted to the Board in Attachment 1. A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.**

Mrs. Roach asked about the high cost of this program for students. Mr. Force said that while this is a very expensive program the salary levels for this program are also quite high and students should be able to pay back loans fairly quickly as the typical graduate can earn upwards of \$200,000 a year working full-time.

Superintendent Critchfield asked for clarification on the tuition costs. Mr. Force said this was a 9-semester course and each semester would cost roughly \$8,000. So, the \$8,000 times 9 equals \$72,000 for the entire course. But again, the students would be



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able to pay any loans back quickly based on the projected income they can expect working full-time.

Mr. Gilbert said in the proposal ISU will start with 14 initial enrollments. Is there sufficient room for growth if demand exists and they have 20-25 students who wish to enroll in this program. Mr. Force said they were being conservative with the numbers, but they hope to have 24 enrollments by year 4.

Mr. Liebich wondered what the likelihood of getting the students the clinical experience they would need will be. Mr. Force said West Idaho anesthesia has an extensive network of clinical placements which is why this public private partnership is the way to go. There are additional opportunities at both St Luke's / St Alphonsus and other smaller hospitals that will be able to meet that need. But first ISU has to demonstrate that need for accreditation and just as soon as they get board approval they'll be rolling out an extensive plan to identify clinical affiliations and get those locked in place.

There were no further comments or questions from the Board.

**PLANNING, POLICY, AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS**

2. Board Policy I.M. – Annual Planning and Reporting - Proposed Revisions – First Reading - Action Item

Jenn Thompson, Chief Policy, Planning and Governmental Affairs Officer, Idaho State Board of Education said this was a first reading of Policy I.M. Proposed revisions to Board Policy I.M. largely remove unnecessary repetition of statute and DFM guidance. The revisions propose to retain only the additional requirements for agencies and institutions under the governance of the Board. This includes the timeline for Board approval of strategic plans.

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Liebich / Siddoway) I move to approve the first reading of proposed revisions to Board Policy I.M. as presented in Attachment 1.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

There were no comments or questions from the Board.

3. Board Policy I.G. - Conflict of Interest, Proposed Repeal and Relocation to Board Bylaws; Board Policy II.Q. – Conflict of Interest and Ethical Conduct – All Employees, Proposed Revision; Board Bylaws, Proposed Revision – First Reading – Action Item

Ms. Thompson said Board Policies I.G. and II.Q. both address conflicts of interest. Proposed changes include relocating the text of I.G. to the Board's Bylaws to clarify its application to Board members. Policy II.Q. is located within the Board's human

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resources policies and procedures and is applicable to the employees of the institutions and agencies under the Board's governance. Additional changes to both policies are intended to make references consistent between the two policies.

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Liebich / Critchfield) I move to approve the first reading of the proposed repeal and relocation of Board Policy I.G., the proposed revisions to the Board Bylaws, and the proposed revisions to Board Policy II.Q.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

Mrs. Roach said with regard to the recent legislation that was passed with regard to section D, item number four, "*the executive director is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the board*" will that language be updated. Ms. Thompson said that would get addressed for the second reading since the legislation just passed.

Mrs. Roach added that for the passage that reads, "*the board's executive director shall serve on the executive committee*". It does not however say whether they're a voting member, non-voting member, or an administrative member. She suggested that language be added to say they are an administrative member of the executive committee.

Further, in section C, of the Executive Committee, it says it is the duty of the Executive Director to promptly communicate to all Board members who are not members of Board Exec any communication pertinent to them. What the language does not say is what does the word promptly mean. Is that 48 hours, a week, etc?

Board President Dr. Clark said in light of recent legislation perhaps a broader look at the bylaws and bringing all of the changes back for a second reading was necessary. Mr. Freeman said based on the discussion today the changes can be added to those in the second reading before it is brought back to the Board for review. Board President Dr. Clark then directed the Board members that if they had any other comments on the bylaws to please direct them to Ms. Thompson to have them incorporated into the language. This ensures the PPGA committee will get to review the language prior to it being brought back to the Board.

There were no further comments or questions from the Board.

4. Board Policy V.H. – Audits, Proposed Revision – First Reading – Action Item

Ms. Thompson said Board Policy V.H. provides foundational guidelines for the Internal Audit and Systemwide Risk Management roles which were established at the Office of the State Board of Education (OSBE) in 2022. The policy serves to clarify processes and procedures related to the Board's audit, risk, and compliance functions.

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Board Policy V.H. includes reporting requirements. The proposed revisions clarify that the specified reports are to be provided to the executive director.

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Liebich / Siddoway) I move to approve the first reading of proposed revisions to Board Policy V.H. as presented in Attachment 1.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

There were no comments or questions from the Board.

5. Board Policy V.W. – Litigation, Proposed Revision – First Reading – Action Item

Ms. Thompson said Board Policy V.W. provides foundational guidelines for the management of lawsuits, legal documents, and other official notices. Board Policy V.W. includes reporting requirements. The proposed revisions clarify that the specified reports are to be provided to the executive director. Revisions also provide for consistency in formatting.

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Liebich / Roach) I move to approve the first reading of proposed revisions to Board Policy V.W. as presented in Attachment 1.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

There were no comments or questions from the Board.

6. Board Policy VII.A – General Policies and Definitions (IDCTE); Board Policy VII.B – Program Delivery; and IV.D – Educator Preparation and Certification, Proposed Revisions Related to Program Standards Update – First Reading

Tracie Bent, Chief Administrative Officer, Career Technical Education said the current process requires the Board to approve the amendments to the standards concurrent with amendments to the policy itself to update the incorporation dates in the policy. The policy amendments require two readings before becoming finalized. Consistent with discussion with the Board at the April 2024 regular Board meeting, CTE is requesting for the applicable Board policies to be updated to delegate approval of the standards to the State Administrator subject to the review and approval process established in Board policy. Attachments 1 and 2 include the policy amendments while Attachment 3 provides an example of one of the career technical education pathway standards as an example of how the standards are structured.

Approval of the amendments will allow CTE to be more responsive to industry, allowing them to make updates to the pathway standards as new pathways and amendments to pathways standards are updated.

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**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Liebich / Siddoway) I move to approve the first reading of amendments to Board Policy VII.A and VII.B as provided in Attachments 1 and 2.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

**AND**

**M/S (Liebich / Siddoway) I move to approve the first reading of proposed amendments to Board Policy IV.D. as provided in Attachment 3.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

There were no comments or questions from the Board.

8. Perkins V Plan Proposed Amendments – Action Item

Ms. Bent said this is the first opportunity for the board to address amendments to the state's Perkins V plan. The last time the Board saw this plan was when it was originally adopted. The Board was provided with a summary of the changes as well as the actual document. Most of the changes were technical in nature, cleaning up of language so that it flowed better and was more consistent throughout the larger document.

Technical corrections and grammatical changes were made throughout the (new) four-year State plan as well as removal of duplicative or unnecessarily specific details that were not required to be included in the plan or no longer aligned with Board policy.

For a complete list of the changes please access <https://boardofed.idaho.gov/event/board-meeting-moscow/> PPGA, Tab 08.

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Liebich / Critchfield) I move to approve the FFY 2024 Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V) State Plan as provided in Attachment 2 and to authorize the State Administrator to make any non-substantive edits that are necessary as it moves through the federal approval process.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

Mr. Gilbert asked if this was the plan that's required by the federal government to receive Perkins money. Ms. Bent said yes, we receive approximately \$8.8 million for Perkins funding for CTE Pro Career Technical education programs. The state sends more money out for CTE programs in general funds so the Perkins is really a small portion of the funding that is provided for Career Technical Education programs but in order to access that money they must have a Perkins plan.

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Mr. Gilbert asked a follow-up question about the redline in the Board packet; was that a red line against the last report that was submitted to the federal government. Ms. Bent said that was correct. The changes that you see before you today are a clean up of the language and trying to make it easier for the institution and school districts to understand.

There were no further comments or questions from the Board.

9. Northwest Nazarene University (NNU) Request for New Early Literacy Teacher Certification Endorsement Program – Action Item

Ms. Thompson shared that this is a request from NNU for a new early literacy teacher certification program. Specifically, this is a request from NNU to add an additional endorsement to their educator certification program to accommodate an early literacy endorsement.

Katie Shoup, Educator Effectiveness Program Manager, Idaho State Board of Education, added that, per section 33-114 Idaho Code, supervision and control of the certification of professional education personnel is vested in the State Board. This new process was approved by the Board last October 2023 and NNU is using this new process to request an early literacy certificate endorsement program. The review team did include faculty from educator preparation programs, Idaho Department of Education, certification staff member, Idaho Department of Education and early English language arts and dyslexia staff members that reviewed the evidence in the application.

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Liebich / Siddoway) I move to approve the review team’s recommendation to approve Northwest Nazarene University’s proposed Early Literacy Certificate Endorsement Program.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

There were no comments or questions from the Board.

10. Legislative Session Update – Information Only

Ms. Thompson provided the Board with an update on the education related legislation being considered by the 2024 Idaho Legislature. Some of the highlights were:

**S1246** - Amends existing law to revise provisions regarding an optional retirement program (passed). Will give OSBE the ability to recruit on par with other state agencies.  
**HB422** - was the rewrite of the charter school law. This did two things that are specific for this board. First, it collapsed the rule governing charter school administration so that

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it is no longer underneath the State Board of Education but is a self-governing agency. This change has already gone into effect.

**S1317** - This legislation amends section 49-402 and 49-402D of Idaho Code to provide for the State Board of Education to be a permissible beneficiary of the Gadsden “Don’t Tread on Me” license plate. This legislation further amends section 33-1628 of Idaho Code to establish a firearm safety grant fund and program for the purposes of firearms safety education currently found in section 33-1628 of Idaho Code.

**S1358** - Amends existing law to provide that certain qualified expenses for the Empowering Parents Grant program will be reimbursed, to establish provisions for reimbursements, and to provide that unused funds may be forfeited by a participant.

Also new this year was the approval process for the rules. In the past, both the House and Senate had to reject a rule change. In order for a rule to move forward and be approved, both the House and the Senate have to put forth a concurrent resolution in exactly the same format. This explains why SCR 122 (IDAPA 08.04.01) was held in the House Chamber, but it will be brought back next year and will hopefully pass both chambers.

There were no further comments or questions from the Board.

At this time the Board took a 30-minute break returning at 3:00 p.m. (PT).

**WORK SESSION**

**INSTRUCTION, RESEARCH AND STUDENT AFFAIRS**

A. Strategic Discussion of Board Policy III.Z. Planning and Delivery of Postsecondary Programs and Courses – Information Item

Dr. Bliss started the work session by saying in February the board directed staff to work with the leaders of the eight institutions to clarify concerns regarding policy III.Z. and proposed potential solutions in conducting this collaborative work. Staff were directed to maintain access and affordability while attending to the incentives within the system that drive institutional behavior. Specifically the board directed staff to consider several potential policy goals including institutionalizing a managed competition approach, allowing for effective competition or implementation to be based upon mission areas with coordination responsibility, ensure timely response to emergent needs, address degrees at community colleges and Associate degrees at the four-year institutions, reward innovation, retain designated service regions and establish a high demand program advisory group. Members of the Council on Academic Affairs and Programs (CAAP) met for a daylong face-to-face conversation about policy III.Z. CAAP members include the chief academic officers from each institution as well as a representative from the Idaho Division of Career Technical Education, and the Idaho Department of Education. Several areas of broad consensus were agreed upon; 1. The policy can be improved including correcting several internal conflicts and simplifying the scope. 2. Need common data definitions and agreement on data sources for assessing program

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needs. 3. All eight institutions are in competition with non-public institutions both in state and out of state. 4. The four-year public postsecondary institutions are in competition with each other to some degree. 5. Everyone values collaboration. 6. Need definitions for several key terms like system collaboration and high demand programs. 7. Should develop a right of first refusal process that includes a timeline to allow institutions to establish programs outside their designated service regions, and 8. Need a consistent and transparent budget setting process to assist in strategic program planning and development which may require additional resources.

Most institutions favored revising the current policy. Key areas of focus for revision include the scope of some of the service region responsibilities, assessment of statewide responsibilities, and implementation of the high demand program section of the policy.

The working group requested that board staff present some options within these key areas for the whole Board to consider which will provide staff with direction for an initial revision of policy.

1. Make minor adjustments to current regional responsibilities based on specific institutional input and needs and / or take an individualized approach.
2. Recognize that each region has different needs, opportunities, populations.
3. Establish a right of first refusal process within a reasonable timeline for designated institutions to respond to programmatic needs, identified by non-designated institutions or to allow non-designated institutions to meet the needs themselves.

For further Board consideration.

1. Make some minor adjustments to the regional responsibilities.
2. Implement the right of first refusal process.

Mrs. Keough agreed that the right of first refusal option needed to be implemented with a timeline established.

Todd Schwartz, Provost, College of Southern Idaho, said his region is unique as it does not have a four-year institution in it to go to. He did impart that LC State has stepped up in terms of serving Region 4. It cannot be stressed enough that policy III.Z. is written the same for all regions of Idaho. Region one has the Community College of North Idaho and University of Idaho, and region two has University of Idaho and LC State so regions one and two are very different from region four in terms of the higher education footprint.

Superintendent Critchfield asked for the year when the service regions were initially drawn in Idaho. Her concern is that perhaps its time to be a little more flexible with III.Z. because if Idaho isn't, institutions from outside Idaho will offer these courses to Idaho students. Dr. Bliss said the service regions were established in the 1990's around the same time as the K-12 service regions were established. However, the Board is not

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bound by these service regions for higher education. Mr. Freeman said the service regions are tied to the Community College regions in Idaho code which were set in either 1963 or 1965.

Superintendent Critchfield said this discussion has been ongoing for so long now that at some point the Board needs to act. Just like the legislature, which redistricts every 10 years, things change and shift and this is no different. So, to say that as recently as the 1990's or as early as the 1960's was the last time this policy was changed doesn't consider the fact that in some ways every institution has become a statewide institution because of online class offerings. So yes, the Presidents of every Idaho institution should be a part of the process, but the problems have been identified, what is needed now is a solution.

Mr. Gilbert said if you are president of an Idaho institution you want to compete in the Treasure Valley against BSU and CWI because half the population of Idaho is in this region and it's growing at twice the rate as other areas of Idaho. A case can be made that allowing health care courses to be taught across the state benefits Idaho as a whole because the need for health care workers is outpacing the courses currently being offered. So, the regions as they currently stand no longer make sense; what does is identifying the expertise of every institution and defining statewide responsibility which should help in determining who gets to offer these courses.

Adam Bradford, Provost, ISU, said for the Board's consideration to keep in mind that to meet statewide responsibilities those programs are sometimes very costly. There's a number of programs that ISU does not realize much revenue on and then there are others that they do and to a degree their ability to realize the revenue on some of those programs allows them the ability to actually put forward others. When the Board makes decisions related to statewide responsibilities there's a larger context to those decisions that will absolutely impact ability to bring certain services into certain regions and actually provide certain kinds of education because they simply won't be able to afford to if their business model is impacted.

Superintendent Critchfield recapped the discussion. She sees four items for Board consideration: 1. Establish what the Board's goals and vision are around the delivery so that our presidents have a clear understanding of what we expect of them that is very clearly laid out. 2. Review regions to see what doesn't make sense and what can be addressed and how does that factor into the overall solution. 3. Appreciating the fact that our presidents have the first priority of working together, establish some sort of resolution process when the collaboration can't or won't work. As trustees, if the process has gotten to the point where it can no longer go forward, this rises to the attention of the board and we're going to be the arbitrators of that decision. 4. Right of first refusal seems to have universal approval but it must happen within certain time periods.



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Dr. Pemberton, President, Lewis Clark State College (LCSC), asked that as the Board is rewriting certain portions of III.Z. they include LCSC as an important four-year institution option for our state.

There were no further comments or questions from the Board.

At this time the Board recessed for the evening at 4:15 p.m. (PT).

**Thursday, April 18, 2024 – 9:00 a.m. (Pacific Time)**

Prior to the start of the meeting Board President Dr. Clark read the following statement.

*"The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation recently discovered a breakdown in internal accounting and financial controls which resulted in the agency committing to financial obligations in excess of its appropriated spending authority. The State Board's executive director is working closely with the Governor's Office and the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation to determine root cause and how the agency will close out the fiscal year while still meeting its obligations. The State Board takes this matter seriously and will work with the Governor and the Legislature in coming months to determine how the Division can meet the needs of its customers within the bounds of its appropriation."*

**WORK SESSION**

**BUSINESS AFFAIRS AND HUMAN RESOURCES**

**B. FY2025 Tuition and Fees**

Mr. Gilbert said the Board would be hearing presentations around student tuition and fees for fiscal year 2025 from each of the institutions.

**BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY**

Alicia Estey, Chief Financial and Operating Officer, Boise State University, started by saying BSU ended FY 23 with approximately \$5.5 million net increase in their net position and expect to end FY24 with around the same increase. BSU did close FY 2023 with a \$15 million structural deficit which was the result of unfunded costs that accumulated during the four-year tuition freeze and some inflationary costs. BSU was able to cure the structural deficit in FY2024 using FY24 tuition and a reallocation from the colleges back to central. Considering appropriation and unfunded health insurance and inflationary increases BSU estimated their budget gap to be approximately \$6.6 million. For every 1% tuition increase BSU yields about a million dollars.

With the 3% tuition increase BSU hopes to fully fund CEC, partially fund inflationary increases in goods and services, and then if there is base funds left they will fund ongoing strategic initiatives.

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For a complete review of BSU's tuition increase request refer to <https://boardofed.idaho.gov/event/board-meeting-moscow/worksession/B>

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Gilbert / Siddoway) I move to approve the FY 2025 annual undergraduate full-time resident tuition at Boise State University in the amount of \$6,119.18, the consolidated mandatory fee in the amount of \$2,982.92, and the annual undergraduate full-time nonresident tuition and fees in the amount of \$27,880.00. A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.**

**AND**

**M/S (Gilbert / Siddoway) I move to approve all other fees set forth in the FY 2025 Boise State University tuition and fees worksheet as reported in BSU Attachment 1. A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.**

Superintendent Critchfield asked about the public fee hearing that BSU held in March and wondered who was invited to that meeting, how do you accept the feedback, how do you communicate to get the public input. Ms. Estey said they publish a notice in the student newspaper and also in campus news updates. BSU works with student leadership so that they can promote it through their own channels. Every individual who's proposing a fee increase will present for 10 minutes. They'll talk about what the current fee is, what they've done with that fee, and what their needs are for the future. The audience, which consists primarily of students, then has the opportunity to ask questions.

Mrs. Roach asked a follow-up on the FY 25 budget gap and said the tuition increase will only cover \$3 million of that deficit, how will BSU cover the rest. Ms. Estey said that inflationary number is just an estimate, but BSU will spend less if they need to, to maintain a balanced budget. And these budget figures do not take into account an increase in enrollment, increases in local funds, and in general income the university generates. Jeremiah Shin, Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management joined the conversation. He said BSU is tracking 4.6% increase in admits year-over-year, up 7.7% in commits to BSU year-over-year, and in terms of transfer students up 4.7 % in admits compared to this point last year, so up 12.6% in commits compared to last year or ahead of their stated goal for the year.

Mr. Liebich asked where does philanthropy fit into filling the gap in BSU's budget. Dr. Marlene Tromp, President, Boise State University, shared that BSU has had an incredibly robust fundraising campaign with three clear goals in mind. First and foremost is meeting Idaho student need so that no Idaho student will have unmet financial need at Boise State. Most of the giving came in really generous donations to the athletics

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program which means some of our new initiatives in athletics won't have to be funded from central coffers. With these resources coming in as endowed money, it has helped to stabilize the university. Further, if BSU has to make cuts in order to balance the budget they will do that going forward. That's part of the reason that they made a decision to close that \$12 million structural deficit in one year. One of the things that they're doing right now is asking how can AI make us more efficient to eliminate financial pressures.

There were no further comments or questions from the Board.

### **IDAHO STATE UNIVERSITY**

Jennifer Steele, Vice President for Finance and University Planning, ISU, said ISU is in a strong financial position with multi-year increases in net position as affirmed by Moody's investor services when they upheld ISU's A1 stable rating and noted its strong and improving financial position at the same time. ISU has been transparent about a structural deficit in their central University funds. This deficit was created quite a few years ago with a decrease in international student enrollment and they've created financial reporting tools that help understand the sources and drivers of that deficit.

In January 2023, they launched a budget optimization initiative and deficit reduction plan to address this approximately \$15 million deficit in their central University funds. ISU took a multi-year approach that was more strategic and financially sustainable rather than opportunistic. ISU also realized \$2 million of recurring expenditure reductions primarily by closing vacant positions heading into FY25. As a result of these strategies, they have reduced the deficit by more than half to approximately \$6.5 million and are on track to be completely balanced within the next one or two years while continuing to grow enrollment, expand programs, and elevate the profile and reach of ISU.

ISU is proposing a 3% increase to undergraduate resident tuition for FY25. They are not proposing additional increases in graduate and non-resident differential tuition as these differential rates were increased during the three-year freeze on undergraduate resident rates. For consolidated mandatory fees the largest increases are in student health and wellness and institutional operations services and support. During the review process the top priority for students was expanded services from the Student Health Center Counseling Center and student wellness program and their deep interest in having a transformative versus transactional learning experience for all students. Proposed increases will generate approximately \$2.6 or \$2.7 million based on conservative enrollment estimates. There are projected small increases in undergraduate resident enrollment for FY25, based on gains in retention, and the impact of an accelerated or expanded recruitment processes.

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Rex Force, Vice President for Health Sciences, ISU, said the increase in professional fees are used to fund equipment replacements and upgrades, accreditation associated costs, professional development for faculty, malpractice insurance, simulation costs and other inflationary increases to consumables as well as onboarding costs associated with clinical sites.

For a complete review of ISU's tuition increase request refer to <https://boardofed.idaho.gov/event/board-meeting-moscow/worksession/B>

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Gilbert / Keough) I move to approve the FY 2025 annual undergraduate full-time resident tuition at Idaho State University in the amount of \$6,104.44, the consolidated mandatory fee in the amount of \$2,505.56, and the annual undergraduate full-time nonresident tuition and fees in the amount of \$27,720.00.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

**AND**

**M/S (Gilbert / Keough) I move to approve all other fees set forth in the FY 2025 Idaho State University tuition and fees worksheet as reported in ISU Attachment 1.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

Mrs. Roach said I understand the legislature appropriated 1% CEC and then the additional 2% but that only covers a portion of your employees. Can you explain what the legislature appropriated and with the current deficit, how you make up the difference and what type of employees are not covered. Ms. Steele said within central funds ISU gets funding from the state for a portion of those employees CEC and the state expects the remaining CEC to be covered by tuition and fees. All of the employees in local and auxiliary funds supporting Health Professions programs need to be supported either by increased revenue or reduced expenses.

Mr. Freeman asked what the enrollment assumptions were behind the tuition increase request. Ms. Steele said initial assumptions going into FY25 is a less than 1% increase in undergraduate to flat undergraduate enrollment which is why ISU tends to be very conservative in their budgeting. Mr. Freeman asked if the current enrollment numbers support that or are they higher or lower. Mr. Craig Chatham, Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, ISU, said initial data indicates that ISU should see a slight increase in enrollment for the upcoming year. Retention rates have been incredibly strong over the past several years and initial data looks like those that will continue into next year.

Dr. Robert Wagner, President, Idaho State University, said ISU has received 1,700 Launch applications thus far with 700 students being awarded Launch scholarships. Mr. Freeman asked if there were any numbers in terms of admits and commits for ISU.

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Mr. Chatham said the number of applicants is essentially flat from the same point last year but the number of students who've been admitted to ISU has increased approximately 15% so they are seeing a higher yield with a substantial increase in the number of scholarship acceptances from the same point last year. A lot of that increase is due to some direct programming being done with the high schools.

There were no further comments or questions from the Board.

**LEWIS-CLARK STATE COLLEGE**

Julie Crea, Vice President for Finance and Administration, Lewis-Clark State College, said typically by this time of the semester they have a higher number of applicants but with Launch and FAFSA issues they are flat as far as enrollment goes. There were 480 students who applied for the Launch grant; of those 254 have accepted LCSC and registered and 10% of the 254 were new students.

LC State is slated to receive a little under \$500,000 for operational capacity enhancement and the enrollment workload adjustment so the goals of these funds are to recruit and retain students by keeping student tuition low through support for marketing efforts, base operational inflationary costs, occupancy cost for a legislatively funded building and the ability to address a potential funding gap in CEC so as to minimize the impact on tuition.

LC State is requesting a 3% increase across each tuition and fee category including full-time, part-time resident, non-resident and graduate programs. The estimated revenue that'll be generated by this 3% is approximately \$520,000 so of this 3% increase approximately 2% will go towards the tuition portion of the CEC, roughly 0.5% will assist in inflationary increases such as new audit requirements, contracts for professional services, fuel, facility maintenance and repair escalations and increases in utility fees and .05% of this increase is related to the consolidated mandatory fees. The students are requesting a \$5 per semester increase in the intramural club and sports activity fee and a \$5.50 increase in the ID card activity fee for full-time students.

The second consolidated mandatory fee is the technology fee that funds computer labs, a pay for print system, and the campus enterprise resource planning system. The request is for an \$11.50 per semester increase for full-time students.

Overall, LC State continues to operate with a balanced budget and reductions are made as necessary; unit operating budgets have been flat for four years, no unit level inflation or increases have been allowed, units have had to reduce costs and operate within existing budgets despite inflation.

For a complete review of LCSC's tuition increase request refer to;  
<https://boardofed.idaho.gov/event/board-meeting-moscow/worksession/B>

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**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to approve the FY 2025 annual undergraduate full-time resident tuition at Lewis-Clark State College in the amount of \$6,356.00, the consolidated mandatory fee in the amount of \$1,254.00, and the annual undergraduate full-time nonresident tuition and fees in the amount of \$22,028.00. A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.**

**AND**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to approve all other fees set forth in the FY 2025 Lewis-Clark State College tuition and fees worksheet as reported in LCSC Attachment 1. A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.**

There were no comments or questions from the Board.

**UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO**

Brian Foisy, Vice President for Finance and Administration, University of Idaho said UI's resident undergraduate rate is proposed to increase by exactly 3% across both tuition and fees with tuition increasing 3.3% and fees increasing 2.3% or an increase of \$268 per year for resident undergraduate students.

With respect to revenue these rate increases are projected to generate \$2.8 million to support University operations, \$2 million of that coming from the tuition increase and \$800,000 from the fee increase. Of that \$2.8 million in new revenue approximately \$1.4 million will support the CEC for UI employees, another \$600,000 will support operational increases. This consumes the entire \$2 million of additional revenue that will be generated from the 3% increase.

As the Board may recall the University of Idaho does not participate in the state's health insurance plan. As a result, UI will not see the same decrease in health insurance costs that is projected for other state agencies and state institutions. UI is nonetheless expecting a 3.5% cost increase in employee health insurance costs.

Within the overall student fee is included the technology and facility fee. These fees will only increase by 3% in total. The technology fee will increase by 3% to fund the CEC increase for employees. UI also be providing revenue to support the continuing improvement of statewide wireless networks. The facility fee is actually decreasing by \$258 which is simply a move to keep the overall combined mandatory fees at an even dollar amount which is \$2,328 in total for fees.

UI received \$2.1 million from the state's operational capacity enhancement line item. That money will be used to fund critical needs in healthcare and cyber security. The

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state did not cover the fund shift for FY25 meaning the \$1.4 million listed is needed from new tuition dollars to fully fund the 3% CEC authorized by the legislature. Finally, UI is asking the board to consider an increase in tuition fees for the coming fiscal year. UI always budgets for flat enrollment. Under the new vandal hybrid budget model UI assumes a 0% increase in enrollment. If there is an increase in enrollment that produces revenue UI now has a budget delta activity that can occur in the following year. UI also continues to work on identifying innovative ways to reduce operating expenses including the use of micro turbines and the steam plant to generate electricity. The turbines generate over 10% of the electricity used on campus. Over the last three years this project has provided almost \$20 million in additional revenue to support strategic initiatives including scholarships.

For a complete review of UI's tuition increase request refer to  
<https://boardofed.idaho.gov/event/board-meeting-moscow/worksession/B>

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to approve the FY 2025 annual undergraduate full-time resident tuition at University of Idaho in the amount of \$6,756.00, the consolidated mandatory fee in the amount of \$2,328.00, and the annual undergraduate full-time nonresident tuition and fees in the amount of \$28,320.00.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

**AND**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to approve all other fees set forth in the FY 2025 University of Idaho tuition and fees worksheet as reported in Attachment 1.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

Mr. Liebich said this is the fifth year in a row where the Board has approved changes that are less than the actual cost of educating students after going three years where no increase in tuition was allowed. When you take the fact that the legislature doesn't fully fund employee compensation and you take the fact that real inflation is higher than 3%, by approving 3% we're still implicitly asking each institution to become more efficient. One of things he struggles with is how long can we do that because at some point you reach this rate of diminishing returns. The other thing to keep our eye on is there are only so many students out there and we know there's a demographic cliff coming. So, what we're approving today is basically the list price very few students pay.

There were no further comments or questions from the Board.

**Dual Credit Fee**

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Gilbert / Keough) I move to set the statewide dual credit fee at \$75 per credit for courses delivered through a secondary school, including courses taught**

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online using instructional staff hired by the high school or the Idaho Digital Learning Academy, for fiscal year 2025. A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

**Transcript Fee**

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Gilbert / Roach) I move to set the statewide transcript fee at \$10 per credit for fiscal year 2025 for students enrolled in a qualified Workforce Training course where the student elects to receive credit. A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.**

**Summer Bridge Program Fee**

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Gilbert / Siddoway) I move to set the statewide summer bridge program fee at \$65 per credit for fiscal year 2025 for students admitted into a summer bridge program at an institution the summer immediately following graduation from high school and enrolling in pre-determined college-level courses at the same institution the fall semester of the same year. A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.**

At this time the Board took a 10-minute break returning at 11:09 a.m. (PT).

**POLICY, PLANNING AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS**

**C. Accountability Oversight Committee Report – Information Item**

Roger Stewart, Chair, Accountability Oversight Committee, and Alison Henken, K-12 Accountability and Projects Program Manager, Idaho State Board of Education, addressed the Board. They shared the following data from the executive summary of AOC's FY24 recommendations.

**Early Literacy**

- Most Below and At Grade Level students score in the same category both years.
- There is upward movement, with 36% of students who scored Below Grade Level and 49% of Near Grade Level moving up.
- There is some downward movement of At Grade level students and Near Grade Level students scoring in a lower category in 2023.

Recommendation - Develop a growth model for the IRI that creates fall-to-spring targets at the individual student level to encourage continued growth for all students.

**Middle Grades Math**



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- Cohort data shows performance differences between the test's sub-categories but does not allow identification of specific skills that are particularly challenging for students at certain grade levels.

Recommendation - Collaborate with Smarter Balanced to create an actionable report on student performance on Idaho's Academic Content Standards for Mathematics.

### **High School to Postsecondary Go-On Rates**

- While the current Go-On rate data is accurate, it does not allow for a clear understanding of what students are doing after high school and is missing key metrics.

Recommendation - In alignment with Launch and Idaho's job market, substantially expand the data reported, to include degrees and certifications completed in high school and a broader range of students' postsecondary choices.

### **Chronic Absenteeism**

- Rates of chronic absenteeism and severe chronic absenteeism were highest in 2021-22 (25%) but improved modestly in 2022-23 (20%). Additional years of data are needed to determine if this is the beginning of a trend of improved attendance post pandemic.
- Except for 2020-21, rates of chronic absenteeism and severe chronic absenteeism exhibit little variability across grade level bands (i.e., K-5, 6-8, & 9-12). Thus, efforts to address absenteeism are needed across all grades. However, the resources and strategies chosen should be tailored to the specific challenges of each age group.

Recommendation - AOC continues to recommend support for LEAs to adopt early warning systems to identify students at risk of dropping out of high school. Attendance feeds into all sorts of student outcomes such as graduation rates and other student outcomes such as grades failures and discipline referrals.

Mr. Stewart said these were the AOC's next steps:

- Staff will create a stand-alone Executive Summary for distribution.
- Staff will develop a timeline for work with Smarter Balanced to create a report to show student performance on the ISAT Math at the academic standards level.
- The AOC will begin work on a model to create individual student growth targets on the IRI.
- Board and SDE staff will create a plan and timeline for expanding the Go-On Rates data.

Superintendent Critchfield said districts which offer full-day kindergarten are beginning to see a return on their investment as the students are better able to transition to the

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next grade and are more likely to be on grade level particularly at reading grade level. Current data also shows that 60% of students on the fall IRI do not have the skills to be successful in kindergarten.

Ms. Henken asked what the board would like the AOC to do to support the development of the comprehensive math plan. Dr. Clark said what is really needed is for the working groups to come up with some very specific recommendations for improving math. The next question will be do we have the means to measure the things that we are recommending before moving forward.

Mr. Liebich said he would be interested in seeing data that highlights what improvement is being seen in the middle school math years.

Superintendent Critchfield said she has had many discussions with superintendents across the state and while they do use the attendance works model they have no mechanism to say to students, 'you've got to be in school'. Chronic absenteeism is a national problem and one that will require a lot more discussion than is possible today. But districts are looking for some leadership, they're looking for strategies that are different than just saying we have a policy you have to be here and if you're not you're going to not make it through. Even the threat of retaining a student in a grade, parents will say then they're going to go choose something that suits us better. AOC hopefully will have a group that will be looking for solutions.

Mr. Liebich asked for a definition of chronically absent. Ms. Henken said chronically absent is students who have exceeded the 10% mark. Once they hit 10%, they're considered chronically absent. Severely chronically absent are students who have had 20% or more days absent, so when you hit 20%, that's a lot of school you're missing.

Mr. Freeman asked that AOC work with Chris Campbell, Chief Technology Officer, for the State Board of Education, to gather the data they are seeking.

For a complete review of the AOC report please refer to;  
<https://boardofed.idaho.gov/event/board-meeting-moscow/worksession/C>

There were no further comments or questions from the Board.

**INFORMATIONAL**

**BAHR**

1. Intercollegiate Athletics – FY 2023 Revenue and Expenses Reports – Information Item
2. Intercollegiate Athletics – FY 2023-2024 Compensation Reports – Information Item
3. Intercollegiate Athletics – FY 2024 Gender Equity Reports – Information Item
4. University of Idaho – Annual Utility P3 Update – Information Item

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**IRSA**

5. Program Progress Reports – Information Item

**PPGA**

6. Idaho Digital Learning Academy Annual Report – Information Item
7. Strategic Plans – Postsecondary Institutions and Agencies under the Board's Governance – Information Item

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS - Action Item**

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Liebich / Siddoway) I move to appoint Dr. Linda Clark as Board President.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

**AND**

**M/S (Liebich / Siddoway) I move to appoint William G. Gilbert, Jr. as Board Vice President.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

**AND**

**M/S (Liebich / Siddoway) I move to appoint Superintendent Debbie Critchfield as Board Secretary.** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

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

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Keough / Critchfield) I move to adjourn the meeting at 12:06 p.m. (PT).** A roll call vote was taken, the motion carried 7-0. Dr. David Hill was absent from voting.

**BOARDWORK  
JUNE 12-13, 2024**

DRAFT Minutes May 2, 2024



**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
May 2, 2024  
Office of the State Board of Education  
650 West State Street, Suite 307  
Boise, ID 83720**

A special meeting of the Idaho State Board of Education was held at the Office of the State Board of Education on May 2, 2024. Board President Dr. Linda Clark presided and called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. (MT).

**Present**

Dr. Linda Clark, President	Dr. David Hill
William G. Gilbert, Jr., Vice-President	Cally Roach
Superintendent Critchfield, Secretary	Cindy Siddoway

**Absent**

Kurt Liebich	Shawn Keough
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**Thursday, May 2, 2024, 10:30 a.m. (Mountain Time)**

**INSTRUCTION, RESEARCH AND STUDENT AFFAIRS**

1. ISU – Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice (corrected motion) – Action Item

Mrs. Roach clarified that the reason this item was being brought back for the Board's attention was at the last Board meeting the motion failed to waive Policy III.G which waives the external peer review requirement. The review process will be done by the accreditation body.

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Roach / Gilbert) I move to approve the request by Idaho State University for a one-time waiver of Board Policy III.G.3.a.i.(2) to allow for the specialized accreditation review to fulfill the Board's external peer review requirement for the Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice program proposal. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried 6-0. Shawn Keough and Kurt Liebich were absent from voting.**

There were no comments or questions from the Board.

**BUSINESS AFFAIRS AND HUMAN RESOURCES**

**BOARDWORK**  
**JUNE 12-13, 2024**

DRAFT Minutes May 2, 2024

1. UI – Planning and Design for New Residential Facility – Action Item

Brian Foisy, Vice President for Finance and Administration, University of Idaho, said the request before the Board today is for \$12 million dollars of limited pre-design and development authorization for a housing improvement project. The project is designed and divided into a graduate professional parenting and family corridor and an undergraduate corridor. The graduate and professional corridors located in the south and east corner of campus include apartments with a total bed count, decreasing from 450 to 400 using only 1/3 of the old footprint. Meaning UI is preserving future development potential for university needs and other revenue generating opportunities.

The old apartments on the other 2/3's of the existing footprint on the South Hill site will not be torn down until new units are in place, allowing UI to continue to collect rents during the construction of the new units.

The undergraduate corridors located on the north end of campus near the student recreation center include remodels of almost 1,425 beds in the Wallace Resident Center, Theopolis Tower and the Elmwood property plus the addition of a new undergraduate building with 400 beds. With these projects in the undergraduate corridor, UI would eventually end the lease of the motel located north of campus known as the North Campus Communities thereby reducing bed count by 200.

To recap, with this project UI will be down 50 beds in the graduate corridor; up 400 beds for a new undergraduate facility and down 200 beds to end the North Campus Community's lease which is a net increase of 150 beds in addition to the remodel of over 100 exiting beds.

Project hard costs are estimated at approximately \$140 million dollars. Total project costs, including design and development and appropriate project contingencies is estimated at \$195 million. The ultimate source of funds for this project is debt issued either by UI directly or in connection with UI's master development partner. The debt service would be paid from housing revenues at the institution and the university would remain below the state board debt ceiling of eight percent.

UI is proposing to deliver this project in a phased approach in order to provide a check in at approximately the halfway point to verify that projects are still on time and on budget and evaluate the impact of the enrollment cliff before moving to new stages of development. This project will be broken into four new construction and renovation phases. When one phase is offline for construction the other three phases will stay online. For new construction the proposal is to begin with south hall which is the oldest and most rundown of the buildings.

**BOARDWORK**  
**JUNE 12-13, 2024**

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Mr. Foisy said in summary the request today is only for limited approval for \$12 million dollars for pre-design and development authorization work for a housing improvement project. UI will then return to the Board at a future meeting and seek approval on the proposed financing path and full Board approval.

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Gilbert / Hill) I move to approve the University of Idaho request to proceed with the initial design and development phase of the on-campus housing improvements, for a total cost of up to \$12,000,000 as described in the materials presented. Approval includes the authority for the Vice President for Finance and Administration to execute all necessary and requisite consulting and vendor contracts to implement the design and pre-development phase of this project. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried 6-0. Shawn Keough and Kurt Liebich were absent from voting.**

Mr. Gilbert said there was some discussion in the BHR meeting around having off-ramps for this project as it pertains to changes in financing. Mr. Foisy said longer conversations concerning the financing of this project will be happening.

Matt Freeman, Executive Director, Idaho State Board of Education asked if the total project costs include furniture, fixtures, and equipment. Mr. Foisy said yes, it does.

There were no further comments or questions from the Board.

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

**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Gilbert / Hill) I move to adjourn the meeting at 10:48 a.m. (MT). A roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried 6-0. Shawn Keough and Kurt Liebich were absent from voting.**

**BOARDWORK  
JUNE 12-13, 2024**

**DRAFT Minutes May 31, 2024**



**Special Board Meeting  
May 31, 2024  
Idaho State Board of Education  
OSBE Conference Room  
650 West State Street, Suite 307  
Boise, ID 83720**

A special meeting of the Idaho State Board of Education was held at the offices of the Idaho State Board of Education on May 31, 2024. Board President Dr. Linda Clark called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. (Mountain Time).

**Present**

Dr. Linda Clark, President	Dr. David Hill
William G. Gilbert, Jr., Vice-President	Shawn Keough
Superintendent Critchfield, Secretary	Cally Roach
Kurt Liebich	Cindy Siddoway

**Absent**

None

**Friday, May 31, 2024 – 2:30 p.m. (MT)**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – (Closed to the Public)** Action Item to go into Executive Session - No action taken in Executive Session.

**M/S (Liebich / Roach) I move the Board**

**1. Go into Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(b) “to consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent.”** A roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried 8-0.

The Board moved to Executive Session at 2:31 p.m. (MT).

The Board returned from Executive Session at 3:14 p.m. (MT). Board President Dr. Linda Clark stated that the Board concluded its discussion and took no action on the matter discussed.

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

**BOARDWORK  
JUNE 12-13, 2024**

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**BOARD ACTION**

**M/S (Hill / Roach) I move to adjourn the meeting at 3:16 p.m. (MT) A roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried 8-0.**