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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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IDAHO HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS ARE MAKING COLLEGE PLANS NOW

(BOISE). Ninety-four (94) high schools throughout the State of Idaho are dedicating time next week to help their seniors complete college admission applications as part of College Application Week, October 31st through November 4th. At each participating high school, staff and volunteers are helping students research higher education options and complete the necessary forms to begin the admission process.

"The State Board of Education is proud to sponsor College Application Week" said Emma Atchley, President of the Idaho State Board of Education. "Our local high schools and volunteers are tremendous partners as they dedicate class time and school resources to helping students take that next step to college."

The initiative has received support from Idaho Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter with his proclamation declaring October 31 through November 4, 2016, College Application Week in Idaho. This is the fourth year the Idaho State Board of Education has sponsored College Application Week. Site coordinators at each of the 94 participating high schools assist seniors with completing at least one admission form to any public or private higher education institution. The number of participating high schools has more than quadrupled since 2013 when 21 high schools participated. Fifty-nine (59) high schools participated in 2015, with 6,972 seniors submitting 10,098 admission applications.

Earlier this school year, more than 20,000 public high school seniors across Idaho received letters notifying them of admission to the state's public colleges and universities. Known as Direct Admissions, seniors can bring their letter to College Application Week to assist with completing college admissions forms. Seniors will also be able to complete an application for the Idaho Opportunity Scholarship, which provides up to \$3,000 for tuition and fees at Idaho colleges and universities.

The State Board has established the website, <u>www.NextSteps.Idaho.gov</u>, to be the premier resource for Idaho students, families and educators to find detailed information about going-on from high school to postsecondary education. Additional information regarding College Application Week, the Idaho Opportunity Scholarship and Direct Admissions can found at the Next Steps web site.

The State Board of Education is charged with the general supervision and governance of the public educational institutions and the public school system of the State of Idaho. To learn more about the Idaho State Board of Education, please visit <u>www.boardofed.idaho.gov</u>.