

650 W. State Street • P.O. Box 83720 • Boise, ID 83720-0037 208/334-2270 • FAX: 208/334-2632

Email: <u>board@osbe.idaho.gov</u> <u>www.boardofed.idaho.gov</u>

May 18, 2015

Contact: Blake Youde 208-332-1591 (office) 208-696-9447 (cell)

blake.youde@osbe.idaho.gov

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MIKE RUSH ACCEPTS POSITION WITH SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

(Boise). The Idaho State Board of Education announced today that its executive director, Dr. Mike Rush, has accepted a new position as Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer for the South Dakota Board of Regents, effective June 29, 2015.

"Mike Rush has been a leader in Idaho education for nearly 30 years," said Emma Atchley, President of the Idaho State Board of Education. "In that time, Mike has guided implementation of many Board polices that are benefiting Idaho students today in classrooms at every level of education."

Rush's career with the State of Idaho began in 1986 as a program manager in the Division of Professional-Technical Education. He became the administrator of that agency in 1997. In 2007, he became Executive Director of the Idaho State Board of Education. In that time, he has overseen implementation of a number of Board initiatives, including strengthening career-technical education in the technical colleges and high schools, significantly increasing the number of college degrees earned by Idaho students, more than doubling the number of students taking both high school and college credit, and increasing the state's college scholarship awards through the Idaho Opportunity Scholarship program.

"Serving as Executive Director of Idaho's State Board of Education has been an incredible privilege. I have had the opportunity to work with the best board in the country and some of the finest universities, colleges and public schools anywhere." said Rush. "I have particularly appreciated the Governor's leadership this past year in increasing support for our Idaho public schools. I will dearly miss the dedicated individuals who make Idaho's education system such a great place to work."

Mike Rush - 2

The Board has not yet announced plans for selecting a new executive director.

The State Board of Education is charged with the general supervision, governance and control 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 www.boardofed.idaho.gov.

#####