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BOARD INCREASES STATE COST FOR DUAL CREDIT COURSES; ELECTS NEW EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

The Idaho State Board of Education yesterday granted requests from Idaho’s four-year college and universities to increase the amount charged for dual credit courses by \$10 dollars from \$65 to \$75 per credit hour.

“The \$65 dollar per credit hour fee has never changed and has been in place for more than a decade,” State Board President Dr. Linda Clark said. “It costs more for the institutions to teach and administer these courses than it did a decade ago and the Board recognizes that.”

The State’s Fast Forward program provides up to \$4,125 dollars to each Idaho high school student to use to take dual credit courses, to earn college credit while still in high school.

Two of Idaho’s four community colleges have increased the fee for dual credit courses and the other two are considering it.

List of Percentage Increases in Tuition and Fees

The Board yesterday voted to increase tuition and fees at the four-year institutions beginning in the fall 2019 semester. The increase will fund state mandated increases in employee compensation and maintain current operations.

“I certainly understand the need to keep college affordable and accessible to students, but the education they have access to should also be high quality and the

institutions need proper resources to ensure that,” Board Member Emma Atchley said.

Percentage Increases	Resident	Nonresident	Graduate School
University of Idaho	5.6%	9.1%	5.6%
Boise State University	4.9%	5.2%	5.2%
Idaho State University	6.1%	5%	5%
Lewis-Clark State College	5.5%	3%	-

Athletic Spending

The Board heard a proposal by the institutions to increase spending limits on university athletic programs. Funding would have to come from State general funds and university funds. The institution presidents said the proposal would help address gender equity issues within university athletic programs. The Board will make a decision on the matter at the June Board Meeting at North Idaho College.

Other Board Actions

- Authorized Idaho State University to begin the bidding process for renovations at Davis Field, the cost is not to exceed \$5 million.
- Authorized Idaho State University to proceed with the bidding process to begin phase two of construction at the EAMES Career Technical Facility contingent on collection of donated funds. The cost of the entire project is not to exceed \$18.9 million.
- Authorized Idaho State University to begin the bidding process to construct a parking lot at the Meridian Health Sciences Center, the cost not to exceed \$2 million.
- Authorized Idaho State University to purchase property adjacent to the Meridian Health Sciences Center, the cost is not to exceed \$3.5 million.
- Authorized the University of Idaho to begin the planning and design phase to install micro-turbines connected to existing steam lines at the University’s steam plant to generate electricity to help meet University’s electricity needs. The cost for the planning and design phase is not to exceed \$250,000.
- Authorized Lewis-Clark State College to increase the budget for the Schweitzer Career Technical Center in Lewiston, not to exceed \$24.5 million.

New Executive Officers

The Board also elected Board Member Debbie Critchfield as Board president, Board Member David Hill as vice-president, and Board Member Andrew Scoggin as secretary. Critchfield succeeds Dr. Linda Clark who has served as president for the last two years.

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