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**For Immediate Release**

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**MASTER EDUCATOR PREMIUM AWARDS MADE**

Eighty-seven percent of veteran Idaho teachers and pupil service staff who submitted portfolios for Idaho's Master Teacher Premium will receive the award – a \$12,000 boost in salary spread out over three years.

The Idaho State Board of Education sent out individual notifications to the applicants' yesterday evening and early this morning. Of the 1,405 Idaho educators who applied, 1,226 received the Premium. Portfolios were judged by fellow educators.

Each successful applicant met the following statutory requirements:

- Be employed as a certificated instructional staff member or pupil service staff member in an Idaho public school,
- Have eight or more years of teaching/pupil service staff experience provided that the three years immediately preceding the award must be continuous and in Idaho. The remainder of the teaching experience making up the eight years must have been earned in Idaho or in a compact-member state pursuant to section 33-4101, Idaho Code;
- Be able to demonstrate mastery of instructional techniques for no fewer than three of the previous five years of instruction through:
  - Artifacts demonstrating evidence of effective teaching; and

- Successful completion of an annual individualized professional learning plan; and
- A majority of the applicants' students must meet measurable student achievement as defined in section 33-1001, Idaho Code, for no fewer than three of the previous five years.

“I’d like to personally congratulate the professional educators who are receiving the Premium and to thank those who served as evaluators,” State Board of Education President Debbie Critchfield said. “This was a challenging process for everyone involved including our teachers who spent many hours putting together their information, the evaluators and Board staff. We learned a lot this year and hope to make the process smoother next year.”

The funds for the premiums will be distributed to each of the school districts with applicants that earned the premium at the conclusion of the award process. Awards will then be distributed to the applicants by the school district based on their internal processes and timelines.

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