

February 21, 2024

Dear Superintendents and Administrators:

I am reaching out to share with you news of two important opportunities coming up in the weeks ahead. One is an initiative we're organizing at the Department of Education and touches on teacher recruitment. The other has been put together by the State Board of Education and is related to school safety.

As part of my commitment to bolstering our teacher ranks in Idaho, I've asked my department's Certification and Professional Standards team to put together a series of events around the state that will provide information to those who may be interested in becoming an educator. We will be holding Educator Career Fairs in five locations this March and early April. I encourage you to send representatives from your schools to meet with potential educators. The locations and dates are:

Idaho Falls: Tuesday, March 12
Twin Falls: Thursday, March 14
Lewiston: Tuesday, March 19

• Coeur d'Alene: Thursday, March 21

• Meridian: Tuesday, April 2

In addition, we will also be holding training sessions in conjunction with each fair. These are designed to provide your staff with the opportunity to learn about Alternative Authorizations, Professional Endorsements and state assignment reporting guidance. These will be held prior to each career fair.

More information is available <u>here</u>. Please take a look and consider using these events as an opportunity to introduce your schools to potential educators.

Next, the School Safety & Security team at the Office of the State Board of Education has worked with the U.S. Secret Service to line up five trainings across Idaho this April. These events will provide key stakeholders with training on identifying, assessing and intervening in order to prevent acts of school violence. School Resource Officers, educators and other public safety professionals are invited to sign up for the free training.

The locations and dates for these events are:

Post Falls: Monday, April 22Nampa: Tuesday, April 23

Twin Falls: Wednesday, April 24
Pocatello: Thursday, April 25
Idaho Falls: Friday, April 26

More information is available in the attached flyers. Please take a look at the training in your region and consider sharing with those in your school community who may benefit the most from this opportunity. Additional information can be obtained by contacting SRO Support Coordinator Stu Hobson at shobson@edu.idaho.gov.

Thank you for your time, attention and all that you do for your students and communities.

Sincerely,

Debbie Critchfield

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Superintendent of Public Instruction