



For Immediate Release

June 12, 2024

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BOARD SETS INSTRUCTIONAL DAY MINIMUM FOR IDAHO'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Idaho State Board of Education today set a minimum number of instructional days for public K-12 schools during its regular Board meeting held on the campus of Idaho State University in Pocatello.

More than half of Idaho's local education agencies (school districts and charter schools referred to as LEAs) are holding four-day school weeks.

House Bill 521 and House Bill 766 were approved and signed into law during the recent legislative session and requires LEAs to meet a minimum number of student instructional days set by the State Board of Education or the minimum hours of instructional hours established in law, in order to be eligible for school facilities funding provided by the state.

Superintendent of Public Instruction Debbie Critchfield, her team at the State Department of Education, and Board staff worked with education stakeholders to develop the recommendation that the Board set the minimum of 152 instructional days per year.

The recommendation was based on findings that Idaho public schools operating on four-day calendar currently average 146 student instructional days per year, compared to an average of 172 instructional days conducted by schools operating five days per week.

Schools have until July 1, 2025 to meet the Board's 152 instructional day requirement for the 2025/26 school year.

Interim Vocational Rehabilitation Administrator Appointed

The Board appointed Judy Taylor to serve as Interim Administrator of the Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. Taylor currently serves as Director of the Idaho Commission of Aging.

She will split her time leading both the commission and the division until the Board is able to appoint a permanent administrator.

Taylor replaces former Vocational Rehabilitation Administrator Jane Donnellan, who resigned on May 31. Taylor's appointment is not to exceed 9 months.

Other Board actions include:

- Extended president contracts for one year for three of Idaho's institution presidents along with FY25 salaries for:
 - Dr. Marlene Tromp; Boise State University - \$473,448.77
 - C. Scott Green; University of Idaho - \$479,191.78
 - Dr. Cynthia Pemberton; Lewis-Clark State College - \$297,412.50Idaho State University President Dr. Robert Wagner was appointed president six months ago will be eligible for a potential salary increase next year.
- Approved the FY25 Athletic Spending Limit increases of state appropriated funding at Idaho's four-year institutions by the following amounts:
 - Boise State University; \$1 million increase – FY25 Athletic Spending Limit: \$10,004,500.

- Idaho State University; \$1.2 million increase – FY25 Athletic Spending Limit: \$7,832,800.
- Lewis-Clark State College; \$500,000 increase – FY25 Athletic Spending Limit: \$4,574,900.
- University of Idaho; \$1.35 million increase- FY25 Athletic Spending Limit: \$9, 251,700.

The institutions requested spending limits increases to help pay increased athletic department inflationary costs, support future program growth, and accurately reflect indirect expenditures.

- Approved contracts for Boise State University’s head football coach; University of Idaho’s head football coach; and Idaho State University’s head women’s basketball coach.
 - Boise State Head Football Coach Spencer Danielson’s contract runs through February, 2029. His FY25 base compensation is \$1,555,000, with incentives.
 - University of Idaho Head Football Coach Jason Eck’s contract was extended until January, 2029. His FY25 base compensation is \$375,000 with incentives.
 - Idaho State University’s Head Women’s Basketball Coach Seton Sobolewski’s contract was extended until May, ,2029. His salary was increased from \$139,287 to \$151,287.

- Approved contracts for three Boise State University assistant football coaches:
 - Offensive Coordinator Dirk Koetter’s FY25 base compensation is \$460,000 in addition to a \$5,000 signing bonus.
 - Defensive Coordinator Erik Chinander’s FY25 base compensation is \$440,000, with incentives.
 - Assistant Head Coach Stacy Collins’s FY25 base compensation FY25 base salary is \$350,000 with incentives.

- Approved a University of Idaho request to begin the bid and construction phase of expansion of Huckabay Medical Education Building on the

Moscow campus. The building houses the Washington Wyoming Alaska Montana Idaho (WWAMI) medical education program. The project is expected to cost nearly \$4.5 million and will add additional classrooms and faculty office space.

The Board meeting will continue tomorrow morning (June 13) starting at 8 a.m. Mountain Time.

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