

# Memo

**To:** Board of Trustees  
**From:** Rob Sauer, Superintendent  
**Date:** January 6, 2016  
**Re:** Superintendent's Board Report

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## **Civics Assessment**

- Beginning in the 2016-2017 school year, Idaho students will be required to take the United States Citizenship Test. Idaho Code 33-1602.7 is the corresponding code. The civics test may be taken at any time after enrolling in grade 7 and it may be repeated as often as necessary for the student to pass the test. The State Department of Education will not create a test. The law is specific in requiring students to take the United States Citizenship and Immigrations Services Naturalization Test. The SDE will not be collecting student test scores. It will be up to the local schools to keep track of who passed and adding that information to the student's transcript. We will determine in the next few weeks at what grade level we will administer the test.

## **Every Student Succeeds Act**

- ESSA is replacing No Child Left Behind. The ESSA will strive to protect state and local autonomy. There will continue to be discussion around Common Core and assessment but the states should be allowed a little more freedom and flexibility in choosing standards and assessments. However, standards and assessments will not be going away. The law supports magnet schools and charter schools. The law will also expand access to preschool with \$250 million in annual funding for early-childhood education. The new law will fully take effect in 2017-18.

## **Driver's Education.**

- We do not currently have a driver's education instructor. We have been without one for approximately seven months. At this point, we do not have any staff members that have completed the requirements to become a certified instructor. Student's wanting to obtain their license can attend a private driving school or the Caldwell School District is allowing Homedale students to sign up for their evening program.

## **Day on the Hill**

- I will plan on attending the ISBA's Day on the Hill on February 16 & 17.