Forwarded message ------From: **Kristen Shreve** <<u>Kristen.shreve@idschadm.org</u>> Date: Wed, Jun 28, 2017 at 10:35 AM Subject: Idaho Rural Schools - Important Message To: Cc: Harold Ott <<u>haott43@gmail.com</u>>, Rob Winslow

<<u>rob.winslow@idschadm.org</u>>

Please see below a letter from Harold Ott, Director of the Idaho Rural Schools Association. Those of you who have been members of IRSA will receive an invoice for renewal of that subscription after July 1. A list of current IRSA members is at the bottom of this email. If you would like to join, please call or email me so I can set your district up. The cost for an annual membership is \$450.

Dear Superintendents:

With Phil Homer not returning and the potential of me not having the budget to lobby next year you could be without representation from a former superintendent to lobby at the Capitol. Last year we had thirty rural school members and it takes about forty to build a budget that we need. For the \$450.00 in dues you get a full time, one agenda lobbyist to represent your needs as a rural district in Idaho.

If this presence is significant to you, then please remit your dues. It would also be helpful if you could contact a friend to pay dues as well. Without the forty number members your representation will end.

We are faced with many key issues. Among them are the following: replacement or revision of the public school funding formula (the future of rural schools as we know them is dependent on the new formula), continuing budget issues dealing with certified and classified staffing, career ladder implementation, all the tax issues including business personal property tax, Chairman Mortimer's rural school study committee, technology funding and the rules for implementation and the whole scheme of vouchers. It is paramount that you be represented by someone who can speak your point of view. It has been my distinct honor to represent you in Boise. We have been a valued and respected presence. You have my best wishes for continued success in your leadership roles.

Respectfully, Harold A. Ott, Director Idaho Rural Schools