

# Memo

**To:** Board of Trustees  
**From:** Rob Sauer  
**Date:** 11/9/2023  
**Re:** Superintendents Board Report

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## Updates

- Recently JFAC began looking at the budget proposal from State Superintendent Debbie Critchfield for the upcoming legislative session. Early literacy, middle school math, graduation rates, transportation, and funding to support student teachers are all items being discussed. Superintendent Critchfield is also wanting to collapse some line items and provide some flexibility for school districts in other areas. Some of these proposals would require new laws related to policy to make it happen.
- The State Department of Education is sharing that they believe special education in the state is underfunded by at least \$65 million, if not more. Idaho's overall enrollment consists of about 12% of the student population that qualifies for special education services. Compare that to an average of about 6% of the budget earmarked for special education. Idaho's funding approach for special education was established in 1975. Obviously, a lot has changed for Idaho education in nearly 50 years. This will be an issue that will take years to work on.