2018 Proposed Resolutions

Resolutions representing the aims and purpose of the Idaho School Boards Association (ISBA) legislative and otherwise, shall be considered one of the most important functions of the Annual Convention. Resolutions adopted at the Annual Convention automatically remain valid policy of the ISBA for a period of two years unless otherwise acted upon.

(ISBA Bylaws, Article X)

No.*	Resolution	Submitted by
1	Flexibility in Teaching Assignments	Minidoka
2	Seat Belts in School Buses	Coeur d'Alene
3	Revision of Idaho Code on Excision	Post Falls
4	Education Allocation for Out of State Teachers	Kimberly, Jerome
5	Card Check for Negotiations	St. Maries
6	General Fund Reserve	Bonneville
7	CTE Teachers Experience Factor	Bonneville
8	Contracts for Teachers Holding an Interim Certification Under an Alternative Route	West Ada
9	Move School Board Trustee Elections to November of Odd Years	Caldwell
10	Hiring Retired Law Enforcement Officers as School Resource Officers	Cassia
11	Transportation Reimbursement	Cassia
12	K-12 Funding Principles	Boise
13	State Board of Education K-12 Advisory Council	Boise
14	Keep School Board Trustee Elections in May	Moscow
15	Discussion of Sale of Public Property within Executive Session	Moscow
16	Permissible Education Activities in School Bond and Levy Elections	Moscow
17	Incentive to Encourage Students to Pursue Teaching	Buhl

^{*}Resolutions were numbered pursuant to the order in which they were received.

Note: The ISBA Executive Board adopted the following statement as a guiding principle for ISBA's advocacy work in 2018:

"The ISBA Executive Board supports the principle of local governance for public schools, the full funding of the career ladder, and the appropriation of operational funds from 2009 up to 2018 adjusted for inflation. Until this has been achieved, the Executive Board will not support any resolution or legislation that would result in any new line items in the State education budget."

FLEXIBILITY IN TEACHING ASSIGNMENTS

WHEREAS, there are many school districts in Idaho in need of teachers with the appropriate content area endorsements; and

WHEREAS, the State of Idaho currently only allows teachers to teach in the content areas of their endorsement; and

WHEREAS, many teachers have a substantial background in content areas for which they have yet to be endorsed; and

WHEREAS, local school boards could benefit from utilizing these teachers to teach content with which they are familiar, but are not endorsed for one period per day;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Idaho School Boards Association work to allow local districts additional flexibility in making teacher assignments. Such flexibility would be limited to no more than one period per day or less than 25% of the teacher's total contract time outside of their content area of endorsement.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Due to the limited number of applicants in the current teaching pool with multiple endorsements, and the need to fill one of a kind classes in many small and rural schools, the Idaho School Boards Association should actively work to allow local districts additional flexibility in teacher assignments.

Submitted by Minidoka County School District No. 331

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: NONE

Jason Knopp of the ISBA Executive Board will address the Executive Board's recommendation to the membership at the Business Session of the Annual Convention.

SEAT BELTS IN SCHOOL BUSES

WHEREAS, children are generally safe in school buses in most routine school bus travel due to the low rate of speed, bus size, compartmentalization of seats, lights and bright bus coloring;

WHEREAS, safety studies have shown that children are at a significant risk for injuries in side impact and roll over bus crashes due to children being thrown out of their seats;

WHEREAS, though school buses are statistically safer for transporting children than passenger cars, an average of five children die every year nationwide in school bus accidents;

WHEREAS, six states have required mandatory three-point shoulder/seat belts in school buses and other states are considering such legislation;

WHEREAS, the National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration has recommended, but has not required, three-point shoulder/seat belts in school buses;

WHEREAS, behavior management of children on school buses increases with children being seated with three-point shoulder/seat belts;

WHEREAS, the cost of new school buses increases with three-point shoulder/ seat belts; and

WHEREAS, there may be a need for additional buses due to the potential for a reduced number of children that belted buses can carry;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Idaho Legislature appoint an interim committee to make recommendations on the use of three-point shoulder/seat belts in school buses. This committee would also discuss the amount of appropriate funding to facilitate their use.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

That the Idaho Legislature appoint an interim committee to begin discussions and make recommendations about the feasibility of the use of three-point shoulder/seat belts in school buses. This committee would also discuss the amount of and provide the appropriate funding and state policies to facilitate their use.

Submitted by Coeur d'Alene School District No. 271

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: NONE

Susan Rigg of the ISBA Executive Board will address the Executive Board's recommendation to the membership at the Business Session of the Annual Convention.

PASSED TABLED FAILED AYES NAYES TOTAL

REVISION OF IDAHO CODE ON EXCISION

WHEREAS, Section 33-308, Idaho Code allows a neighborhood to petition to excise themselves from one school district to another;

WHEREAS, a petition must be submitted to each of the involved school district Boards of Trustees which must include legal descriptions of the area in question, maps of both districts with and without the area in question, and an estimate of the number of children residing in the area. The petition must be signed by 25% of the electors residing in the area in question. The school boards must transmit the petition, with recommendations, to the State Department of Education and the affected local Board of Trustees are involved in only an advisory way;

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education will ultimately decide whether or not to allow an election of only the electors that reside in the area that the excision petition covers;

WHEREAS, the area for excision is part of the property value that establishes local property taxes for all taxpayers in the school district where they reside, including taxes for any voter approved bonded indebtedness, school plant facility levies, or supplemental levies;

WHEREAS, if the voters in the area seeking excision from one district to another vote to leave their current district it will automatically increase the taxes for all of the remaining district tax payers that were not allowed an opportunity to vote. The Post Falls School District taxpayers had their taxes increased by six cents per thousand when a neighborhood left the district to join a neighboring school district. Idaho law requires a vote of all district patrons in order for a district to increase school property taxes with the exception of excision in Section 33-308, Idaho Code;

WHEREAS, the affected district taxpayers are disenfranchised and the patrons of the district that the neighborhood left for another district had their taxes increased by a small group of electors. Idaho requires a vote of all electors before allowing a school district to tax property owners; and

WHEREAS, Section 33-308, Idaho Code requires that submitted excision petitions be considered by the school district(s) no later than ten days after its first regular meeting held subsequent to the receipt of the petition;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Idaho School Boards Association work to revise Section 33-308, Idaho Code due to the unintended consequences of disenfranchising district taxpayers and the unreasonably short timeline for districts to consider petitions. Section 33-308, Idaho Code should allow all district taxpayers, of both districts involved in an excision/annexation process, the opportunity to vote in an excision/annexation election, not just a small minority. Allowing all district taxpayers in both districts the opportunity to vote in an excision/annexation election will protect all taxpayers from having their taxes increased without their permission. The potential excision of real property in the taxpayers' district would reduce property value in the excision district and would automatically cause the remaining district

taxpayers' taxes to be increased. Also, the allotted time frame for both district to respond to a submitted excision petition should be increased to allow sufficient time to research the impact of the petition and to get input from district patrons as the current process unfairly penalizes taxpayers in the district impacted by an excision.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Section 33-308, Idaho Code needs to be significantly revised due to the hardship it is causing local district taxpayers and districts. The process allows a small group of individuals to effectively decide to increase taxes for the majority of taxpayers in an affected district without allowing them a vote. As a result of the random nature of the process allowed by Section 33-308, Idaho Code it is extremely difficult for districts to do short or long term financial planning. Additionally, the timeline for district consideration should be changed to allow much more time for both districts' Boards of Trustees to research the impact of an excision petition and seek input from district taxpayers.

Submitted by Post Falls School District No. 273

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: DO PASS

Leslie Baker of the ISBA Executive Board will address the Executive Board's recommendation to the membership at the Business Session of the Annual Convention.

EDUCATION ALLOCATION FOR OUT OF STATE TEACHERS

WHEREAS, the recruitment of highly effective experienced teachers is essential to the academic achievement of students in the Idaho public school system;

WHEREAS, the State of Idaho is experiencing a shortage of teachers in the various grade levels and subject areas;

WHEREAS, the Idaho career ladder is attracting experienced out of state teachers to the State of Idaho;

WHEREAS, not all professional level out of state teachers receive the education allocation coming from those states that do not have all three of the following: Individual Professional Learning Plan (IPLP), evaluation based on the 22 components of the Danielson Framework, and student achievement included as part of the summative evaluation; and

WHEREAS, many Idaho school districts are absorbing the additional cost of paying the education allocation at the professional level for out of state teachers;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Idaho School Boards Association work with the Idaho Legislature to amend Idaho Code to create a mechanism by which professional level out of state teachers may receive the education allocation.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

This change in legislation would allow Idaho school districts to attract experienced out of state teachers without having to absorb the additional cost and free up monies at the district level.

Submitted by Kimberly School District No. 414 Submitted by Jerome Joint School District No. 261

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: DO PASS

Scott Tverdy of the ISBA Executive Board will address the Executive Board's recommendation to the membership at the Business Session of the Annual Convention.

CARD CHECK FOR NEGOTIATIONS

WHEREAS, Section 33-1271, Idaho Code outlines that upon a request by the Board of Trustees, a local association wanting to negotiate must provide written evidence establishing that they represent 50% + 1 of professional employees;

WHEREAS, the statute states that the local association "shall establish this representative status on an annual basis"; and

WHEREAS, some local associations are using signed cards authorizing the local association to represent them that are not from the current year;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Idaho School Boards Association work to clarify that the signature cards provided by the local education association for use in proof of 50% + 1 representation are signed on an annual, or at a minimum every other year, basis.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

In this year and previous years of negotiations, local associations have interpreted Idaho Code in the manner such that they did not have to have current signature cards for establishing representation. They have instead been using cards that were signed in prior years that included a statement that they were valid unless revoked by the employee. Idaho Code should be revised to prevent this practice and ensure that cards provided by the local education association for use in proof of 50% + 1 representation are signed on an annual, or at a minimum every other year, basis.

Submitted by St. Maries School District No. 41

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: DO PASS

Brett Plummer of the ISBA Executive Board will address the Executive Board's recommendation to the membership at the Business Session of the Annual Convention.

GENERAL FUND RESERVE

WHEREAS, the Idaho Legislature's Public Schools Funding Formula Committee is working to revise the Idaho public schools funding formula;

WHEREAS, it is likely that when the new funding model begins, some districts and charters will collect more money and some will collect less; and

WHEREAS, a majority of Idaho districts currently rely on voter-approved supplemental levies.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Idaho School Boards Association work to increase the general fund contingency reserve from the five percent cap of the annual school district budget found in Section 33-801A, Idaho Code.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Due to the fact that the funding formula will be changed and Idaho school districts cannot anticipate the impact, it is necessary that increases be made to the contingency reserve law to protect individual districts. The Idaho School Boards Association should actively work to increase the general fund contingency limit.

Submitted by Bonneville School District No. 93

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: NONE

James Stoor of the ISBA Executive Board will address the Executive Board's recommendation to the membership at the Business Session of the Annual Convention.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION TEACHERS EXPERIENCE FACTOR

WHEREAS, Career and Technical Education (CTE) opportunities for students with highly skilled and qualified teachers are critical in meeting the 60% Go On Goal established by the State Board of Education for Idaho:

WHEREAS, there is a teacher shortage in Idaho and CTE openings are among the most difficult to fill;

WHEREAS, the beginning teachers' salary in Idaho is thousands of dollars less than what experienced CTE professionals make in their work place;

WHEREAS, all CTE teachers do not hold an Occupational Specialist Certification to qualify for the additional allocation amount of \$3000.00; and

WHEREAS, in determining the experience factor the actual years of certified service in a public school, an accredited or private or parochial school, or college or university are credited for experience but qualified work experience is not credited for CTE professionals;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Idaho School Boards Association work to allow professional experience as an education factor when calculating funding for Career and Technical Education Instructors.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Career and Technical Education is a large part of meeting the 60% Go On Goal established by the State Board of Education for Idaho. Due to the fact that qualified instructors coming from industry usually take a reduction in pay to enter the teaching ranks, this measure would honor the professional experience of CTE instructors and assist in funding a salary equitable to other experienced teachers. The Idaho School Boards Association should actively work to amend Section 33-1004A(2), Idaho Code allowing professional experience for CTE instructors to be allowable experience for funding purposes.

Submitted by Bonneville School District No. 93

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: NONE

Jody Hendrickx of the ISBA Executive Board will address the Executive Board's recommendation to the membership at the Business Session of the Annual Convention.

CONTRACTS FOR TEACHERS HOLDING AN INTERIM CERTIFICATION UNDER AN ALTERNATIVE ROUTE

WHEREAS, state-wide many school districts in Idaho struggle to find certified personnel in all positions but especially in certificated content areas such as math, science, special education and foreign languages;

WHEREAS, in order to fill these certificated positions, including the hard to fill positions, boards must request Alternative Routes to Certification for these individuals to the State Department of Education under IDAPA 08.02.02.042;

WHEREAS, the Interim Certificates issued to the individual(s) include requirements that s/he must complete in order to receive a valid five year teaching certificate issued by the State Department of Education;

WHEREAS, often the time period to complete the necessary requirements is a multi-year process and/or there are numerous situations where individuals fail to complete the necessary requirements; and

WHEREAS, under current Idaho Code for teacher contracts, individuals who are not fully credentialed and/or may never reach a point of full credential, are earning varying degrees of property rights, which can result in expensive due process and probationary periods prior to school districts being able to address cessation of employment;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Idaho public school districts, charter districts, and charter schools should not be required to issue Standard Teaching Contracts to individuals that contain any form of due process protections and/or expectations of continued employment until the individual has obtained a full valid teaching certificate issued by the State Department of Education;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Idaho School Boards Association work to amend Idaho Code to include the requirement that Idaho public school districts, charter districts, and charter schools may only issue a Category 1 Standard Teacher contract to certified personnel working in Idaho public schools yet only holding an Interim Teaching Certificate under an Alternative Route to Certification.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Due to the need of school boards to hire individuals that are attempting to enter the teaching profession under Alternative Routes to Certification, public schools should not be required to issue Standard Teaching Contracts that exceed a one year period to these individuals. This change will place accountability on the individual to diligently pursue the requirements set forth in the Interim Teaching Certificate issued to them and not place school boards in statutorily protected contract

disputes when the individual is not making progress towards the requirements necessary to receive a valid five year teaching certificate.

Submitted by West Ada Joint School District No. 2

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: NONE

Wally Hedrick of the ISBA Executive Board will address the Executive Board's recommendation to the membership at the Business Session of the Annual Convention.

MOVE SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE ELECTIONS TO NOVEMBER OF ODD YEARS

WHEREAS, school board trustee elections have historically been, and should remain, non-partisan;

WHEREAS, many school districts that hold school trustee elections in May are satisfied with the date for those elections and believe the results reflect the will of the people in their communities;

WHEREAS, there has been an ongoing effort in the Legislature to change the dates of school board elections with the stated purpose of increasing voter turn-out;

WHEREAS, including school board trustee elections in even numbered years, associated with a general election in November, significantly increases the chances of school board elections becoming associated with partisan politics in some communities;

WHEREAS, scheduling school board trustee elections in odd numbered years in November, associated with a general election, will result in these elections being at the same time as elections for city council, mayor, and other non-partisan elections; and

WHEREAS, having school board trustees take office on January 1 at the same time as other non-partisan elected officials would allow them the ability to be involved in the drafting of the new Continuous Improvement Plan and budget for the next fiscal year as well as participate in negotiations for the upcoming year;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Idaho School Boards Association work with the Idaho Legislature to craft legislation to change the dates of school board elections to odd numbered years in a November general election and will oppose any effort to include such elections in even numbered years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if the date of school board elections is moved to November of odd numbered years, the newly elected trustee shall take office in the spring to allow them to participate in teacher contract negotiations, budget meetings, and continuous improvement planning meetings.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

For the past several years, the Idaho Legislature has considered legislation that would move school board trustee elections to the general election date in November of even years. The stated purpose for moving those elections is to increase voter participation. School board trustees believe that trustee elections need to remain non-partisan. The Idaho School Boards Association would like to work with the Legislature to find a date that would increase voter turnout and still provide trustees with a non-partisan election.

In addition, should the election date move to November of odd years, school board trustees believe that the newly elected members should not take office until spring of the following year. This would allow the current board to move forward with the established continuous

improvement plan and the established budget. By allowing the new board members to take office in the spring, they would then be involved with teacher contract negotiations, budget setting, and continuous improvement planning for the following school year.

Submitted by Caldwell School District No. 132

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: DO PASS

Starr Olsen of the ISBA Executive Board will address the Executive Board's recommendation to the membership at the Business Session of the Annual Convention.

HIRING RETIRED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AS SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

WHEREAS, school safety and security is a primary concern of trustees, school administrators, staff, parents and community members;

WHEREAS, placing School Resource Officers in schools increases the safety and security of the school by creating an ability to appropriately respond to threats of violence including use of weapons;

WHEREAS, retired police officers have the training and experience needed to serve as a School Resource Officer;

WHEREAS, Section 59-1301 et seq., Idaho Code sets the service retirement at what is known as the rule of 90 for public employees;

WHEREAS, Section 59-1301 et seq., Idaho Code sets the service retirement at what is known as the rule of 80 for police officers;

WHEREAS, a police officer could conceivably reach service retirement rule of 80 when he or she reaches age 50;

WHEREAS, Sections 33-1004H and 59-1356, Idaho Code allow school districts to hire retired teachers and administrators within parameters;

WHEREAS, Idaho Code and the Public Employee Retirement System of Idaho (PERSI) Rule limits the amount of time a "service retired" PERSI member can work for another PERSI employer to less than 20 hours per week unless the retiree was age 60 or older at time of retirement; and

WHEREAS, it may be in the best interest of the school district to hire a full-time School Resource Officer rather than having to coordinate the use of part-time (less than 20 hours per week) resource officers restricted by PERSI and legislative rule;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Idaho School Boards Association work with the Idaho Legislature to amend Idaho Code removing the less than 20 hours per week limitation on police officers that met service retirement prior to age 60 and are hired to function as a School Resource Officer and to seek funding with which school districts may defray costs associated with employing retired police officers as School Resource Officers.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

School safety and security is a concern for Idahoans especially given the tragedies that have occurred involving students and staff at public schools over the years. To deter criminal acts many school districts have hired School Resource Officers. The advertised presence of trained law enforcement personnel assigned to campuses and adequately armed to defend themselves, students, and staff serves as a deterrent to would be criminal activity. Additionally, some school districts have allowed staff members to carry firearms and have provided public notice of such. At present a police officer that reaches service retirement prior to age 60 will be restricted to working less than 20 hours per week. Eliminating that restriction would enable school districts to hire retired police officers as school resource officers on a full-time basis in addition to allowing them to receive their full PERSI benefit without penalty.

Submitted by Cassia Joint School District No. 151

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: DO NOT PASS

Jennifer Parkins of the ISBA Executive Board will address the Executive Board's recommendation to the membership at the Business Session of the Annual Convention.

TRANSPORTATION REIMBURSEMENT

WHEREAS, Section 33-1006, Idaho Code states the State Board of Education shall determine what costs of transporting pupils shall be allowable in computing the transportation support program of school districts;

WHEREAS, each school district shall maintain records and make reports as required for the purposes of Section 33-1006, Idaho Code;

WHEREAS, the transportation reimbursement to school districts for allowable costs as specified in Section 33-1006(5), Idaho Code is calculated at 50 percent or 85 percent; and

WHEREAS, such reports require multiple ledger accounts to track 50 percent and 85 percent reimbursable expenditures along with reporting non-reimbursable expenditures;

WHEREAS, considerable staff time is required to itemize and differentiate reimbursable expenses as 50 percent and 85 percent; and

WHEREAS, the audits conducted by Idaho State Department of Education transportation personnel are more complicated due to the number of accounts being audited and such audits often result in multiple audit corrections;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Idaho School Boards Association work with the Idaho State Department of Education, Idaho State Board of Education, and the Idaho Legislature to amend Idaho Code to simplify and establish a fixed flat rate of allowable transportation expense reimbursement to districts at 85 percent.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Changes to the methodology for reimbursing school districts for allowable transportation expenses has created a burden for school personnel. Extensive clerical work is necessary to identify and categorize the allowable reimbursement costs incurred by each district. Considerable time, effort, and cost is associated with ensuring each allowable expense is properly documented within the 50 percent and 85 percent categories to maximize the transportation reimbursement to the school district. Reimbursing all allowable transportation costs at a flat fixed rate of 85 percent will reduce the amount of clerical work required to submit reimbursement and other reports at the district level. Such a change would also simplify the audits conducted by the Idaho State Department of Education transportation program personnel. This resolution seeks to simplify and streamline transportation reimbursement to the districts.

Submitted by Cassia Joint School District No. 151

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: DO PASS

Erin Barnard of the ISBA Executive Board will address the Executive Board's recommendation to the membership at the Business Session of the Annual Convention.

K-12 FUNDING PRINCIPLES

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the State of Idaho states: "it shall be the duty of the Legislature of Idaho, to establish and maintain a general, uniform and thorough system of public, free common schools.";

WHEREAS, 95 of the 115 school districts in Idaho have supplemental levies in order to maintain operations;

WHEREAS, many school districts are not able to pass supplemental levies or to pass supplemental levies that are adequate to meet their needs;

WHEREAS, the Idaho Legislature does not provide funds for the construction and maintenance of facilities:

WHEREAS, these practices have resulted in a public-school system that is neither uniform or thorough; and

WHEREAS, locally elected school board trustees know the needs and priorities of their community better than the State Legislature, State Board, and/or the State Department;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Idaho School Boards Association work with the Idaho State Board of Education, the Idaho State Department of Education, and the Idaho Legislature to develop new funding mechanisms based upon the following principles:

- Allow locally elected school boards to determine how to spend funding based on community needs and priorities;
- Comply with the constitutional mandate for uniform and thorough schools;
- Provide funding for facilities construction and maintenance;
- Allocate funding based on enrollment;
- Simplify allocation of transportation funding that recognizes fixed costs that are unique to each district;
- Fund the career ladder and what might be developed in the future for experienced staff beyond the current cap of \$50,000; and
- Fund for high need special populations (examples include CTE, GATE, FRL, LEP, SpEd, Etc.).

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

As recommended by the Governor's Task Force for Improving Education, work has commenced that could change the funding formula for K-12 public schools. Having a standard of fundamental guiding principles provides a measure against which ideas can be weighed and evaluated. These funding principles represent the philosophical baseline of direction for funding public schools and address the areas of challenge for K-12 across the State.

Submitted by Boise School District No. 1

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: DO PASS

Kim Campbell of the ISBA Executive Board will address the Executive Board's recommendation to the membership at the Business Session of the Annual Convention.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION K-12 ADVISORY COUNCIL

WHEREAS, Section 33-105, Idaho Code states that "the State Board of Education shall have power to make rules for its own government and the government of its executive departments and offices" and "upon recommendations of its executive officers, to appoint to said departments and offices such specialists, clerks, and other employees as the execution of duties may require, to fix their salaries and assign their duties.";

WHEREAS, Section 33-107, Idaho Code states that "the State Board of Education shall have power to perform all duties prescribed for it by the school laws of the state.";

WHEREAS, statutes and rules are proposed, reviewed, and considered annually by the State Board of Education, the State Department of Education, and the Idaho Legislature;

WHEREAS, public schools throughout the State of Idaho receive their primary direction and funding through this process;

WHEREAS, the employers throughout the State of Idaho expect our public schools to contribute to the preparation of their future employees and preparation of these students in becoming lifelong learners who will become economically viable citizens. Employers are adjusting their products, services, and talent needs constantly as they improve their ability to integrate customer demands, technology, and other innovations. Employers expect educators to adjust as needed to provide the talent;

WHEREAS, a group of K-12 public school advisors could act as advisors to those proposing code and rules. This group advice could minimize unintended consequences, eliminate waste, and improve agility and responsiveness to business expectations; and

WHEREAS, a model for this advisory group exists in Idaho Code for Elder Care through the Department of Health and Welfare in Sections 39-3330 and 39-3331, Idaho Code.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Idaho School Boards Association work to establish an Advisory Council under Section 33-105, Idaho Code as follows:

a) The State Board of Education shall establish a state level advisory council consisting of 20 members, 6 of which would be appointed by state education stakeholder organizations (Idaho School Boards Association, Idaho Association of School Administrators, Idaho Education Association) and/or agencies (Idaho State Board of Education, Idaho State Department of Education) and 14 of which would be appointed by school district superintendents (6 large districts, 6 rural districts and 2 charter schools). The chairman of the council shall be elected from the membership. The members of the council shall be determined by the bylaws of the council.

- b) The K-12 Advisory Council shall have the following powers and duties:
 - i) To make policy recommendations regarding standards in the primary K-12 Public School system;
 - ii) To advise the State Board, State Department, and Legislative Committees during development and revision of K-12 education policy, statutes, and rules;
 - iii) To review and comment upon any proposed rules pertaining to or impacting on K-12 public schools; and
 - iv) To submit an annual report to the Board, Department, and Legislature stating opinions and recommendations which would further the state's capability to provide K-12 education for all public schools.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

K-12 funding is the largest single expense in the state budget. The K-12 budget and statutes and rules promulgated represent a tremendous governance effort on the part of the State Board of Education, the State Department of Education, and the Idaho Legislature. On occasion, these efforts result in requirements placed on school districts that are not aligned with the work happening at the local level. The Idaho School Boards Association should advocate that the State Board of Education use an advisory council model already in use by the Department of Health and Welfare, another state agency. This council, composed of community members, district/charter representatives, and subject matter experts could be a proactive voice in preparing policy, statute, regulation, and reporting requirements. The importance of this working advisory council would eliminate much waste and allow for all districts/charters to focus more on preparing their students for career, college, and citizenship.

Submitted by Boise School District No. 1

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: NONE

Brian Pyper of the ISBA Executive Board will address the Executive Board's recommendation to the membership at the Business Session of the Annual Convention.

KEEP SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE ELECTIONS IN MAY

WHEREAS, school board trustee elections have historically been and should remain non-partisan;

WHEREAS, many school districts that hold school trustee elections in May are satisfied with the date for those elections and believe the results reflect the will of the people in their communities:

WHEREAS, Idaho school board members are currently elected in May and installed in July when school districts begin their new fiscal year;

WHEREAS, school boards conduct annual superintendent evaluations in January or February;

WHEREAS, elections for school board members in May are separate from other elections that could overshadow them and cause them to be politically motivated;

WHEREAS, school board members are elected officials who serve without pay;

WHEREAS, school district election boundaries often do not follow the same boundaries as other election districts; and

WHEREAS, newly elected board members now have the opportunity to attend the Idaho School Boards Association annual meeting in early November to gain much needed training and knowledge about their new responsibilities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Idaho School Boards Association will work to keep school board elections from being moved to November.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

School boards are now functioning on an election schedule that works well with district fiscal years that run from July 1 to June 30. The schedule also works well for new members to attend the Idaho School Boards Association's annual convention in early November for much needed education and training. If elections were changed to November then new school board members would be starting mid-year and join the board just as the important annual superintendent evaluations are conducted. In addition, those elections would become much more political and likely to be overshadowed by the numerous other elections held in November. Complicating matters further, school district boundaries often do not conform to other election district boundaries.

Submitted by Moscow School District No. 281

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: DO NOT PASS

Candace Burns of the ISBA Executive Board will address the Executive Board's recommendation to the membership at the Business Session of the Annual Convention.

DISCUSSION OF SALE OF PUBLIC PROPERTY WITHIN EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, Section 74-206 (c), Idaho Code allows a governing body of a public agency to go into Executive Session to consider acquiring "an interest in real property which is not owned by a public agency";

WHEREAS, Idaho Code does not allow executive session discussions regarding the sale of real property either to a public agency, commercial entity, or private individual; and

WHEREAS, upon receipt of an offer to a public agency for the purchase of real property, a governing body needs to discuss acceptable counteroffers and other applicable conditions regarding such sale;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Idaho School Boards Association work with the Idaho Legislature to amend Idaho Code to include language to allow deliberations on the sale of real property which is owned by a public agency within executive session.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

A school district must be able to discuss the sale of real property and its acceptance of counteroffers within executive session. If an interested party makes an offer on real property, a public agency needs to be able to privately discuss acceptable counteroffers without public knowledge of their final acceptable price. If these deliberations take place in open meetings, the interested party will make the lowest offer as discussed by the board.

Submitted by Moscow School District No. 281

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: DO PASS

John Menter of the ISBA Executive Board will address the Executive Board's recommendation to the membership at the Business Session of the Annual Convention.

PERMISSIBLE EDUCATION ACTIVITIES IN SCHOOL BOND AND LEVY ELECTIONS

WHEREAS, Idaho Code currently covers only certain specific disclosures in elections to authorize bonded indebtedness and to authorize a levy, and requires those disclosures to be made in the ballot form and election notice;

WHEREAS, these disclosures are limited to a brief official statements and specific financial information:

WHEREAS, because these disclosures are on the ballot, the legal concept of "ballot sanctity" does not, and should not, call for additional disclosures on the ballot itself;

WHEREAS, although dedicated governmental resources should not be used to direct the outcome of an election, school districts need to be able to disseminate neutral informative and educational information about the purpose and reasons for the bond or levy;

WHEREAS, many school districts are asked to meet with community members in various public forums to provide additional details about the use of resources generated through bonded indebtedness or levy;

WHEREAS, these educational forums are not currently defined as distinct from advocacy that could direct the outcome of an election; and

WHEREAS, certain political groups have introduced legislation that seeks to restrict activities that should be permissible and that would subject district officials to liability as well as possibly invalidate an otherwise valid election;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Idaho School Boards Association research, draft, and submit legislation that more clearly defines the permissible use of government resources and personnel to educate voters on the planned uses, amounts, and costs of proposed bonded indebtedness and levies.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Voters need to be able to be educated about proposed school district budgets, projects, and use of levies and bonds. School district personnel have the most complete set of details and they need to be able to answer voter questions and provide these details without advocating for specific outcomes in elections.

Submitted by Moscow School District No. 281

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: DO PASS

Janie Gebhardt of the ISBA Executive Board will address the Executive Board's recommendation to the membership at the Business Session of the Annual Convention.

INCENTIVE TO ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO PURSUE TEACHING

WHEREAS, an acute shortage of teachers in Idaho makes it difficult for districts to find qualified applicants for teaching positions;

WHEREAS, the State of Idaho provides no incentive for students to pursue a career in teaching; and

WHEREAS, the number of students pursuing a career in teaching continues to decrease in Idaho;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Idaho School Boards Association work with the Idaho Legislature to consider developing an incentive plan to entice Idaho students to pursue a career in teaching by providing grants to students who commit to a teaching in Idaho. Provisions would be included that the grant would require re-payment if the student did not complete the required course work within a determined number of years.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Due to the critical shortage of teachers in Idaho, districts have difficulty finding qualified teachers to fill vacancies. An incentive plan would entice students to pursue a career in teaching. The Idaho School Boards Association should actively work with the Idaho Legislature to provide funding for an incentive program.

Submitted by Buhl School District No. 412

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: DO NOT PASS

Tom Hearn of the ISBA Executive Board will address the Executive Board's recommendation to the membership at the Business Session of the Annual Convention.