2019 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)

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<td>Reduce Super Majority on Facility Bonds</td>
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*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 2019:

"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 2019 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."
2019 ISBA RESOLUTION NO. 1

SALARY BASED APPORTIONMENT FOR CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES

WHEREAS, the State of Idaho distributes the major portion of public school funding through the “Salary-Based Apportionment” (SBA) formula; and

WHEREAS, the SBA formula includes separate calculations for instructional, administrative, and classified salary and benefit support; and

WHEREAS, the percentage of funds expended by local districts and charter schools above their SBA allocation for classified salaries is often significantly higher than the percentage expended over and above the SBA allocations for administrative and instructional salaries; and

WHEREAS, the number of classified full-time equivalents (FTE’s) employed by school districts and charter schools often exceeds the number funded by the SBA formula; and

WHEREAS, school districts and charter schools employ far more professional and technical classified staff, i.e. business and human resource professionals, technology staff, etc. than they did when the SBA formula was first established; and

WHEREAS, school districts and charter schools expend large percentages of operational unit funding and supplemental levy revenues to pay for these classified staff; and

WHEREAS, the salaries paid for professional and technical classified staff far exceed the State’s salary based apportionment for these employees, and school districts/charter schools need to pay these employees competitive wages to recruit and retain qualified individuals;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Idaho School Boards Association educate the Idaho State Legislature about the funding disparity for classified salaries compared to what is allocated and support a formula for classified staff designed to bring the percentage paid by the State in line with the percentage paid by districts for instructional and administrative salaries. This should be addressed with changes both to the base salary and number of classified staff provided for by the unit factor.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

In the years since the State’s salary based apportionment formula was enacted, school districts have made significant changes in how they are run. The number and percentage of classified staff and technology specialists that manage a district’s human resources and technology operations has increased dramatically. The portion of the State formula that funds classified salaries and benefits was designed with custodians
and school secretaries and aides in mind. The need for highly skilled human resource specialists as well as professional business managers and technology specialists to manage the complex and technical aspects of a school district has changed the role for these classified positions. Districts and charters now employee more professional business managers, human resource directors, network administrators, web masters, IT specialists, etc. and other skilled classified staff than ever before. Additionally, many of these professional and technical employees are hired to meet State and Federal mandated requirements, including reporting in the Idaho System for Educational Excellence (ISEE), the State’s Longitudinal Data System.

This resolution calls for changes in the SBA formula to better reflect the need to increase the salaries and the number of FTE’s funded by the classified portion of the formula. In 2017/18, school districts and charter schools spent, on average, $1.66 for every $1 of salary based apportionment for a difference of $79.8 million.

Submitted by Weiser School District No. 431
Submitted by Twin Falls School District No. 411
Submitted by Kimberly School District No. 414
Submitted by Caldwell School District No. 132
Submitted by Vallivue School District No. 139
Submitted by Emmett School District No. 221
Submitted by Meadows Valley School District No. 11
Submitted by Mountain Home School District No. 193
Submitted by COSSA Board of Trustees
Submitted by West Ada School District No. 2
Submitted by Minidoka School District No. 331
Submitted by Fruitland School District No. 373
Submitted by Notus School District No. 135
Submitted by Nampa School District No. 131
Submitted by Buhl School District No. 412

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.

PASSED
TABLED
FAILED
AYES
NAYES
TOTAL
ISBA RESOLUTION NO. 2

REDUCE SUPER MAJORITY ON FACILITY BONDS

WHEREAS, many school districts in Idaho are in need of improved or new school facilities; and

WHEREAS, Idaho Code currently provides voter-approved property tax measures as the only mechanism to construct schools; and

WHEREAS, Idaho requires at least a 66.67% super majority approval vote for school facilities bonds; and

WHEREAS, many Idaho school districts have found it very difficult or impossible to pass a school facilities bond; and

WHEREAS, the Idaho Legislature has considered legislation in the past that would limit the number of facility bond elections for school districts per year and create an additional obstacle; and

WHEREAS, many school districts struggle to maintain existing buildings so that they are appropriate and safe educational settings; and

WHEREAS, the quality of school facilities has an impact on school achievement.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Idaho School Boards Association research, draft, and submit legislation that proposes supplemental mechanisms to fund school construction and maintenance and support the reduction of the super majority approval required for passing school facilities bonds.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

School districts facing rapidly increasing enrollment only have one option for the construction of new facilities – passage of a bond that places a burden on property owners. Meanwhile, the State of Idaho is trying to raise student achievement and the quality of school facilities has an impact on that achievement. Many districts are trying to address their facilities needs but are having great difficulty achieving, or have not been able to achieve, the 66.67% approval vote for passing a facilities bond. Any reduction of this extremely high approval threshold would help provide better school facilities in Idaho.

Submitted by Moscow School District No. 281
Submitted by St. Maries School District No. 41

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: DO PASS
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.

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2019 ISBA RESOLUTION NO. 3

REDUCE THE 2/3 MAJORITY VOTE REQUIREMENT TO A SIMPLE MAJORITY IN THE EVENT OF TWO BOARD VACANCIES IN ORDER TO CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION PER SECTION 74-206 (a-j). IDAHO CODE

WHEREAS, many school districts and charter schools in Idaho may have a quorum present, however cannot enter into Executive Session because of the lack of enough members present to qualify a 2/3 vote to do so; and

WHEREAS, Boards consisting of 5 or more members may be able to convene in regular session by having a simple majority present (3 of 5 members or 4 of 7 members – qualifying a quorum) but are required to have 4 of the 5 or 5 of the 7 to conduct business in Executive Session; and

WHEREAS, many times Boards will find themselves needing to address time-sensitive or emergent circumstances that fall under an Executive Session Category. Categories such as personnel matters, disciplinary issues, or labor negotiations all require a confidential handling by the Board and fall under the Section 74-206 (a-j), Idaho Code and cannot be addressed without the 2/3 vote to enter into the Executive Session;

WHEREAS, Boards today face unexpected multiple resignations, family circumstances and other unplanned absences that render them unable to conduct business of a sensitive nature, because of the inability to bring the 2/3 vote requirement to the table when they do not have a quorum present.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Idaho School Boards Association work to reduce the 2/3 majority vote requirement to a simple majority in the event of two or more Board vacancies in order to convene in Executive Session per Section 74-206 (a-j), Idaho Code.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Due to the likelihood of not always being able to have a 2/3 majority of members present, the Idaho School Boards Association should actively work to reduce the 2/3 majority vote requirement stated in Idaho Code 74-206 (a-j) to convene in Executive Session to a simple majority qualified quorum in the event of two or more Board vacancies.

Submitted by St. Maries Joint School District No. 41

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: DO PASS

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.
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2019 ISBA RESOLUTION NO. 5

FULL FUNDING OF KINDERGARTEN

WHEREAS, research shows the increase in the number of full day kindergarten programs has been attributed to various social, economic, and educational factors.

WHEREAS, kindergarten students who participate in full day kindergarten make greater gains in their mathematics and reading achievement when compared to those attending half-day classes; and

WHEREAS, in a statewide survey presented by the Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children, 75 percent of respondents said they would be "very likely" or "somewhat likely" to send their children to public preschool if it were available in their community; and

WHEREAS, as of 2017/2018, 84 of 142 of Idaho’s traditional and charter schools offer full day kindergarten to students without funding for a full time teacher; and

WHEREAS, districts and charters that offer full day kindergarten programs must employ 1.0 FTE per kindergarten classroom, while currently only receiving .5 FTE funding for the kindergarten program compared to other elementary grades; and

WHEREAS, whether the current funding formula is amended by the legislature or remains the same, the request would be for kindergarten students to be funded at the same rate as other elementary students.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Idaho School Boards Association research, draft, and submit legislation – or, support legislation - that proposes the State of Idaho fund full day kindergarten the same way it does all other elementary students. This change would allow districts or charters that offer full day kindergarten increased financial stability and decrease the amount of local support districts or charters utilize through supplemental levies or discretionary dollars.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The lack of funding for full day kindergarten puts a hardship on local districts and charters. The funding of kindergarten at the same rate as all other elementary students would allow districts and charters more flexibility in bridging the gaps seen in early childhood literacy. The fiscal impact of this resolution is $52 million.

Submitted by West Bonner County School District No. 83
Submitted by Genesee Joint School District No. 282

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: DO NOT 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.

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2019 ISBA RESOLUTION NO. 6

IN OPPOSITION TO DIVERTING PUBLIC DOLLARS TO PRIVATE OR PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS INCLUDING VOUCHERS, THE GRANTING OF TAX CREDITS FOR SCHOLARSHIP DONORS, OR AMENDING ARTICLE IX, §5, IDAHO CODE, ALSO KNOWN AS THE BLAINE AMENDMENT

WHEREAS, the Idaho State Constitution provides for “the free and thorough public education for children”; and

WHEREAS, the Idaho State Constitution as amended by the Blaine Amendment ensures the separation of church and state in Idaho by prohibiting the flow of public money to private or religious institutions for education; and

WHEREAS, school districts and charter schools receiving public funds from the legislature are required to meet accounting and student achievement standards for those funds; and

WHEREAS, an additional layer of state oversight would have to be created to account for the use of public money distributed to either individual families or to private or religious institutions; and

WHEREAS, language found in House Bill 590 heard in the 2018 legislative session allowed for funding of a myriad of things for which public school students do not receive funding. Expenses such as uniforms, tutoring, summer program fees, special after-school programs, and anything approved by the State Board of Education could be deductible; and

WHEREAS, Idaho’s students have increasing access to a wide variety of school choice options in the state of Idaho, and parents are free to choose educational services through Idaho’s public education system or educational options in the private sector; and

WHEREAS, in other areas of the country that have adopted voucher programs, student achievement has suffered, especially among those children receiving vouchers; and

WHEREAS, no statement of fiscal impact has been generated.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Idaho School Boards Association oppose any effort to divert public dollars to private or parochial schools, grant tax credits for scholarship donations, or amend the Constitution of the State of Idaho, Article IX, §5, Idaho Code, also known as the Blaine Amendment, to allow public dollars to finance private or parochial education in the K-12 education system of the State of Idaho.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE
School choice is an integral part of public education in the state of Idaho. Public school choice includes charter, magnet, alternative, and virtual schools in addition to traditional public schools where dual language, classical, harbor, international, Montessori, Career Technical, STEM and STEAM programs are offered. These programs are an integral part of what public education already offers across Idaho, funded by state tax dollars. Idaho’s current investment in our children’s public schools ranks 47th in the country. Reducing the general fund by offering a tax credit for donations to scholarship programs or diverting already scarce resources to provide vouchers to private schools will further erode funding to current public schools all across Idaho. If our state constitution is changed, Idaho’s investment in public education will become even smaller as our taxes will be siphoned off to unaccountable private and parochial schools. We oppose amending The Idaho State Constitution, Article IX, §5, Idaho Code, also known as the Blaine Amendment, for the reasons outlined above. Idaho already has substantial choice in its public school system. A voucher, tax-credit, or scholarship program will cause irreparable harm to the existing system of public schools, and will likely harm overall student achievement.

Submitted by Boise School District No. 1

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: DO PASS

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.
2019 ISBA RESOLUTION NO. 7

AMENDING IDAHO SCHOOL AGE STATUTE TO ALLOW FLEXIBILITY FOR KINDERGARTEN PREPAREDNESS PROGRAMS

WHEREAS, Idaho is one of six states that does not invest in early childhood education options for families with children 3 to 5 years old; and

WHEREAS, 49% of Idaho’s children enter kindergarten with below grade level reading skills; and

WHEREAS, school districts and charter schools currently do not have the flexibility to use state funding to support and ensure that all children entering kindergarten are academically, socially and emotionally ready to learn; and

WHEREAS, 69% of three and four year olds in Idaho are currently not enrolled in an early childhood education program according to United States Census Bureau.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Idaho School Boards Association work with the State Board of Education, State Department of Education and the Idaho Legislature to revise Section 33-201 and Section 33-208, Idaho Code, thereby providing school districts and charter schools with the flexibility to use state dollars to support school readiness with the understanding that such programs, like kindergarten, will not be compulsory or mandated, allowing local districts and charters to address the needs of their local students.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Currently Section 33-201, Idaho Code, prevents school districts and charter schools from using state dollars to support kindergarten preparedness programs for 4 year olds. By amending the current age, it will allow flexibility for local districts and charter schools to use state dollars as they see appropriate in supporting children entering kindergarten. There are no dollars attached to changing the code. It simply allows school districts and charter schools the choice in using the funding they receive in a manner that best fits their local community. This resolution would not amend the age threshold for a child enrolling in kindergarten or first grade. Nor would it be compulsory for local districts or charters to establish such programs.

Submitted by Boise School District No. 1
Submitted by Homedale School District No. 370

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: DO PASS

Louis Pifher of the ISBA Executive Board will address the Executive Board’s recommendation to the membership at the Business Session of the Annual Convention.
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2019 ISBA RESOLUTION NO. 8

SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION AND PROPERTY TAX RELIEF

WHEREAS, between 1998 and 2016 voters approved $2,044,380,500 in bonds to meet the educational needs of Idaho's children by either constructing new schools or repairing existing schools; and

WHEREAS, in addition to paying the costs necessary to meet these educational needs, voters authorized the additional payment of approximately $900 million in interest on these bonds; and

WHEREAS, the cost of paying for school construction and major repairs is a burden carried solely by property owners; and

WHEREAS, paying half the cost of the bonds between 1998 and 2016 would have reduced the tax burden on property owners by $1.49 billion; and

WHEREAS, the sales tax from new construction in Idaho from 1998 through 2016 generated more revenue than necessary for the State of Idaho to fund half the cost of school bonds during that time.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Idaho School Boards Association support legislation that would provide for 50 percent State funding using sales tax revenue from new construction to supplement the costs of future school bonds that receive 66 and 2/3rds support from voters.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

To support new legislation that would help school districts fund needed improvements to existing buildings, make additions to existing buildings, or construct new buildings needed to provide space for increasing enrollment while reducing the tax burden that school bonds place on district property tax payers. Based on information from 1998 – 2016, this resolution would have saved $464 million in interest payments and reduced the total property tax burden by $1.4 billion.

Submitted by West Ada School District No. 2

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD:  DO NOT PASS

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.
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2019 ISBA RESOLUTION NO. 9

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; and

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

WHEREAS, the transportation reimbursement to school districts and charter schools 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; and

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

WHEREAS, funding is based on prior year populations, causing strain to growing districts and making it difficult to appropriately budget and staff in the current year; and

WHEREAS, the funding allocation lacks transparency and consistency due to the complexity of the funding formula; and

WHEREAS, the funding formula claims a higher percentage of funding than what is being provided to the schools, due to $7.5 million being backed out and transferred to discretionary funding; and

WHEREAS, the audits conducted by the 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; and

WHEREAS, current methodology has created inequity between the school districts and charter schools, with some receiving greater than 100% of their expenses reimbursed; and

WHEREAS, a change in the funding formula could be more cost effective to the State;

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 of allowable miles or ridership, whichever is higher.

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. Also, the current methodology has created inequity between the school districts resulting in some school districts and charter schools receiving greater than 100% of their costs reimbursed. Reimbursing all allowable transportation costs at a flat, fixed rate of 85 percent of allowable miles or ridership, whichever is higher, 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 and create a more equitable distribution of resources. This resolution, in addition to the current reimbursed amount, would be $4.6 million ($3.5 million if there were no “held harmless” provision). This resolution would not require the $7.5 million Proportional Move to Discretionary Funding (IC 33-1006 (8)) be moved back to transportation, which would result in a net savings of $3 million (based on 16/17 reimbursements).

Submitted by Kuna Joint School District No. 3

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: DO NOT 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.

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2019 ISBA RESOLUTION NO. 10
RECURSIVE FOR CHARTER SCHOOLS SEEKING CHARTER RENEWAL

WHEREAS, charter schools must renew their charters every five years under Idaho Code; and

WHEREAS, this process as given in Section 33-5209 (b), Idaho Code calls for chartering entities to initiate the renewal process and to carry out given steps by specified dates; and

WHEREAS, there is no recourse given for charter schools whose chartering entities do not follow the process given in Section 33-5209 (b), Idaho Code; and

WHEREAS, this could result in a charter holder not receiving a renewal in spite of meeting all the terms of its performance certificate; and

WHEREAS, the legal burden of inaction by a chartering entity is borne only by the charter holder;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Idaho School Boards Association work to provide recourse for charter schools whose chartering entities do not carry out the charter renewal process steps by the deadlines given in Section 33-5209 (b), Idaho Code.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Section 33-5209 (b), Idaho Code specifies certain steps in the charter renewal process that must be taken by the chartering entity. Without this action by the chartering entity, a charter school has no way of pursuing renewal of its charter, even if it is meeting all the terms of its performance certificate. Therefore, the Idaho School Boards Association should actively work to provide recourse – such as an automatic renewal, a one-year extension of the five-year renewal deadline, or an appeal process to the State Board of Education – for charter schools whose chartering entities do not follow the process in Section 33-5209 (b), Idaho Code in a timely manner.

Submitted by the Board of Directors of Moscow Charter School
Submitted by Moscow School District No. 281

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: DO PASS

Nancy Gregory 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
2019 ISBA RESOLUTION NO. 11

SIMPLIFY ACCOUNTABILITY AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS IN STRATEGIC PLANNING STATUTE 33-320, IDAHO CODE

WHEREAS, Section 33-320, Idaho Code, was originally established in 2014 as a strategic planning and professional development statute, with a focus on improving student performance and providing local school boards and superintendents with professional development related to strategic planning, governance, finance, ethics, and/or superintendent/administrator evaluation; and

WHEREAS, the initial legislation that established State Statute 33-320, Idaho Code, addressed two recommendations from the Governor's Task Force for Improving Education: #7 Annual Strategic Planning, Assessment, and Continuous Focus on Improvement; and, #18 Training and Development of School Administrators, Superintendents, and School Boards; and

WHEREAS, section 33-320, Idaho Code, as currently written, creates a redundant, unnecessary, and burdensome reporting process for Idaho school districts and charter schools; and

WHEREAS, section 33-320, Idaho Code, as currently written, establishes a secondary accountability system for Idaho school districts, in addition to Idaho’s current Accountability Framework and the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA); and

WHEREAS, strategic planning is a critical function of Idaho school boards, school districts, and charter schools; and

WHEREAS, decisions about what items and data should drive a school district’s strategic plan are best determined at the local level by school board members.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Idaho School Boards Association work to revise State Statute 33-320, Idaho Code to:

1. Return the statute to its original and intended purpose of directing school districts to create and implement a strategic plan that is developed at the local level with local stakeholder input and

2. Eliminate redundant reporting requirements and additional accountability systems for Idaho school districts and charter schools.
STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Section 33-320, Idaho Code, as currently written, creates duplicate, unnecessary, and burdensome reporting requirements for Idaho school districts as well as a secondary accountability system on top of Idaho’s Accountability Framework and the Every Student Succeeds Act. Returning the statute to its original intent and purpose will allow local school boards to develop strategic plans based on feedback from their stakeholders and the data that they determine to be relevant to the needs of their school district or charter school rather than the current State prescribed metrics currently.

Submitted by Boise School District No. 1
Submitted by Nampa School District No. 131

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: DO PASS

Megan Volkers of the ISBA Executive Board will address the Executive Board’s recommendation to the membership at the Business Session of the Annual Convention.

PASSED AYES
TABLED NAYES
FAILED TOTAL
2019 ISBA RESOLUTION NO. 12

THREATENING VIOLENCE UPON SCHOOL GROUNDS — FIREARMS AND OTHER DEADLY OR DANGEROUS WEAPONS

WHEREAS, Idaho schools value a safe environment for all students and staff within their care, and understand safety is the number one priority when parents entrust their children to the school district or charter school; and

WHEREAS, threats to schools, and the people within the schools, has become a national problem, to which Idaho is not immune; and

WHEREAS, community panic has been demonstrated within communities when a school threat has taken place, especially when the perpetrator has not been placed in custody; and

WHEREAS, Section 18-3302I, Idaho Code allows a peace officer to only issue a misdemeanor citation but does not allow for the arrest of any person who threatens to use a firearm or deadly or dangerous weapon to do violence to any person on school grounds or to disrupt the normal operations of an educational entity; and

WHEREAS, Section 19-603, Idaho Code, sets out criteria for a peace officer to make an arrest and it does not allow for an arrest for threatening violence upon school grounds;

WHEREAS, the current law does not adequately reduce the concern and fear of students, staff, and community due to the perpetrator’s ability to be free;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Idaho School Boards Association research, draft, and submit legislation, or support legislation that proposes an amendment to Section 19-603, Idaho Code when someone threatens violence on school grounds. This will allow a peace officer to place the perpetrator in custody to be evaluated.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Even the threat of school violence can cause panic in a community. Peace officers need to have the ability to arrest a perpetrator rather than issue a misdemeanor citation in these cases. This would allow a community to have a sense of security for their children, decrease the fear of the students and staff targeted, and reduce the long term impact on the learning climate.

Submitted by Moscow School District No. 281

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: DO PASS
Katie Taylor of the ISBA Executive Board will address the Executive Board’s recommendation to the membership at the Business Session of the Annual Convention.

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2019 ISBA RESOLUTION NO. 13

FLEXIBILITY OF MISASSIGNMENT IN TEACHING ASSIGNMENTS

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

WHEREAS, there are many districts and charters in Idaho that have the need for only one period of a subject be taught, due to scheduling, and no staff endorsed in that content area; and

WHEREAS, there are many school districts and charter schools in Idaho that have excellent teachers who do not have endorsements in some needed content areas; and

WHEREAS, a teacher with experience teaching can be more effective in a subject in which they have no endorsement than a teacher with an alternative authorization and little or no teaching experience; and

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

WHEREAS, teachers with substantial background in educational pedagogy and some coursework in content areas for which they have yet to be endorsed would be able to effectively teach that content; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Idaho School Boards Association work to allow local districts and charter schools additional flexibility in making teacher assignments. Such flexibility would be limited to teaching outside the teacher’s endorsed content area for no more than one period per day (or less than 25% of the teacher’s total contract time) and be limited to no more than one year.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Due to the limited number of applicants in the current teaching pool with multiple endorsements, the lack of teaching experience for alternatively authorized educators, 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 and charter schools additional flexibility in teacher assignments in having experienced teachers temporarily fill assignments outside their areas of endorsement.

Submitted by Minidoka County School District No. 331

RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: DO NOT PASS
Nancy Gregory of the ISBA Executive Board will address the Executive Board's recommendation to the membership at the Business Session of the Annual Convention.

PASSED      AYES
TABLED      NAYES
FAILED      TOTAL