

Early Childhood Education Committee Settles on Committee Purpose and Goal

During the June 16 IBCEE Board of Directors meeting, co-chair Jim Everett presented the committee's purpose and goal for review:

Purpose

The purpose of the Early Childhood Education Committee of IBCEE is to recommend a state-wide strategy using evidenced-based data and scientific research to maximize the resources (family, public, private, non-profit and funding) we have to provide preschoolers (birth to five years old) with the learning opportunities necessary to allow them to enter school ready to succeed.

IBCEE Leadership

Chairman	Skip Oppenheimer
President	Vince Hannity
Senior Policy Advisor	Guy Hurlbutt
Executive Director	Christine Donnell
Communication Coordinator	Marc Morris

Goal

To serve as a convener and facilitator of key stakeholders to develop a blueprint for early childhood education that will be presented to the IBCEE membership for approval. It will then be presented to the Idaho executive, judicial, and legislative branches of government and to the State Board of Education and State Department of Education. Using a process that is inclusive, we will review the data, current evidenced-based practices, and other pertinent information to develop a prioritized plan/blueprint we believe will produce the best return on investment and desired outcomes for our state's preschool children.

Higher Ed and Student Achievement Committees to Promote Long-range Education Strategy

IBCEE's Higher Education and Student Achievement Committees have joined forces to create and implement a robust **marketing communications program in support of the Education Strategy Committee's long-range strategic plan for Idaho education** now in process.

Following appropriate market research and marketing plan development, the committees intend to generate sufficient funding and

implement the plan coincident with final development and implementation of the education strategy itself.

The Student Achievement Committee is co-chaired by Bob Lokken and Kurt Liebich, and the Higher Ed Committee is co-chaired by Dean Haagenson and Alicia Ritter.

Higher Ed Committee Responds to State Board

At a March 25 meeting of this committee, Dr. Mike Rush, executive director of the State Board of Education, and Dr. Dale Bowers, chief academic officer, presented the **State Board's 2010–2014 Strategic Plan**.

In response to Dr. Rush's request for feedback, IBCEE submitted a letter to the State Board on April 9, over the signatures of Higher Ed Committee co-chairs Dean Haagenson and Alicia Ritter.

Quoting from the letter: *Our committee did note the desire for continual focus on metrics, benchmarks and measurement. While we fully realize that the plan is a framework, we also feel that it is important to define what constitutes "success" in the various goal areas so we are confident we are moving in the right direction. Similarly, we did note areas where we thought the identified benchmarks were so aspirational as to be unachievable.... At our committee meeting, we additionally confirmed our commitment to the State Board's role in helping to coalesce key stakeholders around development of a plan for addressing the primary care physician workforce shortage in Idaho. We are pleased that all parties are involved in a comprehensive approach to addressing this problem, both short and long-term.*

IBCEE Supporting Idaho Early Childhood Education Business Summit in November

IBCEE's Early Childhood Education Committee, co-chaired by Jim Everett, president of the YMCA, and Mike Mooney, president of Farmers and Merchants Bank, has committed IBCEE support for the Idaho AEYC (Association for Education for Young Children) Business Summit.

“Seeking IBCEE Member Participation and Help in Securing Sponsorships”

The Business Summit will be held on November 19, 2009, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the BSU Stueckle Center.

Planners will invite **speakers with nationally recognized expertise in brain development and success creating early childhood programs and**

practices in business settings. Skip Oppenheimer, IBCEE chair and chairman and ceo of Oppenheimer Companies, will provide an update on progress of the Education Strategy Committee in developing a long-term education strategy for Idaho, as requested by Governor Otter. IBCEE serves as facilitator and advocate in that effort.

IBCEE members are urged to attend the conference and to contact associates encouraging their attendance. Equally important is the **task of securing sponsorships and underwriting** the speaker fees, the Stueckle Center, lunch expense, etc. **IBCEE members who would like to be title sponsors** should contact Christine Donnell at 208-850-5783.