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## Governor Otter Endorses Work of Education Alliance

On November 18, 2009, IBCEE released the following press statement:

### ***Education Alliance: Wonderful Opportunity To Improve Idaho Education***

*At a press conference today, Governor Butch Otter announced that the Education Alliance of Idaho, a group facilitated by IBCEE and representing virtually all key Idaho education stakeholders, has made significant progress in developing a long-range strategic plan for improving Idaho education. The Alliance has submitted Recommendations for a Transformational Education Agenda for the State of Idaho.*

*"For the first time in memory, the perspectives of all key Idaho education stakeholder groups -- as diverse as those are -- have been represented at one table and have now spoken as one Education Alliance," said Skip Oppenheimer, IBCEE chair, and chair and ceo of Oppenheimer Companies.*

*"For several years, IBCEE has advocated for such diverse interests coming together to improve Idaho education, and we are delighted with this progress," Oppenheimer said. "The work of the Education Alliance provides our state with a wonderful opportunity to make significant strides in improving education in the years ahead."*

*In meetings facilitated by IBCEE, the Education Alliance of Idaho began deliberations in 2007. The Alliance is chaired by IBCEE's Guy Hurlbutt. Its members include representatives from more*

*than a dozen governmental and nongovernmental entities with significant stakes in Idaho education.*

*"Our Transformational Education Agenda, submitted to Governor Otter on August 20, 2009, provides a broad framework within which Idaho can continuously improve its education system," Hurlbutt said. "But it's only a beginning. Alliance members foresee significant future and ongoing strategy work."*

*The Transformational Education Agenda report consists of a vision statement, mission statement, goals, performance indicators, and recommended next steps. The four goals named in the report are, broadly stated:*

- 1. Idaho will increase the level of public confidence through continuous improvement in the education system in performance-based assessments, accountability, and measurement with the aid of transparent data.*
- 2. Idaho will have high student achievement standards.*

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### **Organization Contacts**

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3. *Idaho will increase secondary students' participation in advanced opportunity programs for post-secondary credits: AP courses, dual credit, Tech-Prep (professional-technical 2+2 programs), and others.*
4. *Idaho will have a high percentage of students go on to and successfully complete post-secondary education.*

### Education Alliance of Idaho Membership

Office of the Governor  
 State Department of Education  
 Office of State Board of Education  
 Idaho Association of School Administrators  
 Idaho Education Association  
 Idaho School Boards Association  
 Idaho Parent Teachers Association  
 Idaho Association of Commerce and Industry  
 Idaho Digital Learning Academy  
 Idaho Professional/Technical Association  
 J.A. & Kathryn Albertson Foundation  
 Idahoans for Choice in Education  
 IBCEE

For press coverage related to this event, click the following:

- [Governors press release -- Education Alliance](#) - 11.18.09
- [Idaho Governor Otter praises coalition's education reform plan](#) - Idaho Statesman - 11.19.09
- [Otter lauds coalition's goals for education in Idaho](#) - Idaho Statesman - 11.19.09
- [Better education is the key to Idaho's future success](#) - Idaho Statesman - 11.19.09
- [Group calls for more rigor in Idaho public education](#) -- Idaho statesman - 11.18.09

*For more information on the Education Alliance of Idaho Visit [ibcee.org](http://ibcee.org)*

## Supt. Luna Discusses Dept. of Education 2009–2010 Priorities With Teacher Quality Committee

At a recent meeting of the Teacher Quality, Retention and Professional Development Committee, chaired by John Glerum, State Department of Education Superintendent Tom Luna reviewed the department's top priorities for the 2009–10 year, relative to the committee's overall objective to help improve K–12 teacher quality, development and retention. Those priorities are to ensure that:

- Our Idaho universities and colleges are generating the **best educated** and **prepared** teachers possible.
- Our teachers receive **high-quality and effective mentoring programs**, especially beginning teachers.
- We provide **continual development** and **continuous improvement** for Idaho teachers and administrators.

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## Supt. Luna Discusses Dept. of Education 2009–2010 Priorities With Teacher Continued ...

Christina Linder, Certification Director for the Dept. of Education, then discussed the status of the **Idaho Teacher Performance Evaluation Initiative**. She noted that our teachers want and deserve consistency to help them improve the craft of teaching. Idaho is one of only two or three states that have a statewide teacher performance evaluation system.

The group discussed where and how this IBCEE committee could be of help on the above priorities:

- Discussion revolved around the importance of **business leaders' involvement in reinforcing the need and accountability** for measured improvement of state education. North Carolina, Virginia and Kansas were

highlighted as good “best practices” states to look at. Quality instruction is the key process for high student achievement. The group talked about “best practices metrics” to look and to see where our major opportunities exist.

- The group also talked about the **need to advocate for public education in terms of building positive images**. New Mexico’s “Confidence in Education” program was identified as a good template and meaningful way for business leaders to advocate. One critical message is the absolute need for public education to provide all students a foundation to be competitive on the emerging global stage.