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Governor Otter Addresses IBCEE Annual Meeting

Governor Butch Otter addressed IBCEE's annual meeting on September 29, 2010. He noted the unprecedented collaboration that has existed among virtually all education stakeholders in the state, following IBCEE's formation and facilitation of the Education Alliance of Idaho.

IBCEE's formation and facilitation of the Education Alliance led to unprecedented collaboration among Idaho education stakeholders.

"This coalition of educational professionals, business leaders, and parents -- armed with wisdom, experience and passion for the task -- challenged itself to study every possible course in answering the most important question: What is best for students?" Governor Otter said.

In November 2009, the Education Alliance delivered to Governor Otter and Superintendent Tom Luna the four goals of the Transformational Agenda for Education. "These goals represent the cutting edge in education policy and best practices around the nation," the Governor said.

The governor noted that we have already made significant strides in improving student achievement to meet the "four noble goals of reform spelled out in the Agenda." These include:

- Development of the Idaho Education Network (IEN). More than 80 Idaho high schools are already connected; we should add another 80 this year.

- Our statewide longitudinal data system has begun collecting K-12 student performance information and should be fully online this fall, allowing unprecedented usable data to help meet student needs.
- Idaho has joined the Common Core State Standards initiative, a state-led effort toward clearer, higher standards in English and mathematics.
- Idaho joined the Complete College America Alliance to promote and foster college attendance and completion through information sharing and adoption of best practices.
- We are on track to provide every Idaho student with access to advanced placement courses and dual enrollment opportunities.
- Over the past two years the number of Idaho schools making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP as defined by the No Child Left Behind program) has nearly tripled.

Cont...

Organization Contacts

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Governor Otter Addresses IBCEE Annual Meeting Cont...

will continue to do to create the highest-quality, most cost-efficient public education system in the nation.

The four goals of the Transformational Agenda for Education represent the cutting edge in education policy and best practices around the nation.

“We must never forget that we have dedicated ourselves to improving Idaho's public schools – not for business or politics or headlines – but for the children of the state,” Governor Otter said.

IBCEE Adopts Communications Strategy

IBCEE has adopted a communications strategy to be implemented over the remainder of 2010 and 2011. Its goal is to raise IBCEE's visibility, broaden its influence, and demonstrate Idaho business leaders' strong commitment to improving education in the state.

among Idaho education stakeholder groups through its advocacy for the Math and Science Initiative (2007), establishment of the College of Western Idaho (2008–09), and formation of the Education Alliance of Idaho (2009–10).

These are the strategy's key messages:

- *IBCEE believes in the value of education. We look forward to the day of a better educated citizenry and a more capable workforce in Idaho. Our vision is 60% of Idaho's high school graduates going on and completing post-secondary education programs.*
- *IBCEE's involvement in the Education Alliance of Idaho includes continuous efforts to help the Alliance achieve its four transformational goals on behalf of Idaho education.*
- *IBCEE has been working to enhance Idaho education since its beginnings in 2003. It has established trust and credibility*

Communications goal: Raise IBCEE's visibility, broaden its influence, and demonstrate Idaho business leaders' strong commitment to improving education in the state.

The strategy's target audiences include:

- Business, education and community leaders statewide
- Legislators
- Teachers through the Idaho Education Association (IEA)
- Superintendents and principals through the Idaho Association of School Administrators (IASA)
- School board members through the Idaho School Boards Association (ISBA)
- Parents through the Idaho Parent Teachers Association (IPTA)

IBCEE Joins Team at Achieve's Annual Conference

IBCEE, along with other members of an Idaho team, participated in Achieve's annual American Diploma Project Network meeting in Washington, D.C. on September 1-2, 2010.

Achieve is an independent, bipartisan, nonprofit education reform organization based in

Conference time was devoted to implementing Common Core State Standards, which have been adopted by about 36 states.

Washington, DC that helps states raise academic standards and graduation requirements, improve assessments, and strengthen accountability.

Through Achieve's ADP Network, governors, state education officials, post secondary leaders, and business executives work together to improve post secondary preparation by aligning high school standards, graduation requirements, and assessment and accountability systems with the demands of college and careers.

Idaho's team was led by Tom Luna, superintendent, State Department of Education, and included Melissa McGrath, communications director, State Department of Education; Roger

Brown, education liaison, Office of the Governor; Senator Dean Mortimer, co chair of the Idaho Senate Education Committee; Representative Jeff Thompson, member, House Education Committee; and IBCEE President Vince Hannity.

Considerable conference time was devoted to implementation of Common Core State Standards, which have now been adopted by approximately 36 states. Idaho adopted Common Core State Standards in 2009.

Discussion revolved around determining what it will take to implement the Common Core, developing common assessments aligned to the Common Core, strategies and opportunities for engaging higher education around the standards, and implications of the Common Core for college- and career-ready graduation requirements.

Other discussion centered on understanding public support for the college- and career-ready agenda, preparing for next generation science standards, using data systems to advance the college- and career-ready agenda, and creating a college-going culture and supportive environment.

Nine New Members Bring IBCEE Total to 82

The following members have recently joined IBCEE. Total IBCEE membership now numbers 82, with good and improving representation from around the state.

- **Quentin Knipe** – Stoel Rives LLP, Boise
- **Glen Michael** – Highway 12 Ventures, Boise
- **Harold Blackman** – Idaho National Laboratory, Idaho Falls
- **Alan Horner** – First Federal Savings, Twin Falls
- **Dana Reddington** – Wells Fargo Bank, Boise
- **Bill Russell** – Trinity Consulting Inc., Caldwell
- **Jim Kissler** – Norco, Inc., – Boise
- **Dr. David Pate** – St. Luke's Health System
- **Rich Raimondi** – Bishop Kelly High School & formerly Hewlett Packard, Enterprise Imaging and Printing

Lisa Fisher Joins IBCEE as Assistant Executive Director

IBCEE has added Lisa Fisher to its staff as assistant Executive Director. She will be responsible for helping prepare for, participate in, and conduct follow-up as appropriate for all IBCEE board and committee meetings. She will become involved in the work of the Education Alliance, serving primarily as Executive Director Christine Donnell's assistant. She will also help implement the recently adopted communications strategy and design strategies for making the IBCEE website more robust.

With a Master of Arts in Teaching and as a PhD candidate in the area of Organizational Systems, Lisa is deeply passionate about education and social entrepreneurship. She is the Founder of Authentinc, LLC, an independent consulting firm that cultivates and incorporates authenticity into

personal and professional lives and into organizational systems.

Prior to founding Authentinc, Fisher worked as the Director of Corporate Development and Director of Grant and Foundation Development for the 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games.

Earlier, Fisher was an educational and development consultant for nearly 15 years and served as an educator and administrator in private, independent and international schools. A nationally board-certified teacher, she worked at Riverstone International School (Boise) as Director of the Lower, Middle and Upper schools, Director of College Counseling, and the Assistant Head of School.

IBCEE Adds Support To *Pledge* on Behalf of Early Childhood Education

Through its Early Childhood Committee, IBCEE has added its support, along with that of a group convened by Voices for Children, to *Idaho's Pledge to All of Our Children*, which is being distributed widely.

Those committed to the education, health and welfare of our early learning population are being asked to sign this pledge. The purpose is to demonstrate a unified voice as we address policy issues surrounding the education of our young children.

Here is the Pledge's introductory paragraph:

"Beginning at birth, young children in Idaho will have a happy, healthy, safe and nurturing early learning foundation to succeed in school and in life.

The following five components provide the framework for this pledge: 1) parent and family support, 2) social and emotional development, 3) early learning and care, 4) health and safety, and 5) coordination of systems. In recognition of the above, when planning for young children and their families, relationships matter, quality matters, resources matter and results matter. "