

Today's meeting was held to discuss two education initiatives and Boise Police Department's involvement in the recent special session.

Chairman Adams called the committee to order at 1:01 pm. All committee members were present except for Lt. Governor McGeachin, Dennis Johnson, and Chantel Greene.

First, Chairman Adams took up the costs incurred to the Boise Police Department due to the special session that totaled to \$69,000. Tom Kealey moved to reimburse the costs to the City of Boise, seconded by John Evans. The motion passed unanimously.

Second, Chairman Adams introduced the new Elementary and Secondary School Support initiative. With the new U.S. Treasury guidance, the state can now provide up to \$500 per student to K-12 schools as relief for COVID-19 related expenses. Chairman Adams proposed to send \$315 per student to schools based on current enrollment data, totaling in \$99 million for schools across Idaho. Matt Newton had concerns about the lack of reporting required in the proposal – Chairman Adams clarified that the state was talking extra precautions but the U.S. Treasury guidance does not have any reporting requirements. Matt Newton moved to accept the proposal, seconded by Shawn Keough. The motion passed unanimously.

Last, Greg Wilson presented the Strong Families, Strong Students proposal from the Governor's Office that would provide \$50 million in grant funds to Idaho families to cover educational expenses occurred due to school closures because of COVID-19. Each family is eligible for up to \$1,500 per child in school and will be able to apply in a phased approach based on their adjusted gross income with those with the lowest income able to apply first. Greg clarified that the program would be eligible to homeschooled families as well if they met Treasury criteria. Senator Den Hartog commented in support of the proposal saying that this is an ideal and quick way to support students and families alike. As a member of the public, Fred Birnbaum asked what exactly the qualifications for homeschool children were and a timeline for the funds being distributed. Chairman Adams clarified that the Board would be following U.S. Treasury guidance that states the student must have experienced an interruption in school or their parent's jobs that affected their income. Debbie Critchfield stated that the Board was planning to move as quickly as possible on the initiative. Shawn Keough moved to accept the proposal as outlined, seconded by Bobbi-Jo Meuleman. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Adams concluded the meeting with the intention to meet next week on multiple initiatives for the Department of Health & Welfare.