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FOREWORD

The annual issuance of *Profiles: Idaho School Districts* is one of the many ways in which the State Department of Education reports to Idaho's citizens about the state's K-12 public school system. Together with a companion publication, *Financial Summaries: Idaho School Districts*, the *Profiles* provides a "snapshot in time" look at the important components of each school district's resources (federal, state, and local funds), conditions (National School Lunch Program participation, pupil transportation program, student attendance, faculty and staff numbers, and other elements), and results (test scores, drop-out rates, student-teacher ratio, accreditation results, and progress toward meeting district-level goals).

Both *Profiles* and *Financial Summaries* are a part of a larger body of reports available to the public. For example, the State Department of Education's website (www.sde.state.id.us/Dept) lists a variety of publications, ranging from the "School Report Card" for each school district, to K-3 Idaho Reading Indicator scores, to the annual "Teacher Supply and Demand" document that analyzes the make-up of Idaho's teaching ranks. No one document lists every budgeting, program, and staffing decision by every school district, but together these compilations contain a wealth of information for parents, patrons, and policy-makers.

Idaho's public school system relies on Idaho's citizens for support, and these yearly reports are a part of the accountability responsibility that we take seriously. We hope you will continue to find *Profiles* a useful source of information.

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