Legislation in Assessment

Two new statues in place that the current statues – 33-1614, 33-1615, and 33-1616.

House Bill 526 – Statute 33-1615 and 33-1616 (replaces current 33-1615 and 33-1616)- guarantees funding for the roughly 36,000 students in K-3 in Idaho’s public schools who score Basic (2) and Below Basic (1) on the Idaho Reading Indicator. It requires that schools provide 60 hours of reading intervention instruction for kids who score below basic (1), where before the requirement was 40 hours. It also requires schools to provide 30 hours of reading intervention for kids who score basic (2), where before they were not funded. Schools have the discretion to use those funds for the approaches they see fit. The Joint Finance Appropriation Committee awarded 9.1 million towards intervention. This is an addition to the 2.15 million currently funded for a total of 11.25 million. Districts should now receive about $300.00 per student to support intervention, testing, and up to $100.00 for transportation. Funding is based on an average of the prior three years fall IRI scores for both basic and below basic.

House Bill 451 - Statute 33-1614 (replaces current 33-1614) - puts into law reading intervention plans for students in K-3 who score basic and below basic on the IRI. It also adds more heft to the parental notification requirement, now requiring districts to share more information with parents, asking them to be involved with creating the intervention plans, and offering literacy enhancement strategies for the home. It also requires schools/districts to include libraries in their planning.

ISAT Remediation
The changes this year have been to add additional monies to ISAT Remediation and to require a report back to the Legislature. As such, all districts will need to provide a summary of how they spent the ISAT Remediation monies and how that impacted student outcomes.