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**Media Contact:**

Kristin Rodine  
Public Information Officer  
208-332-6807  
[krodine@sde.idaho.gov](mailto:krodine@sde.idaho.gov)

## **SDE issues PSAs, Infographic to highlight education outcomes**

(BOISE) – As we continue our work to help schools and students succeed, it’s important to note that Idaho students and educators already have much to be proud of, Superintendent of Public Instruction Sherri Ybarra said.

So on Tuesday the State Department of Education released video Public Service Announcements to television stations across Idaho and an Infographic for other media, highlighting some important indicators of student achievement in Idaho. The Infographic also has been distributed to Idaho legislators and will be shared with various other groups.

“It’s easy to get sidetracked by criticisms or concerns about the relative lack of resources in Idaho compared to many other states, but the truth is that Idaho students defy those expectations and outperform their peers in other states on numerous important measures of student achievement,” Superintendent Ybarra said. “As my staff assembled a list of those indicators, the results were pretty remarkable and I realized we need to share this with a wide range of Idahoans, from policymakers to parents.”

The various achievements have been publicized individually over the past couple of years, but it’s time to compile them and take a look, the superintendent said.

- U.S. News and World Report ranked Idaho fifth in the nation for its percentage of college-ready students.
- Only two states – Indiana and Iowa -- had a higher percentage than Idaho of high school students earning college credit, according to the most recent figures released by the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships. And that was three years ago – before Idaho substantially increased its subsidy of dual credit courses and the number of participating families boomed.

- The most recent National Assessment of Education Progress, dubbed the Nation’s Report Card, showed that few states – 2 in one category, 6 in two categories and 11 in a third – performed better than Idaho in the percentage of 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who scored Basic or better in reading and mathematics.
- In 2017-18, more than 25,000 Idaho high school students earned nearly 185,000 college credits while in high schools
- Idaho’s four-year high school graduation rate surpassed 80 percent for the first time in 2018, 90 percent of Idaho’s high schools posted rates of 90 percent or better, and 18 of those schools graduated 100 percent of their students in four years.
- The 2018 in Review report from Idaho Career & Technical Education shows a statewide CTE course enrollment of nearly 94,000, with 96 percent of high school students in CTE programs graduating.
- Reading and math proficiency are up statewide, according to the latest results from the Idaho Standards Achievement Test. The percentage of students who scored in the highest category, advanced, has increased steadily during the four years of ISAT.

“This doesn’t mean we should rest on our laurels,” Superintendent Ybarra said. “There is much left to achieve and improve, and we have solid plans in place to expand on our successes. But if our spirits can be buoyed by what has already been accomplished, the path to further improvement may be easier and more enjoyable.”

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**PSAs:** The [full 1-minute PSA](#), and individual 30-second PSAs featuring different parts of the Infographic – [college readiness](#), [NAEP](#) and [other student achievement measures](#), can be downloaded in high-def for TV us.

**Infographic:** Newspapers and online media are welcome to print and post the Infographic. The document, with colorful graphics on one side and source information on the back, is attached and [also can be accessed on the SDE website](#).