Superintendent Ybarra revises 2022 budget request

(BOISE) – In response to stronger than expected state revenues in August and September, Superintendent of Public Instruction Sherri Ybarra has submitted a revised budget for the 2021-22 budget year, seeking an additional $20 million for next fiscal year which brings her total budget request to $2.02 billion in state general funds.

Most of the increase – more than $19.7 million – will be used to restore leadership premiums for Idaho educators that were eliminated for the 2021 fiscal year under the budget holdback. This supports her priority on supporting educators. The superintendent’s revised 2022 budget request also restores $100,000 to the Idaho Math Initiative, which aims to increase Idaho students’ math scores, and $50,000 to support further expansion of the mastery-based education program.

The revised request represents a roughly 2.5 percent increase over the $1.97 billion legislators originally approved for the current school year. The initial request submitted in August represented an increase of about 1.5 percent.

The remainder of the line items reduced through the Governor’s 5 percent holdback last summer – mainly professional development, technology and IT staffing – can be supported through federal stimulus funds both this year and next year, as $43 million in CARES funding to K-12 schools is available through Sept. 30, 2022. Superintendent Ybarra plans to work with the Governor and the Legislature to ensure those reductions, which are critical investments in education, are fully restored in future years.

Revised budget documents are attached.

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