

Idaho State Department of Education

Weekly Update 04/14/2021



State Department of Education Weekly Update: April 14, 2021

Quick links to this week's updates

[Superintendent Ybarra's Updates](#)

[COVID-19 Related Updates](#)

[New! Department of Health and Welfare Vaccine Newsletter and Media Briefing – April 7](#)

[Spanish Vaccine Confidence PSA](#)

[Certification](#)

[It's Time to Renew Your Certificates](#)

[Child Nutrition](#)

[Idaho P-EBT](#)

[USDA CNP Extensions of Waivers Flexibilities](#)

[Emergency Operational Costs for CNP](#)

[Content & Curriculum](#)

[Math Transitions Network \(MTN\)](#)

[Federal Programs](#)

[2021-2022 CFSGA Workshops](#)

[ESSER Capital Expenditure Preapproval Forms](#)

[School Choice](#)

[Alternative School Applications](#)

[Special Education](#)

[Idaho Tiered Behavior Supports](#)

[Odds & Ends](#)

[2021 Arbor Day Student Photo Contest](#)

[Edufest is Back!](#)

[Idaho Art Education Association Spring Conference](#)

[Month of the Military Child](#)

Superintendent Ybarra's Update

Superintendent Ybarra Issues Statement About Teachers' Budget Action

The appropriations bill for the teachers' division for public schools failed Tuesday by a tie vote in the Idaho House of Representatives, prompted by legislative concerns that state funds could be used to advance a social justice agenda.

Here is Superintendent Ybarra's response:

"Our public schools provide a high quality education that encourages students to explore a variety of viewpoints on every topic. We are grateful for the hardworking and dedicated educators who facilitate this learning. As a former third grade teacher, I can say with confidence that these educators share our Idaho values because they are our friends and neighbors.

We also recognize that cancel culture and political agendas have no place in our schools. I support the Legislature's efforts to put in law what is already a standing practice in our schools"

Superintendent Ybarra's In-Person Learning Bill is Headed to the Governor's Desk

[Superintendent Ybarra's in-person learning bill](#) passed the Senate and is now heading to the Governor's desk.

Superintendent Ybarra appreciates your support of this bill. It will be a win for Idaho students and schools.

Idaho State Department of Education

Weekly Update 04/14/2021



ESSER II and K-12 Public Schools Budget Webinar

The SDE held a webinar on April 7 at 12:00pm MST to provide an update on ESSER II and the current status of the K-12 public schools budget. The recorded webinar and presentations can be found at the links below.

[Recorded webinar](#)

[PowerPoint](#)

[FY 2021 and FY 2022 Appropriations](#)

[ESSER II Allocations](#)

The Superintendent's Office held another webinar today, April 14, 2021. [The presentation can be viewed here.](#) The recorded webinar will be available early next week.

PPE Distribution

We are also pleased to announce that the SDE has received another donation of disposable face masks and face shields from the Office of Emergency Management. Please see the distribution schedule below for your region. All distributions will be from 9am-12pm, however some regions (1, 5, and 6) will take place during the regional superintendents meeting.

Region 1 (Coeur d'Alene School District): regional superintendents meeting

Region 2 (Lewiston School District): April 19

Region 3 (West Ada School District): April 15

Region 4 (Jerome School District): April 15

Region 5 (American Falls School District): regional superintendents meeting

Region 6 (West Jefferson School District): April 14 and regional superintendents meeting

If you have any questions please contact Karli Bennett at kbennett@sde.idaho.gov or 208-332-6812.

Hand Sanitizer Available

Hand Sanitizer has been donated to The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is available for distribution. The U.S. Department of Education is assisting FEMA with communicating this opportunity to schools across the country. Please view the forms below or contact FEMA-Donations-Mgt@fema.dhs.gov with questions.

[Hand Sanitizer Donation Offer Information](#)

[WM Hold Harmless Agreement](#)

[WM Request Template](#)

2021-2022 Administrator and Certified Personnel Contract Templates

Templates for the 2021-2022 Administrator and Certified Personnel Contracts are posted on the [Admin/Certified Personnel Contracts](#) webpage. The only revisions were related to formatting and capitalization. Contact Michelle Clement Taylor (mtaylor@sde.idaho.gov or 208-332-6963) with any questions about the templates.

Superintendent Ybarra Requests Recommendations for "Talent Pool"

The superintendent maintains a file of emerging classroom leaders that consists of a cadre of distinguished teachers and principals. These educators may be considered for membership on advisory boards and task forces, as well as candidates for special recognition programs. Your recommendations will identify educators who will be of great value to your community and state and who may also ultimately receive recognition for their contributions and achievements.

[Please provide CONFIDENTIAL, succinct and specific information for a candidate using this form.](#) All questions must be answered. Please include a one-page narrative with this form that addresses how the candidate meets the criteria mentioned in this letter and also a resume from their personal file. We ask that you keep this recommendation

Idaho State Department of Education

Weekly Update 04/14/2021



confidential and do not share it with the individual or collaborate with a colleague to complete. **All forms must be submitted by Friday, April 30, 2021.**

COVID-19 Updates

Karli Bennett, Project and Communications Specialist

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208-332-6812

New! Department of Health and Welfare Vaccine Newsletter and Media Briefing – April 7

DHW publishes a bi-weekly COVID-19 newsletter, a briefing on the department's latest news, communications activities, and resources for the pandemic. They also regularly publish media briefings. [Find the latest newsletter here](#) and the [latest media briefing here](#).

Spanish Vaccine Confidence PSA

[DHW recently posted a Spanish vaccine confidence ad featuring Dr. Hafid Mantilla](#). Feel free to share on your social media and other communication channels.

Certification

Lisa Colón Durham, Director

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208-332-6886

It's Time to RENEW Your CERTIFICATES

District/charter school staff, it is time to remind your certified staff to check their certificates! Teachers, administrators and pupil service staff that have certificates that expire 08/31/2021, now is the time to apply for your renewal. There are two options:

- [Hardcopy application](#) and attach your transcripts. If you must send your transcripts separately from your application please email them to transcripts@sde.idaho.gov. Official transcripts are not required for renewal applications.
- [Apply online](#) and email your transcripts to transcripts@sde.idaho.gov.

Child Nutrition

Colleen Fillmore, Director

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208-332-6823

Idaho P-EBT

The Idaho State Department of Education is happy to announce that JFAC approved spending authority on 4/13/21 for the *Idaho School P-EBT* program. We are waiting for the next steps of approval before moving forward.

The USDA has approved Idaho to operate a School Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) program during SY 2020-2021. [The approved plan can be found here](#).

P-EBT is part of the U.S. government response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Families First Coronavirus Response Act of 2020 (PL 116-127), as amended by the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2021 and Other Extensions Act (PL 116-159),

Idaho State Department of Education

Weekly Update 04/14/2021



provides the Secretary of Agriculture authority to approve state agency plans to administer P-EBT. The Child Nutrition Program (CNP) is currently collecting calendars and determining eligibility and benefit amounts for the students in Idaho.

USDA CNP Extensions of Waivers Flexibilities

The State agency would like to announce extensions of waiver flexibilities for summer 2021 operations for the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), and the NSLP Seamless Summer Option (SSO). FNS is issuing the following updated waivers specifically for summer meal program operations in 2021. Please note that the current waivers are in effect through June 30, 2021 and that the waivers listed below are effective beginning July 1, 2021 and go through September 30, 2021:

These waiver extensions include:

- **SSO Meal Pattern Flexibility (#74)** – this helps schools unable to meet meal pattern requirements due to supply chain challenges. Does not extend meal pattern flexibility for SFSP sponsors.
- **Non-Congregate (#75)** – allows meals to be taken and eaten off-site.
- **Parent or Guardian Meal Pick-Up (#76)** – allows meals to be served without a child present.
- **Area Eligibility (#77)** – allows for meal distribution and delivery in areas of need that may not meet the usual 50 percent free or reduced-price eligibility threshold with existing data.
- **Meal Service Times (#78)** – allows for multiple meals to be served at the same time.
- **Using OVS in SFSP (#79)** – allows non-SFA SFSP operators to operate under OVS.
- **Area Eligibility for Closed Sites (#80)** – allows for meal distribution and delivery to groups of children that do not meet the usual 50 percent free or reduced-price eligibility threshold with existing data.
- **SFSP First Week Site Visit (#81)** – allows sites that successfully operated CACFP and NSLP to opt to not to conduct a first week site visit.

The State agency will issue additional guidance regarding any steps needed to operate under these waiver extensions in a future email.

Emergency Operational Costs for CNP

On January 26, 2021, the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) published implementation guidance for the CNP Emergency Operational Costs Programs, as authorized in Sec. 722 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (P.L. 116-260). Under this authority, FNS is offering additional funds to State agencies administering the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), and the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) to provide eligible program operators with additional reimbursements for emergency operating costs they incurred during the public health emergency. If your school district is eligible for these monies per USDA regulations you will be notified. More information will be coming.

Content & Curriculum

Todd Driver, Director

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Math Transitions Network (MTN)

The Math Transitions Network (MTN) is a subgroup of the Idaho Council Teachers of Mathematics. They are focused on supporting a successful transition in mathematics from the junior year of high school to the junior year of college. The MTN has developed a survey to guide planning professional development events for Idaho high school educators. They are asking one person from each Idaho high school to complete the [Math Transitions Network survey](#) for their school.

Idaho State Department of Education

Weekly Update 04/14/2021



Please share this survey with the appropriate math contacts for each high school in your district. [To join the MTN, please visit this link.](#)

Federal Programs

Karen Seay, Director

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208-332-6978

CFSGA Workshops

2021-2022 CFSGA workshops will be provided virtually the week of May 3-7 and May 10-14. More information will be forthcoming. Look for an email from Federal Programs staff.

ESSER Capital Expenditure Preapproval Forms

[ESSER Capital Expenditure preapproval forms may be accessed here.](#)

School Choice

Michelle Clement Taylor, Coordinator

mtaylor@sde.idaho.gov

208-332-6963

Alternative School Applications

Applications for the 2021 Summer School and the 2021-22 Regular School year Alternative Schools/Programs are posted on the [Alternative School Webpage](#). The Summer School Applications are due April 15, 2021 and the Regular School Applications are due June 15, 2021. Applications must be submitted and approved before the start of summer school and the regular school year. Contact Michelle Clement Taylor (mtaylor@sde.idaho.gov or 208-332-6963) with any questions about the applications or requirements.

Special Education

Charlie Silva, Director

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208-332-6806

Idaho Tiered Behavior Supports

Idaho Tiered Behavior Supports aims to create schools where ALL students can succeed and is a state-funded (no fee) program. Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is an evidence-based framework developed to assist school teams in providing preventative, positive behavioral support for ALL students. Idaho Tiered Behavior Supports (ITBS) will support selected districts (via application process) in implementing the PBIS framework.

Learn more about ITBS by watching [this informational webinar](#) on the [Idaho Tiered Behavior Supports web page](#).

For districts who are ready to apply, review the [District Information Packet](#) and then [apply here](#).

Odds and Ends

If you would like to include information in Odds and Ends, please send it to Karli Bennett Kbennett@sde.idaho.gov

Idaho State Department of Education

Weekly Update 04/14/2021



2021 Arbor Day Student Photo Contest

Arbor Day '21 is April 30 and that means it's time to launch the Idaho Forest Products Commission's annual student photo contest for Idaho 5th-12th graders. The submission deadline is April 16, 2021. Students may enter two digital photos expressing the theme "look to the forest." Winners receive cash and other prizes and their photos are shared online and at Arbor Day events. To submit art and learn more, please visit the [Idaho Forests website](#).

Edufest is Back!

Come experience the Northwest's premier summer conference on gifted and talented education on the campus of Boise State University OR from the comfort of your own home. The highlights of this conference include an opening keynote featuring Joe Renzulli and Sally Reis, 20 Live Essential Strands from leaders in the field of Gifted and Talented Education, and clock hours and credits available. All registered participants will receive access to all the recorded Strands and Special Topics for six months after the conference. [Register online here](#) and view the [Edufest website](#) for more information!

Idaho Art Education Association Spring Conference

Visual Voices: Teaching Through Challenge & Change will focus on giving educators the resources and tools to develop visual art lessons that provide safe, respectful ways for students to engage with ideas of social justice, equity, inclusion and change. This year's conference will take place on Saturday, May 1st 2021 from 9:00am-5:00pm. The conference will feature educators and artists whose work inspires change in our community. Educators can earn one professional development credit from Boise State. [Learn more and register here](#).

Month of the Military Child

April is the month of the military child. The Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) will be showing their support on April 21st by wearing purple. Purple symbolizes all branches of the military. To learn more information and to find resources please [visit this link](#) and make sure to use the hashtags [#MIC3Compact](#) and [#purpleup4militarykids](#) when posting on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

SDE Weekly updates now available online

Current and past weekly updates are available on our website. [Visit the weekly update page](#). You can also [subscribe to receive our weekly update](#) directly in your inbox.