



# Foster Care

Jill Mathews  
Foster Care Liaison  
Family & Community Engagement Coordinator

Josh Noteboom  
Federal Programs Director



***Idaho State Department of Education***

DEBBIE CRITCHFIELD, SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

8/30/2023



Thank You





# FACE CONFERENCE

**NOVEMBER 1-3, 2023**

Boise Centre, 850 W. Front Street, Boise



## FEATURED SPEAKERS



**TODD  
NESLONEY**



**DAMON  
QUALLS**



**MARK  
CARPENTER**



**WESTON  
KIESCHNICK**



**DR. PAMELA  
CANTOR**



**DR. JILL  
HANDLEY**



**STEVE  
PEMBERTON**

### SITE VISITS

Community School site visits take place November 3, 2023. Choose a site and grab a seat on the bus!  
Depart: 8:30 am  
Tour: 9:00 - 10:45 a.m.  
Return to Boise Centre: 10:45 a.m.  
Debrief: 11:15a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

### SCHOOLS DISTRICTS

Caldwell School District  
Horseshoe Bend School District  
Nampa School District  
Notus School District  
West Ada School District  
+1 To Be Announced

8<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

**FAMILY & COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT CONFERENCE**

<https://www.eventcreate.com/e/face2023>



# FACE CONFERENCE

**NOVEMBER 13, 2023**

Coeur d'Alene Resort, 115 S 2nd St, Coeur d'Alene



## FEATURED SPEAKERS



**HAMISH  
BREWER**



**DR. KAREN  
MAPP**



**CHRIS  
HEETER**



**GABRIEL  
MORENO**

8<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

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<https://www.eventcreate.com/e/face2023north>



# Federal Program Monitoring



Indicator/ Programs	Citation	Supporting Documents and Resources	Y	N	NA	Findings, Actions Needed, Recommendations, Comments
PROG 4 ● I-A (revised)	<b>FOSTER CARE</b>  LEAs will:  Designate a Point of Contact (POC) for Foster Care Liaison to the Health & Welfare Department (and notify State Department of Education). <i>The LEA POC may be the LEA McKinney-Vento Liaison.</i>  ESSA Section 1112 (c)(5)(A)  Developed a current working Best Interest Determination process that evaluates the appropriateness of the current educational setting. ESSA sections 1111(g)(1)(E)(i) and 1112 (c)(5)  Ensure that children in foster care who are in need of transportation to and from their schools of origin promptly receive such transportation using effective policies and procedures. ESSA section 1112 (c)(5)(B)(i)	Responsibilities include:  <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinating with local CWAs to develop a process for implementing ESSA provisions  <input type="checkbox"/> Leading development of best interest determination process  <input type="checkbox"/> Facilitating the transfer of records and immediate enrollment and data sharing with CWAs  <input type="checkbox"/> Written protocol for the foster care liaison role in the district  <input type="checkbox"/> Developing and coordinating local transportation procedures   Resources are available on the <a href="#">Foster Care</a> webpage.				

# CFSGA – Action Plan (2)



Log Offjmathews@edu.id

Consolidated Federal and State Grant Application

Links

Home

SDE Contacts

General Information & Program Purpose

Allocation & Set Asides

Allocation to Schools

Title I-A Budget

Action Plan

Homeless Education

Certification

Supporting Documents

Validation Issues

Program Approval

Title I-A Improving Basic Programs for fiscal 2022-2023

Foster Care

Yes	No	Strategy
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Designate staff personnel to be the Foster Care Liaison to work collaboratively with Idaho Health & Welfare representatives in making the best interest determination for a foster care student.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Provide educational stability for students in foster care by keeping these students in their schools of origin, unless it is collaboratively determined to be in their best interest to change schools.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Each foster care student is individually assessed on a case by case basis through a structured decision making process that includes the Local Education Agency (LEA) Foster Care Liaison, Idaho Health & Welfare Social Worker, pertinent school personnel, foster parent/guardian, and the student.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Collaborate with Idaho Health & Welfare to ensure that transportation for students in foster care is provided, arranged, and funded.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Ensure that a student in foster care is immediately enrolled in his or her new school even if the student does not have the required documentation. The enrolling school must contact the student's prior school for relevant records.
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Manage transportation and certify that student in foster care remains in his or her school of origin while disputes are being resolved.

Explain any strategies marked No



## GUIDANCE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MOU BETWEEN IDHW AND ISDE FOR ESSA



Idaho Department of Health & Welfare  
Family and Community Services



# Guidance – MOU – ISDE & IDHW



**I. Purpose**

**II. Notification & Identification of Transportation Plan**

**III. Funding & Reimbursement**

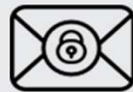
**Appendix 1 – Scenarios Guidance for IV – E Claims**



# ESSA Letter-Notification



\*\*\*This message was sent from outside the organization. Please do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.\*\*\*



This is a secure message

## How to open



To read this message on desktop, open the **securedoc\_20210426T101639.html** attachment in a web browser.




To read this message on a mobile device, forward this message to [mobile@res.cisco.com](mailto:mobile@res.cisco.com) to receive a mobile login URL.

## ESSA Letter-Notification (2)



English (US) ▼

Message Security  
● Medium

 IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH & WELFARE

# Secure Email Encryption Service

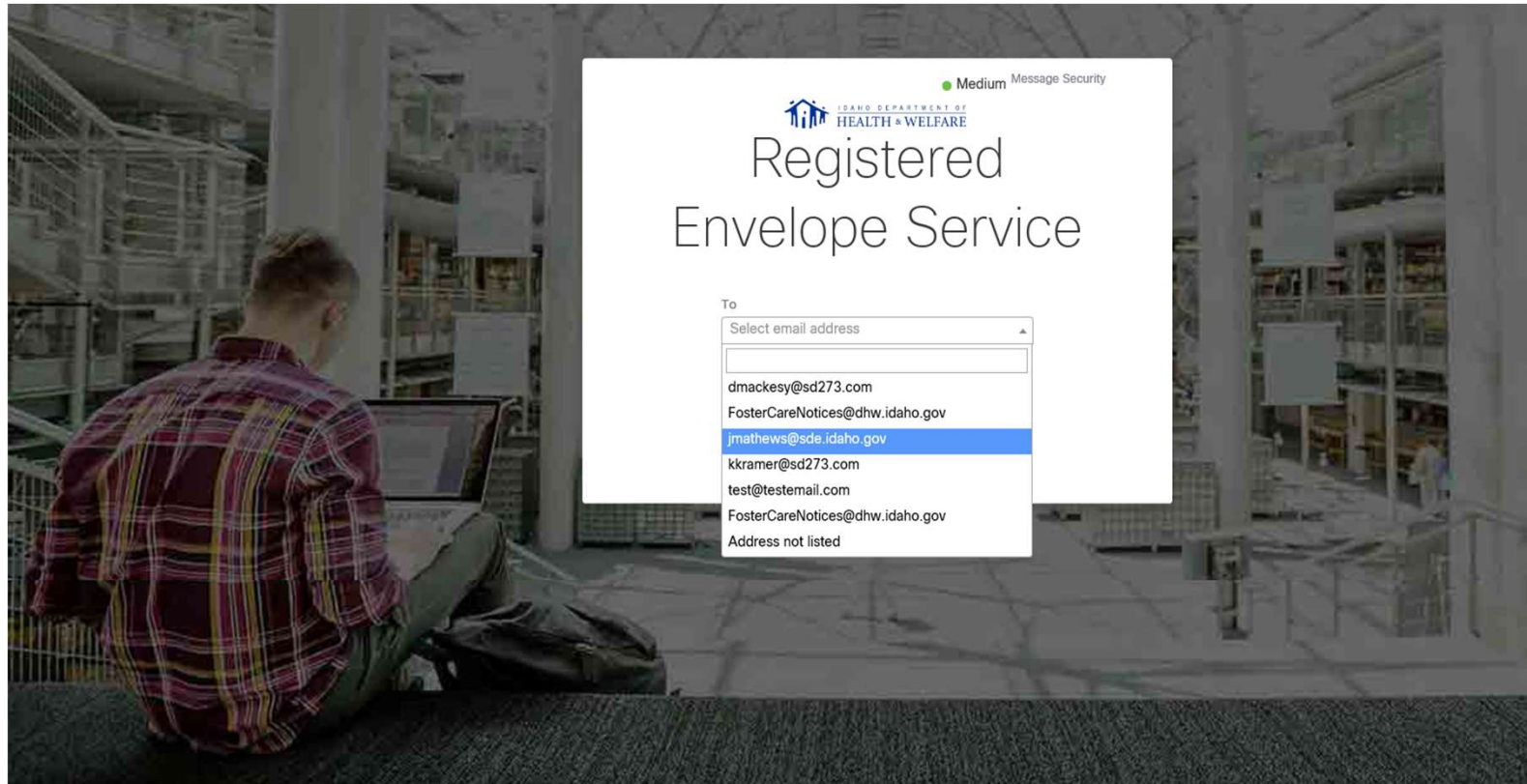
To  
jmathews@sde.idaho.gov

Password  
Secure Email Encryption Service Password

☐ Remember me [Forgot password?](#)

Open

# ESSA Letter–Notification – (3)



# ESSA Letter–Notification – (4)



Registered Envelope Service

sendsecure - [REDACTED] CRM [REDACTED]



Foster Care Notices <FosterCareNotices@dhw.idaho.gov>

09/14/2020 10:32:47 AM MDT

To: POST FALLS DISTRICT <dmackesy@sd273.com>, MULLAN TRAIL ELEMENTARY <kkramer@sd273.com>, Regional Chief of Social Work <test@testemail.com>, Foster Care Notices <FosterCareNotices@dhw.idaho.gov>, State liaison <jmathews@sde.idaho.gov>  
CC: Foster Care Notices <FosterCareNotices@dhw.idaho.gov>

Date of entering foster care/placement change: [REDACTED]  
It is in the child's best interest to attend their school of origin: No  
Transportation needed to maintain child in school of origin: No

The above-named child is in the custody of the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (IDHW). This student is covered by the Every Student Succeeds Act. Students covered under this federal law have the right to attend and are entitled to transportation to their school of origin.

At this time, the child has been placed in the following foster care placement:

Child's Placement Name: [REDACTED]  
Child Placement Address: [REDACTED] POST FALLS, Idaho [REDACTED]  
Child placement phone: [REDACTED]

The Department is committed to ensuring educational stability for students in their care and custody. The student's best interest considerations have been evaluated, and the Department has made an initial determination.

IDHW initial best interest determination justification: [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] and this is their first time being enrolled in school. There is no school of origin for the children to remain at and, therefore, no transportation is needed from the foster parents' home to the school of origin.

If you have any questions or concerns about the initial best interest determination that has been made, please contact me via email utilizing the information below within a three-school calendar day timeframe. During the school breaks, a fourteen-calendar day timeframe (unless school resumes within that time frame) is allotted to provide input into the initial determination. If transportation arrangements are identified as a need to accommodate the initial determination, the process should be started immediately.

Social Workers are responsible for enrolling all children in the State's custody. Recent legislation allows foster parents to make decisions regarding a child's routine participation in extracurricular, enrichment, cultural and school activities, such as after school activities and field trips. This includes signing permission slips. Additionally, while a child is in the custody of the Department, only IDHW personnel and the child's foster parents may pick-up or sign a child out unless other individuals have been approved by IDHW.

When report cards, IEPs, discipline notices, etc., are sent to the foster parent, please forward a copy to the Department at the email address below.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 208-665-8952 or by email at Alura.Black@dhw.idaho.gov. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Alura Black

Alura Black, Child Welfare Social Worker 2

Department of Health and Welfare

# ESSA-Reply – Add Information – (5)



Registered Envelope Service

English (US)

jmathews@sde.idaho.gov

Reply to All Recipients

Reset

From: State liaison <jmathews@sde.idaho.gov>

To: Foster Care Notices POST FALLS DISTRICT MULLAN TRAIL ELEMENTARY Regional Chief of Social Work

CC: Foster Care Notices

Subject: RE: sendsecure [REDACTED] CRM [REDACTED]



(none)

Rich Text

Plain Text

-----Original Message:

From: Foster Care Notices <FosterCareNotices@dhw.idaho.gov>

To: POST FALLS DISTRICT <dmackey@sd273.com>, MULLAN TRAIL ELEMENTARY <kkramer@sd273.com>, Regional Chief of Social Work <test@testemail.com>, Foster Care Notices <FosterCareNotices@dhw.idaho.gov>, State liaison <jmathews@sde.idaho.gov>

CC: Foster Care Notices <FosterCareNotices@dhw.idaho.gov>

Date: 09/14/2020 10:32:47 AM MDT

Subject: sendsecure [REDACTED] CRM [REDACTED]

Date of entering foster care/placement change: [REDACTED]

It is in the child's best interest to attend their school of origin:

Send

Cancel

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# ESSA-Reply – Add Information – (6)



WD

**WEST ADA SCHOOL DISTRICT** <garcia.mirella@westada.org>

08/08/2023 01:13:39 PM MDT

To: Foster Care Notices <FosterCareNotices@dhw.idaho.gov>, "Hurley, Josie - Reg4" <Josie.Hurley@dhw.idaho.gov>, "Branahl, \ Nathan - Reg4" <Nathan.Branahl@dhw.idaho.gov>, MERIDIAN HIGH SCHOOL <Lilienkamp.Jill@westada.org>, Regional Chief of Social Work <test@testemail.com>, State liaison <jmathews@sde.idaho.gov>

CC: Foster Care Notices <FosterCareNotices@dhw.idaho.gov>

Good afternoon,

Thank you for sending the notification. Below is the busing information in Power School:

Pickup Information:

PU Route: C60 SP CHS AM

PU Stop: 1440 N Locust Grove Rd [REDACTED]

PU Time: 06:50 AM (Late start Wednesdays it will be 15 minutes later)

Dropoff Information:

DO Route: C60 SP CHS PM

DO Stop: 1440 N Locust Grove Rd [REDACTED]

Do Time: 03:21 PM

If you have any questions, please contact the new West Ada School District foster care liaison, Asha Noel, noel.asha@westada.org.

Kindly,  
Mirella Garcia  
West Ada School District

-----Original Message:

From: Foster Care Notices <FosterCareNotices@dhw.idaho.gov>

To: "Hurley, Josie - Reg4" <Josie.Hurley@dhw.idaho.gov>, "Branahl, \

## TIMELINE TO RESPOND – ESSA Letter



- 72 HOURS = 3 DAYS

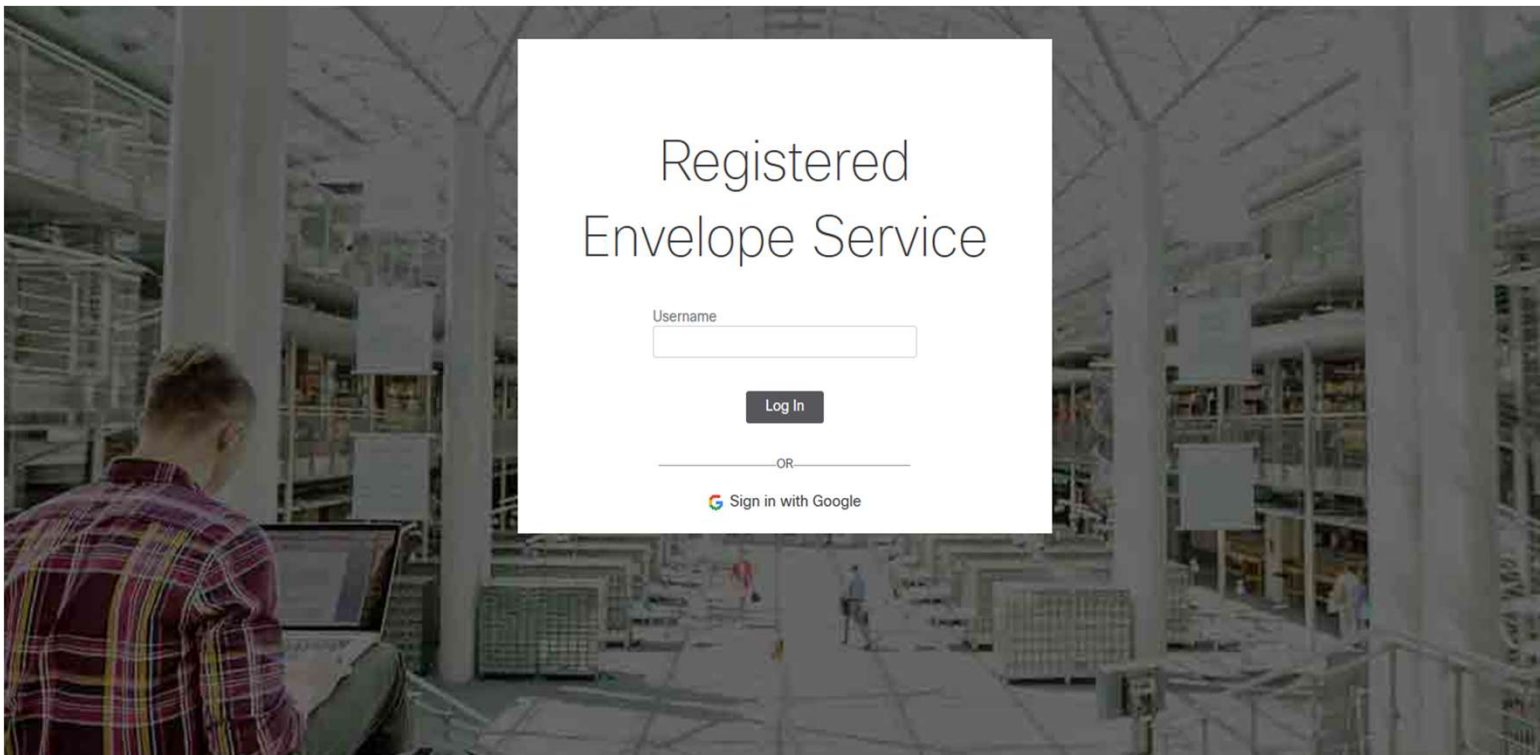
District Foster Care Liaison

- Responsible for letter correspondence
- Transportation
- Needs/Services ARE provided

## TO SEND A SECURE EMAIL



- <https://res.cisco.com/websafe/login.action>



# H & W Regional Point of Contacts



## REGIONAL CHILD WELFARE POINT OF CONTACTS

\*REGION 1 – Maggie Morrison, Child Welfare Chief, [Maggie.Morrison@dhw.idaho.gov](mailto:Maggie.Morrison@dhw.idaho.gov)  
(208) 665-8970

\*REGION 2 – Maggie Morrison, Child Welfare Chief, [Maggie.Morrison@dhw.idaho.gov](mailto:Maggie.Morrison@dhw.idaho.gov)  
(208) 665-8970  
Kim Neely, Program Manager, [Kimberly.Neely@dhw.idaho.gov](mailto:Kimberly.Neely@dhw.idaho.gov)  
(208) 799-4340

\*REGION 3 – Mike Dixon, Program Manager (INTERIM), [Mike.Dixon@dhw.idaho.gov](mailto:Mike.Dixon@dhw.idaho.gov)  
(208) 455-7000

\*REGION 4 – Kristen Nate, Child Welfare Chief, [Kristen.Nate@dhw.idaho.gov](mailto:Kristen.Nate@dhw.idaho.gov)  
(208) 334-6800

\*REGION 5 – Pam Harris, Child Welfare Chief, [Pam.Harris@dhw.idaho.gov](mailto:Pam.Harris@dhw.idaho.gov)  
(208) 734-4000

\*REGION 6 – Brian Plowman, Child Welfare Chief, [Brian.Plowman@dhw.idaho.gov](mailto:Brian.Plowman@dhw.idaho.gov)  
(208) 239-6200

\*REGION 7 – Shawn Sharp, Child Welfare Chief, [Shawn.Sharp@dhw.idaho.gov](mailto:Shawn.Sharp@dhw.idaho.gov)  
(208) 528-5900

# Regional Comparison



## COMPARISON OF SCHOOL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES AND IDHW REGIONS



**School District  
Boundaries**



IDHW REGIONS



# Mirella Garcia and Asha Noel

## Foster Care Liaison Role



West Ada  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Kaela Whitehead and Kristen Nate Idaho Department of Health & Welfare



- Kaela Whitehead, State ESSA Liaison
- Kristen Nate, Child Welfare Chief, Region 4



Idaho Department of Health & Welfare  
Family and Community Services



# Brainstorm – Strengthening Practices



- What areas are you struggling with...
  - Transportation?
  - Funds?
  - Communication?
  - ESSA letters?
  - Additional training?

# CONTACT INFORMATION



- Update Contact Information!
- Foster Care Liaison – email & phone number
- Name of each school building principal
- Email of each school building principal
- Physical address of each school building

# Findhelpidaho.org



Search and connect to support. Financial assistance, food pantries, medical care, and other free or reduced-cost **help starts here:**

ZIP

83642

 Search



If you or someone you know is in crisis, call or text 988 to reach the [Suicide and Crisis Lifeline](#), chat with them online via their website, or text HOME to 741741 (multiple languages available). If this is an emergency, call 911.

[Click here for 2023 Seasonal Resources](#)

Idaho Health Data Exchange is collaborating with findhelp to provide a safe, secure, and effective platform for users to connect people with social services.





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# Questions?



Jill Mathews | Foster Care Liaison  
Idaho State Department of Education  
650 W State Street, Boise, ID 83702  
208.332.6855  
[jmathews@sde.idaho.gov](mailto:jmathews@sde.idaho.gov)  
[www.sde.idaho.gov](http://www.sde.idaho.gov)



***Idaho State Department of Education***

DEBBIE CRITCHFIELD, SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION