



## **EDUCATION GOALS & LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES – 2019 SESSION**

Superintendent of Public Instruction Sherri Ybarra is the state’s advocate for school children and articulates her goals for public education in Idaho in terms of outcomes for students. The State Department of Education provides the necessary support for schools and students to achieve.

Idaho, unlike the federal government, is required to balance its budget. Superintendent Ybarra developed her FY 2020 budget request (and FY 2019 supplemental requests) by weighing the needs of Idaho’s schools with the limited funding available for broader state government operations.

### **Goal 1: All Idaho Students persevere in life and are ready for college and careers**

#### ***Implementing Recommendations of the Task Force for Improving Education (K-12)***

In 2013 the [Task Force for Improving Education \(K-12\) recommended twenty ways Idaho could better prepare students to achieve success](#). These recommendations have helped shape State Department of Education initiatives and objectives. Superintendent Ybarra’s FY 2020 budget request includes funding to continue implementing the recommendations, including Master Educator Premiums, Advanced Opportunities, mastery-based learning expansion, and professional development. Overall, the FY 2020 request provides an additional \$221 per support unit (3.5% increase over the prior fiscal year) and \$122 million in new General Funds (6.8% increase over the prior fiscal year).

### **Goal 2: All education stakeholders in Idaho are mutually responsible for accountability and student progress**

#### ***Launching Keep Idaho Students Safe (KISS)***

Idaho students can’t afford to wait for us to invest in school safety and security. That’s why Superintendent Ybarra seeks a supplemental request for FY 2019 to fund this multi-pronged school safety initiative. The total cost to implement KISS across both fiscal 2019 and 2020 years is \$20,001,300, with an ongoing operating cost of \$1,501,300. More information about KISS is available on [Superintendent Ybarra’s website](#).

### **Goal 3: Idaho attracts and retains great teachers and leaders.**

#### ***Strengthening the Career Ladder to Improve Teacher Pay***

Superintendent Ybarra’s FY 2020 budget request includes funding the Career Ladder’s fifth year and adjusting the salary rungs to reach the pay levels originally recommended by the Task Force for Improving Education (K-12). This request increases the salary for a newly credentialed teacher to \$37,200 and recognizes experienced teachers with salaries ranging from \$49,401 to \$52,000.

#### ***Building a Teacher Pipeline to Bolster Rural Schools***

The Teacher Pipeline includes three new programs, at a cost of \$980,000, to help address the critical teacher shortage in Idaho’s rural schools and school districts including: Grow Your Own, Rural Teacher Fellowship, and Certification Retention Bonus.