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SHERRI YBARRA
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**STATEMENTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT YBARRA
REGARDING IDAHO'S GRADUATION RATE**

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(BOISE) – With the recent release of national graduation rate data from the U.S. Department of Education, The Idaho State Department of Education's focus continues to be on providing schools and students resources to ensure that achieving a high school diploma truly means something. It is also important to credit educators and students for their hard work in this achievement.

“With the release of national graduation rate data, it shows that we are moving in the right direction and have made positive gains in supporting students in achieving their high school diplomas,” Superintendent Ybarra said. “Policies, programs, laws, and recommendations can provide guidance and support, but it is truly educators and students who are putting in the hard work to achieve a high school diploma, and as a result, increasing Idaho's graduation rate.”

It is also important to point out the individual, unique circumstances of each school district, and congratulate them for supporting students in graduating from high school. A sampling of Idaho's graduation rates are as follows:

- Lakeland School District – 90.4%
- Melba Joint School District – 98.4%
- Wallace School District – 97.2%
- Sugar-Salem School District – 98.3%
- Ririe School District – 97.8%

Superintendent Ybarra continued by saying, “While we recognize the uniqueness of each district, we understand we still have work to do and will not give up until every student in Idaho is a graduate! We must focus on the positives in the graduation rate, celebrate the success of our students in achieving their diploma, and recognize the bright future that awaits them.”

The Idaho State Department of Education released 2014-2015 graduation rate data on February 12, 2016 based on the new federally required calculation, [posted here](#). An in-depth look at the new federally required graduation rate calculation is provided on the department's [press kits webpage](#).

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