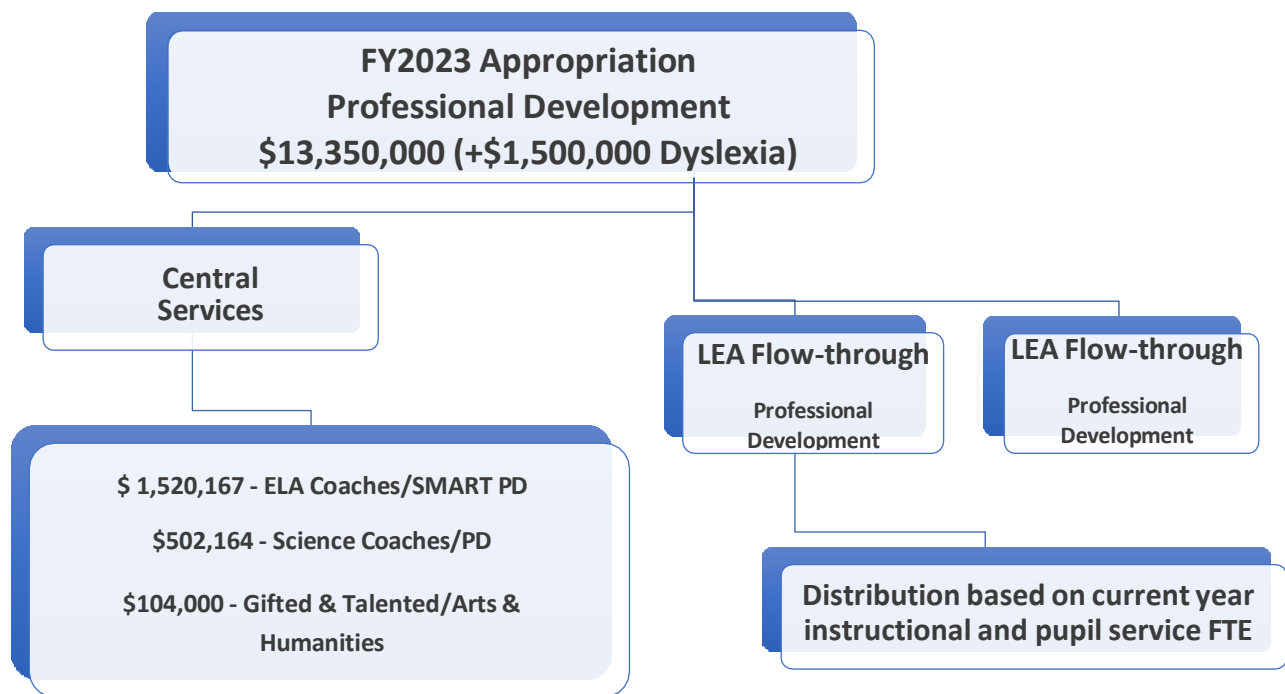


Professional Development Report

HB 793

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Professional development funds support resources in the State Department of Education in the superintendent’s central services budget. Funds distributed to districts and charter schools are to be used to support professional development activities for educators and staff to improve student learning and can be used for educator mentoring and collaboration.



IDAHO SMART PROGRAM AND LITERACY COACHES (\$1,520,167)

Idaho Striving to Meet Achievement in Reading Together (SMART) is a multi-year cohort program to train K-3 educators to provide instruction and intervention rooted in the science of reading. Through SMART, the State Department of Education has full-time coaches in all six educational regions supporting educators. Participants in the program receive facilitated learning utilizing Dr. Louisa Moats’ *Speech to Print* text, guided implementation of evidence-

based practices, materials to use in the classroom, and coaching to sustain changes in their delivery of instruction and intervention.

At the close of the 2022-2023 school year more than 500 educators had taken part in at least one year of the two-year program. The monies allocated to this program, \$1,207,967, fund 15 coaches, provide materials for all participants, and allow for regional in-person training multiple times throughout the year. Year-over-year, the program continues to grow across the state. Also of note, the practices taught, in alignment with the science of reading, are the same evidence-based strategies that are essential for supporting students with characteristics of Dyslexia.

Throughout the 2022-2023 school year, the SDE also provided support to schools identified for Comprehensive School Improvement (CSI-Up) through additional ELA coaches. Contracts were coordinated between the SDE and the Idaho Build Capacity project.

SCIENCE (\$502,164)

Science Coaches and Professional Development Offerings

The Idaho Science Coaches are experienced science teachers contracted by the SDE to provide customized professional development services as requested by districts, schools, and teachers. Coaches provide professional development in a variety of forms to meet the needs of teachers throughout the state. During the 2022-2023 school year, eight coaches worked throughout all six educational regions in Idaho. They provided embedded coaching in the classroom and customized support. The Idaho Science Coaches also create and distribute a monthly newsletter, sharing announcements and links to resources, reaching more than 5000 people per month.

Course offerings include:

- Nine-week online courses, supporting teachers in implementing the standards in their own classrooms;
- Four-week courses on integrating Science and English Language Arts in K-5;
- Six-week courses focused on using phenomena to shape instruction;
- and a six-week course on how administrators and instructional coaches can support science.

Throughout the year, districts and schools shared a need for help aligning curriculum to Idaho Content Standards, supporting new teachers and those on alternate certificates, and identifying

or creating resources that meet the needs of Idaho learners. Through this feedback, the SDE will be creating specific opportunities to support these areas of need in the coming year.

Think Make Create (TMC) Trailers Partnership

The SDE partners with Think Make Create Trailers to promote science opportunities both inside and outside of the classroom. Funds from the SDE provide supplies for a portion of the 25 trailers. Additionally, SDE funds support training for educators to integrate the Idaho Science Content Standards with the TMC curriculum.

Bring Idaho Alive Partnership with the Museum of Idaho

SDE contracts with the Museum of Idaho to provide a class based on Idaho geology, weather, animals, archaeology, and plants. Educators are provided with free kits for use in their classroom and trained to use the materials effectively. Participants also have the opportunity to learn from Idaho experts in each of the fields of study.

GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION AND ARTS AND HUMANITIES (\$104,000)

Gifted and Talented Education Professional Development

(Please note, funding for Gifted and Talented education was previously held back and not restored. There is currently no flowthrough money to support the required assessment and identification of students or implementation of programming for identified students.)

Professional development funds are used to provide three part time facilitators throughout the state as well as several professional development opportunities throughout the year.

Arts and Humanities Professional Development

The SDE supports partnerships with multiple Arts and Humanities organizations and associations to co-sponsor opportunities for education PD and networking.

SDE SUPPORT ACTIVITIES (\$373,669)

In support of all Idaho educators, it is necessary to provide support and opportunities in a variety of contents, grade bands, and areas. These additional funds allow for the following:

- PD support materials in Math, Science, and ELA;
- regional facilitators for Informational Technology;
- training and supplies for mentoring;
- standards booklets (upon request);
- and training for coordinators.

For Questions Contact

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