

Idaho School Boards Association

"Trustee Leadership for Excellence in Idaho Public Education"

February 8, 2010

Dr. Donna Hutchison
CEO, IDLA
1906 South Vista Avenue
Boise, ID 83705

Dear Donna:

On behalf of the Idaho School Boards Association, I am writing to offer our full support for continued funding for the Idaho Digital Learning Academy (IDLA).

The value of IDLA and what they provide to school districts, especially rural school districts, is immeasurable. As school districts face the largest budget cut in Idaho's history, it is essential that IDLA have the ability, and funding, to provide a full and varied array of subjects to the students on our districts. And, on behalf of those students, school districts need to have the ability to access those subjects at a minimal cost.

ISBA understands that if the state – the Governor and the legislature - chooses to eliminate, or even reduce funding, to IDLA, that IDLA will be forced to charge prices for their services and courses that school districts will be unable to afford during these tough economic times. School districts will only have two choices available. One of those will be to try to find the dollars to purchase this same service from IDLA or other providers at a greatly increased cost; or to tell students they must pay for the course on their own. As we discuss equal education for students, neither of the above choices offers that.

It is difficult for the ISBA to understand how the legislature could consider a phase out of funding to IDLA while at the same time reducing funding to school districts. School districts will be doing everything they can to continue to provide a quality education to students with greatly reduced funds. ISBA knows that school districts will be required to rely even more heavily on IDLA to fill the holes they will be unable to fill.

We remain hopeful that the legislature will reject the Governor's recommendation to phase-out funding to IDLA. We will continue to assist you in any way to accomplish this. Please let us know how we can help.

Sincerely,



Karen L. Echeverria
Executive Director



222 N. 13th Street
Boise, Idaho 83702

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 9797
Boise, Idaho 83707

Phone: 208-854-1476
Fax: 208-854-1480
Toll Free: 208-866-ISBA (4722)
Web Site: www.idsba.org

Idaho School Boards Association

"Trustee Leadership for Excellence in Idaho Public Education"



222 N. 13th Street
Boise, Idaho 83702

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 9797
Boise, Idaho 83707

Phone: 208-854-1476
Fax: 208-854-1480
Toll Free: 208-866-ISBA (4722)
Web Site: www.idsba.org