

## **2020 ISBA RESOLUTION NO. 09**

### **ALIGNING IDAHO'S SCHOOL AGE AND PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY REQUIREMENTS**

**WHEREAS**, Idaho's high school graduation requirements include student participation in a college entrance exam and the state provides entrance exams free of charge in the spring of the student's 11th grade or junior year, when most students are older than 16 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Idaho's high school graduation requirements include students earning math credits during the 12th grade or senior year, when most students are 17 years or older; and

**WHEREAS**, Idaho's formula for determining graduation rates for high school accountability is based on four-year cohorts, including two years when most public school students are older than 16; and

**WHEREAS**, Idaho high schools are accountable for reaching at least a 90 percent graduation goal; and

**WHEREAS**, Idaho's high schools are accountable for college and career readiness as measured by student participation in advanced opportunities courses; including Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, international baccalaureate, and career technical courses completed by the 12th grade or senior year; when most students are 17 years or older; and

**WHEREAS**, Idaho's high schools are accountable for college and career readiness as measured by student acquiring industry recognized professional or technical certifications which are completed in the 12th grade or senior year, when most students are 17 years or older; and

**WHEREAS**, Idaho has not amended its school age requirements to align with its expectations of student achievement in public education;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Idaho School Boards Association shall draft legislation to align Idaho Code Section 33-202, Idaho Code, with the state's accountability requirements for public schools by changing the required school age from 16 to 18, unless the pupil has graduated early or has received their GED.

### **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

Idaho's accountability measures for high schools rely upon students completing academic requirements, participating in college level work, and mastering industry level skills during a four year window. Two of those four years occur in the final two years of

high school, when most students are older than 16. Section 33-202, Idaho Code, should be amended to support state accountability expectations for schools by changing the required school age from 16 to 18, unless the pupil has graduated early or has received their GED.

**Supporting Data and Information:**

<http://www.sde.idaho.gov/assessment/accountability/files/accountability-results/2018/Graduation-Rate.pdf>

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**Submitted by Caldwell School District No. 132**

**Submitted by Payette School District No. 371**

**Submitted by Cambridge School District No. 432**

**RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISBA EXECUTIVE BOARD: DO PASS**

Karen Pyron of the ISBA Executive Board will address the Executive Board's recommendation to the membership at the Business Session of the Annual Convention.