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July 14, 2020

Corrinne Callins  
Office of State and Grantee Relations  
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Ave. SW  
Washington, DC 20202

Dear Ms. Callins,

This letter is Idaho's 45-day GEER funding report (Award S425C200043 – Education, Idaho State Board of). Thank you for this critical funding. The Board of Education members and those who work with Idaho's education entities are all grateful for the assistance during this challenging time.

As the Governor's designee for distributing GEER funding, I have worked with the Governor's office staff and State Board of Education to award the \$15,676,340 in GEER funds to Idaho's education entities. Each entity submitted proposals for funding, which were vetted by the Governor's Office and brought before the Board of Education for consideration and recommendation in open public meetings. The funding requests were also balanced with the Governor's priorities and Board of Education's vision for Idaho education. Awards were made over the past few weeks to those education entities tasked with delivering emergency educational services, particularly blended learning.

Idaho's public higher education institutions received \$5,100,000 for improving access to, and the quality of, remote instruction. The funding will be used for technology devices, connectivity, infrastructure, professional development, and virtual student services. Funding was allocated to the eight IHEs based on each institution's three-year average student population, with an additional allocation for the state's newest community college.

Idaho Division of Career Technical Education received \$742,000 as follows: \$150,000 for curriculum and instructional support materials for both distance learning and face-to-face settings; \$377,000 for online instructional practices professional development, including

session live-streaming and recording; and \$215,000 for cameras and virtual training equipment to provide alternative ways to capture performance on use of equipment.

Idaho Public Television (an educational entity under the governance of the Board of Education) received \$489,700 to provide remote learning to students with television access but without internet connectivity. Elementary literacy and math lessons are being broadcast to homes throughout the state during the summer and fall.

Idaho Digital Learning Academy (IDLA), a state-authorized and funded online school, received \$783,800 to provide summer and fall courses and make course content catalogs more robust. LEAs can use IDLA courses and can access the content catalogs when providing their own online courses. This funding will also enable IDLA to leverage Idaho Public Television content.

Idaho STEM Action Center, a state agency providing state-level coordination and promotion of STEM-related activities, received \$98,250 of which \$11,250 is for instructional videos and curriculum; \$72,000 for additional STEM libraries materials to allow socially distanced learning; and \$15,000 for checking out, tracking, shipping, cleaning, and refurbishing STEM libraries materials.

The remaining \$8,462,590 is for k-12 public schools for student technology devices to lessen the state's "digital divide" and work toward a potential statewide blended learning environment for the upcoming school year. The funding will also reduce the price students and schools pay to access IDLA courses and will provide additional literacy support for grades 1-3. Details around determining the amount of funding to specific LEAs are still being worked out. The funding for LEAs through the k-12 allocation will be determined by the Board of Education and distributed by the Department of Education to ensure equitable services to students throughout the state.

Each education entity will be sub-granted the GEER funding from the Board of Education through the state's grant and non-cognizable funding and tracking system, which will provide transparent transactions.

The Board of Education staff and Governor's Office staff will monitor how the funding is spent to ensure funds are used for allowable expenses. Standardized reports have not yet been developed but may be forthcoming to ensure consistent reporting from each sub-grantee. All GEER funding is coded to a specific CARES Act state fund, which allows for all COVID-19-related funding to be easily tracked and reported. The GEER funding will also show up in the state budgeting process, which is reviewed by the Governor and the Legislature.

Please see the attached appendix for a breakdown of each education entity's award. I am happy to provide any of the proposals or additional information you may need. Thanks again for your support.

Sincerely,



Matt Freeman  
Executive Director

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Education Agency	GEER award amount	
College of Southern Idaho	\$	282,780
North Idaho College	\$	278,152
College of Western Idaho	\$	422,975
College of Eastern Idaho	\$	165,965
Lewis-Clark State College	\$	263,457
Boise State University	\$	1,722,198
Idaho State University	\$	971,772
University of Idaho	\$	992,701
Division of Career Technical Education	\$	742,000
Idaho Public Television	\$	489,700
Idaho Digital Learning Academy	\$	783,800
Idaho STEM Action Center	\$	98,250
K-12	\$	8,462,590
Total	\$	<u><u>15,676,340</u></u>