

## IX. NEW BUSINESS

### D. Idahoans for Excellence in Education Coalition

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Idahoans for Excellence in Education is a statewide alliance of education, community, and business organizations in Idaho that support high academic standards in public education. The Coalition's goal is to support the successful implementation of the Idaho Core Standards so that every student has the opportunity to graduate high school prepared for college, career and life.

From the Coalition website (<http://idahocorestandards.org/>):

Why is this work important?

- Recent data from the SAT show that only 25% of Idaho high school students who take the test are ready for post-secondary education.
- This is a major challenge. By 2020, more than 60% of Idaho jobs will require some form of post-secondary education.

Supportive and informed parents, teachers, and communities are critical to the successful implementation of these standards and to all of Idaho's education improvement efforts. To stay the course with higher standards and expectations, voices from business, community, and education organizations need to speak with one voice.

7 Key Points about Idaho Core Standards

1. Idaho chose to adopt the K–12 Idaho Core Standards to help ensure that all students graduate from high school with the core academic knowledge and skills necessary for success in college, careers and life. The Idaho Core Standards were adopted by the Idaho State Board of Education in 2010 and approved by the Idaho Legislature in 2011.
2. The Idaho Core Standards are more rigorous than previous standards.
3. With these standards, parents and policymakers will be able to compare the results of Idaho high schools with any other high school in a state that has adopted these same standards.
4. Students will read more challenging texts in every class so they are prepared to read, analyze, and write in every subject area or any career field.
5. Students will work more deeply in mathematics at each grade level and cover fewer topics to make sure students master the concepts they need before moving on to the next grade level.
6. Students will learn critical thinking and problem-solving skills as they must apply what they learn in the classroom to real-world situations.
7. These standards will help Idaho schools build a better, stronger academic foundation to prepare students for college, careers and life in the 21st Century.

Because of the roles that public, school, and academic libraries play in supporting both formal and informal education, I recommend that the Idaho Commission for Libraries join the Idahoans for Excellence in Education Coalition.



**Suggested motion:** I move that the Idaho Commission for Libraries join Idahoans for Excellence in Education.

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