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Modernizing Idaho Public Education

What would it look like if we "cleared the table" and rebuilt Idaho's public education system today?

Senator Dave Lent

CHANGE IS OUR GREATEST CHALLENGE

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Idaho Public Education Key Questions

- What is the purpose of public education?
- How do we regain trust in public educaiton?
- How do we energize business and industry in a collaborative way ?

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Survey Instructions

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What is the purpose of public education?

The purpose is to prepare students for the future.

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1800's

Agrarian Economy

Farm Workers,

8th Grade Education,

Life expectancy ~40,

Most never traveled more than 50 miles from home.

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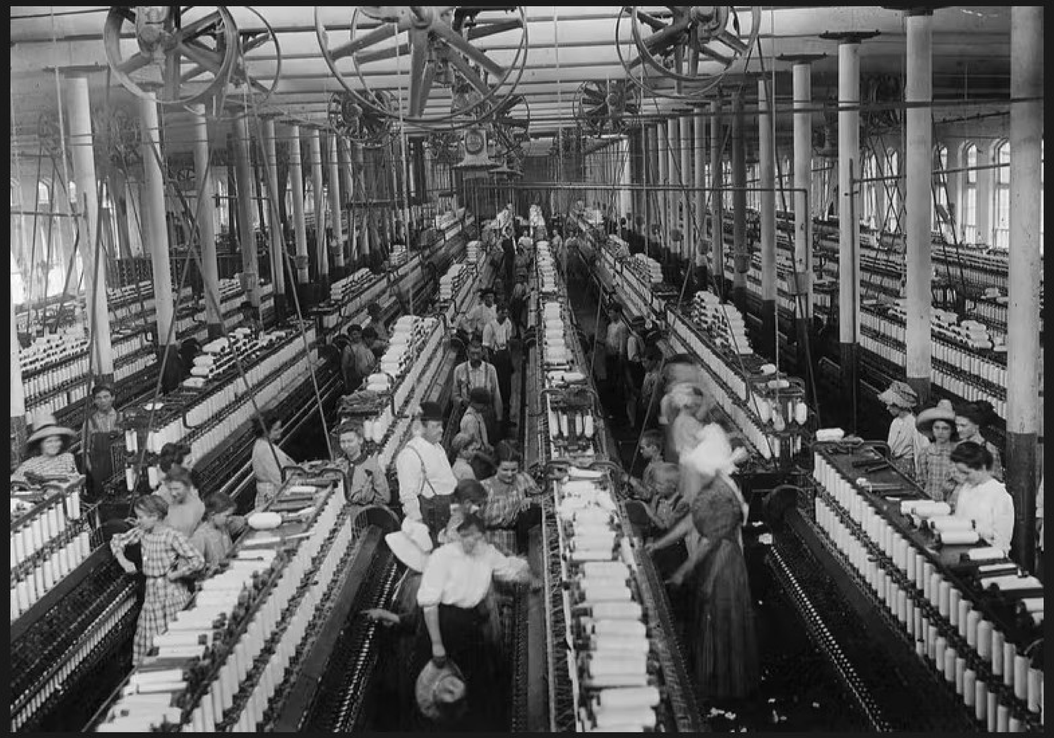
1900's
Industrial Economy

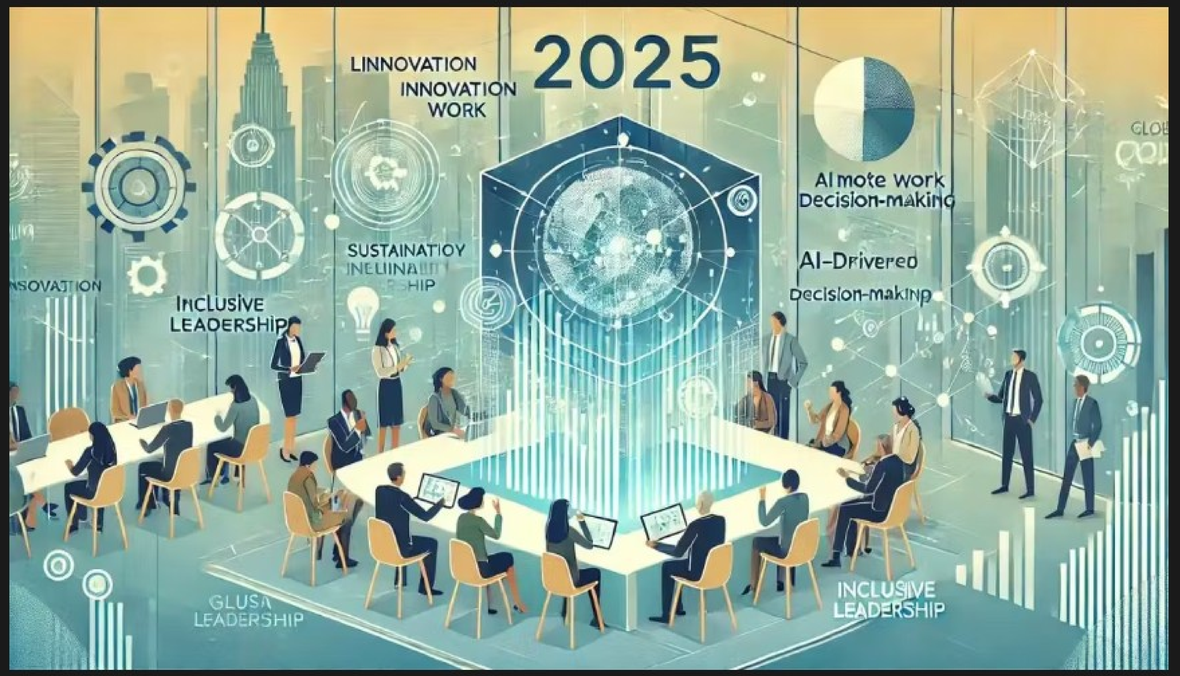
Transition to cities for work in factories,

Implementation of the K-12 system,

Carnegie structure,

Average Life Expectancy~ 47.





2000

Information Economy

limitless access to data,

digital revolution,

Artificial Intelligence,

Average Life expectancy ~78.

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What concerns you most about public schools?

the lack of academic rigothe lack of academic rigor

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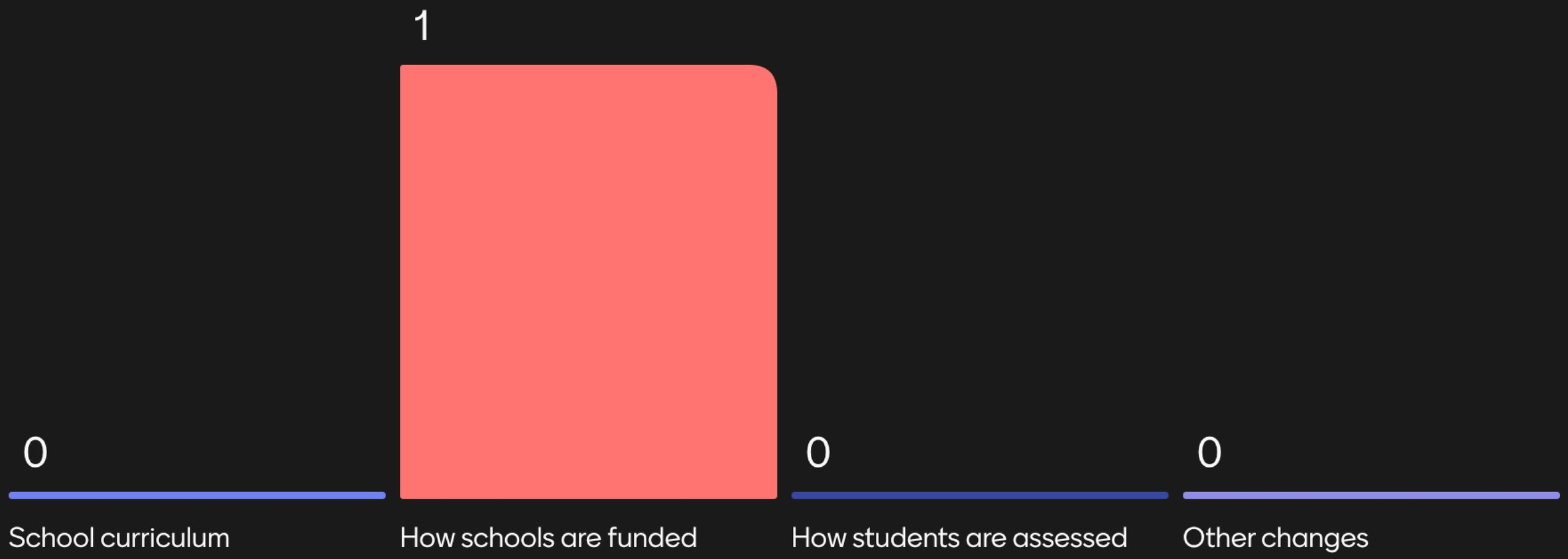
What area of public school do you believe needs changed?



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How can schools improve student learning & outcomes?

Improving teacher training	Adding additional technology	Impliment more self directed learning	Changing classroom sizes
0	0	0	0

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How could schools & businesses partner to support education?

Requiring community service	Providing apprenticeships	Bringing industry expertise into the classroom	Mentoring at-risk students
0	0	0	0

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Visioning Exercise: Imagine Excellence (1)

“

What could it look like if we could rebuild Idaho’s education system from the ground up without direct regard for funding, regulations, or tradition?

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Visioning Exercise: Imagine Excellence (3)

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If every student had a personalized education plan based on their passions, strengths, and career goals, how would that change the way we teach, mentor, and prepare them for the future?

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Visioning Exercise: Imagine Excellence (4)

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How could Idaho's businesses, parents, and community organizations collaborate with educators and legislators to create a more dynamic, relevant, and opportunity-driven education system?

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Visioning Exercise: Imagine Excellence (5)

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What can be done to build trust in our public education system?

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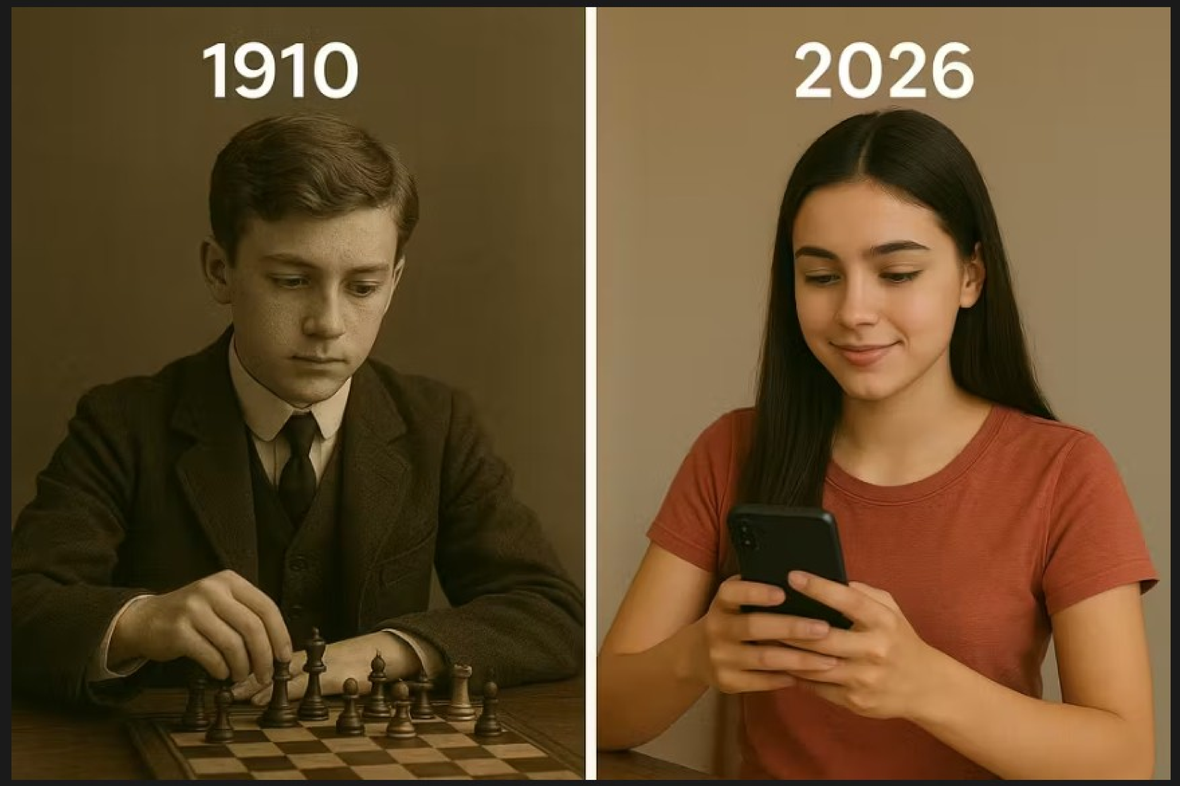
What Public Education Will Likely Look Like by 2045

1. A Shift Toward Competency-Based, Not Seat-Time-Based, Learning
2. AI - Enhanced Personalized Learning
3. The Rebirth of Career & Technical Education (CTE)
4. School Schedules Become Flexible
5. Greater Student Mental Health Support
6. New School Types and More Family Choice
7. Declining Enrollment Will Reshape Districts
8. Testing and Accountability Will Be Entirely Different
9. Teacher Shortage Drives Role Redesign
10. Schools Become Community Learning Hubs



Public education in 2045 will be more personalized, skill-focused, technology-enhanced, flexible, and connected to the workforce—and far less standardized, rigid, and uniform than the 20th-century model.

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A PATH FORWARD

1 - Initial Collaboration Meeting

April 2025

2 - Develop survey to capture & trend statewide feedback

April 2025

3 - Gather statewide feedback

Summer/Fall 2025

4 - Analyze feedback & draft legislation

Fall 2025

5 - Propose pilot districts to reinvent Idaho public education

- Collaborate with communities
- 3-year pilot plan to accelerate the evolution of Idaho public schools

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Considerations

We stand at a pivotal moment in Idaho education, a perhaps once-in-a-century moment.

This is not a critique of our current system or educators

Instead, it is a call to *collaboration* in the evolution of public education.

As parents, teachers, community leaders, or representatives from business/industry, we require a UNITED APPROACH

We need to understand that this is **not** an academic issue...it **is** a LEADERSHIP issue.

USS Abraham Lincoln

CVN-72

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Reinvention won't come from a single policy or program. It requires a **cultural shift**—one that views education as a public assest, adapts to a fast-changing world, and is deeply rooted in community needs and aspirations.

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A Place to Have a Conversation

website: https://idahoed.com

Survey: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/idpublic

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Thank You!

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Phone: 208-521-0716

Website: https://idahoed.com

Survey: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/idpublic

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1908
Modern Education

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Visioning Exercise: Imagine Excellence (2)

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What if learning wasn't tied to a classroom, grade level, or strict schedule? Can we design an education system that allows students to learn at their own pace, in their own way, in a variety of settings?