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BOARD ANNOUNCES NEW CHIEF COMMUNICATIONS AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS OFFICER

(Boise). Marilyn Whitney, former statewide community outreach coordinator for Idaho National Laboratory (INL), has been named the new Chief Communications and Legislative Affairs Officer for the Idaho State Board of Education.

"Marilyn brings a wealth of experience in all aspects of public affairs along with well-established connections in government, education and business," said Mike Rush, Executive Director of the Office of the State Board of Education. "We had a pool of highly-qualified applicants. We are very pleased to have Marilyn join our senior management team."

Born and raised in Twin Falls, Whitney earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Boise State University and has extensive experience in communications and public affairs both in private industry and government. Prior to joining INL in 2006, Whitney spent nearly 15 years in corporate communications at Micron Technology Inc. and 2 years at the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

"This is a very exciting opportunity for me," said Whitney. "I look forward to supporting the important work of the State Board to ensure all Idahoans have high-quality educational opportunities."

The position was formerly held by Mark Browning, who was recently appointed vice president for community relations and marketing for North Idaho College. Browning had served the State Board since 2007.

To learn more about the Idaho State Board of Education, please visit <u>www.boardofed.idaho.gov</u>.