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FORMER SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDENT JERRY EVANS ENDORSES BALUKOFF

BOISE, Idaho—Four-term Idaho Superintendent of Public Instruction Jerry Evans announced today his endorsement of Democrat A.J. Balukoff for governor.

"I have watched what's happening to our schools with growing concern and frustration for several years. Despite an abundance of political talk to the contrary, Idaho's public schools have been all but abandoned by our state's leaders. We are not living up to our state constitution's mandate to 'maintain a general, uniform and thorough' system of public schools," said Evans.

"As a lifelong Republican, it's not easy for me to endorse a candidate from another party. But it is with enthusiasm that I endorse A.J. Balukoff's bid to be Idaho's next governor," said Evans. "He has a long record of support for public schools and as a leader on the Boise School Board. He has deep experience building successful businesses and helping lead many non-profits. He knows what it takes to produce success."

"We simply cannot afford four more years of going in the wrong direction. It is time to thank Gov. Otter for his service and to wish him well in retirement," said Evans.

"It's a great honor to be endorsed by Jerry Evans, who is widely considered one of the best state school superintendents that Idaho has ever had," Balukoff said. "His endorsement sends a message to educators, parents, and everyone who cares about education that Gov. Otter has failed our children and our public schools. That's why I'm running for governor."

Republican Jerry L. Evans served as Superintendent of Public Instruction from 1979 to 1995.

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