



Suite

-0037

December 3, 2021

Board of Trustees
North Idaho College
1000 W. Garden Ave.
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

Dear Trustees Banducci, Barnes, McKenzie, Howard and Wood,

We are writing to express deep concern about the current trajectory of North Idaho College. Documented complaints submitted to your accrediting body, Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU), followed by an exodus of top-level leadership, including all three vice presidents, is extremely concerning.

Idaho Constitution Article IX, Section 2 provides: "The
and public school system of the state of Idaho, shall be vested in a state
board of education, the membership, powers and duties of which shall be prescribed by law"
(emphasis added).

Pursuant to this constitutional grant of authority, the Idaho Legislature has defined the "powers and duties" of the State Board of Education in Idaho Code Title 33. Specifically, Idaho Code § 33-

We urge you to complete the Accreditation Response Action Plan as developed by Dr. Lita Burns and posted on [NIC's website](#) as soon as possible and in good faith. As NWCCU stated, "[t]he requested Ad Hoc report will be critical to ensure the College remains compliant with NWCCU's Eligibility Requirements, Standards of Accreditation, and Policies, and as such, will strengthen your efforts to continue to fulfill the institutional mission to serve students." For the sake of the College, students, and the community, we believe this action needs to be taken and resolved well before the August 1, 2022 deadline.

As duly elected fiduciaries and stewards of the College, it is imperative that you recognize the consequences of being sanctioned by NWCCU, many of which are numerous and severe. Given the gravity of the situation, we believe it necessary and appropriate to enumerate very specific and tangible impacts of placing your accreditation in jeopardy. The following points are illustrative, not exhaustive:

education credits non-transferable to other Idaho public institutions.