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FINANCIAL LITERACY ADVOCATE TAKES MESSAGE TO IDAHO CAPITOL

Boise, ID, February 23, 2006 – A Coeur d'Alene based financial consultant and financial literacy advocate is appearing before the Idaho State Board of Education and Senate Education committee today to encourage leaders to make financial education a priority. Brad Dugdale, senior vice president and financial consultant at D.A. Davidson & Co. in Coeur d'Alene will conduct two half hour presentations in the state capitol as part of a continuing effort to advance the financial knowledge of all Idahoans.

“There are a number of factors coming together that make this issue more important than ever,” says Dugdale, “we’re experiencing a negative savings rate, increased consumer debt loads, disappearing pensions and dwindling Social Security benefits. Without a good financial education our students may fall behind financially before they ever have a chance to get ahead.”

Dugdale says Idaho is actually one of a handful of states that already require personal finance in school curriculum but notes there is a growing movement to specifically address financial literacy. “Dealing with money is not elective,” says Dugdale, “we have an obligation to make financial education a requirement for graduation.”

Dugdale appears before the Board of Education around 1:00 pm in the Lookout Room of the Boise State University student union building. He then will present to the Senate Education committee at 3:00 pm at the capitol.

The Idaho Board of Education submitted a high school curriculum redesign to the legislature for approval earlier this year. The redesign would increase math and science requirements for graduates in Idaho. The plan is currently in committee.

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