

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, August 12, 2020

CONTACT: David Workman
Dworkman@lottery.idaho.gov
Cell: 208-334-2600

Lottery Returns \$55,500,000 to Benefit Idaho Public Schools

BOISE, Idaho – The Idaho Lottery has announced a \$55,500,000 dividend to the People of Idaho. Including this year's dividend, the Idaho Lottery has now returned \$961.5 million since it began in July 1989.

“On behalf of the Idaho Lottery Commission, it is my great pleasure to present a dividend of \$55.5 million to Governor Brad Little, Superintendent of Public Instruction Sheri Ybarra, the Chairman of the Permanent Building Fund Advisory Council Dee Jameson, and the People of Idaho. We know these monies are in good hands to build a bright future for Idaho,” said Craig Corbett, Idaho Lottery Commission Chairman.

“Idaho’s public schools and the state’s Permanent Building Fund are the real winners of the Idaho Lottery. After 31 years, the Idaho Lottery has provided nearly one billion dollars to enhance public education, improve college campuses, and provide safe workforce buildings,” Governor Brad Little said.

“This year we faced a significant test in responsibly providing meaningful resources to our beneficiaries, Idaho public schools and the Permanent Building Fund, but together with our players, our valued retailers, and vendors, we delivered,” said Jeff Anderson, Idaho Lottery Director. “Every time you play the Lottery, you do good for your community. You support jobs at local businesses, you benefit your local schools, and you have fun.”

The total dividend transferred to the Department of Education was \$34,687,500. Of that amount, \$20,812,500 is earmarked for use by the Department’s districts based on average daily attendance for public school maintenance and operations expenses. The remaining \$13,875,000 is for the Department of Education’s Bond Levy Equalization Fund. The Idaho Lottery has contributed over \$551 million to these accounts in support of Public Education in Idaho.

“The Idaho Lottery has been supporting schools and students across the state through annual dividends for more than 30 years,” Superintendent of Public Instruction Sherri Ybarra said. “This year, in a time of unprecedented challenges for Idaho’s schools, nearly \$35 million will go to much needed projects such as electrical repairs, boiler upgrades, and fire safety equipment.”

The Lottery also transferred \$20,812,500 to the State of Idaho Permanent Building Fund Account. Since 1989, the Idaho Lottery has returned \$422,725,000 back to support permanent buildings at, among other places, Idaho's university campuses.

"This check provided by the Idaho Lottery will be used to fund necessary projects throughout the State of Idaho," said Dee Jameson, Permanent Building Fund Advisory Council Chairman. "Our State universities and colleges, state agencies, buildings that serve the citizens of Idaho all have needs that these funds will help keep YOUR state buildings in good repair and up to date. Thanks to the citizens of Idaho that play the lottery."

The Idaho Lottery ended its Fiscal Year on June 30, recording \$277.6 million in annual sales, awarding \$185.7 million in prizes to players, and retailers earning \$16.2 million in commissions.

DIGITAL ASSETS AVAILABLE VIA DROPBOX:

Video Comments Available:

- Governor Brad Little Video Comments
- Jeff Anderson, Idaho Lottery Director Video Comments
- Sherri Ybarra, Superintendent of Public Instruction Video Comments

Photos Available:

- Governor Brad Little
- Jeff Anderson, Idaho Lottery Director
- Sherri Ybarra, Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Craig Corbett, Grace, Idaho, Idaho Lottery Commission Chairman
- Dee Jameson, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, Permanent Building Fund Advisory Council Chairman
- Keith Reynolds, Department of Administration Director and Pat Donaldson, Division of Public Works Administrator

ALL ASSETS ARE AVAILABLE

AT: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/9afw0oaiuzs95y8/AADs1A0QtHRAVVw_HvlsxinZa?dl=0

###

ABOUT THE IDAHO LOTTERY

The Idaho Lottery responsibly provides a variety of entertaining games featuring Powerball, Mega Millions, Scratch Games™, and PullTabs with a high degree of integrity to maximize the dividend for Idaho public schools and the permanent building fund. Since their inception in 1989, the Idaho Lottery has sold over \$4.2 billion in products, awarded more than \$2.6 billion in prizes to players, returned \$249 million in retail commissions, and distributed \$961.5 million in Lottery dividends to Idaho public schools and the Permanent Building Fund. To learn more, please visit www.idaholottery.com