**Sherri Ybarra, Republican candidate, superintendent of public instruction, March 26, 2014**

**1. What letter grade would you assign to the 2014 session?**

While I don't think it would be fair to assign a letter grade without specific data related to performance, I was encouraged to see legislators restore some funding to educate our students.

**2. What do you think the Legislature did right this session, regarding K-12?**

Idahoans demonstrated their strong interest in education by passing levies to the tune of $209 million, I think that indicates legislators were right to pay closer attention to education this year.

**3. What do you think the Legislature did wrong this session, regarding K-12?**

There are a number of educational items that still need to be addressed. While I don't think they necessarily did anything wrong, we need to continue with the work we've committed to that will improve our children's opportunities in the world.

**4. Based on what you saw this session, what do you consider to be the top priority facing Idaho's next superintendent of public instruction, in the 2015 session? How would you approach that priority?**

If elected, my top priority will be working with the Governor's Task Force for Improving Education to implement its recommendations. The task force has spent considerable time looking at our education system and we should take advantage of their insight and knowledge. Too often recommendations are forgotten after a year or two. I would approach that by working with stakeholders to prioritize which recommendations will be implemented first and start working from there. I would also make recommendations to the Legislature and the State Board of Education to decrease the amount of testing, and work to build a transitional accountability system that aligns with the Idaho Common Core.