

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Lockport Township High School East
1333 East Seventh Street, Lockport, Illinois

October 18-19, 2006

NOTE: Staff presentations and detailed Board discussion typically take place during Committee meetings one month prior to State Board action in the plenary session.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2006

- 10:30 a.m. Board Operations Committee**
Principals Conference Room
1-888-867-5802 (*listen only*); Confirmation # 1 5 9 8 1 3 1 6
- 10:30 a.m. Finance & Audit Committee**
Maroon Room
1-866-297-6391 (*listen only*); Confirmation # 1 5 9 8 1 3 1 1
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch Break**
- 12:30 p.m. Education Policy Planning Committee**
Maroon Room
1-866-297-6391 (*listen only*); Confirmation # 1 5 9 8 1 3 1 1
- *1:30p.m. Ad Hoc Rules Committee of the Whole**
Maroon Room
1-866-297-6391 (*listen only*); Confirmation # 1 5 9 8 1 3 1 1
- 3:30 – 5:30 Budget Hearing: Finance & Audit Committee of the Whole**
Maroon Room
1-866-297-6391 (*listen only*); Confirmation # 1 5 9 8 1 3 1 1

* The meeting will begin at the conclusion of the previous session.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2006

- 9:00 a.m. ISBE Plenary Session**
Maroon Room
1-866-297-6391 (*listen only*); Confirmation # 1 5 9 8 1 3 1 5

NOTE: Chairman Ruiz will call for a break in the Board Plenary Session on Thursday at which time the Board will go into closed session.

All State Board of Education meetings listed on this agenda will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Persons planning to attend who need special accommodations should contact the Board office no later than the date prior to the meeting. Contact the Superintendent's office at the State Board of Education, Phone: 217-782-2221; TTY/TDD: 17-782-1900; Fax: 217-785-3972.

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Maroon Room
Lockport Township High School East
1333 East Seventh Street, Lockport, Illinois
Thursday, October 19, 2006
9:00 a.m.

Public Conference Call Number: 1-866-297-6391 (*listen only*); **Confirmation #: 1 5 9 8 1 3 1 5**
The Plenary Session will also be audio broadcast via the Internet.

NOTE: Staff presentations and detailed Board discussion typically take place during Committee meetings one month prior to State Board action in the plenary session.

Plenary Business Meeting

A. Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance

B. Resolutions & Recognition

1. Roanoke-Benson CUSD (*p. 3*)
2. Barbara Somogyi, 2005-06 Thomas Lay Burroughs Outstanding School Board President

C. Public Participation

D. Superintendent's Report

* Consent Agenda

All action consideration items listed with an asterisk (*) are considered to be routine and will be enacted in one motion and vote. Any board member who wishes separate discussion on any item listed on the consent agenda may remove that item from the consent agenda, in which event, the item will be considered in its normal sequence.

Action Considerations

- *1. Approval of Minutes
 - a. August 23-25, 2006 (*pp. 4-9*)
 - b. August 31, 2006 (*pp. 10-14*)
 - c. September 21, 2006 (*pp. 15-25*)
 - d. October 4, 2006 (*pp. 26-29*)
- *2. Rules for Initial Review
 - a. Amendments to Part 60 ("Grow Your Own" Teacher Initiative) (*pp. 30-40*)
 - b. New Part 70 (Early Childhood Teacher Preparation Assistance Grant) (*pp. 41-58*)
- *3. Rules for Adoption
 - a. Part 235 (Early Childhood Block Grant) (*pp. 59-82*)
 - b. New Part 70 Emergency (Early Childhood Teacher Preparation Assistance Grant) (*pp. 41-58*)
- *4. Acceptance of FY05 A-133 Statewide Single Audit Report (*p. 83*)
- *5. Consideration of Institutional Accreditation and Program Approvals
 - a. Trinity Christian College (*pp. 84-129*)
6. Release of Closed Session Minutes (as needed)

E. Announcements and Reports

1. Status Report from Hazard, Young, Attea and Associates
2. Superintendent's Announcements
3. Chairman's Report
4. Committee Reports

F. Information Items

1. Monthly Informational Reports
 - a. Monthly Status Report on Rulemaking (*pp. 130-136*)
 - b. SBE Fiscal & Administrative Monthly Reports (*pp. 137-152*)

G. Adjourn

NOTE: Chairman Ruiz may call for a break in the Board Plenary Session at which time the Board will go into closed session.

**Illinois State Board of Education Meeting
MINUTES
October 19, 2006
Lockport Township High School East
1333 East Seventh Street, Lockport, Illinois**

<p>ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</p>	<p>Mr. Jesse Ruiz, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Chairman Ruiz asked Ms. Jean Ladage, Assistant to the Board, to call the roll. A quorum was present. Dr. Randy Dunn, State Superintendent of Education, was also in attendance.</p> <p>The Board members, Dr. Dunn, and anyone who wished to join them faced the American flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.</p> <p>Chairman Ruiz announced that the Board meeting was being audio-cast live over the Internet.</p> <p><u>Members Present:</u> Mr. Jesse Ruiz, Chairman Dr. Christopher Ward, Vice Chairman Dr. Vinni Hall, Secretary Dr. Andrea Brown Mr. Dean Clark Dr. David Fields Mr. Edward Geppert, Jr. Ms. Brenda Holmes Ms. Joyce Karon</p> <p><u>Members Absent:</u> None</p>
<p>RESOLUTIONS & RECOGNITION</p>	<p>Dr. Chris Ward moved that the State Board of Education adopt the resolution recognizing Mr. Lynn Curtis of Roanoke - Benson Community Unit School District #60. Dr. David Fields seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous voice vote.</p> <p>Ms. Barbara Somogyi, the 2005 winner of the Thomas Lay Burroughs Award for Outstanding School Board President spoke on her experiences in the last year as the Thomas Lay Burroughs Outstanding School Board President award winner. Ms. Somogyi thanked the Board for the honor of being chosen as the 2005 Thomas Lay Burroughs Award winner.</p>
<p>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</p>	<p>Ms. Janet Milkovich from Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic (RFB&D) thanked the Board and Agency for their financial support and stated that there are still 200,000 disabled students that need the services of RFB&D and to please continue to fund this worthy cause.</p> <p>Ms. Arin Amsler, a senior Morris Community High School and second year student at Grundy Area Vocational Career (GAVC) spoke in support of Career and Technical Education. Ms. Amsler stated that she is enrolled in the Computer Applications Advanced Program at GAVC and is hoping to major in biochemistry in the Fall 2007 session at the University of Iowa. Ms. Amsler plans on becoming a trademark and patenting lawyer. Most GAVC students attend college, but it also gives the students not attending college a job trade in which to enter into after high school. Ms. Amsler noted that GAVC also offered a Work Keys Program/ACT refresher course to help students prepare for the upcoming ACT Test. Ms. Amsler thanked the Board for helping fund the Grundy Area Vocational Center.</p> <p>Mr. Don Bailey introduced himself as a Homer Township resident and member</p>

of Citizens Advisory to Streamline Education (CASE). Mr. Bailey presented the Board, on behalf of CASE, with a Unit District Proposal that will be filed with the Regional Office of Education. CASE's hope is to help Homer Township and Lockport Township address the area's growth and educational problems by creating a unit district. Mr. Bailey shared documents on the proposal and asked that the Board consider his request because it is in the best interest of the students and community.

Mr. John Drozdek, Assistant Director from the Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters Apprentice Program spoke in support of Career and Technical Education Program, School-To-Apprenticeship Program. Mr. Drozdek thanked the Board for supporting career and technical programs and stating that it not only gives a student to chance to try a trade they might be interested in making a career of, but it also gives a union contractors an opportunity to hire quality workers. Mr. Drozdek also shared with the Board members copies of the September 2006 issue of the Association for Career and Technical Education containing several success articles from the past year.

Ms. Penny Richard, Vice President of the Learning Disabilities Association of Illinois, chair of their Governmental Affairs, as well as a Surrogate Parent for the Department of Corrections urged that the State Board of Education to withdrawal the proposed rules for Special Education Part 226 and begin again. They feel that that Illinois rules were much easier to understand than the federal rules. Now the Board wants to eliminate 50 pages of Illinois rules and substitute with much more complicated federal rules. LDA is opposed to the removing the words "learning disabilities" from the special education class size rules, and the proposed requirement of a non-categorical Response to Intervention (RTI) system for all of Illinois. Ms. Richards noted that Illinois already has a shortage of Special Education teachers and by increasing the class sizes we will only make that worse and directly harm the education of students with learning disabilities.

Mr. Kenneth Zelazny a Joliet citizen and a concerned parent commented on his concerns about the quality and character of people we choose to work with our children. Mr. Zelazny is asking for the Board to consider that all current and prospective (salaried and volunteer) teachers, coaches, counselors, and administrators are subject to police checks as a requirement of a teaching or administrative certificate application.

Ms. Nancy Ross, Associate Director for Distance and e-Learning and **Ms. Lindsey Bartolone**, Senior Educator from the Adler Planetarium and Astronomy Museum updated the Board on the Adler's science education programs for the upcoming 2007 school year. Ms. Bartolone informed the Board that Adler is able to offer distance learning, video conferencing, ACCESS, a professional development workshop program and formed a partnership with Chicago Public Schools Office of Math and Science to support the Chicago Math and Science Initiative. Ms. Ross stated that she looks forward to updating the Board at future ISBE meetings about Adler's distance learning education programs.

Mr. Clancy Hess an 85 year old Lockport resident, engineer of Aviation and Energy Research, and the soul surviving Founder of Argonne National Laboratories Cyclotron of the late 1940's. Mr. Hess stated that the education system nationwide is no longer competitive within the world. Universities and Colleges in the year 2004 were down to 60,000 new certified engineers compared to the 460,000 certified engineers we had 20 years ago. Mr. Hess stated that our youth deserve better.

Ms. Lauri Morrison-Fritchtl from the Illinois Head Start Association stated that Part 235 Early Childhood Block Grant proposed administrative rules do not provide sufficient assurances to prevent the loss of federal Head Start dollars from Illinois communities. Without such assurances there is a significant risk that fewer economically at-risk children and families will not receive the comprehensive services available through Head Start. Therefore they are requesting proposed rule changes that include stronger language and formal safeguards.

Ms. Deana Durcia, Policy Associate with the Ounce of Prevention Fund, spoke in support of the proposed rules for Social and Emotional Consultation Services. Ms. Durcia stated that they are concerned that the Preschool for All Grant decision making be based on where the need most exist for programs around the state. Ms. Durcia thanked Ms. Kay Henderson, Division Administrator for Early Childhood and her staff for their work and contribution to the Illinois Early Childhood Asset Map (IECAM), and her willingness to use the data from IECAM to help make funding decisions. Ms. Durcia noted that the IECAM data will soon be ready for the decision making for FY 2008 funding. She also asked the Board to continue to support data driven decision making to ensure we meet our legislative mandate to serve all at-risk children first, and to ensure that resources are distributed equally to children in need of the program around the state.

Mr. Michael Pressler, Assistant Principal for Instruction at Maine East High School, former Fine Arts Chair at Maine South High School and President Elect of the Illinois Music Educators Association (IMEA) spoke in support of Arts Education. Mr. Pressler stated that research conducted by the Illinois Art Alliance and IMEA have found that 78% of the schools have music programs, while 22% of the schools do not have music programs. Arts educators provide thousand of hours before and after school of arts education. Mr. Pressler stated that arts education represents the best of engaged learning and ask that the Board give priority to the allocation of resources including time, funding, staff and facilities. He also urged the Board to do everything they can to support compliance, and to increase the appropriation for Arts and Foreign Language from \$4 million in FY 07 to \$7 million in FY08.

Mr. Jonathan Furr an attorney from law firm of Holland and Knight and **Mr. Malcolm Rich**, Executive Director for Chicago Appleseed spoke on parental involvement and shared with Board members the report "It Takes A Parent: Transforming Education in the Wake of the No Child Left Behind Act. Mr. Furr stated that based on the research findings in the report, Appleseed makes the following recommendations:

- **Quality of Information.** State, districts and schools must provide meaningful, understandable and timely information to parents regarding key school and student performance data.
- **Proactive, Targeted Engagement Strategies.** State, districts and schools must pursue multiple, proactive strategies for communicating with and engaging parents-particularly parents who are low-income or whose first language is not English.
- **Community Support.** Districts and schools should leverage their own limited resources by engaging community organizations.
- **Professional Development:** Federal, state and district officials need to prioritize and fund more comprehensive professional development for teachers and administrators, with special emphasis on challenges of culture and language.
- **Better Implementation and Stronger Accountability.** Federal, state,

	<p>and local policy makers and educators should recognize parental involvement as central to school improvement and place parental involvement strategies on par with other steps taken to improve student achievement.</p> <p>Mr. Rich informed the Board that Appleseed intends to look for local Illinois-based solutions and to implement these solutions by looking for advocacy plans and developing partnerships between schools, parent and community organizations. Mr. Rich stated that is Appleseed's hope is to maximize meaningful parental involvement and to urge the State Board to include parental involvement as part of its role; it is not just a local school district issue. Mr. Rich commented that Appleseed plans to provide as much help and assistance as it can.</p> <p>Ms. Theresa Devine, Chair of the Illinois State Advisory Council on Education of Children with Disabilities (ISAC) and a parent of a junior high student who receives special education services, spoke on the Part 226 proposed rules. The Illinois State Advisory Council on Education of Children with Disabilities is made up of 51% parents and individuals with disabilities, the remaining members are stakeholders from various agencies and school district representatives, educators or members at large. Ms. Devine wanted it known that ISAC had an intricate role in the development of the state rules and that parents and stakeholders were a part of the process. Several discussions were held around the state after the federal rules were issued. A primary concern to ISAC based on the state rules, is the format. The format of the state rules as proposed in referencing the federal rules, by statutory number, only makes the document virtually unusable to anyone but the most sophisticated user. It is not necessary to create a document for practical use to refer to convoluted laws by status number when referring to the law by language itself. Class size and case load is also another concern of ISAC. The current state caseload rules separate students with disabilities by that disability label and this is fundamentally wrong; we do not segregate individuals by their disability. ISAC supports changing this rule because it is so categorical. ISAC supports the concurrent use of RTI strategies and the Discrepancy Model for diagnosing (or ruling out) specific learning disabilities, but they do have concerns. Ms. Devine left a document for the Board to review with their recommendations.</p> <p>Ms. Kathy Hilton a Lockport area resident commented on services that have been provided to the Lockport's people for years are now being abolished to provide for the new people moving to the community. Brenda Holmes advised Ms. Hilton that there are organizations to support her view and she should contact them for their support.</p>
<p>ANNOUNCEMENTS</p>	<p>Chairman Ruiz introduced and thanked Ms. Audrey Manley, President and Member of the Lockport THSD #205 Board, Mr. Brett Gould, Principal of Lockport H.S. District #205 and Dr. Garry Raymond, Superintendent for facilitating and hosting our October 2006 Board Meeting. Dr. Manley commented on how pleased they were that Lockport was chosen to host the October meeting and thanked the Board for all of their hard work for the children of Illinois. Dr. Raymond also thanked the Board for all the time and hours they invest on behalf of the students in Illinois.</p> <p>Dr. Chris Ward thanked the staff of Lockport Township High School East for coordinating and working with the State Board staff in order for the October 2006 State Board Meeting to be held in LTHS. Chairman Ruiz agreed with Dr. Ward and commented on all the work it takes to be able to hold a State Board</p>

<p>Status Report from Hazard, Young, Attea and Associates</p>	<p>individual interview or focus group settings during September and October, as well as reviewing about 150 completed Leadership Profile Assessment Forms that were brought to the interview /focus groups, mailed or faxed. Individuals involved in the interviews or focus groups also completed forms. It is estimated that the data contained herein represents the input of 250 individuals.</p> <p>The interview, focus groups, public forums and questionnaires were structured to gather data to assist the Board in determining the primary characteristics to be sought in the next State Superintendent. Through this process, the consultants sought stakeholders' responses to a draft set of criteria approved by the State Board at its August Retreat. Stakeholders were asked to react to the draft criteria and then to indicate the five criteria deemed most important to the position. Many comments and suggestions were provided and are incorporated into the report. (Copy of report on file for review.)</p> <p>Ms. Brenda Holmes asked Mr. Attea to characterize the mood of education among the people that were interviewed. Mr. Attea responded by commenting that those interviewed believe that the successes of education are not being noted, and that NCLB has good ideas but they have gone overboard with testing. Educators are positive, but the overall tone of parents is not as positive as it could be.</p> <p>Dr. Chris Ward asked Mr. Attea if there was anything that he sensed during the interviews that should be of a concern. Mr. Attea stated that interviewees were concerned that the current structure could allow the wrong governor, at the wrong time, could be critical to education.</p>
<p>Superintendent's Announcements</p>	<p>Superintendent Dunn talked about his trip to Granada, Spain, which was part of a five-year agreement with the Minister of Education in Spain. The agreement brought 212 teachers from Spain to work in Illinois. The visiting teachers are awarded a visiting international certification which allows them to teach in bilingual programs and content areas if they have the English and background required to do so.</p> <p>Dr. Dunn commented that we have posted high school assessment PSAE scores. The schools have 10 days to review the scores and we have plenty of staff available in the assessment areas to assist school districts in finalizing their information. Dr. Dunn also noted that we are very close to finalizing AYP for Grades 3-8 and we are close to printing score reports for ISAT. We continue to make progress, but we will be challenged to make the October 31st deadline for School Report Cards.</p> <p>Superintendent Dunn also noted that Darren Reisberg and his staff have had the prohibition lifted on the new child nutrition rules for grade schools and in the near future we will be preparing to issue guidance on these rules. We will be relaying this information out to the schools and we can expect to see waivers on the nutrition issues.</p> <p>Brenda Holmes asked that if the rules go out at the end of October 2006 what is it that we have to do in January 2007? Darren Reisberg responded that the State Wellness Policy Task Force will be coming out with a recommendation in January, and there will be an internal review to see what recommendations the Task Force has, and how our Part 305 rules are affected. Now that the prohibition has been lifted and we have filed with the Secretary of State, we may need to make changes in order for them to be in alignment with the Policy Task Force recommendations.</p>

	<p>Joyce Karon added that as of August 1, 2006, federal standards require that local school districts have their wellness programs in place.</p> <p>Andrea Brown commented that this is an ongoing issue for public schools, and we will revisit it often and it won't be completed in a year. Dr. Dunn commented that with these complicated issues, people want closure. However, these kinds of rules require us to look, study, revise and keep moving forward and these rules will require us to continue to do that.</p>
<p>Chairman's Report</p>	<p>Chairman Ruiz also talked on his trip to Granada, Spain with Superintendent Dunn on September 22-28, 2006. The trip was hosted by the Spanish Ministry of Education and Science and attended by eleven educators from the United States.</p> <p>Chairman Ruiz reported that he had participated in the following meetings since the last Board meeting:</p> <p>Sept. 22-28 Attended Seminar for Administrators of Programs for International Educational Cooperation (funded by Ministry of Education and Science, University of Granda, Spain)</p> <p>Sept. 29 Received TELACU's "CREO" Award in recognition of outstanding accomplishments & public service.</p> <p>October 3 Participated in Summit on Re-Enrolling Students Task Force</p> <p>October 11-12 Keynote speaker, SIU-Carbondale at the 2006 Latino Heritage Month Observance.</p>
<p>Committee Reports</p>	<p>Board Operations Committee</p> <p>Dr. Chris Ward reported that he and the following committee members were in attendance: Dr. David Fields, Dr Vinni Hall, Ms. Joyce Karon, and Chairman Ruiz. Dr. Ward commented that the committee discussed the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved the minutes of the September 2006 Board Operations Committee Meeting. • Reviewed 2007 Calendar for tentative Board meeting dates and locations. Also discussed Board Retreat locations. <p>Education Policy Planning Committee</p> <p>Dr. Fields reported that he and the following committee members were in attendance: Dr. Andrea Brown, Mr. Ed Geppert, Dr. Vinni Hall, and Ms. Joyce Karon. Also in attendance were Mr. Dean Clark, Ms. Brenda Holmes, Dr. Chris Ward and Mr. Jesse Ruiz. Dr. David Fields commented that the committee discussed the following topics: All present</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bev Johns, Chair of the Illinois Special Education Coalition spoke on Part 226. • Approved the minutes for the September 2006 EPPC Meeting. • Roger Weissberg of UIC and Mary O'Brien, CASEL gave a status report on Social and Emotional Learning Standards in Illinois. • Becky Watts, Ginger Reynolds and Darren Reisberg presented the Committee with an agency flowchart for systematically noncompliant districts and will return at a future Committee meeting with the cost to implement this design. • John Ourth, Susie Morrison from the Coalition for Illinois High Schools and Daryl Morrison, Illinois Education Association updated the Committee on the work of the Coalition for Illinois High Schools. Suzie

	<p>Morris presented the recommendations from the attendees of the High School Challenge Conference and will continue to keep the Committee updated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linda Jamali, Division Administrator for Certification reviewed the recent version of Illinois Highly Qualified Teachers Plan with the Committee. • Meta Minton and Jean Ladage discussed and updated the Committee on the plans for the Student Advisory Council this year. <p>Finance and Audit Committee Mr. Edward Geppert reported that he and the following committee members were in attendance: Dr. Andrea Brown, Ms. Brenda Holmes and Mr. Dean Clark. Mr. Edward Geppert reported that the committee discussed the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lonnie Johns addressed the Committee on Part 226. • Approved the minutes for the September 2006 Finance & Audit Committee Meeting • Received an update on the Calumet Park School District #132 • Linda Mitchell and Ronny Wickenhauser reviewed the FY 2008 Budget Hearing Schedule with the Committee. • Received a report and update on Illinois School Purchasing Network by new staff member Tamara Morris who will be taking care of ISPN program. • The Committee discussed issues pertaining to the agency cost to implementing new programs. Brenda Holmes will seek further information on this issue to share with the Board at a future meeting. <p>Governmental Relations Committee Ms. Brenda Holmes reported that the Governmental Relations Committee did not meet.</p>
<p>Members' Reports</p>	<p>Dr. Chris Ward attended the Milken National Educator Award presentation at O.A. Sexton Elementary School in Chicago where Ms. Rana Khan was presented with the award. Dr. Ward also commented that through the Fulbright Scholar Program he had the opportunity to address and attended a dinner with 40 Romanian administrators.</p> <p>Dr. Dave Fields stated that he attended the Those Who Excel Banquet in Decatur on October 7, 2006. Also in attendance were Dr. Randy Dunn, Ms. Vinni Hall, and Mr. Ed Geppert.</p> <p>Mr. Ed Geppert commented that he enjoyed the banquet and former Illinois Teacher of the Year, Jacqueline Bolger's comments in support of teachers. Dr. Dunn also noted that ISBE website has an article and picture of the new 2006-07 Illinois Teacher of the Year, Joe Fatheree and former Illinois Teacher of the Year, Jacqueline Bolger. Chairman Ruiz stated that the 2006-07 Illinois Teacher of the Year, Joe Fatheree, will be invited to the Board meetings periodically to update the Board on his experiences as Teacher of the Year.</p> <p>Mr. Dean Clark attended the presentation of the Milken National Educator Award to teacher Kerin Motsinger at Park View Elementary School in Glen Ellyn on October 10, 2006.</p> <p>Dr. Andrea Brown and Dr. Vinni Hall attended the NASBE Annual Conference on October 12-14, 2006 in Louisville, Kentucky. Dr. Andrea Brown stated that she also heard Dr. Dunn speak at SIUC Annual Law Conference in Carbondale on October 11, 2006.</p>

	<p>Ms. Brenda Holmes attended the Illinois Administrators Round Table and wanted to thank Linda Jamili and her staff for a very informative presentation at the Round Table meeting.</p> <p>Dr. Vinni Hall commented that she had the opportunity to moderate the Preschool for All Summit on October 16, 2006. Dr. Hall also updated the Board on the NASBE Annual Conference which she attended with Dr. Brown.</p> <p>Ms. Joyce Karon stated that she had the opportunity to speak last week to 25 student teachers at Roosevelt University on No Child Left Behind.</p> <p>Chairman Ruiz stated that Dr. Dunn received an award at the Illinois Principals Association Annual Conference on October 16, 2006 in Springfield.</p>
Information Items	<p>Chairman Ruiz asked that the Board members please read the Monthly Status Report on Rulemaking and the State Board of Education Fiscal and Administrative Monthly Reports printed in the Board meeting materials each month for information purposes. There were no inquires this month regarding these reports.</p>
Motion for Adjournment	<p>Dr. Vinni Hall moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Ed Geppert seconded the motion and it passed with unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.</p>

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Vinni Hall
Board Secretary

Dr Chris Ward
Vice-Chairman
*(approved in Chairman Ruiz's absence
On November 16, 2006)*

Finance & Audit Committee

Wednesday, October 18, 2006

10:30 a.m.

Maroon Room

Lockport Township High School East

Public Conference Call Access Number: 1-866-297-6391 (*listen only*)

Confirmation # 1 5 9 8 1 3 1 1

AGENDA

1. Public Participation
2. Discussion Items
 - a. Calumet Park S.D. #132 Update (*Darren, Linda, Chris, Ginger*) (**pp. 5-6**)
 - b. FY08 Budget Hearing Schedule (*Linda Mitchell, Ronny W.*) (**pp. 7-10**)
 - c. Update on Procurement Function, including Illinois School Purchasing Network (**pp. 11-14**)
(*Melissa Oller, Tamara Morris*)
 - d. Update on Schools Certified in Financial Difficulty (*Deb Vespa*) (**pp. 15-22**)
 - 1) Divernon
 - 2) Harrisburg
 - 3) Winthrop Harbor
3. Decision Items
 - a. Minutes of the September Finance and Audit Committee Meeting (**pp. 1-2**)
 - b. Operational Policy to Attach a Statement of Agency Costs to Implement Proposed Programs (**pp. 23-28**)
(*Linda Mitchell, Ronny W.*)
 - *c. FY05 A-133 Statewide Single Audit and Quarterly Update on Audit Findings (*Lisa LaBonte*) (**pp. 28-32**)
4. Additional Items
5. Adjourn

NOTE: At the conclusion of any discussion item in which the committee is ready to make a decision, a discussion item may be immediately moved for a decision.

* Items listed with an asterisk (*) will be discussed in committee and Board action may be taken in the plenary session.

FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE

October 18, 2006
Lockport, Illinois

Committee Members Present

Ed Geppert, Chair
Brenda Holmes
Andrea Brown
Dean Clark

Other Board Members

Chris Ward
Vinni Hall
Joyce Karon

Staff Present

Randy Dunn
Linda Riley Mitchell
Ronny Wickenhauser
Melissa Oller
Tamara Morris
Deb Vespa
Lisa LaBonte

1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Lonnie Johns talked about Special Education rules.

2. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Calumet Park School District #132 Update

Chris Koch discussed the financial status of Calumet Park School District #132.

They are in the process of preparing their FY07 budget. They have planned a board meeting for early November. They have two public hearings scheduled, one the last week in October and the other, the first week of November. The district held a board meeting on October 4, 2006. They are planning to submit their budget to ISBE electronically by November 15, 2006. The district is in the process of responding to their audit findings.

B. FY08 Budget Hearing Schedule

Ronny Wickenhauser discussed the schedule for the budget hearings. The next budget hearing will be held in Moline, Illinois on November 8, 2006.

C. Update on the Procurement Function including the Illinois School Purchasing Network

Melissa Oller introduced Tamara Morris, Procurement Services Supervisor.

Tamara talked about the School Purchasing Network. ISBE has had 524 school districts registered through U S Communities as of June 30, 2006.

D. Update on Schools Certified in Financial Difficulty

Deb Vespa gave an update on the three certified schools: Divernon, Harrisburg and Winthrop Harbor. ISBE has not received their annual financial reports but they are not due to the State until November. Divernon School District has a new Superintendent that has been very instrumental in helping with the dissolution process. Harrisburg School District also has a new Superintendent who is reviewing the plan. Winthrop Harbor School District is attempting a tax referendum in November. If the referendum does not pass, the district would like to be considered for a Financial Oversight Panel.

3. DECISION ITEMS

A. Minutes of the September Finance and Audit Committee Meeting

Minutes were approved.

B. Operational Policy to Attach a Statement of Agency Costs to Implement Proposed Programs

Ronny Wickenhauser discussed the items that have been received through legislation, or otherwise, to be implemented without any administrative dollars to assist in the effort. Ronny provided a draft of a statement for the Board's consideration. He discussed drafting agency needs for implementation of any proposed legislation and who this information would be shared with. The board moved to have this matter referred to the Government Relations Committee.

C. FY05 A-133 Statewide Single Audit and Quarterly Update Audit Findings

Lisa LaBonte discussed three compliance audit findings from FY05. The first was the lack of control over the General Education Development Program that has been transferred to the Illinois Community College Board. Second was the non-compliance with mandated duties. Third was the Teacher's Academy for Mathematics and Science, which ISBE did not provide new funding for in FY06.

Lisa then reviewed the Statewide A-133 single audit report. ISBE had ten findings in FY05, one governmental auditing standard finding and nine federal program findings. ISBE has resolved eight of the ten findings while two are ongoing.

The audit will be reviewed by the full Board in its Plenary Session.

Adjourned

Ad Hoc Rules Committee of the Whole

Wednesday, October 18, 2006

1:30 p.m.

(This meeting will begin at the conclusion of the previous session.)

Maroon Room
Lockport Township High School East

Public Conference Call Access Number: 1-866-297-6391 (*listen only*)

Confirmation # 1 5 9 8 1 3 1 1

AGENDA

1. Public Participation
2. Minutes of the September Ad Hoc Rules Committee Meeting (*pp. 2-6*)
- *3 Rules for Initial Review
 - a. Amendments to Part 60 ("Grow Your Own" Teacher Initiative) (*Plenary packet pp. 30-40*)
(*Linda Jamali*)
 - b. New Part 70 (Early Childhood Teacher Preparation Assistance Grant) (*Plenary packet pp. 41-58*)
(*Kay Henderson*)
- *4 Rules for Adoption
 - a. Part 235 (Early Childhood Block Grant) (*Kay Henderson*) (*Plenary packet pp. 59-82*)
 - b. New Part 70 Emergency (Early Childhood Teacher Preparation Assistance Grant)
(*Kay Henderson*) (*Plenary packet pp. 41-58*)
5. Additional Items
6. Adjourn

* Items listed with an asterisk (*) will be discussed in committee and action may be taken in the plenary session.

Ad Hoc Rules Committee of the Whole

Wednesday, October 18, 2006

3:00 p.m.

Lockport Township High School East
1333 East Seventh Street,
Lockport, Illinois

Committee Members Present

Jesse Ruiz
Andrea Brown
Ed Geppert
Vinni Hall
Brenda Holmes
Joyce Karon
David Fields
Chris Ward
Dean Clark

Absent

Others

Randy Dunn
Darren Reisberg
Sally Vogl
Linda Jamali
Kay Henderson
Shelley Helton (by phone)

Chairman Ruiz called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

- 1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Deanna Durica, representing the Ounce of Prevention, was in attendance to discuss New Part 70 and the amendments to Part 235. Ms. Durica distributed materials that pertained to her discussion of the rules. She thanked the Board for supporting the recommendations of the Illinois Early Learning Council and the early childhood community and asked the Board to consider making changes to the proposed amendments to Part 235. In particular, she asked the Board to revisit Section 235.300(c), which would allow for funding decisions to be based in part on the need to make programs available on a statewide basis or to provide resources to school districts and communities with varying demographic characteristics. Ms. Durica shared her concerns with this provision and gave the Board her alternative suggestions regarding the funding of these programs according to the greatest concentration of eligible children.

Kay Henderson, Division Administrator for Early Childhood Programs, provided information in response to the concerns expressed by Ms. Durica.

Lauri Morrison Frichtl, Executive Director of the Illinois Head Start Association, was also in attendance to discuss the amendments to Part 235. She gave an overview of the Head Start organization and its goals of breaking the cycle of poverty and improving children's success in school and later in life. She thanked Ms. Henderson for her collaboration but voiced the concern that the amendments to Part 235 might result in a failure to utilize Head Start to capacity and thus lead to a loss of the federal funds that flow to Illinois for that program. She advocated a safeguard that would maintain the current scope of Head Start in Illinois.

2. MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER AD HOC RULES COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Dr. Vinni Hall moved that the minutes of the Ad Hoc Rules Committee of the Whole for the September meeting be approved. Dr. David Fields seconded the motion. The motion to approve the committee minutes passed with voice vote approval.

3. DISCUSSION OF RULES FOR INITIAL REVIEW

Chairman Ruiz turned the meeting over to General Counsel Darren Reisberg. Mr. Reisberg asked Linda Jamali and Sally Vogl to come to the Board table.

PART 60

(The "Grow Your Own" Teacher Education Initiative)

Ms. Jamali explained to the Board that the set of changes being presented was twofold, incorporating some revisions that reflect statutory changes and others that are based upon the agency's experience with implementing the "Grow Your Own" program. Specifically, she noted concerns on the part of the

participating institutions of higher education in terms of tracking amounts that form part of candidates' forgivable loans. She also noted that one of the recent legislative changes clarified that the program is intended exclusively for candidates who do not already have a bachelor's degree.

Dr. Hall raised concerns about coordination among the 2-year and 4-year institutions. Ms. Vogl clarified that in this case the institutions are members of consortia and thus have already agreed on their working relationships.

Board Member Brenda Holmes thanked the Superintendent for his updates and hard work with the higher education institutions. Ms. Jamali acknowledged the hard work of General Counsel Darren Reisberg and Sally Vogl.

NEW PART 70

(Early Childhood Teacher Preparation Assistance Grant)

Mr. Reisberg asked Division Administrator Kay Henderson to come to the Board table to discuss the new rules for the Early Childhood Teacher Preparation Assistance Grant and indicated that Shelley Helton was also available by telephone. Mr. Reisberg noted that the version of new Part 70 that would be sent out for public comment was identical to the emergency version being presented for adoption.

Ms. Henderson noted that the purpose of the Preschool For All program was to expand the number of young children receiving high-quality preschool education by focusing not only on those who are determined to be at risk of academic failure but also those from families of low to moderate income who are not considered to be at risk academically and children from other families that choose to participate. In reviewing the totality of the related "quality initiatives" for which funds had been made available, it had been determined that ISBE would need to establish through rulemaking its method for funding two initiatives: increasing the teacher supply and providing social and emotional consultation services to teachers in the program. New Part 70 (Early Childhood Teacher Preparation Assistance Grant) would address the first of those. The rules would provide authority under which ISBE can issue an RFP for planning grants to community-based organizations, educational entities, and institutions of higher education so that candidates for teacher preparation can be identified and plans can be made for implementation in Fiscal Year 2008. Funds would then be used to deliver early childhood teacher preparation programs to those individuals. Ms. Henderson explained that the intention was to focus on areas where programs are currently having a difficult time attracting qualified teachers. She stated that individuals who are currently employed in early childhood programs in the very hard-to-serve areas would be targeted. Ms. Henderson also noted a great need for bilingual and minority teachers willing to teach in state-funded preschool education programs that are offered in community-based settings so that ethnically diverse populations can be served.

4. RULES FOR ADOPTION

PART 235

(Early Childhood Block Grant)

Mr. Reisberg reminded the Board that the amendments to Part 235 had come before the Board for initial review at the June meeting.

Ms. Henderson discussed the Preschool for All Children program and stated that it sets the prioritization requirements for funding for two years (i.e., School Years 2006-07 and 2007-08). She said that the goal of the program is to provide educational services to all 3- to 5- year- old children whose families choose to participate. She commented on the lack of accurate data and the agency's limited ability to obtain current information regarding where the children are and their eligibility.

Board Member Andrea Brown expressed concerns related to children who are served by both the pre-kindergarten program and Head Start. Dr. Brown foresaw a very "tight-fisted" program, particularly if Head Start programs were to lose money, pointed to a need to make sure what kind of return the state would be getting on both federal and state tax dollars. She expressed the concern that, under Preschool for All Children, not every child who is at risk would be served but in some places money might not be spent very wisely and there might be duplication of services.

Ms. Henderson mentioned that those were all concerns that had been raised, particularly in southern Illinois. Ms. Henderson pointed out that collaboration at the local level does not mean just one thing and it does not necessarily mean dual enrollment for every child who is in Head Start.

Chairman Ruiz commented to Ms. Henderson about an item of testimony that had been distributed to the Board and asked whether the Illinois Early Childhood Asset Map (IECAM) was ready. Ms. Henderson responded that it was in the developmental stage and was nearing the point of being a functional source of data. In future it would provide the most current information about enrollment in all of the preschool programs and the characteristics of communities and counties. This information would be very helpful in making determinations about funding. Chairman Ruiz pointed out Ms. Durica's materials and asked Ms. Henderson to verify that the agency was not yet in a position to implement that type of system.

5. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

None.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. David Fields moved to adjourn the committee meeting. Mr. Ed Geppert seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Board Operations Committee Meeting

Wednesday, October 18, 2006

10:30 a.m.

Principal's Conference Room
Lockport Township High School East

Public Conference Call Access Number: 1-888-867-5802 (*listen only*)
Confirmation # 1 5 9 8 1 3 1 6

AGENDA

1. Public Participation
2. Discussion Items
 - a. Minutes of the September Board Operations Committee Meeting (**pp. 2-3**)
 - b. Review New Nominations for Resolutions of Recognition (*Chris Ward*) (**p. 4**)
 - c. 2007 Meeting Dates and Locations (*Jean Ladage*) (**pp. 5-7**)
 - 1) June 2007 location
 - 2) August 9, 2007, one-day meeting location
 - 3) 2007 Retreat location
 - 4) October 2007 location
 - d. Review Draft Annual Recurring Topics Listing (*Jean Ladage*) (**pp. 8-29**)
3. Decision Items
4. Additional Items
5. Adjourn

NOTE: At the conclusion of any discussion item in which the committee is ready to make a decision, a discussion item may be immediately moved for a decision.

* Items listed with an asterisk (*) will be discussed in committee and Board action may be taken in the plenary session.

BOARD OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
Wednesday, October 18, 2006
Lockport, Illinois

Committee Members Present

Chris Ward, Committee Chair
David Fields
Vinni Hall
Joyce Karon
Jesse Ruiz

Staff Present

Jean Ladage
Darren Reisberg

Dr. Chris Ward called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. and asked members and staff to introduce themselves for purposes of roll call. (See above.)

1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Ms. Bev Johns asked to speak to the committee. Ms. Johns distributed two pieces of information to the committee. A July 9, 2001 issue of ISNS which contains a question and answer section on the *Corey H.* case and special education in Illinois. The second piece of information distributed was a September 27, 2006 news clipping from the *Detroit News*. Ms. Johns asked the Board to review these two documents and to reconsider cutting state regulations on special education and substituting federal rules. Ms. Johns indicated that there are over 100 instances in which the Proposed Part 226 rules conflict with the new federal regulations.

Dr. Vinni Hall asked Ms. Johns to detail the 100+ conflicting points that she referred to. Ms. Johns indicated that it is an extremely complicated comparison and it would be subject to ISBE staff interpretation of the federal law. Ms. Johns cited the complete elimination of case load in the proposed Part 226. In addition, she commented that class size also changed significantly, in addition to limiting who can make a referral.

She asked that the Board withdraw Part 226 and restart the rulemaking process, as opposed to voting on adopting of the proposed rules in December.

Dr. Hall and Dr. David Fields commented that they are both concerned about class size, and asked General Counsel Darren Reisberg to comment on the numerous allegations made by Ms. Johns.

Mr. Reisberg indicated to Ms. Johns, as he had numerous times before, that it is his opinion that the new federal regulations released in August are not substantially different from the proposed federal regulations that had been out for public review for over a year and for the entire period that the Part 226 proposed rules have been out for public comment. Mr. Reisberg indicated that Agency staff will be taking a serious look at any and all instances of alleged conflict which have been brought to their attention through public comment, and will revise the Proposed Part 226 as necessary, prior to bringing those rules to the Board for final action in December.

Mr. Reisberg closed by noting that withdrawing the Proposed Part 226 rules now would be very counter productive when we want the field to have federal rules and state regulations that are final and everyone can move forward.

Dr. Ward thanked Ms. Johns for her comments.

2.a. COMMITTEE MINUTES

Ms. Joyce Karon moved that the minutes of the Board Operations Committee for the September committee meeting be approved. Dr. Fields seconded the motion. The motion to approve the committee minutes passed with voice vote approval.

2.b. REVIEW NEW NOMINATIONS FOR RESOLUTIONS OF RECOGNITION.

Dr. Ward indicated there were no new nominations for recognition.

2.d. MEETING DATES AND LOCATION

Dr. Ward asked Jean Ladage to summarize the location options for June and September. Ms. Ladage indicated that the months of June and September in 2007 were proposed for Chicago or the Chicago area. There are no Chicago hotel rooms for the proposed dates.

Ms. Karon indicated that the Board of Higher Education recently held a meeting in Grayslake at the University Center. After discussion, it was suggested that Ms. Ladage check with IBHE staff to check on the availability for June 2007.

The August 9, 2007, one-day meeting will be held in Springfield, unless it was determined that the agenda would allow for a video-conference meeting from the Chicago and Springfield ISBE offices.

The location for the 2007 Board Retreat was discussed and it was suggested that a conference site in Decatur or Bloomington be used in order for staff to travel back and forth as was done this past August.

It was also suggested that the September 2007 Board meeting be held in the Aurora or Naperville area, so as to remain in the Chicago area.

Ms. Karon brought a message from Dr. Andrea Brown inviting the Board to conduct the October 2007 meeting in southern Illinois. Ms. Ladage will follow up with Dr. Brown on a specific location in the Marion/Carbondale area.

3. Decision Items

Some items were moved from discussion to immediate decision per above notes.

4. Additional Items

Ms. Ladage asked for clarification of dates designated in February for initial interviews in the O'Hare area. It was determined that the dates would be discussed with Bill Attea during his update on the search during the plenary session to be held on October 19. Final dates are needed so that a venue can be reserved.

The committee members also asked Mr. Reisberg if any revisions are expected to be proposed for the new changes to the Open Meetings Act. Committee members again commented that the new Act will cause a strain on Board travel budgets for emergency 10-minute meetings to be held in Springfield and Chicago locations. They asked Mr. Reisberg to check with other Boards to see how they plan to handle the new Act, or if there have been any discussions of proposed amendments.

5. Adjourn

Dr. Hall moved to adjourn the committee meeting. Dr. Fields seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Education Policy Planning Committee

Wednesday, October 18, 2006

12:30 p.m.

Maroon Room

Lockport Township High School East

Public Conference Call Access Number: 1-866-297-6391 (listen only)

Confirmation # 1 5 9 8 1 3 1 1

AGENDA

1. Public Participation
2. Minutes of the September Education Policy Planning Committee Meeting **(pp. 2-3)**
3. Social and Emotional Learning **(p. 4)**
(Roger Weissberg of UIC, Mary Utne O'Brien CASEL Executive Director, and Chris Koch)
4. Systemically Noncompliant Districts *(Becky Watts, Ginger Reynolds, Darren Reisberg)* **(pp. 6-15)**
5. Coalition for Illinois High Schools *(John Ourth and other Coalition representatives)* **(p. 16)**
6. Highly Qualified Teachers Plan Update *(Linda Jamali)* **(pp. 17-21)**
7. Student Advisory Council Operational Planning *(Meta Minton, Jean Ladage, Becky Watts)* **(pp. 22-23)**
8. Additional Items

* Items listed with an asterisk (*) will be discussed in committee and action may be taken in the plenary session.

EDUCATION POLICY PLANNING COMMITTEE

October 18, 2006

12:30 p.m.

Maroon Room, Lockport Township High School East

Lockport, Illinois

Committee Members Present

Dave Fields, Chair

Andrea Brown

Ed Geppert

Vinni Hall

Joyce Karon

Other Board Members

Dean Clark

Brenda Holmes

Jesse Ruiz

Chris Ward

Others

Superintendent Dunn

Darren Reisberg

Ginger Reynolds

Board Members Absent

None

The Education Policy Planning Committee meeting convened at 12:30 p.m.

- 1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Bev Johns, Chair of the Illinois Special Education Coalition, was present to comment on the attempt of the ISBE to change Part 226 Special Education regulations. She stated that last year's and this year's process for the regulations is not the process ISBE has used in the past and that no major input to the rules was received by Illinois organizations. She believes this has been a disastrous process and we should withdraw the proposed Part 226 regulations and start over.
- 2. MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 2006 EPPC MEETING:** The Committee approved the minutes for the September 2006 EPPC Meeting.
- 3. SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING (Roger Weissberg of UIC, Mary O'Brien CASEL Exec Director, and Chris Koch):** Chris Koch gave a brief introduction of Mary O'Brien and Roger Weissberg. Mary O'Brien began by referring the Committee to her handout and giving a status report. She made comments on how this has started in New York, California and worldwide.

Ms. O'Brien referred to page 49 in the yellow guide, which was a document that the USDE funded CASEL to produce, which has a listing of the standards.

Ms. O'Brien shared a story of Singapore, which leads the world in math and science competitions for student performances.

She ended by stating that more and more states are turning to CASEL asking for help in training their own departments of education.

Roger Weissberg, president of CASEL, briefly spoke about the work of CASEL. He stated that they focus mainly on preschool through high school and have been around for about 12 years. He commented that Ms. O'Brien talked about international, but he will only talk about Illinois. He further added that the main goal as an organization is to support the success of SEL standards in Illinois. Roger made the following points:

- It has been a pleasure to collaborate with ISBE and the work with all 879 districts;
- Done surveys with the state on current levels of practices of the state;
- Gave an example in working with the Children's Mental Health partnership;
- How do we assess this project and improve work with SEL;

Dr. Hall stated that our "Preschool for All" initiative is also including the social and emotional.

Dr. Andrea Brown commented how this was very challenging and that she has used this manual.

Dr. Fields commented that as a Board, they are as proud of the possibilities that this be implemented throughout the state and country and that there is a real need for this.

- 4. SYSTEMICALLY NONCOMPLIANT DISTRICTS (Becky Watts, Ginger Reynolds, Darren Reisberg):** Ginger Reynolds began by referring the Committee members to a flowchart that staff put together about how this idea of systemically noncompliant districts might work through the agency. The flowchart shows the proposed process for identifying and managing these districts based on prior background materials and discussions with the Board. She stated that if we are able to develop the case management database, to have these feed in and see where districts are in all aspects. Ginger further added that she, Becky and Darren have discussed letting things be fairly merky and dealing with districts on an individual basis and being very prescriptive.

Joyce Karon commented on looking at a rubric or not.

Dave Fields commented that this is a proactive process to the issue we raised a couple years ago to be able to assist school districts, along with the capacity to do this would be the issue.

Superintendent Dunn stated that with our present staffing, we would be taxing our capacity. We want to be comfortable with this process and need the finances to support this need. Dr. Dunn believes this issue is important and he has made comments with districts on this.

Board Member Chris Ward also commented on the capacity issue and technical support for school districts.

Board Member Andrea Brown agreed that this issue is imperative, but that we need to look at the compliance in an efficacy manner, that it is not fair to the agency to try and solve the district's problems when it is a district-wide problem, so we need to be behind them in looking at this problem.

Board Member Brenda Holmes asked about the costs and potential legislative needs for implementing this. Dr. Dunn anticipated one to two months to come back with this information to the Board.

In looking at the flowchart, Ms. Holmes asked if this issue could be handled more effectively and efficiently on the Division Administrator level since they work more directly with the school districts. Darren Reisberg explained this issue from the flowchart.

Board Member Vinni Hall commented on how she hopes this issue can be resolved with the support from other agencies, that this not be totally on ISBE's shoulders.

Dave Fields commented that this was an excellent discussion and that the Committee would like more information relative to the cost to implement this design.

- 5. COALITION FOR ILLINOIS HIGH SCHOOLS (John Ourth, Daryl Morrison, Susan Morrison, Becky McCabe and Mark Williams):** Susan Morrison was in attendance to give some comments and discuss the mission of the Coalition to the State Board members. She brought a letter that is going out to everyone who attended the High School Challenge which lists the membership of the Coalition. Ms. Morrison stated that at the last session of the conference, they facilitated some small group sessions about how educators wanted to move forward with high school reform. Here are some of the topics of discussion:

- Issue of data
- Keep our focus on students and keep conversation around rigor, relevance and results
- Help them change the culture of high schools today
- Work to promote the change in attitudes at the post-secondary level
- Focus on the whole 9th grade year

She further added that some attendees commented on policy issues, such as school calendar year and receiving more information at the high school level than just the 11th grade PSAE.

Daryl Morrison of the Illinois Education Association stated that we continue to work together and support this conference.

John Ourth was also in attendance to comment on the work of this Coalition. He stated that this Coalition is made up of 18 different organizations throughout Illinois.

Daryl Morrison then stated how the ISBE's staff was very helpful in providing information and data for the Coalition.

Becky McCabe and Mark Williams were both in attendance and gave their support for this Coalition.

Dr. Vinni Hall stated that she was in attendance at this Conference and she endorses our partnership with the Coalition.

Board Member Jesse Ruiz asked about the workplan of the Coalition. Ms. Morrison stated that they have six or seven meeting dates scheduled before the next conference.

Board Member Brenda Holmes asked how the State Board could help the Coalition. Ms. Morrison responded by saying that the State Board being supportive is very important. Ms. Holmes also asked to keep updated on discussions relative to these issues.

Mr. Ruiz asked if Becky McCabe and Mark Williams were representatives from this agency and could come back monthly with updates.

- 6. HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHERS PLAN UPDATE (Linda Jamali):** Linda Jamali was in attendance to share an update on the revised Highly Qualified plan. She stated that in August, we did receive comments back from USDE via peer review. We sent in a revised report on September 29 and USDE did receive it.

Ms. Jamali wanted to thank her staff, especially Bob Bigham and Dennis Williams, Gail Lieberman, Dr. Reynolds, Connie Wise and others for being very helpful with this task.

She further stated that there were six requirements that were outlined and we really met most of the items under the requirements. We did spend a lot of time redoing the plan because we needed to work with more data. She commented and was surprised that it showed a lot of middle school social science teachers were not highly qualified, but she thinks this will be rectified with HOUSSE.

Ms. Jamali then referred to her handout and summarized parts of the six requirements.

Alongside with this, is the ECS system and teachers are really utilizing this.

Ms. Holmes asked how much federal money does Certification receive? Is this a federal unfunded mandate? Dr. Reynolds responded by saying that there is quite a bit of admin money but it is not specified for those particular things and we can't use it for personnel.

Ms. Holmes stated that she was very upset with the tone of the federal government with this issue. She understands they are trying to make a point, but thought it was extremely offensive.

- 7. STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL OPERATIONAL PLANNING (Meta Minton, Jean Ladage, Becky Watts):** Meta Minton referred the Committee to their Board Packets, wherein they could refer to the SAC member list.

Board Member Jesse Ruiz asked if the SAC had a workplan for the year. Meta stated that the Council will be meeting in November to plan what they want to tackle for the year and will then come back to the Committee.

- 8. ADDITIONAL ITEMS:** No additional items.

ADJOURNMENT: Vinni Hall moved to adjourn the EPPC meeting and Joyce Karon seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.