

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
100 N. First Street
Springfield, Illinois

March 19-20, 2008

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, March 19, 2008

- 10:30 a.m. Governmental Relations Committee of the Whole**
Board Room, 4th Floor
1-866-297-6391 (*listen only*); Confirmation # 2 0 9 5 7 2 1 5
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch Break**
- 12:30 p.m. Finance & Audit Committee of the Whole**
Board Room, 4th Floor
1-866-297-6391 (*listen only*); Confirmation # 2 0 9 5 7 2 1 5
- *2:00 p.m. Education Policy Planning Committee of the Whole**
Board Room, 4th Floor
1-866-297-6391 (*listen only*); Confirmation # 2 0 9 5 7 2 1 5
- *3:45 p.m. Board Operations Committee of the Whole**
Board Room, 4th Floor
1-866-297-6391 (*listen only*); Confirmation # 2 0 9 5 7 2 1 5

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

Thursday, March 20, 2008

- 8:30 a.m. Ad Hoc Rules Committee of the Whole**
Board Room, 4th Floor
1-866-297-6391 (*listen only*); Confirmation # 2 0 9 5 7 2 1 8
- *10:00 a.m. ISBE Plenary Session**
Board Room, 4th Floor
1-866-297-6391 (*listen only*); Confirmation # 2 0 9 5 7 2 1 8

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

NOTE: Chairman Ruiz may call to order the Board's plenary session early for the sole purpose of hearing a motion to go into closed session. In such case, the plenary session will reconvene for action items at the time posted. Chairman Ruiz may also call for a break in the plenary session at which time the Board will go into closed session.

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
100 North First Street, Springfield, IL; Board Room, 4th Floor
Thursday, March 20, 2008; 10:00 a.m.
(This meeting will begin immediately following the previous session.)
(Timeframes are estimated for planning purposes.)

Public Conference Call Number: 1-866-297-6391 (listen only); Confirmation #: 2 0 9 5 7 2 1 8
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.

A. Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance

1. Consideration of and Possible Actions on Any Requests for Participation in Meeting by Other Means

B. Resolutions & Recognition

10:00 – 10:10 a.m.

1. Arts Education Week Poster Contest Winner

C. Public Participation

10:10 – 10:40 a.m.

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

consent agenda items: 10:40 – 10:50 a.m.

- *1. Approval of Minutes: February 21, 2008 (**Plenary pp. 4-13**)
 - *2. Rules for Initial Review
 - a. Part 25 (Certification) (**Rules Packet pp. 5-93**)
 - b. Part 180 (Health/Life Safety Code for Public Schools) (**Rules Packet pp. 94-99**)
 - c. Part 235 (Early Childhood Block Grant) (**Rules Packet pp. 100-107**)
 - d. Part 305 (School Food Service) (**Rules Packet pp. 108-120**)
 - e. Part 401 (Special Education Facilities Under Section 14-7.02 of the School Code) (**Rules pp. 121-135**)
 - *3. Rules for Adoption
 - a. Part 151 (School Construction Program) (**Rules Packet pp. 136-142**)
 - b. Part 375 (Student Records) (**Rules Packet pp. 143-155**)
 - c. Emergency Amendments to Part 401 (Special Education Facilities Under Section 14-7.02 of the School Code) (**Rules Packet pp. 156-158**)
 - *4. Contracts and Grants over \$1 Million
 - a. Workforce Experience and Career Exploration Program Grants (**Finance & Audit Packet pp. 5-8**)
 - *5. Accept Report on Financial Condition of School Districts (**Finance & Audit Packet pp. 9-14**)
- (end of consent agenda)**
6. Consideration of Financial Certification for Cahokia School District #187 (**Finance & Audit Packet pp. 15-16**)
 7. Assessment Plan for English Language Learning Students (**EPPC Packet pp. 17-22**)

E. New Business

11:05 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.

F. Announcements and Reports 11:10 – 12:00 p.m.

1. IBHE Liaison Report (*Dr. Proshanta Nandi*) (11:10 – 11:20 a.m.)
2. Superintendent's Announcements (11:20 – 11:30 a.m.)
3. Chairman's Report (11:30 – 11:40 a.m.)
4. Committee Reports (11:40 – 11:50 a.m.)
5. Member Reports (11:50 – 12:00 p.m.)

G. Information Items

1. Rulemaking Monthly Status Report (**Plenary pp. 14-17**)
2. SBE Fiscal & Administrative Monthly Reports (**Plenary pp. 18-36**)

H. Adjourn Estimated Adjournment at 1:00 p.m. (following closed session)

NOTE: Chairman Ruiz may call to order the Board's plenary session early for the sole purpose of hearing a motion to go into closed session. In such case, the plenary session will reconvene for action items at the time posted. Chairman Ruiz may also call for a break in the plenary session at which time the Board will go into closed session.

	<p>conflict and would try to step in later in the meeting.</p> <p>Linda Mitchell, Chief Financial Office introduced Ms. Sherri Sullivan who will be Procurement Services Supervisor for Fiscal & Procurement.</p>
<p>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</p>	<p>Mr. Phillip Jackson from The Black Star Project (The Project) spoke on behalf of the Chicago-based nonprofit organization. The Project works nationwide with the help of parents and communities to help children from preschool age to collegians succeed academically. They focus on low-income, Black and Latino students in low achieving schools. Mr. Jackson thanked the State Board of Education for making The Black Star Project a Supplemental Education Service provider. Mr. Jackson indicated The Project partners in positive initiatives, such as the Parent of the Year Award Competition and The Million Father March. He closed by saying they look forward to working with the State Board of Education to ensure that all low-income children are getting the best education possible in the best educational environment possible.</p> <p>Dr. Hall commented on the great work The Black Star Projects has done throughout the world. Chairman Ruiz asked if there are specific challenges that The Black Star Project is now facing with which the State Board could be of assistance.</p> <p>Mr. Phillips responded that the coming of summer forces many students into the streets and out into the kind of danger we are trying to keep them from. The Black Star Project has model projects that keep these young people safe and engaged. The model projects can elevate academic skills in cases where schools are unable to, through intensive tutoring and by making the entire City of Chicago into a classroom.</p> <p>The Black Star Project would also like for us to partner with them to promote the Million Father March throughout Illinois. Chairman Ruiz commented that ISBE has the ability to communicate with over 800 school districts across Illinois and would be willing to help participate in getting the Million Father March information out to the school districts so fathers can be encouraged to take their children to school on the first day of school.</p> <p>Mr. Phillips was accompanied by two young men, a parent and an expert violence prevention consultant. Mr. Phillips asked each of them to speak.</p> <p>Giano Caldwell, a former student of CPS, and a student motivator with The Black Star Project spoke on The Project's work to utilize services to advance the lives of students, as well as teacher and community leaders. Giano stated that it is through The Black Star Project that youth can receive all the services needed to obtain the leadership skills to become successful.</p> <p>Mr. Adrian Flowers a junior at Harlem Community Academy High School and a student of The Black Star Project spoke on his every day experiences at school and in the City of Chicago. Adrian stated that most of the students in his school come from violent neighborhoods in Chicago. Most of them have no fathers and have drug-addicted mothers. CPS pays over \$60 million dollars a year on police protection for our schools yet 34 students died of gang related violence last year. Adrian suggested that hefty police protection is not the answer. Schools need programs that attract the student body, incorporate healthy fun into education programs and keep students off the streets.</p>

	<p>Mr. Charles Hilliard an expert consultant on gang violence suggested that the reason gang violence is rampant in the Chicago Public School system is due to the closing of high schools and grammar schools in Chicago. Students are forced to enter into a different neighborhood causing them to come into contact with a collaboration of different gangs. This can lead to killing. Mr. Hilliard suggested that by preventing school closings it could reduce the violence.</p> <p>Marissa Grant a single parent of three children and supporter of The Black Star Project and Moral Decay Intervention spoke in support of teaching moral control and moral codes in the schools.</p> <p>Sara Rosetti a senior at Lincoln Community High School and a member of the Career & Technical Education (CTE) program spoke in support of CTE programs. Sara represented the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) which prepared her for business and business-related fields through innovative leadership development programs and interactive workshops. Sara commented that her position as FBLA Illinois State President has given her the ability to withstand life's challenges.</p>
<p>SUPERINTEDENT'S REPORT</p> <p>CONSENT AGENDA</p>	<p>Chairman Ruiz commented that all items listed with an asterisk (*) on the agenda are considered to be routine and will be enacted in one motion and vote. Any board members who wishes separate discussion on any item listed on the consent agenda may remove that item from the consent agenda, in which the event the item will be considered in its normal sequence.</p> <p>Mr. Ruiz stated that consent agenda items D 2.d. Part 305 (School Food Service) will be removed from the consent agenda and considered as separate item for discussion. Agenda item D.4.b. ISBE Technology Servers has been removed from the agenda completely.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Ms. Karon moved that the State Board of Education approve the consent agenda items as presented, with the exception of agenda items D.4.b. ISBE Technology Servers and D.2.d. Part 305 School Food Service Mr. Clark seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous roll call vote.</p> <p>The following motions were approved by action taken in the consent agenda motion:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Approval of Minutes</u></p> <p>The State Board of Education hereby approves the minutes for the meeting of March 20, 2008 Board meeting.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Rules for Initial Review</u> Part 25 (Certification)</p> <p>The State Board of Education hereby authorizes the solicitation of public comment on the proposed rulemaking for: Certification (23 Illinois Administrative Code 25), including publication of the proposed amendments in the <u>Illinois Register</u>.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Rules for Initial Review</u> Part 180 (Health/Life Safety Code for Public Schools)</p> <p>The State Board of Education hereby authorizes the solicitation of public comment on the proposed rulemaking for Health/Life Safety Code for Public Schools (23 Illinois Administrative Code 180), including publication</p>

of the proposed amendments in the Illinois Register.

Rules for Initial Review

Part 235 (Early Childhood Block Grant)

The State Board of Education hereby authorizes the solicitation of public comment on the proposed rulemaking for Early Childhood Block Grant (23 Illinois Administrative Code 235), including publication of the proposed amendments in the Illinois Register

Rules for Initial Review

Part 305 (School Food Services)

The State Board of Education hereby authorizes the solicitation of public comment on the proposed rulemaking for School Food Services (23 Illinois Administrative Code 305), including publication of the proposed amendments in the Illinois Register

Rules for Initial Review

Part 401

**Special Education Facilities Under Section 14-7.02 of the School Code
Motion #1**

The State Board of Education hereby adopts the emergency rulemaking for Nonpublic Special Education Facilities Under Section 14-7.02 of the School Code (23 Illinois Administrative Code 401) including publication of the proposed amendments in the Illinois Register.

Motion #2

The State Board of Education hereby authorizes the solicitation of public comment on the proposed rulemaking for Non-Public Special Education Facilities Under Section 14-7.02 of the School Code (23 Illinois Administrative Code 401), including publication of the proposed amendments in the Illinois Register

Rules for Adoption

Part 151 (School Construction Program)

The State Board of Education hereby adopts the proposed rulemaking for School Construction Program (23 Illinois Administrative Code 151). Further, the Board authorizes the State Superintendent of Education to make such technical and nonsubstantive changes as the State Superintendent may deem necessary in response to suggestions or objections of the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules.

Rules for Adoption

Part 375 (Student Records)

The State Board of Education hereby adopts the proposed rulemaking for Student Records (23 Illinois Administrative Code 375). Further, the Board authorizes the State Superintendent of Education to make such technical and nonsubstantive changes as the State Superintendent may deem necessary in response to suggestions or objections of the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules.

Rules for Adoption

**Emergency Amendments to Part 401
(Special Education Facilities Under Section 14-7.02 of the School Code)**

The State Board of Education hereby adopts the proposed rulemaking for

	<p>Special Education Facilities Under Section 14-7.02 of the School Code (23 Administrative Code 401). Further, the Board authorizes the State Superintendent of Education to make such technical and nonsubstantive changes as the State Superintendent may deem necessary in response to suggestions or objections of the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Contracts and Grants over \$1 Million</u></p> <p>Workforce Experience and Career Exploration Program Grants The State Board of Education hereby approves the release of the Workforce Experience and Career Exploration Program continuation grants for FY 2009, including those continuation grants which raise the total grant award to a grantee above \$1m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Accept Report on Financial Condition of School Districts</u></p> <p>The Illinois State Board of Education shall approve the financial designation of school districts as set forth in the FY 2008 Financial Profile Scores that are calculated utilizing the data from the districts' FY 2007 Annual Financial Reports and that the districts designed on the Financial Watch List are those so identified from the FY 2008 Financial Profile calculations.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">END OF THE CONSENT AGENDA</p>
<p>D.2.d. Part 305 (School Food Service)</p>	<p>Ms. Holmes moved that the State Board of Education hereby authorizes the solicitation of public comment on the proposed rulemaking for School Food Service (23 Illinois Administrative Code 305), including publication of the proposed amendments in the <u>Illinois Register</u>.</p> <p>Dr. Hall seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous voice vote. Mr. Clark abstained from the vote.</p>
<p>D.4.b. ISBE Technology Servers</p>	<p><i>Superintendent Koch removed this item from the agenda.</i></p>
<p>D.6. Consideration of Financial Certification of Cahokia School District #187</p>	<p>Ms. Deb Vespa introduced Ms. Jana Bechtold, Superintendent of Cahokia Community Unit School District #187 and Mr. Arnett Harvey, Business Manager for Cahokia District.</p> <p>Superintendent Bechtold stated that Deb Vespa and Carl Holman from the ISBE have been assisting Cahokia Community School District #187 as their financial advisors and meeting with the district on a regular basis. Ms. Vespa and Mr. Holman have been of great assistance to the district and have shared with the Board an accurate picture of the district's financial history, but there are a few facts Superintendent Bechtold would like to point out.</p> <p>The district has been eligible to be certified by the State Board as in financial distress since 2001 but because great efforts have been made in working with ISBE staff and progressing satisfactorily in resolving those issues, the state did not certify the district.</p> <p>Some have accused the district of being too aggressive in paying down the deficits. There is still a \$3 million dollar deficit in just the Operations Fund. Those that do not understand school finance don't realize that the \$2.5 million paid in 2007 cannot be rolled over into this year.</p>

At the last Cahokia Board meeting the board voted to eliminate \$1.8 million dollars in the personnel line for next school year, the only line left to cut. Many of the positions being cut are essential to the district making AYP and improving student achievement. Staff have been attempting to get federal grants that would the return of forty-three positions and double the size of the security force.

Superintendent Bechtold stated that she, Mr. Harvey and the Cahokia School Board are willing to do all they can to maintain annual balanced budgets. If the district does not receive their 25th and 26th General State Aid payments in June they will be in second year tax anticipation warrants. Superintendent Bechtold said they desperately need the employees and the residents of the Cahokia District to understand that the financial collapse of the district may soon become a reality.

Mr. Harvey commented that at this time \$40 million dollars of assessed values are in TIF areas and that is about 30% of their total EAV's. About \$2.5 million dollars are going into the TIF agreements instead of to the district. Mr. Harvey stated that one of the TIFs is due for renewal in 2012 and the other in 2010. The TIFs are 23-year agreements.

Dr. Field asked if the city government would provide a portion of the taxes for funding the district. Superintendent Bechtold responded that although the district did not have an agreement, the City of Sauget did give the school district \$1 million dollars to match the construction grant funds that the city had provided to help build an alternative program. Sauget paid the money over five years and they have received all the payments. The Village of Cahokia has been in arrears to the district for the last four years based on what they agreed to... The Mayor of Cahokia agreed to take some residential portions out of the TIF to equal about \$250,000.00. However, that revenue will not be seen until 2009.

Dr. Brown asked if the 86% low income has been steadily increasing and also asked about enrollment. Superintendent Bechtold commented that the low income count has been increasing and the enrollment is down about 80 students. However, the enrollment has been stable at about 4,700 students for the last few years and there is also a charter school. Mr. Harvey stated that the low income is probably higher than the 86% calculated. They are finally getting to use the DHS count to determine poverty allocations and those numbers are getting closer to the correct poverty count.

Ms. Karon asked if class size will increase due to the 43 personnel cuts that will be made. Superintendent Bechtold stated that the cuts were made across all employee groups, including administration, so that no one group would take an extreme cut.

Motion

Mr. Clark moved that the State Board of Education hereby certifies that, effective March 20, 2008, Cahokia Community Unit School District 187 is in financial difficulty pursuant to the provisions of Section 1A-8 of the School Code:

This certification is authorized under Section 1A-8(3), in that the annual financial reports for this district have shown an excess of expenditures

	<p>(and other financing uses) over revenues and other financing sources as calculated from the aggregate totals of the Educational, Operations and Maintenance, Transportation, and Working Cash Funds. This has been the case for two consecutive years.</p> <p>Further, the State Board of Education directs the State Superintendent of Education to proceed immediately with the actions required by law and to provide this school district with appropriate technical assistance and support.</p> <p>Cahokia School District 187 is required to develop, adopt and submit a financial plan pursuant to guidelines which will be presented to the district by the State Board of Education.</p> <p>Ms. Karon seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous voice vote.</p>
<p>D.7. Assessment Plan for English Language Learners</p>	<p>Dr. Koch noted that there had been a revision to the recommendations that appeared in the board packet. He noted the addition of the translation/transadaptation of short answer and extended response items for mathematics for the ISAT for 2009. He indicated that he will return in April to discuss a five year plan and cost analysis for further transadaptation.</p> <p>Dr. Vinni Hall moved that the State Board of Education direct the State Superintendent of Education to implement the revised plan (dated 3-20-08) developed for assessing ELLs for Title I accountability purposes. Further, the Board directs the State Superintendent to bring back a proposal for cost and a resource analysis for the transadapted ISAT math and science at all grade levels for the 2008-09 school year at the April board meeting.</p> <p>Mr. Clark seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous roll call vote.</p> <p>Chairman Ruiz thanked Superintendent Koch, the Assessment and English Language Learning staff for their hard work on this difficult issue.</p>
<p>New Business</p>	<p><i>None</i></p>
<p>ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS</p> <p>IBHE Liaison Report</p> <p>Superintendent's Announcements</p>	<p>Chairman Ruiz announced that Dr. Proshanta Nandi from the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) was not able to be in attendance at today's board meeting. The next Illinois Board of Higher Education will be held April 1, 2008 at Illinois State University in Normal, Illinois.</p> <p>Dr. Koch stated that he had been spending a lot of time at the State Capitol attending committee hearings. Superintendent Koch thanked Linda Mitchell and Ronny Wickenhauser as well as their staff for their assistance at the committee meetings. He also thanked agency staff for the quick turn around on questions proposed at the legislative hearings and noted their prompt response was also acknowledged by a number of legislators.</p> <p>Dr. Koch indicated that the U.S Secretary of Education announced the option for states to pursue differentiated accountability. Dr. Koch informed the Board that he will check to see if Illinois qualifies for that option. He</p>

<p>Chairman's Report</p>	<p>will work quickly with education stakeholders as the application process ends on May 2, 2008.</p> <p>Superintendent Koch stated that he will be attending the Chief State School Officers Legislative Meeting in April in Washington.</p> <p>Chairman Ruiz spoke to the largest graduating class of Chicago Public School's National Board of Certified Teachers on March 4, 2008 at Union Station. Arne Duncan and Mayor Daley were also in attendance.</p> <p>Chairman Ruiz also participated in a federal advisory council meeting in Schaumburg regarding plans for ELL assessment. Also in attendance were representatives from the Bilingual Advisory Council, Chicago Public Schools, Superintendent Koch, Susie Morrison and Darren Reisberg.</p>
<p>Committee Reports</p>	<p>Education Policy and Planning Committee Dr. Fields reported that the Education Policy and Planning Committee discussed the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received a presentation from Dr. Steve Tozer of the Illinois School Leader Task Force. The presentation was on state policy and principal preparation programs. Board members will review the report and discuss further in the April Board Meeting. • Received public participation from Rose Marie Meyer, Josie Yanguas and Diane Rutledge and on the English Language Learners issue. • Approved the committee minutes of the February 2008 meeting. • Elaine Johnson, Vice President for Academic Affairs & Workforce Development for Illinois Community College updated the Board on the ICCB College and Career Readiness Project. • Jon Furr of Holland + Knight updated the Committee on the Illinois College and Workforce Preparation: Longitudinal Data. • Superintendent Koch discussed the Future Assessments of ELL students for Accountability Purposes. Joyce Zurkowski, Rene Valenciano, Connie Wise and Robin Lisboa assisted in the discussion. <p>Governmental Relations Meeting of the Whole Ms. Holmes reported that the Governmental Relations Meeting of the Whole discussed the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved the committee minutes of the April 2008 meeting. • Nicole Wills provided the committee with a synopsis and status update on upcoming education-related legislation. • Mr. Ruiz recommended that the Board invite members of the Latino Caucus back for an update on ELL assessment. <p>Finance and Audit Committee of the Whole Mr. Clark reported that the Finance and Audit Committee of the Whole discussed the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received Public Participation from Dennis Jones from Arlington Heights School District # 25 who is concerned about the welfare of his son and other children who struggle with food allergies. • The committee discussed three Contracts and Grants over \$1 Million. • Mark Williams updated the committee on the Work Force Experience Career Exploration Program continuation grant awards

	<p>for FY09.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linda Mitchell and Deb Vespa presented the committee with information on the 2008 School District Financial Profile. • Deb Vespa updated the committee on the School Districts in Financial Difficulty. • The committee reviewed the FACTS report on Cahokia School District #187. • Terry Chamberlain, Ethelene Ferdinand and Warren Summers shared an overview of the Common Monitoring Database capabilities. • Robert Wolfe provided an update on the participation of school districts in the Illinois School Purchasing Network. • Ronny Wickenhauser presented the committee with an update on the FY 2009 budget.
<p>Members' Reports</p>	<p>Ms. Holmes stated that she had the opportunity to participate in the Arts Award Ceremony was held on March 11, 2008 at the State Capitol Rotunda. She also attended the Executive Committee of SAELP. The SAELP committee heard from the Illinois Principal Association, Consortium of Educational Change, Chicago Public Schools, and LUDA regarding the Wallace Grant and the Alternative School Administrative Initiative.</p> <p>Dr. Brown attended several local meetings and administrator meeting in which educators discussed RtI and their concerns with state aid payments.</p> <p>Dr. Hall presented at the Learning Disabilities Association and indicated there were several questions related to RtI. Dr. Hall referred many of those people to the ISBE website. She also had the opportunity to visit the USDE satellite office in Chicago and shared time with the Education Delegation from Afghanistan. On the following day the Afghanistan Education Delegation toured Carter School in Chicago. Dr. Hall visited Washington, D.C. to attend the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Legislative Conference on March 13-15, 2008, and Co-chaired the NASBE Career and Technical Education Study Group.</p> <p>Chairman Ruiz met with Univision Television Vice President Vincent Cordero and indicated that Mr. Cordero would like ISBE to help promote a report released by the University of Chicago. The report focuses on African American and Latino students at CPS not making the connection from high school to college. Univision would like to provide ISBE, ICCB and IBHE air time to get the message out to the community to assist in addressing this issue.</p> <p>Ms. Karon reported that she attended the NASBE Legislative Conference on March 13-15, 2008 in Washington, D.C. She also participated in the NASBE Middle School Study Group.</p> <p>Superintendent Koch informed the Board that Chris Schmitt of Nutrition Programs met with Mr. Dennis Jones on Wednesday following the Finance and Audit Committee meeting and she will be contacting the Arlington Heights School District to discuss the concerns regarding food allergies.</p> <p>Dr. Connie Wise introduced Gayle Johnson, Division Administrator for</p>

	Data Analysis and Progress Reporting.
Information Items	Chairman Ruiz asked that the Board members read the Monthly Status Report on Rulemaking and the Fiscal and Administrative Monthly Reports printed in the Board meeting materials. There were no inquires this month regarding these reports.
Chairman's Announcement Prior to Closed Session	Chairman Ruiz announced that the Board would enter into a motion to go into closed session, reconvening only to adjourn the meeting and no additional action will be taken.
Closed Session	<p>Dr. Hall moved that the Board enter into closed session under the exceptions set forth in the Open Meetings Act of the State of Illinois as follows:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Section c 1 for the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, compensation, performance or dismissal of an employee;</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Section c11 for the purpose of considering pending or probable litigation against or affecting the Board.</p> <p>Dr. Hall further moved that the Board might invite anyone they wish to have included in this closed session.</p> <p>Dr. Fields seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous roll call vote.</p> <p>The open meeting recessed at 11:30 a.m. and the Board went into closed session at 12:15 p.m. The open meeting reconvened at 2:10 p.m.</p>
Motion for Adjournment	Dr. Hall moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Clark seconded the motion and it passed with unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 2:11 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Vinni Hall
Board Secretary

Mr. Jesse Ruiz
Chairman

Board Operations Committee of the Whole
Wednesday, March 19, 2008
3:45 p.m.

(This meeting will begin immediately following the previous session.)

Board Room, 4th Floor
Public Conference Call Number: 1-866-297-6391 *(listen only)*
Confirmation #: 2 0 9 5 7 2 1 5

AGENDA *(timeframes are estimated for planning purposes)*

1. Roll Call
2. Board Member Participation by Other Means
3. Public Participation 3:45 – 3:50 p.m.
4. Minutes of the February Board Operations Committee Meeting **(pp. 2-3)**
5. Review New Nominations for Resolutions of Recognition 3:50 – 3:55 p.m.
 - a. Mt. Vernon Nutrition for Weekends (NOW) Program **(pp. 4-11)**
 - b. Mt. Vernon Vision for Kids Program **(pp. 12-17)**
 - *c. Arts in Education Poster Contest Winner **(p. 18)**
6. Board Calendar *(Jean Ladage)* 3:55 – 4:05 p.m.
 - a. 2008 Calendar Revisions **(pp. 19-20)**
 - b. 2009 Calendar Development **(pp. 21-22)**
7. Board Retreat Planning *(Chris Ward)* 4:05 – 4:10 p.m. **(p. 23)**
8. Review Lt. Governor Service Evaluation Survey Questions 4:10 – 4:15 p.m. **(pp. 24-42)**
(Susie Morrison)
9. Board Reflection 4:15 – 4:35 p.m. **(p. 43)**
 - a. NASBE Meetings & Study Groups *(Chris Ward, Vinni Hall, Joyce Karon, Dean Clark)*
 - b. Board Participation in Other Meetings
10. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items
11. Adjourn

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

NOTE: The Chairman may call for a break in the Board Operations Committee meeting at which time the Committee of the Whole will go into closed session. *(Tentative closed session: 4:35 – 5:30 p.m.)*

BOARD OPERATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
March 19, 2008
Springfield, Illinois

Members Physically Present

Chris Ward, Committee Chair
Member
David Fields, Committee Member
Vinni Hall, Committee Member
Joyce Karon, Committee Member
Jesse Ruiz, Committee Member
Dean Clark, Board Member
Brenda Holmes, Board Member

Members Absent

Andrea Brown, Board

Staff Present

Jean Ladage
Marsha Moffett
Christopher A. Koch
Darren Reisberg

1. **ROLL CALL:** Dr. Chris Ward called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. and asked members to introduce themselves for purposes of roll call. (See above.)
2. **BOARD MEMBER PARTICIPATION BY OTHER MEANS:** There was no participation by Board members through any other means for this committee meeting.
3. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** There was no request for public participation.
4. **COMMITTEE MINUTES:** Ms. Karon moved that the minutes of the Board Operations Committee for the February 2008 committee meeting be approved. Mr. Clark seconded the motion and it passed on a unanimous voice vote.
5. **REVIEW NEW NOMINATIONS FOR RESOLUTIONS OF RECOGNITION:** Dr. Hall moved that the resolution for Samantha Underwood be approved in plenary session on Thursday, and that the nominations for the Mt. Vernon NOW Program and the Mt. Vernon Vision for Kids Program be approved for consideration at the April plenary meeting. Mr. Clark seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- 6.a. **2008 BOARD CALENDAR:** The committee recommended that the 2008 retreat dates be changed to August 19-21 to run from Tuesday through Thursday, pending hotel accommodations and conference room space availability. Members agreed with the staff recommendation to change the September 2008 meeting location to Bloomington and the October meeting to Springfield. The committee will take another look at the 2008 changes in April and will make a recommendation for action at the April plenary meeting.
- 6.b. **2009 BOARD CALENDAR:** Dates and locations were discussed for a draft 2009 Board calendar. It was suggested that the 2009 retreat also be scheduled for Tuesday through Thursday on August 18-20, 2009. Committee members voiced a preference for a meeting in Chicago to be held during the summer or fall (rather than in January). In addition, once the dates and location of the Annual Superintendent's Conference are confirmed (September or October), the board meeting should coincide with the Superintendent's Conference and for the other month (September or October), staff should attempt to coordinate a meeting in Chicago.

Staff will return with a draft 2009 calendar at the April Board Operations Committee meeting and it will be considered for Board action at the April plenary meeting.
7. **BOARD RETREAT PLANNING:** As discussed earlier in the 2008 calendar discussion, the 2008 retreat dates will be August 19 through 21, with work beginning on the 19th at noon during a working lunch.

Superintendent Koch suggested discussing a budget strategy and whether or not the agency will need to take on newly mandated responsibilities. Dr. Ward suggested that long-range budget planning might be something to think about as well. Ms. Holmes suggested that perhaps on 3-4 priority areas, long-range planning might work, but she cautioned against spending a lot of time looking at the entire education budget five years out.

Ms. Holmes suggested starting with the Strategic Plan, revising it if necessary and focusing the retreat discussion on things that can be accomplished. Ms. Karon reminded the Board that as a result of the Strategic Plan and the limited amount of funds currently budgeted for the plan, the Board prioritized data-driven decision making. From that priority the other goals can follow.

Dr. Fields added that the Strategic Plan was meant to frame our goals and the Board has been limited on what could be accomplished because of new mandates that have needed to be focused upon.

Superintendent Koch asked if the Board wanted to conduct another stakeholder session during the retreat, and perhaps have that session follow the budget planning session. It was suggested that perhaps the September meeting would be better for the stakeholders to review what came out of the retreat budget discussion.

The Board asked Superintendent Koch to return with recommended discussion topics at the April committee meeting. A summary of suggestions listed are as follows:

- Standards (ACHIEVE – both high school & elementary, if possible)
- How do we deal with private money in a public atmosphere? (MOU's)
- Career Tech folded into Standards
- Discuss Strategic Plan/Board priorities, consider newly mandated programs, then work into the budget planning process (perhaps 3-4 budget lines can be extended into a 5-year budget plan;
- What Should an Illinois School Should Look Like – what components – then create FY10 recommended budget
- Board Self-Evaluation (Effectiveness)
- Superintendent's Evaluation

8. REVIEW LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR SURVEY: This agenda item was deferred to the April committee meeting.

9. BOARD REFLECTION: Dr. Ward summarized the NASBE Legislative Conference. Participants heard from Amy Walter, Editor in Chief of *The Hotline*. She indicated that there does not seem to be an urgency to reauthorize NCLB. Rather, taking priority are the expectation of a transition of a new president as well as the lack of funds appropriated by the current president for states to be able to follow through.

Participants were also briefed by David Griffith, NASBE Congressional Liaison, as well as Congressman George Miller (D-CA), Chairman of the House Education Committee, Congressman Buck McKeon (R-CA) Ranking Republican on House Education Committee, and Congressman Dale Kildee (D-MI), Chairman of the House Education Reform Subcommittee. All agreed that there would be no reauthorization, but there should be additional flexibility.

Dr. Ward indicated that he, Ms. Karon and Dr. Hall had several visits on Capitol Hill with various education staff liaisons for the Illinois delegation. The three board members individually met with about ten or eleven offices and the board members were very

impressed with the awareness of congressional education staff about the issues facing Illinois educators.

The Board members also thanked ISBE staff for preparing talking points and a packet of information to take with them to the meetings on the Hill. Illinois members were the only participants in the conference that were so prepared.

Dr. Hall and Ms. Karon added that the Senators were very complimentary of Superintendent Koch.

Dr. Ward indicated that the education liaison for Congressman Danny Davis (Jill Hunter-Williams) has a Ph.D. in Assessment and would like to follow-up with ISBE staff on a couple of issues. Dr. Ward will give her contact information to Superintendent Koch.

Ms. Karon commented that two of the experts who presented at the Middle Schools Study Group meeting specifically mentioned Illinois' progress in implementing Social and Emotional Learning Standards and RtI. The study group is interested in having information shared from Illinois on those two issues. Discussion this month centered on the transition from the 4th and 5th grades into the 7th and 8th grades and the transition from those grade levels into high school. Many states commented that they didn't have any form of shared reporting process from one level to the next. Ms. Karon mentioned the Interactive Illinois Report Card and they were again extremely interested in hearing more about that. She commented that she was proud of what the Illinois State Board has accomplished for our children.

Dr. Hall indicated that the Career Tech Study Group heard a fantastic presentation from the national construction management group. They have national standards and have national modules that they can immediately place into any high school. The study group is looking forward to recommendations for career exploration in early secondary grades, and perhaps high school diplomas with endorsements in specific career areas. Dr. Hall was shocked to learn that there are so many jobs that are going unfilled by Americans because our students don't have the necessary skills.

Several Board members shared the thought that perhaps the lack of trade skills in our graduating students is due to the mindset that we have been forced into that all students should go to college.

10. **ADDITIONAL ITEMS AND AGENDA PLANNING:** Retreat topics will be discussed again as well as the proposed 2008 and 2009 calendars.

Ms. Holmes indicated that without the Board Operations phone calls in preparation for upcoming meetings she feels Board members have strayed from being involved in the agenda-planning process. She encouraged members to get back into the habit of emailing committee chairs regarding draft agendas if they have questions about why an issue is on an agenda, etc.

11. **ADJOURN:** Dr. Hall moved that the Board Operations Meeting of the Whole be adjourned. Mr. Clark seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous voice vote. The committee meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Education Policy Planning Committee of the Whole
Wednesday, March 19, 2008
2:00 p.m.

(This meeting will begin immediately following the previous session.)

Board Room, 4th Floor
Public Conference Call Number: 1-866-297-6391 *(listen only)*
Confirmation #: 2 0 9 5 7 2 1 5

AGENDA *(timeframes are estimated for planning purposes)*

1. Roll Call
2. Board Member Participation by Other Means
3. Public Participation 2:00 – 2:15 p.m.
4. Minutes of the February Education Policy Planning Committee Meeting **(pp. 2-4)**
5. ICCB College and Career Readiness Project *(Christopher Koch)* 2:15 – 2:30 p.m. **(pp. 5-9)**
(Elaine Johnson, V.P. for Academic Affairs & Workforce Development, ICCB)
6. Illinois College and Workforce Preparation: Longitudinal Data Update 2:30 – 2:50 p.m. **(pp. 10-16)**
(Christopher Koch, Susan Morrison)
Others Attending:
Jonathan Furr, Holland & Knight
George Vineyard, Illinois Shared Enrollment & Graduation Information Consortium
David Smalley, Illinois Board of Higher Education
Shangte Shen, ISBE Career and Technical Education Staff
- *7. Future Assessments of ELL students for Accountability Purposes 2:50 – 3:35 p.m. **(pp. 17-22)**
(Chris Koch, Connie Wise, Joyce Zurkowski, Rene Valenciano, Robin Lisboa)
8. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items
9. Adjourn

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

**EDUCATION POLICY PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MINUTES**

Wednesday, March 19, 2008
2:00 p.m.
Board Room, 4th Floor
Springfield, Illinois

Committee Members Physically Present

Vinni Hall
Joyce Karon
David Fields, Chair

Other Board Members Physically Present

Dean Clark
Brenda Holmes
Jesse Ruiz
Chris Ward

Members Participation Via Phone Conference

Andrea Brown

Board Members Absent

ISBE Staff

Superintendent Chris Koch
Darren Reisberg
Connie Wise

The Education Policy Planning Committee meeting convened at 2:25 p.m.

1. **ROLL CALL/BOARD MEMBER PARTICIPATION BY OTHER MEANS:** Dr. David Fields requested a roll call vote to approve Committee Member Andrea Brown to participate via phone conference. Joyce Karon moved and Dean Clark seconded the motion to permit Ms. Brown's participation via phone. The Committee approved Andrea Brown's participation via phone conference. See above.
2. **ILLINOIS SCHOOL LEADER TASK FORCE PRESENTATION (Dr. Steve Tozer, Chair of Illinois School Leader Task Force, via phone conference):** Dr. Steve Tozer gave a presentation via phone conference. He presented an overview of the Task Force's Report on school leadership, which includes recommendations on state polices and principal preparation programs. The Board agreed there was a need to review the report and have additional discussion in April.
3. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Josie Yanguas, Illinois Advisory Council on Bilingual Education, Rosemarie Meyer, Community Consolidated School District #21 and Diane Rutledge of LUDA were in attendance to speak on the ELL assessment issue. All three representatives offered their assistance to the agency as we move forward with ELL assessment.
4. **MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 2008 EPPC MEETING:** The Committee approved the minutes from the February 2008 EPPC Meeting.
5. **ICCB COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS PROJECT (Chris Koch)(Elaine Johnson, ICCB):** Elaine Johnson of the Illinois Community College Board was in attendance to provide the Board with an update on the ICCB College and Career Readiness Project (SB 858). Ms. Johnson stated that four community college sites have been identified as pilots and that this is a three-year pilot project. Further, she stated the following goals for this project:
 - Develop a system to align ACT scores to specific community college courses in developmental and freshman curriculum;
 - Align high school and college curriculum;
 - Reducing remediation; and
 - Develop an appropriate evaluation process to measure effective readiness intervention strategies.

6. **ILLINOIS COLLEGE AND WORKFORCE PREPARATION: LONGITUDINAL DATA UPDATE (Chris Koch, Susie Morrison) (Others attending: Jonathan Furr, Holland & Knight; George Vineyard, III. Shared Enrollment & Graduation Info Consortium; David Smalley, III. Board of Higher Education; Shangte Shen, ISBE Career and Technical Education Staff):** Jonathan Furr of Holland and Knight was in attendance to provide an update to the Board on the data-related activities under the Illinois College and Work Readiness Partnership. Mr. Furr addressed the privacy protection implications for linking Illinois State Board of Education and postsecondary systems. Further, he added that there has been a high level of coordination among the state agencies involved with ISBE's data, which include Illinois Board of Higher Education and the Illinois Community College Board. These efforts also align with the Illinois College and Workforce Readiness Project.
7. **FUTURE ASSESSMENTS OF ELL STUDENTS FOR ACCOUNTABILITY PURPOSES (Chris Koch, Connie Wise, Rene Valenciano, Joyce Zurkowski, Robin Lisboa):** Superintendent Koch provided the Board with an overview of contents of the Board Memorandum on ELL assessments and mentioned that he intended to modify the recommendations and would provide a copy to the Board on Thursday. He also informed the Board that in order to carryout the recommendations that it would necessitate additional staff in the Assessment Division.

Essentially, the recommendations called for the continuation of accommodations, linguistically modifying ISAT Math and Science and translating PSAE into Spanish. Ms. Zurkowski indicated that linguistically-modifying ISAT for Math and Science for grades 3 through 8 essentially requires the development of two new assessments. ISBE must demonstrate alignment between the regular and modified ISAT tests. This requires research studies and staff time. This effort will require that we identify individuals who are Math and Science content specialists and who are also bilingual. It is an issue of both internal and external capacity since teachers and administrators must also be involved in the process.

Ms. Zurkowski explained that the rationale for transadapting PSAE Math and Science relates to 11th grade students having the most education in their native language and it would be a way for the agency to begin on a small scale.

Chairman Ruiz raised the issue of IMAGE being linguistically-modified and questioned the number of years it took to develop and whether the ISAT items were linguistically-modified for IMAGE. Dr. Wise indicated that when originally developed, IMAGE assessed just reading. Math was phased in several years later.

Superintendent Koch added that staff is discussing ways to address the Board-approved Spanish Language Arts Standards, as that was one of the recommendations from the Bilingual Advisory Council. He also noted that the agency is committed to developing a means of collecting information on native language proficiency, especially in content area language and then developing a means to compare that to English language proficiency. That is something the state is not currently able to do but is essential in order to make more data-driven decisions.

8. COMMITTEE AGENDA PLANNING/ADDITIONAL ITEMS (for April):

- ELL Assessment Five-Year Plan
- Discussion of School Leadership Task Force Report

9. **ADJOURNMENT:** Dr. Hall moved to adjourn the EPPC meeting and Dr. Ward seconded the motion. The EPPC meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Finance & Audit Committee of the Whole
Wednesday, March 19, 2008
12:30 p.m.

Board Room, 4th Floor

Public Conference Call Number: 1-866-297-6391 *(listen only)*
Confirmation #: 2 0 9 5 7 2 1 5

AGENDA *(timeframes are estimated for planning purposes)*

1. Roll Call
 2. Board Member Participation by Other Means
 3. Public Participation 12:30 – 12:45 p.m.
 4. Minutes of the February Finance & Audit Committee Meeting **(pp. 2-4)**
 - *5. Contracts & Grants Over \$1 Million 12:45 – 12:50 p.m.
 - a. Workforce Experience and Career Exploration Program (WECEP) Grants **(pp. 5-8)**
(Mark Williams)
 - *6. Report on Financial Condition of School Districts *(Deb Vespa)* 12:50 – 1:05 p.m. **(pp. 9-14)**
 - *7. Consideration of Financial Certification for Cahokia School District #187 1:05 – 1:15 p.m. **(pp. 15-16)**
(Deb Vespa)
 8. Centralized Compliance Monitoring Database *(Terry Chamberlain)* 1:15 – 1:35 p.m. **(pp. 17-29)**
 9. Illinois School Purchasing Network *(Robert Wolfe)* 1:35 – 1:45 p.m. **(pp. 30-37)**
 10. FY09 Budget Update *(Linda Mitchell & Ronny Wickenhauser)* 1:45 – 2:00 p.m. **(pp. 38-50)**
 11. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items
 12. Adjourn
- * Items listed with an asterisk (*) will be discussed in committee and Board action may be taken in the plenary session.

FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Wednesday, March 19, 2008
Springfield Illinois

Committee Members Present

Dean Clark, Chairman
Vinni Hall
Jesse Ruiz
Brenda Holmes
Chris Ward
Joyce Karon
David Fields

Staff Present

Chris Koch
Linda Riley Mitchell
Jean Ladage
Darren Reisberg
Connie Wise
Linda Tomlinson
Rene Valenciano
Don Evans

Ronny Wickenhauser
Beth Hanselman
Deb Vespa
Marsha Moffitt
Mark Williams
Scott Norton
Terry Chamberlain
Robert Wolfe

1. ROLL CALL

2. BOARD MEMBER PARTICIPATION BY OTHER MEANS

Andrea Brown

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Denis Jones, a parent from Arlington Heights, spoke about practices in the local district and their impact upon his son who has peanut allergies. He asked the Board to make sure that the district follows the nutrition guidelines.

4. MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING

Motion passed.

5. CONTRACTS & GRANTS OVER \$1 MILLION

A. Workforce Experience and Career Exploration Program (WECEP) Grants

Andrea Brown asked if there were still several children with special needs in this program. Mark Williams said that this population makes up a disproportionate share of the participants. Ms. Brown asked if she could get some unit costs in the future. Andrea Brown also asked if the names of everybody in this program could be retrieved from the Student Information System. Mr. Williams stated that he was not sure if he had student lists for this program directly apart from direct access to the ISIS system, but he could try to produce it.

6. REPORT ON FINANCIAL CONDITION OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Linda Mitchell stated that there has been great improvement in the financial profiles of the districts over the last several years. Ms. Mitchell stated that based on the fiscal year 2002 information that was the basis for the 2003 financial profile, 76 percent of the districts were in deficit. Looking at the 2008 information, which is based on upon fiscal year 2007 financial information, 23 percent had deficits. The number of districts in the financial watch category has dropped - it was ten percent of the districts in 2003 and is now three percent.

Deb Vespa stated that increases in General State Aid and the fact that boards and school district administrators are more conscientious in tightening budgets, have resulted in improved financial profiles for districts. Ms. Vespa also discussed the fact that budgets were submitted to the state for the first time.

7. CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL CERTIFICATION FOR CAHOKIA SCHOOL DISTRICT

#187

Deb Vespa stated that Cahokia School District is a district with declining EAV. Ms. Vespa noted that they have about 30 percent of their EAV in a TIF district, which is set to expire next year, but there is talk that it may be renewed. The district superintendent will make a full presentation to the Board at

the plenary meeting. The district's finances were presented and reviewed at last month's Finance and Audit committee.

8. CENTRALIZED COMPLIANCE MONITORING DATABASE

Linda Mitchell stated that the agency recently began to use a new system to track the results of monitoring visits and other interactions with school districts statewide from all functional areas. Much of the information that will go into the centralized database is information from External Assurance as they previously had a database they used to report what they have seen in audits and reviews of the districts. The new system is designed so that all divisions which have interactions with districts can input monitoring results into the system. Agency personnel with monitoring responsibilities have all been trained on the new system.

Terry Chamberlain and Warren Summers addressed questions from committee members on the system and stated that another report will be made to the board as more data is input and the system is more widely used. The system is meant to facilitate agency efforts to monitor districts requiring additional assistance. Ultimately, it is expected that it will be useful in reviewing systemically non-compliant districts.

9. ILLINOIS SCHOOL PURCHASING NETWORK

Robert Wolfe stated that the Illinois School Purchasing Network (ISPN) was launched in 2005 with U.S. Communities as ISBE's partner. The sales volume through the end of 2007 has been \$31.3 million, and school districts have saved approximately \$3.4 million.

Board members asked various questions about the program, including why more districts may not be using the program. Now that key vacancies have been filled in Fiscal and Procurement, including the Division Administrator and the Procurement Supervisor, new strategies will be developed to market the program to the districts.

10. FY09 BUDGET UPDATE

Ronny Wickenhauser stated that ISBE has appeared before the House Elementary and Secondary Appropriation Committee three times and the House hearings are complete. Mr. Wickenhauser said that he has been answering questions from the General Assembly staff, as well. Mr. Wickenhauser noted that the Senate hearing has not been scheduled yet.

Brenda Holmes requested information regarding funds not expended in the following lines: Teacher Mentoring, Statewide Mentoring, Gifted Education, Rural Technology, ONPAR assessment and Principal Mentoring. She would appreciate staff following up with her later regarding this issue.

Ms. Holmes asked what the status of the State Board's position on the Hold Harmless \$21 million appropriation? Ms. Mitchell said that ISBE has explored the possibility of getting a legislative transfer. ISBE does not have the ability to make the transfer from GSA where there is a surplus of funds into any other line item other than transitional assistance.

The Board discussed the possibility of having Mr. Wickenhauser do a full needs budget as part of the budget process.

Ms. Mitchell stated that she presented budget information at the IASBO meeting in Warrenville, Illinois on March 13th. She also presented the budget at a meeting with Cook County west suburban superintendents that included U.S. Department of Education representatives and U.S. congressman Danny Davis on March 18th.

11. COMMITTEE AGENDA PLANNING/ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Dean Clark stated that Contracts and Grants over \$1 million, budget update and summary of School District Special Education expenditure and receipts will be discussed next month. Brenda Holmes suggested having a joint committee meeting in April. The committee approved a joint meeting.

Ms. Mitchell stated that there would need to be an update on the Cahokia School District at a future board meeting after the district has submitted their revised budget in May.

12. ADJOURN

**Governmental Relations Committee of the Whole
Wednesday, March 19, 2008
10:30 a.m.**

Board Room, 4th Floor

**Public Conference Call Number: 1-866-297-6391 (listen only)
Confirmation #: 2 0 9 5 7 2 1 5**

AGENDA *(timeframes are estimated for planning purposes)*

1. Roll Call
2. Board Member Participation by Other Means
3. Public Participation 10:30 – 10:45 a.m.
4. Minutes of the February Governmental Relations Committee Meeting **(pp. 2-3)**
5. Legislative Update *(Nicole Wills)* 10:45 – 11:30 a.m. **(pp. 4-104)**
6. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items
7. Adjourn

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

GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Wednesday, March 19, 2008
Springfield, Illinois

Committee Members Present

Brenda Holmes, Chair
Jesse Ruiz,
Chris Ward
Dean Clark
Joyce Karon
Vinni Hall
David Fields

Board Member Participation by Other Means

Andrea Brown

Staff Present

Chris Koch
Linda Mitchell
Jean Ladage
Nicole Wills
Darren Reisberg
Connie Wise
Don Evans
Beth Hanselman
Rene Valenciano
Susie Morrison
Marsha Moffett
Linda Tomlinson

1. ROLL CALL

See above.

2. BOARD MEMBER PARTICIPATION BY OTHER MEANS

Board member Chris Ward made a motion to allow Andrea Brown to participate in the committee by phone. The motion was seconded by Dave Fields and approved unanimously.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

4. MINUTES OF FEBRUARY COMMITTEE MEETING

Chairman Jesse Ruiz made a motion to approve the February Committee minutes and the motion was seconded by Dean Clark. The minutes were approved with a unanimous voice vote.

5. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

- Rulemaking amendment - Speaker Madigan is requiring any legislation moving through the House to include statutory language that states there will not be any rulemaking if that legislation becomes law. The language also states that if the Governor or any agency or agency head under the Governor believes that rulemaking is required then the changes will have to be submitted to the General Assembly as legislation.
- HB 4232 – This is Representative Lang’s initiative that would reconstitute the State Board, require all ex-parte communication between ISBE and the Governor’s office to be reported to the Executive Ethics Commission and creates a State Board of Education Advisory Board to be appointed by the legislative leaders. This bill was a shell bill that was amended with the substantive language in the House Education Committee. The bill passed with all members voting in the affirmative, except for Representative Black, who voted present.
- HB 5914 – This legislation also makes changes to the State Board. Beginning with the November 2010 election, the legislation would reduce the number of State Board members to 7 and require that Board members be elected by Judicial District. The bill

passed unanimously out of the House Education Committee, though several Committee members expressed concerns on the feasibility of electing State Board members.

- HB 4219 –Creates the Identity Protection Act. Chairman Ruiz requested staff look at the legislation to determine if there were any potential conflicts with FERPA.
- HB 4229 – Allows a district to use either registered mail or certified mail, return receipt requested anytime the School Code requires that mailings be done by registered mail. Registered mail is only mentioned in the School Code in Article 7 concerning boundary changes.
- HB 4266 – This legislation is an initiative from Representative Mathias and would require the State Board to survey school districts regarding interest and debt service lost as a result of the delay in increasing the General State Aid Foundation Level. ISBE would then have to certify that information to the Treasurer who would then reimburse school districts for the loss. Staff has concerns about certifying such information, as well as the potential fiscal impact such legislation may have when there is no way of determining the fiscal impact.
- HB 4537 – This bill required ISBE to develop, promote and implement a campaign on disability awareness for all school districts. Staff opposed the bill as introduced because of financial and staffing resource issues. The bill has since been amended to allow ISBE to provide materials that a school district can use for these purposes.
- HB 4642 – As introduced, this bill required ISBE to compile information on how to educate teachers about the needs of gifted and twice-exceptional children and how to train teachers in research-based methods for identifying and teaching gifted and twice-exceptional children. Staff also opposed this legislation because of staffing and fiscal resource issues. The bill has been amended and now requires to State Advisory Council on the Education of Children with Disabilities and the Advisory Council for Gifted and Talented Children to research/discuss twice-exceptional children and make recommendations to the State Board.
- HB 4373 – Allows the Chicago Board of Education to develop a plan to implement a program similar to a program offered by the Challenge Day organization. The sponsor never called this bill in committee and it has been re-referred to the House Rules Committee.
- HB 4387 – Requires school boards to purchase or lease only American made cars after the effective date of the legislation.
- HB 4456 – This legislation creates the Commission on Children and Youth. The State Superintendent sits on the Commission, but the Department of Human Services is responsible for providing administrative support.
- HB 4771 – The legislation as introduced allows school districts to verify income eligibility under the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) every two months. Because the legislation as introduced violates federal rules concerning NSLP, staff expressed concerns with the legislation and is attempting to work with the sponsor.
- HB 4913 – This legislation as introduced would require that a charter schools charter *must be* (instead of may be) revoked if the school does not meet one any of the requirements established in law. The bill requires that the chartering entity would be the one to revoke the charter. An amendment placed on the bill would require ISBE to

revoke all the charters, not just the charter for which the agency is the chartering entity (Prairie Crossing).

- HB 5000 – This legislation is an initiative of the Lieutenant Governor’s office. The bill is similar to the Technology Immersion Pilot Project, but it focuses on providing low-cost laptops (\$400 each) for students in grades 3-8. This program would be operated through competitive grant in which up to 300 districts can participate.
- HB 5732 – This legislation is an initiative of the School Management Alliance and states that neither the Regional Superintendent nor ISBE can conduct an audit compliance check for anything not required by statute or any other law.
- SB 2013 – This legislation increases the reimbursement for special education personnel incrementally through FY 2014.
- SB 2500 – This is the enacting language for the Superintendent Mentoring program that the Board supported in the proposed FY 09 budget.
- HB 2210 – This is the enacting language for grants for homeless education that the Board supported in the proposed FY 09 budget.
- SB 2512 – The bill as introduced would have required ISBE to develop model curriculum on internet safety that each school district would be required to administer. The State Board opposed the legislation as introduced because of the staffing and fiscal costs associated with developing model curriculum. The legislation has since been amended to require that ISBE provide resource materials for school districts that must offer the curriculum.
- ISBE Legislation: All bills except for the Board’s school holiday/parent teacher conference waiver bill were posted for committee. That bill was never released from the Senate Rules Committee. All other initiatives passed the Senate Education Committee unanimously, except for SB 2482, which contains the provisions for the repeal of obsolete and duplicative provisions in the School Code.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Ward moved to adjourn the committee and the motion was second by Mr. Ruiz. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Ad Hoc Rules Committee of the Whole
Thursday, March 20, 2008

8:30 a.m.

Board Room, 4th Floor
Public Conference Call Number: 1-866-297-6391 (*listen only*)
Confirmation #: 2 0 9 5 7 2 1 8

AGENDA (*timeframes are estimated for planning purposes*)

1. Roll Call
2. Board Member Participation by Other Means
3. Public Participation
4. Minutes of the February Ad Hoc Rules Committee Meeting
- *5. Rules for Initial Review
 - a. Part 25 (Certification) (*Linda Jamali, Patrick Murphy & Mark Williams*) 8:40– 9:50 a.m. (**pp. 5-93**)
 - b. Part 180 (Health/Life Safety Code for Public Schools) (*Deb Vespa*) 8:50 – 9:00 a.m. (**pp. 94-99**)
 - c. Part 235 (Early Childhood Block Grant) (*Kay Henderson*) 9:00 – 9:10 a.m. (**pp. 100-107**)
 - d. Part 305 (School Food Service) (*Chris Schmitt*) 9:10 – 9:20 a.m. (**pp. 108-120**)
 - e. Part 401 (Special Education Facilities Under Section 14-7.02 of the School Code) (*Beth Hanselman*) 9:20 – 9:30 a.m. (**pp. 121-135**)
- *6. Rules for Adoption
 - a. Part 151 (School Construction Program) (*Deb Vespa*) 9:30 – 9:40 a.m. (**pp. 136-142**)
 - b. Part 375 (Student Records) (*Darren Reisberg*) 9:40 – 9:50 a.m. (**pp. 143-155**)
 - c. Emergency Amendments to Part 401 (Special Education Facilities (*discussed above*) (**pp. 156-168**) Under Section 14-7.02 of the School Code)
7. Information Item: Less Red Tape Update (*Shelley Helton*) 9:50 – 10:00 a.m. (**pp. 169-183**)
8. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items
9. 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

Thursday, March 20, 2008

8:30 a.m.

State Board of Education Office
100 North First Street
Springfield, Illinois

Committee Members Present

Jesse Ruiz
Andrea Brown
Dean Clark
David Fields
Vinni Hall
Brenda Holmes
Joyce Karon

Absent

Chris Ward

Others

Chris Koch
Darren Reisberg
Beth Hanselman
Patrick Murphy
Mark Williams
Linda Jamali
Chris Schmitt
Deb Vespa
Kay Henderson
Roxanne Ramage
Shelley Helton
Sally Vogl

Chairman Ruiz called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m. and noted that no members were participating by other means. He noted that Dr. Ward was unable to be present and that, although Dr. Brown was not present at the time, she was expected to arrive later in the morning. [Dr. Brown joined the meeting at 8:50 a.m.]

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No one had signed up for public participation.

- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Joyce Karon moved approval of the minutes of the February 21, 2008, meeting and David Fields seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously and the minutes were approved as presented.

- 5. RULES FOR INITIAL REVIEW:** Chairman Ruiz turned the meeting over to General Counsel Darren Reisberg for a discussion of the rules on the agenda. Mr. Reisberg indicated that five rulemakings were being presented for initial review.

PART 25 (Certification)

Division Administrators Linda Jamali and Patrick Murphy were present to answer any questions the Board members might have, as well as Division Administrator Mark Williams with regard to renewal of the provisional vocational certificate. No questions were raised.

PART 180 (Health/Life Safety Code for Public Schools)

Mr. Reisberg stated that this amendment was a technical one, reflecting the establishment in statute of the School Facility Occupation Tax and some other updating. Division Administrator Deb Vespa was available for questions, but there were none.

PART 235 (Early Childhood Block Grant)

Mr. Reisberg pointed out that the focus of this amendment was to broaden the statement of the types of certificates required of teachers in State-funded early childhood programs. Division

Administrator Kay Henderson was in attendance. Board members had no questions, but Brenda Holmes acknowledged the recognition that Illinois early childhood programs had recently received and congratulated Ms. Henderson on the fine job being done by her division.

PART 305 (School Food Service)

Mr. Reisberg provided a brief explanation of the context for this rulemaking, recalling the changes made in late 2006 and the subsequent issuance of the report of the School Wellness Task Force setting forth nutrition standards. Under ISBE's rules, another review was to be conducted once those recommendations were available, and that had occurred by means of several forums held across the state. He complimented the work of the Nutrition Programs staff in formulating recommendations for the Board over the winter. Those, in turn, had been distributed for external review prior to their presentation to the Board in the form of rules. He stated that the greatest difference between the proposed rules and the recommendations of the Task Force lay in keeping the rules applicable only through the eighth grade rather than extending their applicability through high school. Staff of the Nutrition Programs Division was present to respond to questions.

Dean Clark reiterated his earlier concern for the appropriateness of certain aspects of the proposal, particularly with respect to ruling out whole milk, which seemed to run counter to intuition. He stated the belief that school boards should make these decisions on behalf of their local communities. His comments did not require a response from staff.

David Fields inquired as to the timeline for adoption of the rules. Mr. Reisberg described the 45-day public comment period and the subsequent analysis that would occur, meaning that the rules would likely be ready for adoption in June.

Brenda Holmes indicated that she also had certain concerns regarding the content of the standards. She mentioned information received from the Illinois Beverage Association to the effect that no member companies produce beverages in containers small enough to comply with these standards. Like Mr. Clark, she doubted that several additional ounces of fruit and vegetable juices would have negative consequences for students' nutrition. Staff member Roxanne Ramage explained that the dairy industry actually was producing beverages in four-ounce containers. Upon a review of this information and several sets of recommendations, staff had determined that staying with this portion size would be the best course of action. The delayed effective date of the rules would also provide the Beverage Association's member companies with additional time to change their container sizes if they wished to do so.

PART 401 (Special Education Facilities Under Section 14-7.02 of the School Code)

This last set of amendments for initial review was intended to address a potential problem in residential facilities serving students with disabilities. Mr. Reisberg noted that emergency rules on the same subject were also being presented for adoption later in the agenda.

Assistant Superintendent Beth Hanselman provided an overview of a situation in one out-of-state facility where an Illinois student was placed. Although Illinois does not permit the use of behavioral intervention strategies that rely upon intentionally inflicting pain as a means of control, the facility in question does use such techniques. As staff had learned more about the philosophy of this facility, concern had grown that Illinois students might be exposed to their use. The rule changes would eliminate the necessity to go through several steps before revoking the approval of a program and would also serve as a basis for nonapproval of programs in the future.

Dean Clark asked for clarification as to whether staff was seeking the ability to withdraw approval immediately or the ability to do so at some point in the future. Ms. Hanselman responded that the desire was to be able to move immediately to disapproval. Mr. Clark inquired whether the student's parent or guardian had been spoken to, and Ms. Hanselman responded that she intended to contact them but had not yet done so. The matter had been brought to ISBE's attention by Equip for Equality and out-of-state regulatory authorities rather than by the Illinois

student's parent. Mr. Clark understood that parental input would be only one factor in determining how to proceed, and Mr. Reisberg acknowledged that some parents might view use of aversive techniques as a last resort despite their nature.

Andrea Brown asked whether a precedent would be set by disapproving a program based on the use of specific interventions rather than relying upon the IEP process to determine how a student's needs would be met and what treatment would be appropriate. She was concerned for the parent's role in the decision-making and the role of the trained professionals who participate on the IEP team. It was clarified that a team could still place a student in a program where the prohibited aversive techniques were used but that no state reimbursement would be available to the district through ISBE. David Fields emphasized the necessity for focusing on the child, and Dean Clark noted also the need to consider the decision's broader implications, as the decision would have the potential to affect other students in the future.

6. RULES FOR ADOPTION

PART 151 (School Construction Program)

Mr. Reisberg reminded the Board that this amendment dealt with the requirements for "green" construction and had been presented for initial review in December of 2007. He noted that there had been no public comment and thus no changes in the rules. No questions were raised.

PART 375 (Student Records)

This set of rules was being revised to reflect recent legislation affecting the use and destruction of students' biometric information. The amendments had also been presented in December of 2007. Comments had been received from the Downstate Local Records Commission and the Local Records Commission of Cook County, which administer the Local Records Act, to the effect that the rules were incongruent with that Act as regards destruction of information. However, the agency's analysis was that the new provisions on biometric information took precedence. Thus the rules had not been changed in response. However, efforts were also under way by Nicole Wills of the Governmental Relations Division to move forward with legislation that would state clearly that the specific provisions for biometric information supersede those of the Local Records Act, so that there would be no question as to the appropriateness of this position. Board members had no questions on this set of amendments.

PART 401 (Special Education Facilities Under Section 14-7.02 of the School Code)

Mr. Reisberg noted that these were the same rules as had just been discussed under the previous agenda item and therefore needed no separate introduction. He turned the meeting back over to Chairman Ruiz.

7. INFORMATION ITEM: LESS RED TAPE UPDATE:

The Chairman asked if there were any questions on this report. Brenda Holmes stated her belief that this initiative had been very important but wondered whether it still needed to remain a quarterly agenda item. She noted that the current report indicated that it was serving more as a vehicle for complaints than as a source of potential improvements and asked Shelley Helton to comment. Ms. Helton agreed that very few submissions had been made in recent months that were really asking for relief or making constructive suggestions. Ms. Holmes indicated that in her view there should be an ongoing means by which individuals could submit their concerns but that a formal process for the Board's review was no longer needed. Ms. Helton noted that the amount of staff time needed on a day-to-day basis was not significant, so that the most advisable course might be to leave the lessredtape e-mail address available but to stop providing periodic formal reports to the Board. Information could be provided whenever there were questions.

It was noted that there were several other electronic avenues by which ISBE could be contacted with questions, feedback, and suggestions and that the agency should continue to be open to

these communications. Board members agreed that it would be appropriate for Superintendent Koch to determine what should be done with the lessredtape information in the future.

8. COMMITTEE AGENDA PLANNING/ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

Darren Reisberg stated that two sets of amendments would be coming forward for initial review in April. These would involve Part 100 (Requirements for Accounting, Budgeting, Financial Reporting, and Auditing) and Part 130 (Determining Special Education Per Capita Tuition Charge). Two sets would also be ready for adoption: Part 60 (The "Grow Your Own" Teacher Education Initiative) and Part 575 (School Technology Program). He also mentioned the possibility of formally incorporating the previously adopted Spanish Language Arts Standards into the rules.

9. ADJOURNMENT: David Fields moved for adjournment. Dean Clark seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:13 a.m.