

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

May 20-21, 2010

NOTE: Staff presentations and detailed Board discussion typically take place during Committee meetings prior to State Board action in the plenary session.
All open meetings will be audio cast on the Internet at: www.isbe.net

THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2010

10:15 a.m. Governmental Relations Committee of the Whole
Board Room, 4th Floor

11:45 a.m. Break for lunch

***12:30 p.m. Education Policy Planning Committee of the Whole**
Board Room, 4th Floor

***2:00 p.m. Finance & Audit Committee of the Whole**
Board Room, 4th Floor

***4:30 p.m. Board Operations Committee of the Whole**
Board Room, 4th Floor

***5:10 p.m. Closed Session**

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

FRIDAY, MAY 21, 2010

***8:15 a.m. Ad Hoc Rules Committee of the Whole**
Board Room, 4th Floor

***9:00 a.m. ISBE Plenary Session and
Public Hearing on Southland College Prep Charter Appeal**
Board Room, 4th Floor

* 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: 217-782-1900; 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 on Thursday at which time the Board will go into closed session.

**REVISED
5-17-2010**

**ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
PLENARY SESSION
100 North First Street, Springfield, Illinois
Board Room, 4th Floor
May 21, 2010
9:00 a.m.**

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

**NOTE: Staff presentations and detailed Board discussion typically take place during Committee meetings prior to State Board action in the plenary session.
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I. Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance

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

II. Public Participation (up to 30 minutes)

(We ask all persons speaking to the Southland College Prep Charter Appeal to hold comments until agenda item (hearing) is called.)

III. Resolutions & Recognition

- A. Internet Safety Contest Winners (***Plenary pp. 4-10***)
B. Beverly Napper, Champaign Community Unit #4 (***Plenary pp. 11***)
C. Donna McKinley, Champaign Community Unit #4 (***Plenary pp. 12***)
D. Randy Vincent, Superintendent, Fieldcrest Community Unit #6 (***Plenary pp. 13***)
E. Tom Urban, Superintendent, Henry Senachwine Unit District #5 (***Plenary pp. 14***)

IV. Public Hearing: Southland College Prep Charter School Appeal (*Will begin around 9:30 a.m.*)

- A. ISBE Staff (***See Insert - Plenary pp. 23***)
B. Southland College Prep Charter School Presentation (*up to 45 minutes*)
C. Rich Township High School District Presentation (*up to 45 minutes*)
D. Public Participants Regarding Southland College Prep (*up to 30 minutes*)
E. State Board Question/Answers

(The State Board of Education may recess for a brief closed session prior to taking action on the following agenda items.)

V. 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

- A. *Approval of Minutes: March 25, 2010 (***Plenary pp. 15-22***)
- B. *Rules for Initial Review
1. Part 1 (Public Schools Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision) (***Rules packet pp. 5-30***)
 2. Part 25 (Certification) (***Rules packet pp. 31-50***)
 3. Part 226 (Special Education) (***Rules packet pp.51-84***)
- C. *Rules for Adoption
1. Part 180 (Health/Life Safety Code for Public Schools) (***Rules packet pp. 85-92***)
 2. Part 228 (Transitional Bilingual Education) (***Rules packet pp. 93-154***)
 3. Part 235 (Early Childhood Education Block Grant) (***Rules packet pp. 155-163***)

- D. *Grants Over \$1 Million
1. Early Childhood Block Grants (**Finance & Audit packet pp. 7-9**)
 2. ~~State Career & Technical Education Improvement & Agricultural Education~~ (**Action will be delayed until June meeting.**)
 2. FY11 1003(g) School Improvement Grants (**Finance & Audit packet pp. 13-14**)
- E. *Contracts Over \$1 Million Plenary Packet – Page 2
1. Intergovernmental Agreement – Harrisburg Project (**Finance & Audit packet pp. 17-18**)
 2. Request for RFSP – Center of School Improvement (**Finance & Audit packet pp. 17-18**)
 3. Request for RFSP – Evaluator of School Improvement (**Finance & Audit packet pp. 19-20**)
 4. Contract Renewal – Illinois Migrant Council (**Finance & Audit packet pp. 21-23**)
 5. Contract Renewal – PSAE and EXPLORE and PLAN – ACT, Inc. (**Finance & Audit packet pp. 24-25**)
 6. Contract Renewal – Illinois Alternate Assessment – NCS Pearson, Inc. (**FAC pp. 26-27**)
 7. Contract Renewal – ISAT Administration – NCS Pearson, Inc. (**Finance & Audit packet pp. 28-29**)
 8. Contract Renewal – ISAT Development – NCS Pearson, Inc. (**Finance & Audit packet pp. 30-31**)
 9. Contract Renewal – Development of Web-Based Child Nutrition Application System – Capitol Strategies, Inc. (**Finance & Audit packet pp. 32-34**)
- F. *Teacher Certification Board Recommendations (**Education Policy Planning packet pp. 12-14**)
- G. *Qualified Zone Academy Bond (QZAB) Authorization(s) (**Finance & Audit packet pp. 42-57**)

End of Consent Agenda

- H. 2010 Board Calendar – Revise Retreat Dates (**as needed**) (**Board Operations packet pp. 17-19**)
- I. Nominations for NASBE President-Elect and/or Central Area Director (**as needed**) (**Board Ops. pp. 14-16**)
- J.. Calumet Park Oversight Agreement (**Education Policy Planning packet, begins on p. 15**)
- K. Southland College Prep Charter High School Appeal (**See Plenary packet insert p. 23**)
- L. FY11 State Board of Education Budget – Prioritization of Funds (as needed) (FAC packet pp. 58 -)**

VI. New Business

VII. Announcements and Reports

- A. IBHE Liaison Report (*Dr. Proshanta Nandi*)
- B. P-20 Council Liaison Report (*Joyce Karon*)
- C. Superintendent's/Senior Staff Announcements
- D. Chairman's Report
- E. Member Reports

VIII. Information Items

- A. ISBE Fiscal & Administrative Monthly Reports (**Plenary packet pp. 24-52**)

IX. Adjourn

**Illinois State Board of Education Meeting
May 21, 2010
100 North First Street
Springfield, Illinois**

ROLL CALL

Jesse Ruiz, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. Chairman Ruiz asked Ms. Jean Ladage to call the roll. A quorum was present.

Members Present:

Mr. Jesse Ruiz, Chairman
Dr. Christopher Ward, Vice Chairman
Dr. Vinni Hall, Secretary
Mr. James Baumann
Dr. Andrea Brown
Dr. David Fields
Mr. Steven Gilford
Ms. Lanita Koster
Ms. Melinda LaBarre

Members Absent:

None

Chairman Ruiz indicated that anyone wishing to speak regarding the Southland College Prep Charter Appeal to please hold comments until agenda Item IV.B. Public Hearing.

**RESOLUTIONS &
REGOGNITION**

Dr. Ward moved that the State Board of Education adopt the resolutions recognizing Ms. Beverly Napper and Ms. Donna McKinley of Champaign Community Unit #4, Mr. Randy Vincent, Superintendent of Fieldcrest Community Unit # 6, Mr. Tom Urban, Superintendent, Henry Senachwine Unit District #5 and the Illinois Youth Internet Safety Contest Winners. Mr. Baumann seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Chairman Ruiz welcomed the following representatives from the Illinois Association of Regional Superintendents of Schools (IARSS): Louise Bassett, Regional Superintendent for ROE #22, Fulton and Schuyler Counties; Gail Owen, Assistant Regional Superintendent for ROE #53, Tazewell County and Jane Quinlan, Regional Superintendent for ROE #9, Champaign and Ford Counties.

Superintendent Koch gave a brief background on the charter school appeal process. He noted that when an appeal is filed on a charter school it is his responsibility as Superintendent to work with agency staff to come up with a recommendation to the State Board to consider. There are two thresholds to be met in making this determination; 1.) Compliance with the law. 2.) Is the charter school in the best interest of the students it is designed to serve?

Chairman Ruiz summarized the procedures for the hearing and indicated the board would recess into closed session following the hearing and return to take action in open session. There are three possible outcomes; 1.) the Board accepts Superintendent Koch's recommendation to grant the charter; 2.) the Board denies Superintendent Koch's recommendation and upholds the decision of the District; or 3.) the Board may decide they need more time for further analysis.

**PUBLIC HEARING
SOUTHLAND
COLLEGE PREP
CHARTER SCHOOL
APPEAL**

Southland College Prep Charter School Hearing

Dr. Blondean Davis, Southland Board Member and Superintendent of Matteson School District #162 shared the details of the new charter school to be located in the Southland. She said they are confident in their ability to be successful and confident that such an institution would be able to accomplish its goals and objectives.

Dr. Davis stated that the representatives with her today have diverse backgrounds, three have been local superintendents, and have managed to be successful by conservatively managing funds. She shared with the Board the data for the past seven years. (See Appendix A-Southland Power Point.) Dr. Davis indicated that their objective is that 90% of their children would be at or above the national average and that they would like for all of their students to go to college and finish.

She shared that they have attempted to incorporate intervention strategies. The success of Southland College Prep ultimately depends on what occurs on in the classroom and they expect to be accountable. Dr. Davis introduced Dr. Brian Ali to address the curriculum components of their proposal.

Dr. Brian Ali, Southland Planning Committee and Associate Superintendent of District 162, commented that research suggests that there are two new basic skills for 21st century learners; the ability to think critically and to problem solve. Dr. Ali shared their learning goals for all students, how they will measure each student's progress, how they will respond to students having difficulty, and how they will deepen the learning for students who have mastered essential knowledge and skills. Dr. Ali proceeded to clarify how they would accomplish their goals so that no child will be left behind.

Ms. Yvonne Williams, a member of Southland's Planning Committee and District 162's Director of Special Education, stated that the vision and the mission for Southland College Prep High School are to prepare all students for success. Ms. Williams commented that they have created a plan to ensure that all eligible students enrolled at Southland will receive special education and related services in accordance with the Illinois rules and regulations for special education, IDEA and all applicable state and federal rules and regulations.

Southland will provide a nondiscriminatory enrollment process without barriers for students with disabilities. All advertisements or recruitment materials developed will clearly indicate that all students who reside in the School District #227 attendance area are eligible to submit applications. Southland will ensure that all Southland teachers receive continuing professional development for providing differentiated instruction for all students.

The Charter school will hire a full time special education administrator to provide supervision of special education services including initial referrals, reevaluations, and annual reviews. They are planning to hire highly qualified LBS 1 Certified Special Education teachers as needed. There will be a certified paraprofessional for each special education teacher allowing for a class size for special education teachers between 10 and 15 students. They will hire a full time guidance counselor, a full time certified school nurse and necessary services from a speech pathologist, school social worker and psychologist as required. The psychologist will be contracted through SPED in the early years, with full time staff being added as necessary. Full time teachers and paraprofessional staff will be considered each year based on student IEP needs.

Southland will be seeking partnerships with area universities for student interns and student teachers in order to further individualize instruction. Dr. Davis shared a copy of their Proposed Special Education Policy Draft.

Mr. Roger Prietz, Southland Planning Committee and District 162's Director of

Technology, spoke on the technology plans to prepare the students of Southland College Prep Charter High School for 21st Century Careers. Southland will have 21st Century classroom tools with a strong emphasis on STEM curriculum tools. Every student will have an electronic portfolio of work and a blog for each subject area. Students will have technology-based collaborative learning with other students, video conferencing, and technology assisted home/school communication to keep parents informed.

Mr. Donald Theobald, Southland Planning Committee and Financial Consultant, shared with the Board a copy of the projections and submissions based on one thousand students. Accomplishment of the goals of the Southland College Prep Charter has been determined to be feasible with five hundred students.

Mr. James Tapscott, Southland Financial Consultant, noted that this is not just about District #162, it is about the entire Southland and it is the Planning Committee's belief that this charter is in the best interest of everyone and will preserve the financial interest of District #227. Mr. Tapscott pointed out that Southland Charter does not wish to financially harm District #227 and that these reduced levels will provide the district adequate time to phase-in any changes they need to make. He believes the charter school could help increase property values in the communities and in turn increase property taxes.

Dr. Davis closed by saying they do not intend to hire teachers that are not highly qualified and there will be four years of English, mathematics, science, social studies, world language, technology, etc. It is expected that Southland students will graduate being conversant in at least one foreign language. There will be nine hours of mandatory instruction each day.

Responses to Board Questions

Chairman Ruiz commented that State Representative Al Riley was in the room earlier but had to leave to meet with students visiting him in the capitol. Mr. Ruiz noted that Representative Riley did take a minute to encourage the Board to do what is best for the children when making its decision. Representative Riley also wanted to send regards to all who work hard every day to do the best for our kids.

Chairman Ruiz encouraged the Planning Committee to write into their bylaws that all feeder districts have a seat on the board and that board members will not be paid for their services.

Speaking to the process of student selection, Dr. Davis responded that an ad would be placed in the newspaper to communicate to residents of all feeder communities. Dr. Davis said she also has had the opportunity to attend three lotteries for Chicago charter schools and that has provided valuable insight. The projected student-teacher ratio is 25-1.

Dr. Davis also indicated that they have contacted Kickert Bus Company which has given them some preliminary figures for student transportation. They have a preliminary agreement to provide services if the charter does not have the same start time as School Districts #162 and #227.

In response to an inquiry about textbooks and curriculum, Dr. Davis said they have a committee reviewing textbooks and estimate an average cost of about \$875 per student. They are also considering bookless curricula.

Dr. Davis added that the biggest challenge they anticipate would be finances. They would like to get involved with not only foundations but whatever funds might become available at the federal level. Dr. Davis stated that they have two commitments to the school in which she has absolute faith.

They intend to have an open door policy and believe if a school district is strong enough and has its values in place it can motivate a community.

Mr. Theobald indicated that the debt service component with a five year charter is structured as a leased arrangement based upon a 75,000 square foot facility at a commercial rental rate in the south suburban area. Dr. Davis said they have not signed a facility contract yet but they have looked at the Marshall Fields Building which belongs to the Village of Park Forest. They have also looked at a foreclosed building in Richton Park. However, in year one they will be using a wing of their own facilities.

Rich Township High School District Presentation

Howard Hunigan, Superintendent of Rich Township High School District, indicated that the district will be sharing information about the process pertaining to charter schools. He also stated that they will be sharing accomplishments in the Rich Township High School District. Mr. Hunigan asked Mr. John Fester to talk about the charter school proposal presented to the district.

Mr. John Fester, Board Attorney for Richland Township High School District #227, stated that they are here today not to debate the merits of charter schools nor to ask the Board to deny charter schools in general; but they will be asking the Board to deny this charter school and the process by which it came to this Board.

The law states that the local board receives a proposal, conducts a public hearing, deliberates and votes; and that is exactly what happened. If denied at the district level and the charter proposal is in compliance with the law and in the best interest of the students, it can be appealed to the State Board which may reverse the local board. However, what the State Board has received today is not the charter proposal that Rich Township High School District #227 received. The funding request for example has been dropped from 125% to a 100%, the proposal eliminated some classes while adding others and an entire new section on special education has been added. Today's proposal now has a recommendation for ISBE to approve a proposal for 500 hundred students rather than 1000. Today we hear of unnamed benefactors who financially support this proposal and yet, another location for their building. While your staff certainly has the authority under your own rules to request additional information from the charter school, what you have before you is a brand new proposal and District # 227 was cut out of the process that created that new proposal.

Mr. Fester stated that what should have happened, according to ISBE rules, is that the notice should have gone to each party indicating that it was legally deficient and the charter planning committee should have been instructed to go back and try again. The people of District #227 have not seen this new proposal, they have not had a chance to comment on it nor provide input. He urged the Board not to grant the charter on the backs of District #227 students

Dr. Donna Simpson Leak, Assistant Superintendent for Learning and Accountability (and the new Superintendent for District 227 as of July 1, 2010), shared a document on the "Relationship Between the ISAT and PSAE Scale Scores".

Dr. Leak shared specific data with the Board. (See Appendix B - Rich Township

power point.) She commented that one of Rich Township's high schools was recognized for being on the honor roll and listed on the ten most improved high schools in the State of Illinois. The high schools above them on the list do not serve the student population that District #227 serves. She added that they have already been doing a lot of the things that the charter school talks about doing, such as aligning standards and making sure courses align with the ACT. They have gender specific classrooms embedded in their freshman academy; they have algebra or above for every freshman student and students are provided assistance as needed to get up to speed. They continue to embrace staff development.

Mr. Ilandus Hampton, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operation, spoke about the District 227 budget. Mr. Hampton stated that the budget for Rich Township is about \$70 million, as it relates to 25,000 residents and 4,100 students. Mr. Hampton stated that the district's budget has increased significantly over the past five years and with that comes more programs, services, and operational needs. Rich Township High School District is very proud of the fact that they are fiscally responsible with the community's tax dollars and its portion of the state's dollars. However, they are concerned that the recommendation on the table will draw down the district's fund balance. The fund balance is there to ensure the district is able to make it through economically tough times.

He added that if everything stays as it is today (without the charter school) the fund balance would decrease by \$3.5 million dollars by next year. The charter school would cause the balance will erode even faster.

Mr. Robert Grossi has been Financial Advisor and Treasurer for School District #227 for the past 24 years. He has also served as CEO of the Hazel Crest School Finance Authority, Chair of the Calumet Park District #132 Voluntary Oversight Panel and treasurer for two charter schools in the City of Chicago. Mr. Grossi indicated that he has worked with the State Board staff for 24 years and has never worked with a more passionate and dedicated group than those who currently work for ISBE.

He stated that he is 100% confident that the impact of a decision of this Board to allow the creation for Southland Charter School will result in certain academic and financial bankruptcy to Rich Township High School District #227 under both scenarios -- a 500 student charter school where the district will pay over \$7 million dollars annually and a 1000 student charter school where the district will pay over \$14 million annually.

He suggested that the methodology used by Southland to conclude the charter school will not adversely impact District #227 was intellectually lazy. They state that if District 227 cuts enrollment by 25% the district can cut expenses by 25% and it will have no impact on the quality of education provided. Southland's assumption is that all expenses in a school district are variable and anyone who works for a school district knows that this is not true. Over \$2.6 million or \$700 of the operating expense per pupil is due to interest on the district's debt. If Southland took 1000 students they would receive over \$700,000 annually from District #227 solely because of this interest component. Southland's assumption is that even though Rich Township has to give them \$700,000, Rich can save \$700,000 in interest expense. The fact is the expense won't be reduced one penny. This alone would cost Rich High School \$7 million dollars over the 10 years of the initial proposal. Over \$6.8 million or \$1,800 of operating expense per pupil is due to in-district special education costs. The district has over 700 IEPs. Southland would receive \$1.8 million dollars annually if they took the 1000 students, even if none of the students were special education students.

Mr. Grossi added that Southland claims that classroom teachers can be eliminated proportionately with student reduction; again this is inaccurate. For example, if the district lost 120 students and they represented 40 students in each of these buildings and within those 40 students there were 10 freshman, 10 sophomores, 10 juniors and 10 senior students, the district would not be able to reduce staff much but they would lose over \$1.7 million dollars a year to Southland. There may be savings with transportation but it will still cost the same whether the bus is 100% full or 80% full. The district will still need a Superintendent, a Business Manager, utility expenses will remain unchanged, and the cost of cleaning will not be reduced proportionately. Dr. Koch is correct when he states the charter school funding scheme adversely impacts schools.

He indicated that Southland makes other inaccurate assumptions to shore up their case including the assumption that the district could eliminate one teacher for every 12 students lost, when in fact both ISBE and the district agreed that the figure is more likely one teacher for every 25 student lost. They also use an average teacher salary of \$70,600 to calculate the savings, but the district would be cutting non-tenure teachers at about \$53,000.

In order to delay the crisis ISBE is recommending that the charter take only 500 students and \$7.2 million annually. ISBE's hope is that the district will be able to use its existing fund balances to cover the structural deficit. Unfortunately, the expected impact of the State's crisis and the impact of the charter school will dissolve the funds well before the five year period. Mr. Grossi stated that in one of exhibits from Dr. Koch's recommendation it states that if the Board approves the charter school for 1000 students, the district will be bankrupt in 2 years. Using the same methodology for 500 students, the district will be bankrupt in 3 years as the district will be forced to make expenditure reductions in excess of \$8 million dollars a year in order to remain solvent. There is no budget that can be developed to provide even the basic level of education for the students left.

In conclusion, Mr. Grossi indicated that if the Board approves the Southland charter at either 500 or 1,000 student level, the financial impact of that decision will likely destroy the quality of education received by those remaining 3,000 students at Rich Township

Responses to Board Questions

Rich Township representatives confirmed that the reasons the charter should be denied are: 1) the process in which this proposal was presented to the State Board and 2) the financial impact it will have on Rich Township School District.

Dr. Simpson-Leak indicated that Rich Central has about 1,600 students, Rich East about 1,300 and Rich South approximately 1,400, and that the graduation rate is about 92-93%. She added that the pupil/teacher ratio is 15.5 to 1, but can range anywhere from 16 to 26 students per teacher. They have begun operating a community involvement program on Saturdays at the Rich East Campus and it has been very successful.

Deb Vespa, ISBE Division Administrator for School Business Services, explained her projections and indicated there are two components to be considered: the economic condition of the state and the additional expenditures the district would incur for the tuition they would pay to the charter school. In reviewing their annual financial reports for FY05 through FY09 and looking at their FY10 budget, she attempted to provide linear projections for salaries, benefits and other expenditures. Considering fund balances in the district, the economy and the charter school, Ms. Vespa predicts

the district can sustain through 2013 but in 2014 they will likely have a negative fund balance of about \$20 million dollars. The district would be certified in financial distress in year two of negative fund balances. Ms. Vespa added that she is fearful that many more districts will be in the same situation due to the economy.

Dr. Koch thanked Superintendent Hunigan and his team for their presentation and he commended them on the advance placement courses and other accomplishments. Dr. Koch questioned the district about their 11th grade assessment data and the estimate that 42% of their students were taking the PSAE in the 12th grade. He also commented on the EXPLORE data and asked if they have any PLAN data. Dr. Simpson-Leak responded that their students take the EXPLORE in Grades 8 and 9, and then PLAN in Grade 10 and they do follow through with that data. She explained that almost 90 new untested seniors came to the district this year, resulting in an even larger number than anticipated. They also had students who moved away and then returned to the district. She added that she did not bring the PLAN data with her because they were talking about District #162 in particular.

Dr. Simpson-Leak indicated she intends to be a hands-on administrator and the first thing she did when she came to the district was to review test data. She began weekly meetings with her teachers and principals, and meets with the administrative staff once a month. They have a five-year curriculum plan, and although the staff was cautious at first, they have now embraced the process.

Darren Reisberg, ISBE General Counsel, clarified the Charter Schools Law in regard to the State Board's responsibilities. The State Board may reverse a local board decision if the State Board finds that the charter school or charter school proposal is in compliance with the School Code and is in the best interest of the students it is designed to serve. Further, the State Board may condition the granting of an appeal on the acceptance by the charter school of funding in an amount less than that requested in the proposal submitted to the school board. State Board of Education staff received the denial by Rich Township #227, the charter school appealed that denial, and State Board of Education staff had and have the ability under State Board of Education rules to seek additional information from the charter school in order to assist in its determination as to whether or not it wishes to recommend to the State Superintendent and State Board of Education that the denial be reversed. In reviewing the voluminous appeal documents, the State Board of Education staff did have questions which required additional information. While the State Board of Education staff did not meet face to face with the charter school representatives, it did under its authority have conversations where it sought additional information on a number of issues that would assist in evaluating whether the charter school proposal was in compliance with the law and in the best interest of the students it was designed to serve. Further, State Board of Education staff copied the District on the letter wherein additional information was requested from the charter school and when we received the follow-up information and documentation from the charter school we immediately forwarded that information to the District. As for today's hearing before the State Board of Education, State Board of Education staff provided both sides with sufficient notice of their respective opportunity to participate. The State Board of Education believes that the appropriate process was followed, that the District received any and all due process owed it, and the appeal is now before the State Board of Education for its determination. Mr. Reisberg stated he would be happy to answer any questions.

Public Support of Charter School

Linzey Jones. Mayor of Olympia Fields and former Board member of a feeder school to District 227, spoke in support of the appeal for the charter. Mr. Jones stated

that many members of the communities that are represented by the elected officials present today have been completely dissatisfied for many years with the change process at Rich Township. Test scores reflect the District's failure to deliver quality education. There is very little parental involvement and little interchange between the feeder districts and the high school. The time has come to move forward and he urged the Board to approve the charter agreement.

Robert McCray, Village Trustee of Park Forest, spoke on behalf of Park Forest Mayor John Ostenberg and the Citizens of Park Forest. Mr. McCray stated that Park Forest expects the children of their village to have the very best education afforded to them. When Mr. McCray arrived there 38 years ago he said that he has seen transitions and plans come and go. They would like to see the State Board grant School District #162's request to create the Southland Prep Charter High School. Under Dr. Blondean Davis' direction, the Charter High School would provide Park Foresters, and others that feed into the charter school from their districts, the ability to continue to dream big, strive for higher education and result in achievement.

Anthony Burton, Village Trustee in the Village of Matteson, spoke on behalf of the Matteson Board, Board President Andre Ashmore and the residents that live in the Village of Matteson. Mr. Burton stated that they all fully support and are enthusiastic about this opportunity for the Southland Charter High School. Mr. Burton said that the Board takes education very seriously and have just recently approved an education commission and their goal is to strive for better opportunities around education. Typically village boards look at public works, fire and police and community economic development. In this situation the Board realized that the cornerstone to our community is education and in order for all the other things to work from police and fire to economic development, we must have a viable educational system. Our goal is for this charter school to become successful and in turn increase property values and perhaps attract businesses once we have good and viable educational system.

Regan Stockstell, Community Development Director for the Village of Richton Park, represented Village President Rick Reinbold. Under the strategic leadership of Dr. Blondean Davis, Superintendent for District #162, the district has achieved impressive successes in the face of many social economic challenges driven by a belief that the district can educate all children who enter their doors. Superintendent Davis, the District #162 administration, faculty, and staff, have been unrelenting in their pursuit of academic excellence. As creators of the Southland College Preparatory Charter High School, School District #162 has taken on this challenge because they are confident they can provide superior educational options for students in the Southland area. Under Dr. Davis' leadership and support from the district board, a culture of academic excellence is now the hallmark of District #162. President Reinbold urged the Illinois State Board of Education to consider approval of the District #162 Southland College Preparatory Charter High School Proposal.

Frederick Veazey, resident in both districts #162 and #227 communities, spoke on behalf of Alderman Sherman M. Williams of the City of Country Club Hills. As a former District 160 Board of Education President and current City of Country Club Hills Education Committee Chairman, Mr. Williams is committed to ensuring the city's children receive every possible resource needed to ensure their continued academic achievement. It is by necessity not choice that local government officials seek alternatives in providing public education resources. The constituents of Country Club Hills are demanding action be taken to address the deteriorating state of public education and feel a charter school is one way to help fulfill these expectations.

David Mekarski, Chairman of the Village of Olympia Fields Education Commission, stated that their Education Commission supports the charter school proposal. The diverse communities of the Chicago Southland cannot allow yet another generation of its children to wait for the right politics for an opportunity of choice. Our citizens' primary interest being diminished in value - their homes. The communities, the regions' economic development and long-term economic sustainability are threatened and most of all the future of our children is at risk.

Susan Merkarski, a certified teacher, shared with the Board a letter from Diversity, Inc, Executive Director Joseph M. Martin in support of the charter school. Ms. Merkarski wanted that board to know how much this vote means to over 21 communities in Southland Chicago and that Diversity, Inc. is supporting the charter school.

Kelvin Oliver from the Village of Olympia Fields, and a parent who has raised two children who attended Schools District# 227 and a child currently attending a parochial school, spoke in support of the charter school.

Dr. Doris Langon, Superintendent of Fairmont School District, former ISBE and CPS Administrator, resident of Olympia Fields, is a proponent of public education but also a supporter and product of school choice. Dr. Langon asked the Board to provide additional support and oversight to close the glaring high school performance gap and turn around the three Tier One high schools so approximately 3,500 students can have access to a high quality secondary education. Ms Langon also asked that the Board exercise the Charter School Law, approve, certify and fund the Southland College Prep Charter High School so approximately 500 teens will have a smooth transition to a viable alternative high school focused on maintaining high performance standards and successful matriculation to high school and to college.

Dr. David Morgan, a 40-year educator as a teacher, principal, central office administrator, college professor and a Board Member of School District 227, let the State Board know that School District #227 is a dysfunctional school board. Dr, Morgan indicated he has been on the District #227 school board 13 months. Dr. Morgan believes that our first responsibility is to our community and our children and that Dr. Blondean Davis is qualified to lead the way to provide the parents of District #227 and the Chicago South Suburbs a choice in the education of their children.

Lee Langon, a Community Activist and President of Olympia Club Home Owners Association, commented that he lives in a community where the taxes are quite high and yet most of his neighbors send their children to private schools when there are three high schools in the district. Mr. Langon said that he and his wife moved to the community knowing that the schools were Tier 1 schools and were at 40% on their test scores, but they were hoping that they could help make a difference. Mr. Langon said that they support District #227 and they will continue to support them, but the children in the district need help right now. The community needs a choice and the children deserve a choice right now and they deserve proven leadership. Mr. Langon asked that the Board please approve the Southland Charter School.

Daniel Evans, a parent of two children from Richton Park who attend school in District #162, thanked District #162 for daring to bring reform to the community in the form of a charter school. He also thanked Dr. Davis for leading the charge to go up against the status quo. For some change is difficult, for others change is an opportunity. Mr. Evans sees Southland College Prep Charter School as an educational opportunity for his children and all children in the area. He is glad to see the children have an educational alternative.

Shelila Morrow, a Matteson resident who grew up in the Cabrini Green Housing of Chicago, stated that she got what she would consider a mediocre education, at best. She is disappointed by the quality of education she sees in the Southland area and would like to see the children have better educational opportunities and choices. Ms. Morrow asked that the Board approve the charter school proposal.

Anthony Woods, a parent, taxpayer, and Community Activist from Olympia Fields, spoke in support of the new charter school and would to see his tax dollars go to support it. He asked that the Board make the charter school a reality now.

Mark Daniels, a parent from Richton Park, has two children who attend District #162. He is going to pay about \$9000 a year to send his children to a private high school because he does not want them to attend School District #227. He supports the charter school in Southland.

Public Opposed to Charter School

Alyssa Hernandez, a product of School District #162 and #227 and is the youngest appointed official school board member on the Chicagoland area. Ms. Hernandez introduced Latesa Cook, Jabari Scott, Porshia McPherson and Brittany Jordon who are all former successful students of School District #227. Latesa is a member of 100 Strong; she is a leader and a student of the University of Illinois. Porshia is a student at Purdue University North Lafayette, social chair of the Association of Multicultural Science Students, and a football ambassador. Jabari is a student at Louisiana State University who is involved in American Government. Brittany is a student at Northern Illinois University and a participant of the S Plan, a mentoring program for minorities. These young citizens were Ms. Hernandez' classmates last year. They were the first class to actually raise the test scores at District #227 and show a positive increase. Things have changed at the District and you can get a great education. Ms. Hernandez asked that the Board put people before the politics.

Jacqueline Jordon, a District #163 Board Member, spoke on behalf of the District. Ms. Jordon is an employee and a resident of Park Forest; she is proud to say that both of her children are successful products of District #163 & #227. Ms. Jordon indicated that District #163 has never received a copy of the charter school proposal, plan or application. District #162 has failed to communicate with district #163 board, staff, students and parents in regards to the proposal. If allowed to exist, this school will directly affect the community and cause the demise of District #227. Ms. Jordan urged the Board to deny the charter.

Shirl Lynn Jackson a parent of three children; one is an honor student still attending District 227 and she has two successful graduates from School District #227. Ms. Jackson believes that if a child wants a good education it is available at #227 and that the community should work together to help children get the education they need.

Mike Curran, President of Rich Township High School Education Association, took the opportunity to speak on behalf of the 340 member teachers he represents. Mr. Curran stated that all of the expected goals in the outcomes associated with the vision professed in this charter school proposal are currently already in place and are very much alive in Rich Township District #227. The only argument anyone can make about the opportunities which are available to each and every high school student in this district is that their accomplishments go unpublicized and unappreciated. A look at the facts shows why there is not a need for a charter high school and it is very disturbing that the State Superintendent's office would

accommodate the wishes of a very few at the expense of the 4000 high school students currently enrolled in District #227. District #227 is in the business of educating all students not just a select few. The district has been able to accomplish this without losing track of its talented and gifted teenagers. This district currently offers 57 honors level classes along with 28 Advance Placement (AP) classes. The number of participants continues to increase at both the honors and the AP levels with the majority of students gaining college level credits for their AP test performance. The above average students in District #227, that this type of charter school would be looking to include, have a long history of scholarship awards numbering millions of dollars and placement in the top colleges and universities across this country.

Rich Township High Schools are in the business of educating the complete student and it is not enough just to carry a full schedule of weighted grades as a student. All students are encouraged on a daily basis to become involved in their total physical, social and intellectual growth. Each campus currently offers 22 interscholastic sports for students to get involved in along with another 12 clubs competing at the local, state and national levels. There are endless opportunities for students to reach their potential in the areas of performing and fine arts. The development of the whole student includes a four-year sequence of physical education which includes health and driver education components not found in charter schools.

District #227 has its own problems, certainly, as all high schools in the state do. Yet we do not hide them or ignore them. Overall test scores, a large district mobility rate, incoming freshman ability levels and school climate issues are being addressed on a daily basis. The district will continue to make every effort possible to educate all students who walk through their doors and not only a select few. A charter school created in a way that erodes those efforts for all students to the benefit of a select few is contrary to the purpose and intent of creating a charter school. The creation of charter school which results in destabilizing the financial well being of the entire school district is a disservice to the students, parents and tax payers of that district. Mr. Curran thanked the Board for their time.

Sonya Norwood, Board President of School District #227, moved to Matteson 25 years ago, has six children and loves the community. They are involved parents, she stays home with her children and serves on two school boards at the same time. They believe in public education and giving back to the community. Ms. Norwood believes that District #227 is on the verge of greatness and she asked the Board to deny the charter school.

CLOSED SESSION

Dr. Hall moved that the Board enter into closed session under the exceptions set forth in the Open Meeting Act of the State of Illinois as follows:

Section c4 to review evidence or testimony presented in open hearing, or in closed hearing where specifically authorized by law, to a quasi-adjudicative body, as defined in the Act, provided that the body prepares and makes available for public inspection a written decision setting forth its determination reasoning; and

Section c11 for the purpose of considering pending or probable litigation against or affecting the Board ,and

Dr. Hall further moved that the Board may invite anyone they wish to have included in this closed session. Mr. Gilford seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

**SOUTHLAND
COLLEGE PREP
CHARTER HIGH
SCHOOL MOTION**

The Board entered into closed session at 1:50 p.m. and reconvened from closed session at 2:30 p.m.

Mr. Bauman asked the representatives from the Southland Charter Planning Committee if the revenue coming in from benefactors is only for the first year. They responded affirmatively. Dr. Davis said that she does not feel \$250,000 is a huge sum of money for their community to raise if the benefactors would fall through, but she has confidence in the benefactors.

Chairman Ruiz reminded them that the charter is a public school and public funds will come into the school. Therefore, it cannot be a captive charter school of District #162. It must have broad representation from all three feeder schools and all the citizens whose tax dollars go to support District #227. The board of directors should have members from all the feeder schools and there should be bylaws on how the board members will be selected. The Chairman also cautioned the Planning Committee about the current bylaws mentioning that the directors could earn money from the school. Directors of non-profit organizations should not earn money; the IRS now agrees with this. The Chairman indicated that there is a precedent for a state run charter school which this new agreement will follow.

Motion

Dr. Hall moved that the State Board of Education reverses the decision of Rich Township High School District #227 and grants a charter to the Southland College Prep High School for a term of five years, with an enrollment cap during those five years of 500 students, all contingent on Southland addressing the remaining concerns identified in the State Superintendent's written recommendation and expressed by members of the State Board of Education. The State Board of Education authorizes the State Superintendent and agency staff to negotiate all aspects of the charter agreement with Southland. The State Board's approval of the charter school is further contingent on the charter agreement, subsequent to the aforementioned negotiations, being presented to and approved by the State Board of Education, preferably at its June 2010 board meeting. The Board also authorizes the Chairman of the State Board of Education to execute the Determination reflecting this decision.

Ms. Koster seconded the motion and it passed with unanimous roll call vote.

Chairman Ruiz reminded everyone that they all share common communities and, as Dr. Fields always reminds us, charter schools were developed as an experiment to feed the traditional public school system. You have to share the light with all of the students. Having 500 students do well and leaving the rest to remain behind is not a victory for anyone. This is about creating another experiment so that we can create more learning and best practices that get fed back to District #227. School District #227 should be a beneficiary in this entire endeavor, and should always be part of what the charter school is doing. The Chairman asked that they keep this in mind and work with their colleagues, friends, neighbors, and family members who are involved at #227 and care as passionately about the students there, as you care about your students. Chairman Ruiz congratulated them on their success.

**SUPERINTENDENT
REPORT**

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda Motion:

Dr. Fields moved that the State Board of Education hereby approves the consent agenda items, with the exception of exception of V.B.3. Part 226 (Special Education) and V.C.2. Part 228 (Transitional Bilingual Education) and V.C.3. Part 235 Early (Childhood Education Block Grant) which will be brought back to the Board in June. Mr. Bauman seconded the motion and it passed with a roll call vote.

The following motions were approved by action taken in the consent agenda motion.

Minutes – March 25, 2010

The March 25, 2010, minutes of the State Board of Education were approved.

Rules for Initial Review

Part 1 (Public School Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision)

The State Board of Education hereby authorizes solicitation of public comment on the proposed rulemaking for: Public School Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision (23 Illinois Administrative Code 1) including publication of the proposed amendments in the Illinois Register.

Part 25 (Certification)

The State Board of Education hereby authorizes solicitation of public comment on the proposed rulemaking for: Certification (23 Illinois Administrative Code 25) including publication of the proposed amendments in the Illinois Register.

Rules for Adoption

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

The State Board of Education hereby adopts the proposed rulemaking for: Health/Life Safety Code for Public Schools (23 Illinois Administrative Code 180), 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.

Grants over \$1 Million

Early Childhood Block Grants

The State Board of Education hereby approves the award of Early Childhood Block Grant funds exceeding \$1 million to qualifying entities and authorizes the State Superintendent to enter into grant agreements on excess of \$1 million with such entities.

Contracts over \$1 Million

Intergovernmental Agreement-Harrisburg Project)

The State Board of Education hereby authorizes the renewal of Regional Office of Education #20/Harrisburg Project contract through June 30, 2011 with an increase of the contract's maximum amount not to exceed \$3,574,698.

Request for RFSP- Center for School Improvement

The State Board of Education hereby authorizes agency staff to proceed with a RSFP to contract for the Center for School Improvement. The total contract when awarded will not exceed \$3 million.

Request for RFSP-Evaluator of the 1003(g)of School Improvement Grant

The State Board of Education hereby authorizes agency staff to proceed with a RFSP to contract for the evaluation of the 1003(g) School Improvement Grants and the Center for School Improvement. The contract when awarded will not exceed \$300,000 per year. Total contract with all possible renewals will not exceed \$1.2 million.

Contract Renewal-Illinois Migrant Council

The State Board hereby authorizes the State Superintendent to renew the current

agreement with the Illinois Migrant **Council** through August 31, 2011, with an increase of the contract's maximum amount not to exceed \$1,473,000.

Contract Renewal- PSAE and EXPLORE and PLAN –ACT, Inc.

The Illinois State Board of Education hereby authorizes the renewal of the Prairie State Achievement Examination (PSAE) administration and development contract, and the administration of the EXPLORE and PLAN assessments with ACT, INC. for FY11 with an increase of the contract's maximum amount not to exceed \$74,669,957.

Contract Renewal-Illinois Alternate Assessment-NCS Pearson, Inc.

The Illinois State Board of Education hereby authorizes the renewal of the Illinois Alternate Assessment with NCS, Pearson Inc. through December 30, 2011, with an increase of the contract's maximum amount not to exceed \$12,068,520.

Contract Renewal-ISAT Administration, NCS Pearson, Inc.

The Illinois State Board of Education hereby authorizes the renewal of the Illinois Standards Achievement Test (ISAT) administration contract with NCS, Pearson Inc. through September 30, 2011, with an increase of the contract's maximum amount not to exceed \$64,647,710.

Contract Renewal-ISAT Development, NSC Pearson, Inc.

The Illinois State Board of Education hereby authorizes the renewal of the Illinois Standards Achievement Test (ISAT) Alternate Assessment with NCS, Pearson Inc. through September 30, 2011, with an increase of the contract's maximum amount not to exceed \$41,824,348.

Contract Renewal-Development of Web-Based Child Nutrition Application System-Capitol Strategies, Inc.

The State Board of Education hereby authorizes the Agency staff to renew the contract with Capitol Strategies Inc. for a three year period and a maximum contract amount of \$1,567,160 for the purpose of supporting the current CNS/ACES systems and implementation of the new WINS system.

Teacher Certification Board Recommendations

Motion 1

In accordance with Section 25.145 (d) (1) of the State Board's administrative rules on review of new programs, the State Board of Education provisionally approves **Judson University's Early Childhood Special Education** program, Type 04, thereby authorizing the university to conduct the program and to recommend candidates for certification by entitlement until the time of the institution's next accreditation review.

Motion 2

In accordance with Section 25.145 (d) (1) of the State Board's administrative rules on review of new programs, the State Board of Education provisionally approves **Rockford College's Early Childhood** program, Type 04, thereby authorizing the university to conduct the program and to recommend candidates for certification by entitlement until the time of the institution's next accreditation review.

Motion 3

In accordance with Section 25.145 (d) (1) of the State Board's administrative rules on review of new programs, the State Board of Education provisionally approves **Bradley University's Early Childhood/Elementary** program, Type 04

and Type 03, thereby authorizing the university to conduct the program and to recommend candidates for certification by entitlement until the time of the institution's next accreditation review.

Motion 4

In accordance with Section 25.145 (d) (1) of the State Board's administrative rules on review of new programs, the State Board of Education provisionally approves **Lewis University's Early Childhood Special Education** program, Type 04, thereby authorizing the university to conduct the program and to recommend candidates for certification by entitlement until the time of the institution's next accreditation review.

Qualified Zone Academy Bond (QZAB) Authorization(s)

I move that the Illinois State Board of Education approve the applications submitted by the districts as listed below for designation of \$13,923,899 in bonds from the calendar year 2009 allocation and \$21,806,001 in bonds from the calendar year 2010 allocation as Qualified Zone Academy Bonds pursuant to the provisions of Section 1397E of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Qualified Zone Academy Bond Program.) The amount of \$30,411,999 remains available for future allocations.

DISTRICT	Amt. of QZAB Request	2009 Allocation	2010 Allocation
Evanston THSD 202	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000	
Alton CUSD 11 (Total)	\$4,009,900	\$4,009,900	
Rockdale SD 84	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	
Lincoln CHSD 404	\$2,100,000	\$2,100,000	
Arcola CUSD 306	\$357,000	\$357,000	
Sesser-Valier CUSD 196	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000	
Maywood-Melrose Park-Broadview SD 89	\$4,500,000	\$756,999	\$3,743,001
Quincy SD 172	\$4,575,000		\$4,575,000
Rantoul SD 137	\$6,500,000		\$6,500,000
Vienna HSD 13-3	\$1,938,000		\$1,938,000
Elgin SD U-46	\$2,030,000		\$2,030,000
St. Elmo CUSD 202	\$1,020,000		\$1,020,000
East Alton SD 13	\$2,000,000		\$2,000,000
	\$35,729,900	\$13,923,899	\$21,806,001

END OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

**2010 Board
Calendar-Revise
Retreat Dates**

Dr. Ward moved that the State Board of Education hereby changes the 2010 Board Calendar as follows:

- August 17 will be reserved for a 1-day meeting via video-conference in Springfield and Chicago.
- September 21 - 22, 2010 will be reserved for the Annual Strategic Planning Session to be held in Bloomington, IL, in conjunction with a plenary session for necessary action.

Ms. LaBarre seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous voice vote.

**Nominations for
NASBE President-
Elect and/or
Central Area
Director**

No action at this time.

**Calumet Park
Oversight
Agreement**

Mr. Baumann moved that based on the progress that Calumet Public School District 132 has made over the past three and one-half years, its progress towards achieving the goals outlined in its 2009-10 Plan, and its progress towards compliance status in all areas, including special education and bilingual education, the State Board of Education hereby terminates the Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement by and between the Illinois State Board of Education and the Board of Education of Calumet Public Schools District #132 in accordance with Section 1 of such Agreement. Such termination shall take effect as of June 30, 2010, contingent upon the District remaining materially compliant with applicable special education and bilingual education laws through such date.

Dr. Ward seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous voice vote.

**State Board of
Education Budget
-Prioritization of
Funds**

Mr. Baumann moved that the State Board of Education hereby recommends that the agency maintain its practice of prioritizing only General State Aid and Mandated Categorical in providing input to the Office of the Comptroller with the State Superintendent having discretion to establish the timing and ranking of items within Mandated Categoricals.

Dr. Hall seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS
AND REPORTS**

Chairman Ruiz introduced Dr. Proshanta Nandi from the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE). Dr. Nandi indicated that the IBHE

**ISBE LIASON
REPORT**

Chairman Ruiz introduced Dr. Proshanta Nandi from the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE). The IBHE held its last meeting on April 6, 2010 at Harold Washington College in Chicago. Dr. Nandi shared the following highlights of the meeting:

The IBHE welcomed Dr. Vinni Hall from the Illinois State Board of Education as a representative to our Board. We are grateful for the service to our board provided by Joyce Karon, who is being replaced by Dr. Hall.

We had an excellent opportunity for conversation about Illinois' educational programs and policies as well as plans for the future with the newly named chairman of the P-20 Council, Miguel del Valle. Former State Senator del Valle is currently City Clerk of Chicago. He is a renowned leader on the Illinois' education scene for three decades, having chaired the Senate Education Committee and served in the Higher Education Committee while in the State Senate. He also founded the Illinois Latino Advisory Council on Higher Education. He shared with us his optimism about the effectiveness of the P-20 Council, in large measure, due to the strongest and most positive collaboration among ISBE and IBHE, Illinois Community College Board and Illinois Student Assistance Commission he has ever experienced. He also recommended we review the report of the University of Illinois' Department of Education-"New Learning: A Charter of Change in Education" which describes

effective educational practices for the 21st Century for our school children.

The Board was presented with the Report on the Efficiency and Sustainability of the Monetary Award (MAP) Program, prepared by IBHE, in collaboration with ISAC and ICCB. The report directed by House Joint Resolution 75 examines and confirms the MAP is a highly efficient and effective need based finance aid program. However, the purchasing power and sustainability of the program at current funding levels is greatly diminished. Since MAP is such an important state policy lever addressing college affordability, it is important that state appropriations, tuitions rates and funding for the MAP program be considered together in an international fashion during the appropriations process. This report is available on the IBHE website at :www.ibhe.org

**SUPERINTEDEDENT'S
REPORT**

The next IBHE meeting will be June 21, 2010 at Roosevelt University in Chicago

Dr. Koch announced that we received notice from the US Department of Education that we successful in our grant application for our second Longitudinal Data Grant which is about \$12 million dollars over four years. This grant will help us with the Early Childhood data and revise the Teachers Certification Information System.

**CHAIRMAN'S
REPORT**

Chairman Ruiz stated that Dr. Vinni Hall, Dr. Chris Ward and he will be attending the NASBE Study Group Meetings in Washington, DC. on June 11&12, 2010.(Funded through the Illinois Professional Development Account via NASBE

MEMBERS REPORT

Members will share reports at June meeting.

**INFORMATION
ITEMS**

Chairman Ruiz asked that the Board members read the Financial and Administrative Monthly Reports printed in the Board meeting materials.

**MOTION FOR
ADJOURNMENT**

Dr. Hall moved that the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Koster seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned a 2:48 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Dr. Vinni Hall
Board Secretary**

**Mr. Jesse Ruiz
Chairman**

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Education Policy Planning Committee of the Whole

May 20, 2010

12:30 p.m.

(This meeting will begin immediately following lunch.)

All open meetings will be audio cast on the Internet at: www.isbe.net

AGENDA *(timeframes are estimated for planning purposes)*

- I. Roll Call
- II. Board Member Participation by Other Means
- III. Public Participation *(15 minutes maximum) 12:30 – 12:45 p.m.*
- IV. Minutes of the March Education Policy Planning Committee of the Whole Meeting **(pp. 2-3)**
- V. Recognition of Internet Safety Contest Winners *(Marica Cullen, Monique Chism) (pp. 4-11) 12:45 – 1:00 p.m.*
- VI. *Teacher Certification Board Recommendations *(Linda Tomlinson, Patrick Murphy) (pp. 12-14) 1:00 – 1:05 p.m.*
- VII. *Calumet Park #132 Agreement with ISBE *(Darren Reisberg) (will begin on p. 15) 1:05 – 1:35 p.m.*
- VIII. Strategic Agenda Update – verbal update *(Superintendent Koch) 1:35 – 1:50 p.m.*
- IX. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items
- X. Adjourn

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

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

Thursday, May 20, 2010
12:30 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.
Board Room, 4th Floor
Springfield, Illinois

Members Present

Dr. David Fields, Chair
Mr. Jim Baumann
Dr. Andrea Brown
Mr. Steven Gilford
Dr. Vinni Hall
Ms. Lanita Koster
Ms. Melinda LaBarre
Mr. Jesse Ruiz
Dr. Chris Ward

Members Absent

None

Staff Present

State Superintendent Koch
Mr. Donald Evans
Ms. Elizabeth Hanselman
Ms. Linda Riley Mitchell
Ms. Susie Morrison
Mr. John Perkins
Mr. Darren Reisberg
Dr. Linda Tomlinson
Dr. Connie Wise

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

- I. **ROLL CALL:** Committee Chair, Dr. David Fields, requested a roll call. See above for detailed listing.
- II. **BOARD MEMBER PARTICIPATION BY OTHER MEANS:** There was no participation from Board members by any other means.
- III. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** No one signed in for public participation at this meeting.
- IV. **MINUTES OF THE MARCH 2010 EPPC MEETING:** Dr. Vinni Hall moved to approve the minutes from the March 24, 2010, Education Policy Planning Committee meeting as presented. Melinda LaBarre seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- V. **RECOGNITION OF THE INTERNET SAFETY CONTEST WINNERS:** Superintendent Koch reported that the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), the Attorney General's Office, and the Governor's Office this year conducted the first statewide internet safety contest in Illinois in response to legislation, effective January 1, 2009. The purpose of this contest was to raise awareness about how to protect children who use the internet and prevent the overall misuse of technology throughout the State. This year's theme focused on cyberbullying. Students were to address any issue related to cyberbullying. The hope was to engage all students in the State and to make this a fun activity that encouraged the appropriate usage of digital technology. Superintendent Koch acknowledged the work of all the agencies and staff involved in the process.

Dr. Fields stated that although the Board will be officially adopting the resolutions tomorrow, the Committee would like to recognize the first place winners of the Illinois Youth Internet Safety Contest today as follows:

- **Sophia Short**, a student from Illini Central Grade School, in Mason City, received first place in the 2010 Illinois Youth Internet Safety Contest for a poster, Grades 1-3.

- **Alexis Williams, Isaiah Logan and Nathan Chiti**, students from Lindsay Elementary School in Springfield, received first place for Electronic Media, Grades 4-6.
- **Reilly Stiver**, a student from Lincoln Magnet School in Springfield received first place for a poster, Grades 4-6.
- **Katlyn Gerdes, Dani Zervas and Sarah Sepanski**, students from Franklin Middle School in Springfield, received first place for Electronic Media, Grades 7-8.
- **Jacob Schisler**, a student from Astoria Community Unit School District #1, received first place for a poster, Grades 7-8.
- **Samantha Miranda and Christina McGrath**, students from Queen of Peace High School, Archdiocese of Chicago in Burbank, received first place for a poster, Grades 9-12.
- **Kit Willadsen, Stuart Stoffregen, Anton Malovany and Conor Westrate**, students from Geneva H.S. in Geneva, received first place for Electronic Media, Grades 9-12.

ISBE staff members Marci Johnson and James Walsh then announced to the Board the overall winners of the contest: Kit Willadsen, Stuart Stoffregen, Anton Malovany and Conor Westrate. Members of the group reported that they had a previous assignment from their school on cyberbullying, and they felt very strongly about this project when they heard about it. They are troubled by the current generation and the propensity for cyberbullying. The group composed original music and lyrics for the project.

The winning video was shown to the Committee and audience, and Dr. Fields complimented all the winning students on this statewide recognition. The students, educators and families will be honored at a reception to be held at the Executive Mansion later this afternoon.

VI. TEACHER CERTIFICATION BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS: The purpose of this agenda item is to consider the State Teacher Certification Board's (STCB) recommendation for approval of McKendree University's physical education program recommended by the respective specialized professional associations (SPAs) and the approval of a new program from University of Chicago. The Board members had no comments at this time, and this item will move on to the plenary session.

VII. CALUMET PARK #132 AGREEMENT WITH ISBE: Superintendent Koch began by thanking Gary Lieder and John Perkins for the work they have done with Calumet Park #132. Mr. Lieder noted that the district has vastly improved in the last four years. In addition to a \$5 million fund balance, the district was also fully staffed this year. He thanked ISBE staff for their support in working with the district, as it has been a difficult process. Mr. Lieder then reviewed highlights of the agreement for the Committee (the complete agreement can be found in the Board packet).

Dr. Hall asked about the financial plan and amount of staff turnover. Mr. Lieder noted that they are working on stabilizing staff, and that they are hopeful that their improvements will inspire long-term employment in new staff being hired. Linda Riley Mitchell noted that the district has made marked improvement financially in the last four years.

Dr. Koch pointed out that the most important aspect of this kind of voluntary oversight is the sustainability of the improvements over time. Dr. Hall complimented the district and the ISBE team for their work. This item will move on to the plenary session tomorrow.

VIII. STRATEGIC AGENDA UPDATE

Superintendent Koch provided the following updates:

- The Agency has been working on preparing the second round application for Race to the Top. Ample time has been allowed for districts to ask questions and provide comments. As of today, 182 districts have signed on, and 102 have all three signatures needed for this round, including union signatures. Dr. Koch noted some revisions in the Round II application compared to what was submitted in Round I. Adjustments have been made to the budget - some items have been removed or reduced and some items have been added.
- In June, the Board will be reviewing Learning Standards, and the rulemaking process will begin.
- The Performance Evaluation Advisory Council is moving forward.
- A Growth Model Task Force is beginning, and the first meeting will be held in June.

Beth Hanselman reported on the following:

- The 2007-2008 Annual State Report on Special Education Performance was shared with the Board.
- The HJR 24 Special Education Funding Task Force will have a report by the end of June.

Susie Morrison highlighted the items below:

- The 5th Annual High School Challenge Conference will be held on June 14-15, 2010 in Bloomington.
- The Gifted Education Seminar Training Report was distributed, and Jane Quinlan was commended for her positive work.

IX. COMMITTEE AGENDA PLANNING/ADDITIONAL ITEMS: No additions were made to the agenda.

X. ADJOURNMENT: Dr. Vinni Hall moved to adjourn the meeting and Lanita Koster seconded; the motion was carried and the meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board Operations Committee of the Whole

May 20, 2010

4:30 p.m.

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

All open meetings will be audio cast on the Internet at: www.isbe.net

AGENDA (timeframes are estimated for planning purposes)

- I. Roll Call
- II. Board Member Participation by Other Means
- III. Public Participation
- IV. Minutes of the March Board Operations Committee of the Whole Meeting (**pp. 2-3**)
- V.*Review Nominations for Recognition (**pp. 4-13**) 4:30 – 4:35 p.m.
- VI.*Discussion of Nominations for NASBE President-Elect and/or Central Area Director (**pp. 14-16**) 4:35 – 4:40 p.m.
- VII.*Proposed Changes in 2010 Board Calendar and Annual Strategic Planning Session (Retreat) (**pp. 17-19**)
(Chris Ward, Chris Koch 4:40 – 4:50 p.m.)
- VIII. Proposed 2011 Board Calendar (**pp. 20-21**) (Chris Ward, Chris Koch) 4:50 – 4:55 p.m.
- IX. NASBE Study Group Updates (Chris Ward, Vinni Hall, Jesse Ruiz) 4:55 – 5:10 p.m.
- X. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items
- XI. Closed Session Motion
- XII. Adjourn

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

Closed Session

5:10 p.m.

(Immediately following the previous session.)

BOARD OPERATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
May 20, 2010
Springfield, Illinois

Members Present

Christopher Ward, Chair
Jim Baumann
Andrea Brown
David Fields
Steve Gilford
Vinni Hall
Lanita Koster
Melinda LaBarre
Jesse Ruiz

Members Absent

Staff Present

Superintendent Koch
Jean Ladage
Marsha Moffett
Darren Reisberg
Matt Vanover
Susie Morrison
Connie Wise
Linda Tomlinson
Beth Hanselman
Don Evans
Linda Mitchell

- I. **ROLL CALL:** Dr. Ward called the meeting to order at 3:55 p.m. and asked for a Roll Call. (See roll call above.)
- II. **BOARD MEMBER PARTICIPATION BY OTHER MEANS:** None.
- III. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None
- IV. **COMMITTEE MINUTES:** Dr. Fields moved that the minutes of the March 2010 Board Operations Committee be approved. Dr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes passed on a unanimous voice vote.
- V. **REVIEW NEW NOMINATIONS FOR RESOLUTIONS OF RECOGNITION:** Dr. Hall moved to recommend sending the nominations for recognition to plenary session. Ms. LaBarre seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- VI. **DISCUSSION OF NOMINATIONS FOR NASBE OFFICERS:** Dr. Ward asked if there was any interest in someone from the Board serving as a NASBE officer. Hearing no volunteers, there was no need for action during plenary session.
- VII. **PROPOSED CHANGES TO 2010 BOARD CALENDAR:** Following the approval of changes to the Board Calendar in March, arrangements were made for the Board's Annual Strategic Planning Session (retreat) to be held August 11-13, 2010, at the Holiday Inn, 3202 East Empire Street, Bloomington. Since that time, we have been notified by the United States Department of Education that RTTT Phase II presentations will be scheduled the week of August 9. As staff will be given only a week-to-ten-days notice of the date for the Illinois Phase II presentation, it was recommended that the dates of the annual planning session be changed. After polling the Board for alternate strategic planning session (retreat) dates, there were no two days in August that worked for all members.

Therefore, the Annual Strategic Planning Session will be tied in with the September meeting; however the dates for that meeting will be September 21-22 and will begin no earlier than 9:00 a.m. on September 21, with members coming in the evening prior, as needed.

In addition, the Board will hold August 17 for a one-day meeting as needed to be held via video conference. If needed, the meeting will begin at 10:30 a.m.

With these changes, the Board will approve the revised 2010 Calendar of Meetings during the May plenary session. Dr. Ward will contact Gene Wilhoit to see if his schedule can accommodate this change.

- VIII. PROPOSED 2011 CALENDAR:** The Board reviewed potential dates for 2011 Board Meetings. It was agreed that the Annual Strategic Planning Session should be again tied in with a regularly scheduled Board meeting in order to conserve travel funds. Staff will make this suggested change and a 2011 Calendar of Meetings will be forwarded to plenary session at the June meeting.
- IX. NASBE STUDY GROUP UPDATES:** There were no updates this month from members participating in NASBE Study Groups.
- X. ADDITIONAL ITEMS AND COMMITTEE AGENDA PLANNING:** Suggestions for the next committee meeting included discussion of NASBE dues, NASBE Study Group Updates and Retreat Planning.
- XI. CLOSED SESSION MOTION:** Mr. Ruiz 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:
- Section c 1** for the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, compensation, performance or dismissal of an employee; and
- Section c 11** for the purpose of considering pending or probable litigation against or affecting the Board, and
- He further moved that the Board invite anyone they wish to be included in this closed session, and that no action will be taken today following closed session.
- Ms. Koster seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous roll call vote.
- XII. ADJOURN:** Dr. Hall moved that the Board Operations Meeting of the Whole be adjourned. Dr. Fields seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous voice vote. The committee meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Governmental Relations Committee of the Whole

May 20, 2010
10:15 a.m.

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

All open meetings will be audio cast on the Internet at: www.isbe.net

AGENDA *(timeframes are estimated for planning purposes)*

- I. Roll Call
- II. Board Member Participation by Other Means
- III. Public Participation *(15 minutes maximum) 10:15 – 10:30 a.m.*
- IV. Minutes of the March Governmental Relations Committee of the Whole Meeting **(pp. 2-5)**
- V. Legislative Update *(Nicole Wills, Cynthia Riseman, Darren Reisberg) 10:45 – 11:45 a.m. (pp. 6-136)*
- VI. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items
- VII. Adjourn

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

11:45 – 12:30 – Break for Lunch

GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

May 20, 2010
Springfield, Illinois

Committee Members Present

Lanita Koster, Chair
Jim Baumann
Andrea Brown
David Fields
Steve Gilford
Vinni Hall
Melinda LaBarre

Committee Members Absent

Jesse Ruiz

Staff Present

Superintendent Chris Koch
Cynthia Riseman
Nicole Wills
Connie Wise
Beth Hanselman
Linda Tomlinson
Jean Ladage
Marsha Moffett
Darren Reisberg
Don Evans
Susie Morrison
Matt Vanover
Linda Mitchell

Chris Ward

- I. **Roll Call:** See above.
- II. **Board Member Participation by Other Means:** None.
- III. **Public Participation:** Lonnie Johns testified before the committee and expressed concerns about the process surrounding the Blue Ribbon Committee on Mandates that was outlined in HJR 74. Mr. Johns expressed concerns that the Committee had met even though the resolution authorizing a committee had not passed both chambers of the General Assembly.

Deb Harriman testified before the committee with respect to Truants Alternative Programs, ICEARY and Regional Safe Schools Programs and concerns that many programs will be closing their doors because the state has not kept up with payments in FY 10.

- IV. **Minutes of the January Committee Meeting**
Board member Vinnie Hall made a motion to approve the March Committee meeting minutes and Dave Fields seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with a unanimous voice vote.
- V. **ISBE Legislative Agenda Update**
Governmental Relations staff gave the Committee a status update of the ISBE legislative initiatives in addition to providing an update on other education-related legislation the agency is tracking.

Budget Legislation Overview:

Both the House and the Senate have introduced FY 11 State operating budget bills. The House has introduced amendments to SB 1211 and the Senate introduced amendments to HB 859. In addition, each chamber introduced amendments to bills that would provide additional funding for Mandated Categoricals, though it is contingent on SB 44 passing, which increases the taxes on cigarettes.

ISBE Legislative Initiatives

Staff was successful passing legislative initiatives for the obsolete and duplicative bill, a modified version of the FOP/SFA bill that will allow ISBE additional ability to certify districts in financial difficulty, a modified version of the anti-bullying legislation, a bill to eliminate the consumer education test and a bill to make minor financial/accounting changes. The proposal to eliminate the state writing assessment was unable to pass out of the House Education Committee and the proposal to make changes to bilingual education funding was not released from the Rules Committee.

Mandates Legislation

A number of bills were introduced in the spring session that deal with financial and academic mandates on school districts. The bills include:

- SB 618 – Amendment 2, which has not yet been adopted, lists specific mandates that a school district may waive through July 1, 2012.
- SB 2980 - Allows a school board to discontinue, by publicly adopted resolution, any instructional mandate in Article 27 of the School Code for which the district does not receive a separate state appropriation. Exceptions to this allowance include graduation requirements, physical education and driver's education. This bill passed the Senate 54-0-01, but later failed in the House Education Committee.
- SB 3000 - Creates the Instructional Mandates Task Force. It specifies the membership of the Task Force and provides that the Task Force will examine all instructional mandates governing public schools and make recommendations concerning those mandates. The bill also places a moratorium on the passage of instructional mandates unless authorized by a unanimous vote in both the House of Representatives and Senate until one year after the Task Force submits a final report to the Governor and General Assembly.
- SB 3556 - As originally introduced, this bill was identical to HB 4711 and would have allowed school districts to not conduct any activity mandated by law or rule if that mandate was unfunded. Exceptions to this allowance included activities pertaining to special education, transportation, courses required for graduation and school lunch programs. Amendatory language was added that clarified additional areas that would be unwaivable by local boards of education (i.e. requirements under the Health/Life Safety Code, Open Meetings Act, bilingual education, background checks, etc). Senator Lauzen pulled his legislation from the record during the Senate Education Committee, so it did not proceed any further.
- HB 80- This bill was amended in the Senate to provide mandates relief in specific areas for school districts and other entities. Specifically, the bill will override ISBE rule with respect to defining a general education classroom to be composed of a certain percentage of students with individualized education programs (IEPs) to state that students with IEP's shall exclude students receiving only speech services outside of the general education classroom, provided that the instruction the students receive in the general education classroom does not require modification. The bill also provides that, from the effective date of the amendatory Act through July 1, 2012, a school district may modify, by official board action, the requirement that vehicles owned or operated by the district use a 5% biodiesel blend by using a 2% biodiesel blend, notwithstanding the Illinois Vehicle Code and that through June 30, 2013, a school district may increase its driver education course fee to

not to exceed \$250 (from \$50) by school board resolution following a public hearing on the increase. This bill is on Concurrence in the House.

- HB 4209- This bill is identical to SB 3000 but it passed both chambers of the General Assembly and will be sent to the Governor.
- HB 4711 - This bill provides that no public school district or private school is obligated to comply with (i) any mandate in the School Code enacted after the effective date of the amendatory Act or (2) any regulatory mandate promulgated by ISBE and adopted by rule after the effective date of the amendatory Act other than those promulgated with respect to these provisions or statutes already enacted on or before the effective date of the amendatory Act, unless a separate appropriation has been enacted into law providing full funding for the mandate for the school year during which the mandate is required (with exceptions). If the amount appropriated to fund a described mandate does not fully fund the mandated activity, then the school district or private school may choose to discontinue or modify the mandated activity to ensure that the costs of compliance do not exceed the funding received. In addition, the bill requires that before discontinuing or modifying the mandate, a school district shall petition its regional superintendent of schools on or before February 15 of each year to request to be exempt from implementing the mandate in a school or schools in the next school year. This bill is on Concurrence in the House.
- HB 5889- As amended, this bill was identical to SB 2980 that allows a school board to discontinue, by publicly adopted resolution, any instructional mandate in Article 27 of the School Code for which the district does not receive a separate state appropriation. Exceptions to this allowance include graduation requirements, physical education and driver's education. This bill failed in the House Education Committee.

Overview of other pertinent legislative initiatives:

- HB 4674 – This bill creates the Educational Opportunity for Military Children Act. It provides that the State join the Interstate Commission on Educational Opportunity for Military Children through the Council of State Governments. The bill authorizes and directs the Governor to enter into a compact governed by the Act on behalf of Illinois. The bill sets forth provisions concerning tuition for transfer students; power of attorney for children of active duty military personnel; required courses for transfer students, pre-requisites, credit transfer, and graduation; state coordination; the creation of the Interstate Commission and its powers and duties; rulemaking of the Interstate Commission; the resolution of disputes; the financing of the Interstate Commission; withdrawal and dissolution of the compact; student health examinations and immunizations; and school student records.
- HB 4886- Provides districts the ability to adopt a four day school week by board resolution. Districts would have to have the same minimum number of clock hours as districts with traditional calendars, but could have less days per year. This legislation passed the House 81-21-2 but failed in Senate Education Committee.
- HB 4984 – Provides that from July 1, 2010 until June 30, 2012, private business and vocational schools that have obtained national accreditation from an accrediting agency designated by the U.S. Department of Education may submit evidence of current accreditation in lieu the approval process and requirements laid out in the Private Business and Vocational Schools Act.

- HB 5633 - HB 5633 is an initiative intended to provide for a process whereby a newly reorganized district or cooperative high school wants to use a school construction grant application that has already been submitted by one of the school district that is part of the reorganized entity.
- HB 6065 – This bill requires diabetes management care plans for diabetic students. Similar legislation has been introduced or discussed at the Capitol for the past seven years. The final bill that passed both houses requires a parent to submit a diabetes care plan for a student with diabetes who seeks assistance with diabetes care in the school setting and provides that a delegated care aide will perform the activities and tasks necessary to assist a student with diabetes in accordance with that plan.
- HB 6079- Creates a new provision in the School Code to allow Catlin and Jamaica school districts to form a cooperative high school and a cooperative elementary school on a pilot basis. The pilot is for three years and does not require voter approval.
- SB 365 – Makes changes to the General Assembly Scholarship program. The Governor vetoed the legislation on May 11th.
- SB 2487 – Effective July 1, 2010, this bill transfers the Grow Your Own Teacher Program from ISBE to the Board of Higher Education.
- SB 2494 - Creates the School Choice Act to allow K-8 students enrolled in qualifying Chicago public schools to be eligible for vouchers to attend recognized non-public schools in the Chicago. The legislation lays out the manner in which an individual qualifies for the voucher, which CPS schools will be qualifying schools, how the voucher process will work and the maximum amount of the voucher. ISBE, the education management groups and teachers unions opposed the bill. It was called for a vote in the House but did not gain the votes necessary for passage.
- HB 2270 - Provides for a FY 10 supplemental appropriations bill for \$17,141,600 for Special Education Extraordinary Hold Harmless funding.
- SB 2499 – This bill contains the language pursued by the Elgin School District that requires starting with the 2010-2011 school year, if a school district's boundaries span multiple counties, then ISBE must use the limiting rate and individual rates by purpose for the county that contains the majority of the school district's Equalized Assessed Valuation. There will be a \$22 million cost to General State Aid if this legislation becomes law.
- SB 3610- House amendment 1 contained language that was ISBE's initiative to strengthen principal preparation programs in Illinois. The legislation was heard in the Senate Education Committee, but not called for a vote.

X. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items: Not discussed

XI. Committee Wrap-up: Not needed

XII. Adjourn

Vinni Hall made a motion to adjourn the committee at 11:45am and it was seconded by Dave Fields.

**REVISED
5-17-2010**

**Revisions are
underlined & in bold.**

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Finance & Audit Committee of the Whole

May 20, 2010

2:00 p.m.

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

All open meetings will be audio cast on the Internet at: www.isbe.net

AGENDA (timeframes are estimated for planning purposes)

- I. Roll Call
- II. Board Member Participation by Other Means
- III. Public Participation (15 minutes) 2:00 – 2:15 p.m.
- IV. Minutes of the March Finance & Audit Committee of the Whole Meeting (**pp. 2-3**)
- V. *Grants Over \$1 Million 2:15 – 2:25 p.m.
 - A. Early Childhood Block Grants (Kay Henderson) (**pp. 7-9**)
 - ~~B. State Career & Technical Education Improvement & Agricultural Education (**Action will be delayed until June meeting.**)~~
 - B. FY11 1003(g) School Improvement Grants (Monique Chism) (**pp. 13-14**)
- VI. *Contracts Over \$1 Million 2:25 – 2:35 p.m.
 - A. Intergovernmental Agreement: Harrisburg Project (David Andel) (**pp. 15-16**)
 - B. Request for RFSP: Center of School Improvement (Monique Chism) (**pp. 17-18**)
 - C. Request for RFSP: Evaluator of School Improvement (Monique Chism) (**pp. 19-20**)
 - D. Contract Renewal: Illinois Migrant Council (Robin Lisboa) (**pp. 21-23**)
 - E. Contract Renewal: PSAE and EXPLORE/PLAN – ACT, Inc. (Joyce Zurkowski) (**pp. 24-25**)
 - F. Contract Renewal: Illinois Alternate Assessment – NCS Pearson, Inc. (Joyce Zurkowski) (**pp. 26-27**)
 - G. Contract Renewal – ISAT Administration – NCS Pearson, Inc. (Joyce Zurkowski) (**pp. 28-29**)
 - H. Contract Renewal – ISAT Development – NCS Pearson, Inc. (Joyce Zurkowski) (**pp. 30-31**)
 - I. Contract Renewal – Development of Web-Based Child Nutrition Application System – Capitol Strategies, Inc. (Terry Chamberlain, Chris Schmitt) (**pp. 32-34**)
- VII. Round Lake School Finance Authority (Linda Mitchell, Deb Vespa, Ben Martindale, Round Lake Chief Executive Officer) (**pp. 35-41**) 2:35 – 3:15 p.m.
- VIII. Qualified Zone Academy Bond (QZAB) Authorization(s) (Linda Mitchell, Deb Vespa) (**pp. 42-57**) 3:15–3:20 p.m.
- VII. Update on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (verbal update) 3:20 – 3:30 p.m.
- VIII.*FY11 State Board of Education Budget – **Discuss Prioritization of Funds** (**pp. 58 -**) 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.
(Linda Mitchell, Scott Taylor)
- IX. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items
- X. Adjourn

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

FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Illinois State Board of Education
100 North First Street
Springfield, Illinois
May 20, 2010

I. ROLL CALL: Chairman Baumann called the meeting to order.

Members Present

Mr. Jim Baumann, Chairman
Dr. Andrea Brown
Dr. David Fields
Mr. Steven Gilford
Dr. Vinni Hall
Ms. Lanita Koster
Ms. Melinda LaBarre
Dr. Chris Ward

Members Absent

Mr. Jesse Ruiz

Staff Present

Superintendent Koch
Linda Mitchell
Scott Taylor
Toni Waggoner
Jason Hall
Monique Chism
Deb Vespa
Darren Reisberg
Tim Imler

II. BOARD MEMBER PARTICIPATION BY OTHER MEANS: None

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Chris Nation, Springfield School District Parents as Teachers/Birth to three program, introduced Carol and Breanna Brosum who spoke about the program.

Loretta Durbin from Voices for Illinois Children spoke about their program and payment delays.

Dawn Russert from Manteno CUSD #5 and Linda Dvorar from Iroquois West #10 spoke about Orphanage grant priority payments.

Barb Sherman, parent of an early childhood student, voiced support for the Early Learning Center.

Linda Drust from Williamson County PreK provided positive comments about saving the PreK program.

Mike Chavers from Indian Oaks Academy spoke about the Orphanage students.

IV. MINUTES OF THE MARCH FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING: Dr. Vinni Hall moved to accept the minutes of the March meeting. Dr. Chris Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

V. GRANTS OVER \$1 MILLION: Mr. John Baumann indicated that the following grants would be moved to the plenary session.

- A. Early Childhood Block Grants (Kay Henderson)
- B. FY11 1003(g) School Improvement grants (Monique Chism)

VI. CONTRACTS OVER \$1 MILLION: Mr. John Baumann stated that these contracts would be moved to the plenary session.

- A. Intergovernmental Agreement: Harrisburg Project (David Andel)
- B. Request for RFSP: Center of School Improvement (Monique Chism)
- C. Request for RFSP: Evaluator of School Improvement (Monique Chism)
- D. Contract Renewal: Illinois Migrant Council (Robin Lisboa)
- E. Contract Renewal: PSAE and EXPLORE/PLAN – ACT, Inc. (Joyce Zurkowski)
- F. Contract Renewal: Illinois Alternate Assessment – NCS Pearson, Inc. (Joyce Zurkowski)
- G. Contract Renewal: ISAT Administration – NCS Pearson, Inc. (Joyce Zurkowski)

- H. Contract Renewal: ISAT Development – NCS Pearson, Inc. (Joyce Zurkowski)
- I. Contract Renewal: Development of Web-Based Child Nutrition Application System – Capitol Strategies, Inc. (Terry Chamberlain, Chris Schmitt)

VII. ROUND LAKE SCHOOL FINANCE AUTHORITY: Ms. Linda Mitchell stated the five person School Finance Authority (SFA) has been moving forward in making improvements in the district and will be returning to for the next school year. Mr. Ben Martindale, Round Lake SFA Chief Executive Officer, shared a binder detailing the improvement within the district. Mr. Doug Parks, SFA Chairman, spoke about the school finance performance.

VIII. QUALIFIED ZONE ACADEMY BOND (QZAB) AUTHORIZATION(S): Ms. Linda Mitchell presented the QZAB request for this year. Mr. John Baumann announced that these requests will be moved to the plenary session.

IX. UPDATE ON THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT: Ms. Linda Mitchell stated that for the first quarter there were 53,000 jobs reported funded for ARRA. Ms. Mitchell stated that ISBE is working as a payment agent for IBHE and ICCB for funds. There are three outside firms that are auditing the ARRA responsibilities.

X. FY11 STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET – DISCUSS PRIORITATION OF FUNDS: Ms. Mitchell commented that there are a couple of outstanding FY2011 budget proposals; one in the House and one in the Senate. Ms. Mitchell stated that of concern is that the General Assembly fund mandated categoricals less than this year's level, which might impact ISBE's maintenance of effort, a requirement that the amount expended be the same as the preceding year according to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Mr. Scott Taylor stated that the General Assembly adjourned temporarily a couple of weeks ago. In the Senate bill that is now in the House they provided ISBE with all federal and some state funds appropriated as requested. The bill calls for funding GSA at FY10 levels including \$15.7 million for Hold Harmless. Mandated categoricals were funded at approximately \$350 million lower than FY10. If the cigarette tax passes, they will bring those lines back up to FY10 level. The other lump sums they are giving us add to the lump sums ISBE received in FY10 minus the \$150.7 million that the Governor added last July. They did not reappropriate the \$131 million that we received from ARRA-SFSF in FY10 from GRF in FY11, so a second bill has to pass in the House version for us to get that money.

XI. COMMITTEE AGENDA PLANNING/ADDITIONAL ITEMS: No new items.

XII. ADJOURNMENT: Dr. David Fields moved to adjourn. Dr. Vinni Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Ad Hoc Rules Committee of the Whole

May 21, 2010

8:15 a.m.

All open meetings will be audio cast on the Internet at: www.isbe.net

AGENDA (timeframes are estimated for planning purposes)

- I. Roll Call
- II. Board Member Participation by Other Means
- III. Public Participation (15 minutes) 8:15 – 8:30 a.m.
- IV. Minutes of the March Ad Hoc Rules Committee of the Whole Meeting (**pp. 2-4**)
- V.*Rules for Initial Review (Darren Reisberg, Winnie Tuthill, Shelley Helton) 8:30 – 8:45 a.m.
 - A. Part 1 (Public Schools Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision) (**pp. 5-30**)
 - B. Part 25 (Certification) (**pp. 31-50**)
 - C. Part 226 (Special Education) (**pp. 51-84**)
- VI.*Rules for Adoption (Darren Reisberg, Shelley Helton) 8:45 – 9:00 a.m.
 - A. Part 180 (Health/Life Safety Code for Public Schools) (**pp. 85-92**)
 - B. Part 228 (Transitional Bilingual Education) (**pp. 93-154**)
 - C. Part 235 (Early Childhood Education Block Grant) (**Memo p. 93; Rules pp. 155-163**)
- VII. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items
- VIII. 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

Friday, May 21, 2010

8:15 a.m.

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

Committee Members Present

Jesse Ruiz
James Baumann
Andrea Brown
David Fields
Steven Gilford
Vinni Hall
Lanita Koster
Melinda LaBarre
Chris Ward

Absent

None

Others

Chris Koch
Darren Reisberg
Don Evans
Beth Hanselman
Susie Morrison
Linda Tomlinson
Matt Vanover
Connie Wise

Chairman Jesse Ruiz called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m. He noted that all Board members were present. There was no need for Board member participation by other means.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board Secretary Vinni Hall moved the approval of the minutes of the Committee's meeting of March 24, 2010, and Board member David Fields seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously, and the minutes were approved as presented.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ten individuals provided comments and their remarks are incorporated below within the descriptions of each rulemaking, as appropriate.

3. RULES FOR INITIAL REVIEW

The Chairman turned the meeting over to General Counsel Darren Reisberg to briefly summarize the proposals that the Board would be considering.

Part 1 (Public Schools Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision): The changes to Part 1 address several areas, including:

- **Student Information System:** Implements P.A. 96-107, which requires the State Board to establish a process for recognized nonpublic schools to enter data in the system;
- **Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives for English language learners:** As per federal monitoring recommendations, incorporates targets for progress of English attainment and proficiency in English that districts are expected to meet each year;
- **Interim superintendents:** Provides criteria that school districts would use in determining whether superintendents are being employed appropriately and imposes penalties for districts using interim superintendents who do not meet the criteria. (Mr. Reisberg noted that staff worked with the Regional Offices of Education in developing the proposed changes, adding that he anticipates receiving a significant amount of public comment in this regard);
- **Teacher Evaluations:** Implements changes from P.A. 96-861, which, among others, eliminates the requirement that districts' evaluation plans be submitted for agency approval. Also prohibits waivers addressing certain aspects of the evaluation process once those provisions take effect; and
- **Qualifications for Bilingual Educators:** Aligns qualifications articulated in Part 1 with requirements found Part 25 (Certification).

Part 25 (Certification): Mr. Reisberg said that the proposed amendments address certain aspects of the educator testing system, including allowing candidates to bank those portions of the basic skills tests that they passed for future consideration. He reminded the Board that an individual might not take the basic skills test more than five times. The proposed amendments also will allow institutions of higher education to view whether a particular individual has passed or failed any test. Assistant Superintendent Linda Tomlinson added that allowing institutions to view the pass/fail results will enable them to provide better guidance to individuals who may want to reconsider their major as well as to identify those for which remediation would be appropriate. Also, individuals can be told when they are reaching the limit and would be no longer able to retest. When asked, she noted that a passing score on any certification test is valid for 10 years.

Part 226 (Special Education): Bev Johns, chair of the Illinois Special Education Coalition, asked the Board to delay consideration of proposed amendments to Part 226 until staff have an opportunity to discuss the rulemaking with “stakeholders”. Ms. Johns suggested that the proposal was “controversial” in several respects. Mr. Reisberg told Ms. Johns that the proposal had already been delayed until June since the Illinois State Advisory Council on the Education of Children with Disabilities (ISAC) had not yet reviewed the changes. ISAC will consider the proposed amendments at its June 10 meeting, and Mr. Reisberg invited Ms. Johns and other interested parties to attend that meeting to share their concerns.

4. **RULES FOR ADOPTION:** Mr. Reisberg summarized three sets of amendments for the Board’s adoption.

Part 180 (Temporary Relocation Expenses): These amendments address the use of fire prevention and safety funds for emergency purposes and primarily incorporate changes in the law enacted by P.A. 96-252. Staff received no public comment concerning these changes, and the version presented for the Board’s adoption is identical to the one that it initially considered in January.

Part 228 and 235 (Transitional Bilingual Education and Early Childhood Block Grant): The amendments to these sets of rules incorporate a change in Article 14C of the School Code to require that bilingual education services be provided to students in early childhood programs. The proposed amendments detail the provision of transitional bilingual education programs or transitional programs of instruction for preschool students. Mr. Reisberg indicated that staff took care in drafting the proposed amendments not to impose additional mandates on school districts that were not in the law, as well as to allow for flexibility in how they were interpreted for preschool programs. In drafting the rules, agency staff tried to be as reasonable as possible, he said, while recognizing the importance of ensuring that the law is followed so that transitional bilingual education is integrated into preschool programs across the state.

The testimony specific to Part 228 focused on the screening tool or procedures that school districts would use to determine English language learners’ eligibility for bilingual education services. Judy Yturriago, of the Illinois English Language Learner Assessment Advisory Committee, asked that the Board “mandate” that the Pre-IPT be the only screener that school districts would use (the original proposal mentioned the Pre-IPT as one option for districts to consider). She also asked that the Board establish the minimum score on that assessment at which a child would be determined to be proficient in English.

In response, Chairman Ruiz asked if another process or instrument could be used, one that the agency could “validate” as appropriate for screening language proficiency of preschool children. He said that he believed the recommended change to remove the Pre-IPT as an option and rely only on locally determined screening procedures would be difficult for the agency to enforce and creates a “loophole” that could result in the use of procedures not appropriate for screening students. Yturriago agreed, and said that currently, the Pre-IPT is

the most valid and reliable assessment available, although she acknowledged that viewpoint has been debated by some in the early childhood community.

State Superintendent Chris Koch responded that making a high-stakes decision about a child's placement based on a single assessment is not best practice for 3- and 4-year-olds. After reviewing the Pre-IPT, he said he questioned whether it would yield enough valid information about the 4-year-old taking the test, noting that data collected in other ways should also inform the results. Chairman Ruiz indicated he also shared the Superintendent's concerns in this regard but stressed that he wanted the agency to have a role in approving any alternatives proposed.

Dr. Koch also expressed concern that mandating the Pre-IPT appears as though the agency is endorsing a product that was not chosen through a competitive bidding process, which could open the State to certain liabilities. Instead, a more reasonable approach would be to determine the products and procedures districts use and then go through a procurement process that is fair and open to all entities producing screening and assessment tools. He also reminded the audience that no additional State funding would be available to districts for use in purchasing the Pre-IPT

Josie Yanguas, Illinois Association for Multilingual Multicultural Education, also suggested that the agency provide guidance to districts regarding screening tools and procedures. She indicated that the assessment criteria developed by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) should be considered. In particular, Ms. Yanguas stressed NAEYC's focus on ensuring that those assessing English language learners have cultural and linguistic competence, knowledge of the children being assessed, and specific assessment-related knowledge; that families be included in the assessment process; and use of certified bilingual, bi-cultural personnel who are proficient in these areas.

Marta Moya-Leary, head teacher at the Belmont Cragin Early Childhood Center in Chicago, said her school pilot-tested the Pre-IPT with 380 preschoolers last year. The assessment took up to 45 minutes to administer per child, depending on his or her English proficiency, and did not allow for participation of families.

Reyna Hernandez, Latino Policy Forum, reiterated the need to consider the NAEYC standards, as well as criteria a district should use to determine English proficiency. In order to provide both accountability and flexibility, she also urged the Board to reconsider the recommendation to remove language from the proposal requiring that applications for bilingual education funding include information relative to proposed screening procedures. Luz Maria Solis, Network of Hispanic Administrators, suggested that a subcommittee of the Early Childhood Council be convened to consider screening criteria, with a focus on ensuring bilingual early childhood staff understand language development in both English and the child's native language. Carmen Acevedo, assistant superintendent of Plainfield 202 who was representing Illinois Bilingual Advisory Council, said she supported the use of the Pre-IPT but concurred that going forward, a committee should be established to develop statewide, consistent criteria.

John Moss, an administrator with Glenbard Township High School District 87, expressed his concern that the proposed requirements for bilingual administrative and teaching staff would impose limits on the district's flexibility in making personnel decisions during the current economic crisis. Peg Agnos, executive director of Legislative Education Network of DuPage County (LEND) and legislative director of the South Cooperative Organization for Public Education (SCOPE), said while she supports the delayed implementation dates for some of the mandates contained in the proposal, she questioned whether enforcing these administrative staff requirements was a sound decision in this point in time. Citing recent waivers for relief from the requirements, Ms. Agnos noted that the districts involved believed

that too much money was being spent on bilingual program administrators rather than on instructional services for students.

Chairman Ruiz concluded that the Board would defer action on both Parts 228 and 235 to further consider options for screening procedure criteria. He told the audience that the rules would be presented June 24, 2010, for the Board's adoption.

5. COMMITTEE AGENDA PLANNING/ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Mr. Reisberg indicated that several parts of rules would be brought to the Board for its consideration in June, including emergency and ordinary amendments to Part 1 to incorporate the common core standards. These standards will replace the Illinois Learning Standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics that are in Appendix D. He noted that the emergency amendments will take effect immediately and the ordinary rulemaking will be published in the Illinois Register to allow for public comment. Mr. Reisberg also noted that Dr. Koch has reached out to members and staff of the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules about the need for the emergency since adoption of the standards by August 2, 2010, is required in order to receive the maximum number of points in this area for Illinois' Race to the Top proposal.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Hall moved that the meeting be adjourned. Board member Lanita Koster seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 9:25 a.m.