

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Special Board Meeting via video conference

Wednesday, October 12, 2011

1:00 p.m.

Chicago Location: ISBE Video Conference Room, 14th Floor,
100 W. Randolph Street, Chicago, Illinois

Springfield Location: ISBE Video Conference Room, 3rd Floor
100 N. First Street, Springfield, IL

This meeting will also be audio cast on the Internet at: www.isbe.net

AGENDA

I. Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance *(Times are estimated and are for planning purposes only)*

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

II. Public Participation 1:00 – 1:30 p.m.

III. Resolutions & Recognition

IV. Rules for Adoption 1:30 – 1:45 p.m.

- A. Part 1 (Public Schools Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision) *(Cindy Zumwalt) (pp.)*
B. Part 235 (Early Childhood Education Block Grant) *(Cindy Zumwalt) (pp.)*

V. Discussion Items

- A. Other Items for Discussion

VI. Announcements

VII. Adjourn

This meeting 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 Chico may call for a break in the meeting as necessary in order for the Board to go into closed session.

APPROVED

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**ROLL
CALL/PLEDGE
OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Gery Chico called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. Mr. Chico asked Jean Ladage to call the roll. A quorum was present between the Springfield and Chicago video conference rooms. Dr. Christopher Koch, State Superintendent of Education, was in attendance in Chicago.

Members Present in Chicago

Mr. Gery Chico, Chairman
Dr. Vinni Hall, Secretary (joined meeting at 1:07 p.m.)
Mr. Steven Gilford
Ms. Lanita Koster

Members Listening by Phone

Mr. James Baumann

Members Absent

Dr. Andrea Brown

Members Present in Springfield

Dr. David Fields
Ms. Melinda LaBarre

**REQUEST FOR
BOARD MEMBER
PARTICIPATION
BY PHONE**

Chairman Chico announced that Board Member Jim Baumann submitted a request to participate by telephone for this meeting. However since Mr. Baumann is currently on vacation, his request to participate does not satisfy the provisions in law allowing him to participate and vote by phone. Therefore, he will be listening and speaking, but will refrain from voting on action items. Mr. Chico thanked Mr. Baumann for generously offering his vacation time to participate in this discussion.

**PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION**

None

**RESOLUTION &
RECOGNITION**

None

**PART 1 (PUBLIC
SCHOOLS
EVALUATION ,
RECOGNITION
AND
SUPERVISION)**

The State Board of Education is serving as the lead agency for the RTT-ELC application, and agency staff are working with outside consultants, early childhood education advocates and staff from the Department of Human Services (DHS), Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Illinois Early Learning Council to prepare the application, which is due to the U.S. Department of Education by October 19, 2011. As part of the application, the agency has committed to modifying its policies for birth to age 5 programs through the initiation of rulemaking in Parts 1 and Parts 235. Staff are recommending a 90-day public comment period to ensure ample opportunities for those affected by the rulemaking to voice their concerns or recommend changes.

**PART 235 (EARLY
CHILDHOOD
EDUCATION
BLOCK GRANT)**

Superintendent Koch stated that the changes in these rules will impact all school districts, in particular with the Kindergarten Readiness Survey. Dr. Koch expressed the need for all Preschool For All grantees to participate in order to have reliable statewide baseline data. He added there is a need for cohesion in what the Department of Human Services and our agency are doing in early

childhood, and as such, the same standards should apply to all programs and services. Publication of these proposed rules will reinforce the intentions of all agencies to coordinate early childhood education efforts across the state. A more complete explanation of the proposed changes in these two sets of rules is presented under "Policy Implications" in the special meeting materials. <http://isbe.net/board/meetings/2011/october/special/packet.pdf>. Dr. Koch stated that these rules will ensure that all early childhood programs are coordinated and that there is a fair system in place.

Parent information is another important component as parents would have access to a system that would allow them to view information on the centers in which they would be interested in placing their child. Chairman Chico recommended that the agency publish the ratings for early childhood education centers and daycare centers on the internet so parents can access information on the sites easily and make an informed decision around where they would like to place their child. Mr. Baumann also recommended an application for cell phones for parents to access the same information.

Dr. Koch noted that the Early Learning Challenge Grant application is due by October 19, 2011, and will make us eligible for \$70 million dollars over a four-year period. He pointed out that Illinois has been moving in the direction to improve early childhood before this grant opportunity, but the additional funds will help accelerate the process.

Motion:

Ms. Koster moved that the State Board of Education hereby authorizes solicitation of the public comment on the proposed rulemaking for Public School Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision (23 Illinois Administrative Code 1), and Early Childhood Education Block Grant (23 Illinois Administrative Code 235) including publication of the proposed amendments in the Illinois Register .

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

**MOTION FOR
ADJOURNMENT**

Dr. Brown moved that the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Koster seconded that motion and it passed with a unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 1:37 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Dr. Vinni Hall
Board Secretary**

**Mr. Gery J. Chico
Chairman**