

ILLINOIS STATE TEACHER CERTIFICATION BOARD

**Illinois State Board of Education
Springfield, Illinois
(Teleconference)**

Friday, February 6, 2004

MINUTES

Call to Order / Roll Call:

Robert Schiller, Chairman, Illinois State Teacher Certification Board, called the Illinois State Teacher Certification Board meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Dr. Schiller asked Dennis Williams, Interim Secretary, to call the roll. A quorum was present.

Members Present:

Robert E. Schiller, Chairman
Dennis Williams, Interim Secretary

Kay Acklin
Marsha Allen
William Briggs
Andrew Brulle
Roger Chamberlain
Deidre Dare

Connee Fitch-Blanks
Nan Giblin
Brenda Humphrey
Laura Lipe
Linda Malone
Mary Jane Morris
Linda Tafel
Eugene Zalewski

Members Absent:

Bruce Dennison
Nina Dorsch
Barbara Eason-Watkins

Elliott Lessen
Denise Williams

Others Present:

Laura Barwegen
Alan Brown
Ann Caton
Elizabeth Drame
Phyliss Jones

Lee Patton
Lou Ann Reichle
Greg Schrader
Susan Shea
Lynn Steffen

Brenda Stonecipher
Karen Williams
Marti Woelfle

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the December 4 and 5, 2003 Illinois State Teacher Certification Board meeting were presented for consideration. Linda Tafel moved that the December 4 and 5, 2003 minutes be approved. Eugene Zalewski seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

The minutes of the January 9, 2004 Illinois State Teacher Certification Board meeting were presented for consideration. Linda Tafel moved that the January 9, 2004 minutes be approved. Linda Malone seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Public Participation:

None.

Facilitation Committee's Report:

Linda Tafel reported the Facilitation Committee met earlier to review the agenda. She asked that on the agenda under Item F – Discussion Items – #3 “Calendar Issues” be added.

Item(s) for Immediate Action:

New Program Proposal: Rockford College

Marti Woelfle, Department of Certification and Professional Development, Illinois State Board of Education, provided a brief synopsis of the “*Alternative Certification Program Proposal from Rockford College.*”

The Alternative Certification Program will prepare teachers in the following projected shortage areas:

- Type 03 Elementary Education
- Type 03 Elementary Education with a bilingual option
- Type 09 Secondary Education with a bilingual option
- Type 09 Secondary Education:
 - Mathematics
 - Science (Biology, Chemistry)
- Type 10 Special K-12
 - Foreign Languages (French, German, Spanish)

She then introduced the following individuals to provide a detailed overview of the program and answer questions from the Certification Board members:

Dr. Elizabeth Drame, Coordinator of Alternative Certification Programs,
Rockford College
Dr. Greg Schrader, President, NTEC (National Teachers and Educators College)
Dr. Alan Brown, Past Superintendent, Rockford Public Schools
Ms. Ann Caton, Education Department Chair, Rockford College

The ensuing discussion included the following topics:

- Consistency with the conceptual framework
- Two-hours of school-based mentoring services
- Relationship with NTEC
- Recruitment of the diverse population
- Majors, grade point averages and qualifications
- Perspective number of individuals enrolled this year

After discussion, Brenda Humphrey moved that the “*Alternative Certification Program Proposal from Rockford College*” be accepted as written. The proposal will be forwarded to the State Board of Education for review and approval at their February 2004 meeting. Linda Malone seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Proposals for Activities that Meet Requirements for Standard Certificate Eligibility

Brenda Stonecipher, Department of Certification and Professional Development, Illinois State Board of Education, read aloud the list of proposals to ensure everyone was aware of all the proposals awaiting approval.

Linda Tafel moved that the “Proposals for Activities that Meet Requirements for Standard Certificate Eligibility” dated February 6, 2004, which was read by Brenda Stonecipher, be approved. William Briggs seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote. (See Attachment)

Note:

The following agenda items were deferred until a later meeting.

- Criteria for Highly Qualified Teachers in Illinois
 - Veteran Teachers (HOUSSE)
 - Special Education Teachers

Dr. Schiller recommended members of the Certification Board work with their constituents in order to discuss the issues related to these topics.

The following agenda items were deferred for discussion at a “special” meeting of the State Teacher Certification Board.

- Streamlining Requirements for Moving from Initial to Standard Certification
- Streamlining Teacher Certificate Renewal System

However, Dr. Schiller informed the members of the Board about House Bill 5002, which would amend the School Code with regard to Standard and Master teaching certificates. Specifically, the bill provides that for the holder of an Early Childhood or Elementary type of certificate, 50 percent of the continuing professional development activities included in a certificate renewal plan must be coursework or activities that expand the holder’s knowledge and application of best practices in the teaching of reading.

Certification Board members commented on this proposal noting that the state, and particularly its higher education institutions, does not have the capacity to provide this level of professional development regarding reading. They indicated that the proposed requirement would pose a hardship for teachers who might not be able to renew their certificates because they could not access the required reading professional development.

Discussion Items:

SAELP Report

Dr. Schiller provided the Certification Board members with information related to the State Action for Education Leadership Project (SAELP). The Board members were also provided with an “overview” memorandum regarding the project.

Linda Tafel asked in regard to a website for information regarding this SAELP Report. Dr. Schiller indicated the project is housed at Illinois State University and a request will be made to place this item on our Illinois State Board of Education web site via a link.

During the discussion, Dr. Schiller noted the following:

- (1) the application for a continuation of the project is under review at this time by the Wallace Foundation, which funds the project; and
- (2) four or five legislative initiatives are being recommended.

These legislative issues, which were still being finalized, were expected to include the following:

- A proposal to remove the requirement for the passage of the Basic Skills Test for both experienced out-of-state teachers and administrators. Lee Patton indicated there was also consideration of eliminating all tests for experienced educators, but noted that the question was, “What is the definition of experience?” Dr. Schiller remarked the rationale is to remove unnecessary barriers to out-of-state educators who wish to serve in Illinois schools.
- A proposal specifying that eligibility for an administrative certificate would require that the person hold a standard teaching certificate and increase the teaching experience from two to four years in the classroom. This would strengthen the teaching experience prior to eligibility for an administrative certificate.
- A proposal to formalize the evaluation of principals. Each principal would be evaluated at least once each year by the district superintendent or designee and the evaluation would be based on national and state standards for principals. In addition, each district would be required to file its plan and instrument for evaluation of principals with the Regional Superintendent of Schools.

Dr. Schiller indicated that other legislative initiatives may be brought up at a later date.

In response to a question raised by Connee Fitch-Blanks about “teacher leaders”, Dr. Schiller indicated that the SAELP group was interested in creating a pathway for teachers who are National Board certified or who are interested and capable of being instructional leaders, but do not necessarily want to become principals. They would officially be designated or certified as “teacher leaders” or “instructional leaders.” He noted that this recommendation was intended to lead to a more extended discussion of the specifics of such a proposal, its implementation, and its implications.

Legislative Issues

In response to an earlier request from Certification Board members, Lee Patton provided an overview of potential ISBE legislative proposals. She particularly focused on a proposal to create more feasible timelines for suspension hearings at the “Regional” and “Certification Board” level. This is in response to an audit finding and is necessary to assure that all parties have sufficient time to convene the hearings, consider motions, etc. Ms. Patton emphasized that the increased time available at each

level would be accompanied by a similar increase in the stay-of-suspension for the teacher, ensuring that he or she is not harmed by the change.

Calendar / Scheduling Issues

The State Board of Education is scheduled to meet on February 17 and 18, 2004. Lee Patton indicated it would be beneficial for the State Teacher Certification Board to meet prior to the State Board meeting since the legislative process is moving forward. The following schedule was agreed upon by the Certification Board members:

February 13, 2004

“Special” Meeting (Teleconference: 9 a.m. – 12 Noon)

A meeting room will be made available in both Springfield and Chicago.

Agenda Items: -- Criteria for Highly Qualified Teachers in Illinois
 -- Veteran Teachers (HOUSSE)
 -- Streamlining Initial to Standard Certification
 -- Streamlining Teacher Certificate Renewal System
 -- Update on Legislation

March 5, 2004 – One Day Meeting

Hearing (Half Day) and Other Business (Half Day)

(Note: Commitment to stay until 4 p.m. if necessary.)

April 1 - 2, 2004

Two Six-Month Reports: Judson College and University of Illinois – Springfield

Thursday, April 1, 2004 begin at 11:00 a.m. – Audit Team(s)

Friday, April 2, 2004 – Business Meeting (Rules)

(Note: Institutions to be present for possible questions at 1:00 p.m. on April 1st.)

May 7, 2004

Business Meeting

June 10 and 11, 2004

NCATE Reviews and Program Reviews

“Hold” -- June 9, 2004

Dennis Williams agreed to send letters to the administrators of the teachers serving on the State Teacher Certification Board requesting their attendance at additional Certification Board meetings – specifically, February 13, April 1 and June 9.

Special Reports and Information Items:

Secretary's Report –

- Teacher Certificate Renewal – End of Cycle

A document was distributed that has been developed by staff to assist teachers, LPDCs and Regional Superintendents know what they are required to do at the end of the certificate renewal cycle.

A question was raised whether information can be hand delivered. Dennis Williams indicated that the usage of a third party entity is recommended.

- Initial to Standard Certification Programs and Plans

The following documents were provided for discussion:

- Composite list of approved providers
- Status of ROE plans for providing services to teachers in their regions

Lee Patton indicated there is a high level of concern regarding the lack of programs available to non-public school teachers in Chicago.

- Status of Certificate Revocation Hearing

This item is scheduled to be discussed at the March 5, 2004 meeting of the State Teacher Certification Board. William Briggs requested that some action be taken to assure teachers who have testified what their status is within the North Greene Unit District No. 3.

Adjournment:

The Illinois State Teacher Certification Board adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

APPROVED

Chairman

Secretary

ATTACHMENT

**PROPOSALS FOR SELF-ASSESSMENT COURSEWORK
TO MEET REQUIREMENTS
FOR THE STANDARD CERTIFICATE**

**Recommended for Approval
by State Board Staff
February 6, 2004**

Kishwaukee Intermediate Delivery System
Trinity International University

**PROPOSALS FOR NBPTS-RELATED COURSEWORK
TO MEET REQUIREMENTS
FOR THE STANDARD CERTIFICATE**

**Recommended for Approval
by State Board Staff
February 6, 2004**

(None)

ATTACHMENT

PROPOSALS FOR INDUCTION AND MENTORING PROGRAMS TO MEET REQUIREMENTS FOR THE STANDARD CERTIFICATE

**Recommended for Approval
by State Board Staff
February 6, 2004**

Bradley-Bourbonnais High School – Kankakee County
*Bradley Elementary School District No. 61 – Kankakee County
ECHO Joint Agreement – Cook County
Flossmoor School District 161 – Cook County
*Grant Park CUSD #6 – Kankakee County
*Hawthorn School District 73 – Lake County
Herscher CUSD #2 – Kankakee County
*Kankakee Area Special Education COOP – Kankakee County
*Kankakee School District No. 111 – Kankakee County
*Keeneyville ESD 20 – DuPage County
Kirby School District #140 – Cook County
Mahomet-Seymour CUSD #3 – Champaign County
*Milford Community Consolidated School District #280 – Iroquois County
*Momence Community Unit District #1 – Kankakee County
North Cook Young Adult Academy – Cook County
Paxton-Buckley-Loda CUSD – Ford County
Prairie Grove Consolidated School District 46 – McHenry County
River Ridge CUSD #210 - Jo Daviess County
*Sandridge School District 172 – Cook County
*School District 149 (Dolton) – Cook County
*Union Ridge School District 86 – Cook County

*Denotes a comparable two-year program since 2002 per provider contact person.

ATTACHMENT

**PROPOSALS FOR X-TYPE CPDU ACTIVITIES
TO MEET REQUIREMENTS
FOR THE STANDARD CERTIFICATE**

**Recommended for Approval
by State Board Staff
February 6, 2004**

Federation of Districts for Special Education, Berwyn, Cook County
Ruben Salazar Bilingual Education Center, Chicago, Cook County
Summit Hill School District #161, Frankfort, Will County
North Cook Intermediate Service Center, Des Plaines, Cook County
Hinsdale Township High School District #86, DuPage County
Two Rivers Professional Development Center, Edwards, Edwards County
Northwestern Illinois Association, Sycamore, DeKalb County
SRA McGraw-Hill, River Forest, Cook County
Joliet Township High Schools, Will County
Waukegan CU District #60, Lake County
Regional Office of Education #40, Carlinville (11 submittals), Macoupin County
Lincoln-Way Area Special Education, New Lenox (3 proposals), Will County
Associated Colleges of Illinois, Cook County
South Cook Intermediate Service Center #4, Cook County
Lorri Engstrand-Hauser, Individual, Crete, Will County