

ILLINOIS STATE TEACHER CERTIFICATION BOARD

**Illinois State Board of Education
State Board Room, Fourth Floor**

Friday, September 7, 2007

Business Meeting

MINUTES

Call to Order / Roll Call:

Mr. Dennis Williams, Secretary, Illinois State Teacher Certification Board, called the Illinois State Teacher Certification Board meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Mr. Williams proceeded to call the roll. A quorum was present.

Members Present:

Mr. Dennis Williams, Secretary

Muhammad Abdullah
Denise Albrecht
Richard Ammentorp
Carol Auer
Caryn Block
Sheila Bowens

Stephen Breese
Eric Brown
Deborah Curtis
Nina Dorsch
Allen Ellington
Lindy Greenlee

Ascencion Juarez
Sr. Colleen McNicholas
Linda Pellegrini
Janet Pierce-Ritter
Tamara Smith

Members Absent:

Dr. Christopher A. Koch, Chairman

Lawer Dixon, Jr.

Elliott Lessen

Others Present:

Lydia Bullock
Colleen Herald
Diana Hernandez-Azcoitia
Mitch Hopper
Eric Jamieson

Phyliss Jones
Barbara Levandowski
Daryl Morrison
Missy Phillips
Lynn Steffen

Tasha Sullivan
Joy Taylor-Ankenbrandt
Linda Tomlinson
Sally Vogl

Approval of Meeting Summary and Meeting Minutes:

The meeting summary of the May 31, 2007, Illinois State Teacher Certification Board meeting was presented for consideration. Carol Auer moved the May 31, 2007 summary be approved. Tamara Smith seconded the motion. Dennis Williams called for discussion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

The meeting minutes of the June 1, 2007, Illinois State Teacher Certification Board meeting was presented for consideration. Richard Ammentorp moved the June 1, 2007 minutes be approved. Janet Pierce-Ritter seconded the motion. Dennis Williams called for discussion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Public Participation:

None.

Facilitation Committee’s Report:

Deborah Curtis, Chair of the Facilitation Committee, reported the Facilitation Committee met at 8:00 a.m. The following adjustments have been made to the agenda:

- Item E.3. “Rules Related to Certification” will be moved to E.1.
- Item E.1. “New Program Proposal Recommendation(s) – North Park University – Principal/General Administrative” will be moved to E.2.
- Item E.2. “Proposals for Activities that Meet Requirements for Standard Certificate Eligibility” will be moved to E.3.

Dr. Curtis announced the following membership of the 2007-2008 Facilitation Committee:

Richard Ammentorp (Chair)	Teacher, Illinois Education Association
Nina Dorsch	Higher Education (Public)
Allen Ellington	Administrators
Sr. Colleen McNicholas	Higher Education (Private)
Linda Pellegrini	Teacher, Illinois Federation of Teachers

Dr. Curtis stated that there has been a change in policy at the Illinois State Board of Education disallowing recommendation for the Early Childhood Special Education Letter of Approval at the time an institution initially recommends a candidate for certification, and that the candidates must go through the process one more time to reapply. This is a change in policy. It appears that there are procedures for change in policy. How did this change in policy take place without a procedural process? Dr. Curtis further requested staff to review this change and the concept of policy change in particular for candidates who have been working through this process.

Dennis Williams indicated that information will be provided at the next meeting of the State Teacher Certification Board regarding this issue.

Item(s) for Immediate Action:

Rules Related to Certification

Sally Vogl, Rules Coordinator, explained that Certification Board members were sent via email a set of proposed amendments to Part 25 for consideration. These amendments include a number of unrelated provisions to be updated.

Ms. Vogl shared that Certification Board members were notified by Dennis Williams that State Board of Education staff have done some further thinking about the ramifications of the change being proposed in Section 25.115(d) of the rules. As written, the rules would have called for a mid-cycle accreditation review under certain unfortunate circumstances. State Board of Education staff had recognized a number of problems associated with this approach and would therefore not be asking the Certification Board members to include that new provision for consideration.

Ms. Vogl explained that the material in Section 25.10 (Accredited Institution) is intended to underscore long-standing policy that is not uniformly expressed throughout the entire set of rules. Section 21-21 of the School Code equates the terms “accredited” and “regionally accredited”, both as meaning “accredited by the North Central Association or another comparable regional accrediting association”. Many Sections within Part 25 refer to institutions, sometimes using “accredited” or “regionally accredited” and other times omitting the descriptor. This amendment will ensure against future challenges to the interpretation that a regionally accredited institution is meant whenever “institution” is mentioned, and that no other source of accreditation is acceptable. Rather than amending every provision where “regionally accredited” could be stated, the same goal can be accomplished more efficiently by inserting this generally applicable provision.

The revision in Section 25.37 is simply a technical correction that is needed because Section 25.42 has been repealed and the basic certification requirements are now stated in Section 25.25.

The proposed changes in Section 25.115 indicate the transition to the 2008 version of the NCATE standards that apply to the accreditation of educational units.

Four Sections related to the school service personnel certificate are being amended to change the statements regarding degrees required, so that these will refer to “a master’s or higher degree” rather than simply “a master’s degree”. In two of these cases, the change will bring the rules into closer conformance with the underlying statutes, and in the other two cases the same change is desired for the sake of

consistency. It is counterproductive not to be able to accept higher degrees that have been obtained without first achieving a master's degree.

Denise Albrecht asked if Section 25.115(b) would affect the updates the Certification Board receives periodically with regard to the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and the interpretations and changes they may make. The incorporation of the NCATE standards by reference in the rules was discussed.

Ms. Vogl stated that new Section 25.338 establishes the requirements for the "master principal" designation that was created by the "State Action for Education Leadership Project (SAELP) legislation" in 2006. This is to be an optional credential acquired after completion of a standard program that has been developed specifically for this purpose. Principals will blend job-embedded learning activities with observation and feedback as well as other ongoing professional development throughout a sequence of modules expected to take approximately two years to complete. The rule establishes the requirements for entities that will offer the program, the application and approval process, and the other basic aspects of the program's framework.

Nina Dorsch asked for clarification of "master principal" – is it a "master certification"? Ms. Vogl stated that this is not a master certificate, but a "designation" meaning it goes on a certificate that an educator already has – there is no distinction among levels of administrative certification. It was also explained that this is not a program that involves semester hours – this is a pre-developed packaged program that already exists. Dennis Williams provided further clarification and explained that the curriculum is based on the process for National Board teachers. Deborah Curtis stated that she understands what has been developed is a framework, not a scripted curriculum. Eric Brown shared his concerns with regard to "master principal" – there is some confusion with the terminology.

Finally, Ms. Vogl indicated that the timeframe for requesting re-scoring stated in Section 25.770 is being extended to three months. This change is made possible by a change in the testing contractor's policy.

Nina Dorsch moved that the State Teacher Certification Board recommend to the State Board of Education for consideration the amendments to Part 25 (Certification). Sr. Colleen McNicholas seconded the motion. Dennis Williams called for discussion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

New Program Proposal Recommendation(s) –

North Park University – Principal/General Administrative

Phyliss Jones, Principal Consultant, Educator Preparation and Recertification Division, introduced the following representatives from North Park University: Dr. Diana Hernandez-Azcoitia, Director, School of Education; and Dr. Barbara Levandowski, Professor, School of Education.

Ms. Jones shared that university representatives handed out to Certification Board members an “Assessment” document. Dr. Levandowski provided a brief walk-through of the new document.

Certification Board members raised several questions with regard to the new “Assessment” document.

Besides assessment several questions that were raised included:

- Are candidates required to take “Christianity” classes since it is a Christian institution?
- How are candidates going to be prepared to work with cultural diversity and diversity that may include disability and also gay/lesbian/transsexual populations given the faith-based nature of the institution?
- What is the procedure for assessing the candidate’s disposition?

Deborah Curtis moved that the State Teacher Certification Board recommend to the State Board of Education provisional approval of the North Park University Principal/General Administrative program, thereby authorizing the educational unit to conduct the program and to recommend candidates for certification by entitlement until the time of the institution’s next scheduled Accreditation Review [Section 25.145 (d) (1)]. Richard Ammentorp seconded the motion. Dennis Williams called for discussion.

Denise Albrecht indicated that she appreciated the supplementary assessment material, but she is concerned that she and other members of the Certification Board did not have sufficient time to review the document.

Nina Dorsch complimented North Park University on the range and detail of the assessments.

The motion passed with twelve aye votes and five nay votes.

Proposals for Activities that Meet Requirements for Standard Certificate Eligibility

Richard Ammentorp moved that the revised list of “Proposals for Activities that Meet Requirements for Standard Certificate Eligibility” dated August 21, 2007, be approved. Sr. Colleen McNicholas seconded the motion. Dennis Williams called for discussion. The motion passed by unanimous vote. (See Attachment)

Deborah Curtis asked if the State Teacher Certification Board members could be provided with the number of districts that have approved programs. Dennis Williams indicated that this information would be sent to Certification Board members via email.

Renewal of Standard / Master Certificates (Group B List)

Dennis Williams reported there are no non-renewals on the Group B List at this time.

Item(s) for Discussion:

New Program Proposals: Revised Format for Review

Phyliss Jones stated that Certification Board members were sent a revised program review format document titled, "Developing a New Professional Education Program". Ms. Jones explained that the program proposal format is to be used by institutions submitting a new program proposal to the Illinois State Teacher Certification Board and State Board of Education for approval.

There were no objections from State Teacher Certification Board members. Members agreed this document will be very helpful not only to Certification Board members, but also the institutions of higher education.

The document will become effective September 7, 2007. All new programs received as of September 7 will be required to use this program proposal format for submittal of new programs.

New Illinois Educator Certificate

Dennis Williams informed State Teacher Certification Board members that State Board of Education staff are discussing the idea of going to one educator certificate in the state. That certificate would have listed on it every subject content area that the individual could teach with the grades that they could teach along with the certificate type and specifically what that individual educator is qualified to do. Current certificates would not be changed. This would be for new certificates issued.

This change is being considered because administrators in buildings cannot determine just from looking at a certificate what an individual is qualified to teach. There is no perfect alignment with other states. This would also allow for any grade level to be printed on the certificate and any particular content area.

Certification Board members were supportive and agreed it would be very helpful to have this type of certificate. It was recommended that some of the individuals who are active in the field (human resource staff, superintendents, principals, regional offices of education) that deal with certificates on a daily basis be included in the design discussion of this endeavor.

Announcement by State Superintendent of Education

Superintendent Koch joined the Certification Board meeting to share that Dr. Linda Tomlinson of Western Illinois University in Macomb has agreed to fill the Assistant Superintendent role for School Support Services for All Schools, which will be comprised of four divisions: Educator Preparation and Recertification; Educator Certification; Accountability; and Nutrition Programs, beginning October 1 (based in the Springfield office).

Item(s) for Information:

Renewal of Standard / Master Certificates (Report – Group A List)

Dennis Williams reported that there were 15,488 recommendations for Standard / Master Certificates renewed in Group A for the period of May 26, 2007 through August 31, 2007.

(Note: Due to the size of the printout, the report is not attached to these minutes. If an individual would like to obtain a copy of the approved recommendations, please contact Dennis Williams, Secretary, Illinois State Teacher Certification Board.)

Moving from Initial to Standard Certificate

Dennis Williams reported that there were 3,949 recommendations for Initial Certificates moving to Standard Certificates for the period of May 26, 2007 through August 31, 2007.

Secretary's Report:

Dennis Williams provided a certification status report, and announced that the Certification Division has been divided into two divisions – Educator Certification Division (Linda Jamali, Division Administrator), and Educator Preparation and Recertification Division (Patrick Murphy, Division Administrator).

Mr. Williams shared that the Legal Department is considering adding questions to the certificate renewal form and the paraprofessional approval form that would ask about personal or criminal history.

Mr. Williams then reported the following:

- **Notification: Revocation of Certificates**
Ann Banas – General Administrative Certificate #1167312
Jason M. Glick – Initial Secondary Certificate #2098680

David V. Grayson – Standard Elementary Certificate #1896818
 School Service Personnel Certificate #1035781
 Administrative Certificate # 1096583
 Administrative Certificate #1564811
Wayne Kuklinski – Standard Secondary Certificate #1907109
James R. Lobitz – Standard Secondary Certificate #1720052
Thomas E. Ryan – Standard Secondary Certificate #1822788
 Administrative Certificate #1147431
 Administrative Certificate #1131252
 Administrative Certificate #1082259
Adriel Samaan – Substitute Certificate #2167005
Daniel W. Sarver – Standard Secondary Certificate #1716665
 Administrative Certificate #1351009
Robert V. Sperlik – Standard Special Certificate #1814752
Betsy Vacketta – Standard Special Certificate #1829227

- **Notification: Suspension of Certificates by Regional Superintendent**
Jason B. Ernsting – Initial Secondary Certificate #1794009
James M. Huston – School Service Personnel Certificate #2189421
James F. Leonard – Standard Secondary Certificate #1833072
Samson R. Shelton – Initial Elementary Certificate #1991326
 Initial Secondary Certificate #1991328

Carol Auer asked for a status report with regard to The American College of Education and the students who went through their program being promised certification even though the school had not been accredited. Dennis Williams provided a brief update.

Adjournment:

With no further business, Richard Ammentorp moved that the State Teacher Certification Board meeting adjourn. Sr. Colleen McNicholas seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote. The State Teacher Certification Board meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

APPROVED

Chairman

Secretary

Note:

An overview of the State Teacher Certification Board responsibilities was provided between 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. The session began with a welcome from Superintendent Christopher Koch and Dennis Williams. Presentations were provided by Renee Vilatte, Attorney, Legal Department; Sally Vogl, Rules Coordinator, Legal Department; and Phyliss Jones, Principal Consultant, Educator Preparation and Recertification Division.

ATTACHMENT

Proposals for “Induction and Mentoring Programs” to Meet Requirements for the Standard Certificate

Recommended for Approval by
State Board of Education Staff

September 2007

School / County

Astoria CUSD #1, Fulton County
Athens CUSD #213, Menard County
Belleville Public School District #118, St. Clair County
Bushnell-Prairie City CUSD #170, McDonough County
CHSD #218 Oak Lawn, Suburban Cook
Collinsville CUSD #10, Madison County
CUSD #2, LaSalle County
Dixon Public School #170, Lee County
Durand CUSD #322, Winnebago County
Earlville CUSD #9, LaSalle County
Girard CUSD #3, Macoupin County
Hartsburg-Eden CUSD #21, Logan County
Henderson/Mercer/Warren ROE #27
Johns burg School District #12, McHenry County
Meridian CUSD #223, Cole County
Ogle County Educational Cooperative
Oregon Community School District #220, Ogle County
Riverside Public School District #96, Cook County
Rochester 3A Schools, Sangamon County
Sandoval CUSD #501, Cook County
Selma Ville CCSD #10, Marion County
Shelbyville CUSD #4, Shelby County
St. Rose Elementary School District 14-15, Clinton County
Streator Elementary School District #44, LaSalle County