

**STATE TEACHER CERTIFICATION BOARD  
MINUTES  
November 2, 2001  
Illinois State Board of Education – Board Room  
Springfield, Illinois**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Ms. Kay Acklin	Ms. Connee Fitch-Blanks
Ms. Marsha Allen	Dr. Elizabeth Hitch
Mr. Ronald Babcock	Ms. Brenda Humphrey
Mr. Robert Blade	Dr. Barbara Nourie
Mr. William E. Briggs	Ms. Camille Taylor
Dr. Andrew Brulle	Ms. Linda Tomlinson
Dr. Cozette Buckney	Ms. Denise Williams
Dr. Roger Chamberlain	Dr. Eugene Zalewski
Mr. Bruce Dennison	Dr. J. Robert Sampson, Secretary Presiding

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Ms. Deidre Dare  
Dr. Linda Tafel

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Roll Call: Dr. Robert Sampson, Secretary, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and called the roll. A quorum was present.

Others Present:

Dr. Laura Barwegen	Patrick Murphy
Jennifer Bolander	Linda Pincham
Lucille Buscher	Lou Ann Reichle
Craig Cunningham	Pat Ryan
Deborah Curtis	Dr. Susan Shea
John Gambro	Larry Sondler
Pat Glenn	Dennis Williams
Beth Hanselman	Karen Williams
Kavita Kapadia	
Mike Long	

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 7, 2001**

Ms. Williams moved that the minutes of the September 7, 2001, meeting of the State Teacher Certification Board be approved as amended. Mr. Briggs seconded the motion, and the motion was passed by unanimous voice vote.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No participation.

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Superintendent Glenn W. McGee was not present.

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Dr. Sampson gave a brief update on the enhancement of the TCIS system. He announced the early exchange for Special Education teachers, his attendance at the recent JCAR meeting, their acceptance of the emergency rules, and their request that the agency agree to extend the proposed rules for regular rulemaking for an additional 45 days. He stated that those rules will be reviewed by JCAR in November for approval.

Dr. Sampson commented on his attendance at the first meeting of the Senate Select Committee hearing on teacher quality and reviewed several of the issues that the Chair identified for focusing the testimonies including the idea that other entities should be allowed to prepare teachers, the question of should employers be able to learn how many times a teacher about to be recruited has taken and failed the Basic Skills Test or any competency test, and the question of should the agency use professional development funds to support the induction/mentoring program?

He also reviewed several of the sessions offered at this year's National Evaluation Systems (NES) annual conference on teacher certification, testing, and preparation.

## **FACILITATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Babcock, reported the proposed changes to the agenda.

### **C. Items for Immediate Action:**

#### **1. University of Chicago – New Program Proposal in Elementary Education:**

Ms. Nancy Patton introduced Dr. Craig Cunningham and Ms. Kavita Kapadia from the University of Chicago who responded to questions from the Board.

Dr. Brulle moved to approve the new program in Elementary Education proposed by the University of Chicago. Mr. Babcock seconded the motion.

After some discussion by the Board regarding the institution's conceptual framework, the recruiting plans, the expected number of candidates, and the collaborating schools participating in the program, Mr. Babcock called for the question.

Motion passes by unanimous voice vote.

## **2. Notification of Suspensions and Revocations:**

Stuart L. Snow, Secondary Certificate No. 1687842, suspended for one year by Regional Superintendent Joseph Kaczanowski on April 20, 2001, pursuant to Section 21-23(a) of the Illinois School Code.

## **D. Reports and Announcements:**

### **1. Certification Testing Update:**

Ms. Pat Glenn provided an update on the progress being made relative to the new certification testing design.

Ms. Glenn reviewed the concerns expressed regarding the rigor of the old Basic Skills Test and the action taken to develop a more rigorous Basic Skills Test.

She commented that it is standard procedure that the State Teacher Certification Board makes recommendations to the State Board of Education regarding the passing scores on the test after the first administration. After reviewing written information indicating the recommendations of the Basic Skills committees and the staff, the Board discussed the impact on examinees.

Ms. Glenn commented that the passing score included a total test score and sub-area scores. She described the significance of minimal allowable scores on each sub-area. The presentation was followed by considerable discussion regarding the impact on minorities and the low pass rates in mathematics in conjunction with public perception of minimum allowable scores.

Dr. Brulle moved to approve staff recommendation of the passing scores. Ms. Humphrey seconded motion.

Motion passes by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Babcock moved that the State Teacher Certification Board revisit the cut scores after one year with the intent of raising them, in particular in the area of mathematics. Dr. Brulle seconded the motion.

Mr. William Briggs called for the question.

Motion passes by unanimous voice vote.

## **2. Standard Certificate Examination:**

Ms. Pat Glenn discussed the progress to date in the development of requirements for the standard certificate.

She stated that an advisory group of education partners was convened to help advise the agency regarding whether or not a portfolio assessment, which the State Board had endorsed as a primary strategy, is feasible given the current budget and lack of induction programs. Also, if a portfolio assessment system is not feasible, then what other options might be available to meet the statutory requirement to have a standard exam as of July 1, 2003.

The committee report was made to the State Board at the October meeting. All committee members agreed that the examination should not be pen/paper test. Candidates in the pipeline should not be harmed by the requirements so that they will not be disadvantaged by the fact they had not been given prior knowledge of the exam.

They also agreed the state should give primary emphasis to providing support for initial candidates.

Ms. Glenn stated that the report included two parts: Plan A and Plan B. She informed the Board that since the advisory group could not agree, the State Board directed the group to reconvene to see if they could come to some agreement concerning options. At the same time, the Board directed staff to recommend a "band-aid" system for those people who are currently in the pipeline and, thus, not harm them.

The State Teacher Certification Board offered comments to be considered for presentation to the State Board or the advisory committee.

Dr. Brulle commented that he had been directed by the members of the Illinois Association for Teacher Education at Private Colleges (IATEPC) and the Illinois Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (IACTE) to inform the Teacher Certification Board of the organizations' concern for the planned implementation dates of the new content area assessments and the ramifications on candidates who may not have completed programs that addressed all standards. Dr. Brulle read the statements that were passed by the organizations and informed the Board that he will be presenting the statements during the Public Participation session of the State Board of Education meeting on November 14 in Chicago.

### **3. Certificate Renewal Update:**

Mr. Dennis Williams, reported the results of the survey created by the sub-committee and administered to more than 25,000 teachers and LPDC members.

Mr. Babcock commented on the membership of the sub-committee and the four areas they discussed: how to better engage the administrators, more training for Special Education courses offered for regular classroom teachers, recommendation of CPDU's and CEU's, the need for ongoing training for LPDC's, and the need to do teacher sampling for three years.

Mr. Williams also mentioned the need for longitudinal study and to establish another committee to work with MGT of America, the contractor for the longitudinal study. The committee will meet four times a year for the purpose of reviewing data collected by the contractor and recommending changes that might help support the system.

The proposal by MGT of America is to identify 100 teachers statewide and to follow them through this process of over 3-5 years.

Mr. Williams reviewed the latest discussion regarding possible rules changes including defining the requirements for online professional development providers, limiting credit to CPDU's, and eliminating the CEU. In addition, it has been recommended that the evidence of completion will be submitted to the LPDC for credit and once the credit is awarded, that evidence will be returned to the teacher. Modification to the language to permit more flexibility in the use of the RPDRC grant has also been suggested.

Mr. Williams also commented on a proposed letter to be sent to teachers and administrators that will offer guidelines based on what has been learned to date. The recommendations would include the use of CERTS, the "teacher load" for LPDC's, the use of a calendar for plan submission, districts' offering of resources, and naming an administrator to serve on the LPDC. The letter would be a joint letter with the State Board of Education, the IEA, and IFT.

Mr. Babcock moved to approve such a letter, but noted that there be a maximum of approximately 200 teachers for a LPDC. Ms. Williams seconded the motion.

Motion passes by unanimous voice vote.

### **4. Corey H. Update:**

Ms. Lou Ann Reichle gave a brief update on Corey H. She stated that there is current discussion on some monitoring issues dealing with how the State Board conducts its review of the least restrictive environment in Chicago Public Schools, which is part of the settlement agreement.

One of the issues pertains to the monitoring of 50 schools in Chicago per year. The plaintiffs considered the number too large. The court monitor however, issued a recommendation in September, that if the number was reduced then the Corey H. settlement should be extended for 3 years. This would result in the agreement ending in January 16, 2009 rather than 2006, so obviously the State Board is opposed and subsequently filed an objection before Judge Gettleman. At this time, Judge Gettleman is not interested in extending the settlement agreement and advised the parties to reach an agreement.

On October 15, the State Board submitted the final implementation plan on the certification issue to the court monitor and the parties for review, but there has been no response.

Ms. Reichle commented on the hearings relating to proposed rules relating to special education training for general education teachers and thanked several members of the Board for their participation. She also distributed information regarding the draft revision of the certificate renewal manual for special education teachers.

**5. Status Report on Proceedings involving Suspension and Revocation of Certificates:**

Ms. Lou Ann Reichle provided a brief progress report on the Joseph Hay's appeal for which the State Teacher Certification Board, through the Secretary of the Board, has named an Administrative Law Judge to act on their behalf. She stated that Mr. Hay's attorney asked for an extension of time to file his brief over her objection, and the administrative law judge granted the request. The brief from Mr. Hay's attorney will be filed on Monday, November 5, and the brief on behalf of the State Superintendent, will be filed two weeks from that date.

The remaining three cases brought before the Board last month were sent letters informing them that they were given an opportunity to surrender their certificates. They had not done so, and therefore, the State Superintendent was requested to name a hearing officer, and that notice will be sent soon.

Ms. Reichle distributed information she received from the Attorney General's Office regarding the consideration of prior convictions in determination of good character and discussed the implications for the issuance of certificates.

**6. Status Report on Certification Rulemaking:**

Ms. Sally Vogl gave an update on the certification rulemaking related to testing, registration fees for certificates, and bilingual certification testing, as well as other matters. She reported that these amendments are scheduled for review by the Joint Committee on Administrative rules at the November Meeting.

She reported that the public comment period for Part 24 and the amendments to the continuing professional development rules in Section 25.805 ended on October 31, and she will complete her summary for the November State Board meeting. Although three public hearings were held, there was not much attendance; however, considerable comment was received through the mail and email.

She stated that Part 24 and the changes to section 25.805 on continuing professional development will be part of what the State Board is asked to adopt at the November meeting along with the NCATE changes and other changes in Part 25. However, after the State Board adopts a version of those, everything but Part 24, and the changes to section 25.805 will be submitted in materials to the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules to complete the regular rule-making process. The matters that are related to Corey H. will be submitted to the Court Monitor and the parties in Corey H. for their review later January 1, 2002.

In addition, staff are about to ask the Board for consent to solicit formal public comment on three new parts of rules that will convey the rest of the standards that both the State Teacher Certification Board and the State Board of Education have already adopted but are simply not in rule form. These will become new Part 26, standards for certification in early childhood education and in elementary education; new Part 27, standards for certification in specific teaching fields; and new Part 29, standards for administrative certification to which would be added the standards for school service personnel and a change in title to the part.

Ms. Vogl reported on a draft of new rules authorized under Article 13B of the School Code for the Alternative Learning Opportunities Programs. There is an advisory body created by that statute to advise the State Superintendent on the statewide implementation of the program, and one of the aspects of the statute is to call for the creation of an optional endorsement in alternative learning. Consequently, the State Teacher Certification Board is named as one of the entities that are to be represented on the advisory body. The rules do not provide details regarding the credential because, in part, it is optional and not required. She will present these rules to the State Teacher Certification Board in the future.

Mr. Mike Long and Ms. Deborah Curtis, a member of the Illinois State University faculty and convener for the Middle Level Content Area Standards Panel, offered a progress report on the work of the Panel. Their report cited several presentations regarding the findings of the Panel and informed the Board that a final report is nearly complete and will be submitted to Mike Long. Mr. Long directed the Board to view all the reports from various Panels on the agency web page.

The Board agreed that the Audit Team session will begin at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 29, and the full Board will be convened at approximately 2:30 p.m. to review the findings. The regular business meeting of the State Teacher Certification Board will be convened at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, November 30, in the Springfield office of the State Board of Education.

Mr. Babcock moved that the State Teacher Certification Board adjourn. Mr. Blade seconded the motion.

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

APPROVED

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Chairman

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Secretary