

ILLINOIS STATE TEACHER CERTIFICATION BOARD

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

Friday, March 3, 2006

MINUTES

Call to Order / Roll Call:

Randy J. Dunn, Chairman, Illinois State Teacher Certification Board, called the Illinois State Teacher Certification Board meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Dennis Williams, Secretary, Illinois State Teacher Certification Board, proceeded to call the roll. A quorum was present.

Members Present:

Dr. Randy J. Dunn, Chairman

Mr. Dennis Williams, Secretary

Muhammad Abdullah
Kay Acklin
Denise Albrecht
Richard Ammentorp
Andrew Brulle
Lydia Bullock

Nina Dorsch
Lindy Greenlee
Ascencion Juarez
Elliott Lessen
Linda Malone
Dave Marshall

Jo Ann Owens
Denise Williams
Eugene Zalewski

Members Absent:

William Briggs
Deborah J. Curtis

Allen Ellington
Sr. Colleen McNicholas

Others Present:

Amanda Boutot
Laurie Gibler
Colleen Herald
Mitch Hopper
Linda Jamali
Phyliss Jones
Dave Klanderman
Jennifer Loncola
Angela McDermott
Christopher Murray
Lee Patton
Janet Pierce-Ritter
Rick Snoeyink
Lynn Steffen
Renee Vilatte

Marti Woelfle
Linda Wold
Carol Wren

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the December 1 and 2, 2005, Illinois State Teacher Certification Board meetings were presented for consideration. Elliott Lessen moved that the December 1 and 2, 2005 minutes be approved. Denise Albrecht seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Public Participation:

None.

Facilitation Committee's Report:

Denise Albrecht, Chair of the Facilitation Committee, reported the Facilitation Committee met at 8:00 a.m. The following adjustment was made to the agenda:

- After Item I Secretary's Report, members of the State Teacher Certification Board will move into Closed Session.

Item(s) for Immediate Action:

New Program Recommendations –

Loyola University Chicago – Reading Specialist K-12

Marti Woelfle, Principal Education Consultant, Certification Division, introduced the following representatives from Loyola University Chicago: Janet Pierce-Ritter, Associate Dean of Student Academic Services, School of Education, Certification Officer; and Linda Wold, Chairperson, Department of Physics.

Elliott Lessen suggested a revision to the description of the following course (p. 10): CIEP 476: Research in the Teaching of Literacy, Line 6, to read "identify an instructional need within his or her classroom and develop an action research plan that will..."

Andrew Brulle suggested that information regarding Field Experiences/Clinicals (p. 11-13) be included in the Course Descriptions (p. 9) CIEP 429: Children and Adolescent Literature and CIEP 452: Literacy Theory and Foundations.

Nina Dorsch inquired about the rubric (p. 41) Professional Teaching Showcase Portfolio and whether or not there were descriptors being developed, if so, will they be added to the rubric. A, representative from Loyola, responded that the omission of the descriptors was an oversight.

Elliott Lessen applauded university representatives for their rubrics.

Elliott Lessen then referred to the rubric, Table 2: Assessment of Candidates – Reading Specialists (p.16) and suggested that information regarding Abilities and Educational Dispositions be added to the chart.

Elliott Lessen also referred to the rubric Standards for Reading Professionals: International Reading Association (IRA) and Illinois Professional Teaching Standards (p.23) and suggested it be modified to clarify the focus of each course.

Denise Albrecht moved that the State Teacher Certification Board recommend to the State Board of Education provisional approval of the Loyola University Chicago – Reading Specialist 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)]. Linda Malone seconded the motion. The motion passed with three abstentions.

DePaul University – Learning Behavior Specialist I

Marti Woelfle, Principal Education Consultant, Certification Division, introduced the following representatives from DePaul University: Dr. Carol Wren, Associate Professor, School of Education; Dr. Christopher Murray, Associate Professor; Dr. Amanda Boutot, Associate Professor; and Dr. Jennifer Loncola, Assistant Professor.

Elliott Lessen referred to the rubric (p. 21) Required Program Assessment, and suggested DePaul expand the chart to include information regarding Abilities and Educational Disposition. Dr. Lessen applauded DePaul University representatives for their rubrics.

Nina Dorsch indicated some concern about practicum experiences. In some school districts, an extended-year program in no way mirrors the full curriculum of the regular school year. Dr. Dorsch asked if practicing teachers will be able to translate practica experiences that might be limited in the scope of the curriculum covered to full-time practices during the regular school year.

Andrew Brulle commended the representatives from DePaul on their non-categorical approach, the language throughout was nicely done.

Dr. Brulle requested assurances from DePaul's representatives regarding the transition of courses LSI 467, Teaching Students with High Incidence Disabilities II and LSI 468, Teaching Students with Low Incidence Disabilities I (p. 13).

Denise Albrecht moved that the State Teacher Certification Board recommend to the State Board of Education provisional approval of the DePaul University – Learning Behavior Specialist I 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)]. Elliott Lessen seconded the motion. The motion passed with three abstentions.

Program Approval Recommendation(s) – Provisional Approval Recommended to State Board of Education June 2005 –

Trinity Christian College

Denise Albrecht moved that the State Teacher Certification Board recommend to the State Board of Education approval of the following programs at Trinity Christian College [Section 25.127 (o) (1)]:

- English Language Arts
- Science – Core
- Science – Biology
- Science – Chemistry
- Social Science – Core
- Social Science – History

Elliott Lessen seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Program Approval Recommendation(s) – Tabled December 2004 –

National-Louis University

Eugene Zalewski moved that the State Teacher Certification Board remove from the table the following programs at National-Louis University:

- Core Social Science
- History

Richard Ammentorp seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Phyliss Jones, Principal Education Consultant, Certification Division, updated the State Teacher Certification members on the status of National-Louis University's 18-month Report. Ms. Jones also added that an additional 18-month extension was being requested at this time.

Denise Albrecht moved that the State Teacher Certification Board recommend to the State Board of Education provisional approval of the following programs at National-Louis University [Section 25.167 (o) (2)]. No later than 18 months after provisional approval has been granted, the institution shall submit to the State Superintendent or to the relevant SPA a revised program report. The result of this program report review shall be conveyed to the Certification Board, which shall convey its recommendation to the State Board of Education:

- Core Social Science
- History

Elliott Lessen seconded the motion. The motion passed with three abstentions.

Break (10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.)

Proposals for Activities That Meet Requirements for Standard Certificate Eligibility

Denise Albrecht moved that the “Proposals for Activities That Meet Requirements for Standard Certificate Eligibility” dated February 6, 2006, be approved. Linda Malone seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote. (See Attachment)

Renewal of Standard / Master Certificates (Group B List)

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

Item(s) for Discussion:

Basic Skills Test Study on Mathematics Scores

Laurie Gibler, Principal Education Consultant, Certification Division, updated members on the study that was conducted by the National Evaluation Systems (NES), “Effect of Increasing Minimum Allowable Score for Mathematics Subarea from 35% of Items Correct to 50% of Items Correct.” NES asked Ms. Gibler to stress that the MAS for each Basic Skills test subarea is NOT a cutscore or passing score for the subarea. Candidates must meet or exceed the total test score for the Basic Skills test (across all four test subareas) AND they must meet or exceed the MAS for each subarea even if they meet or exceed the total test score.

Andrew Brulle shared concerns about the low Minimum Allowable Score (MAS) in mathematics. He feels there is still a concern for those individuals who might fail if the cutscore is raised but he also sees a problem if we continue to maintain the status quo rather than begin to push for an increase in skills.

Eugene Zalewski asked how the distributions today differ from the initial set of distributions that was used to determine the 35% cutscore. Dr. Zalewski also inquired about the distributions of the other subareas noting that reading and language arts require a 50% of items correct. What are those distributions like in comparison to the ones for mathematics? Do they parallel?

There was discussion regarding the level of assessment of mathematics. Ms. Gibler will return to the next State Teacher Certification Board meeting with the correct information.

Linda Malone shared concerns about the MAS and how increasing the cutscore to 35% would impact minority teachers based on the study that was provided by NES but at the same time, she had concerns regarding the impact on Illinois students if the cutscore is not increased.

Dr. Dunn commented that this request came from the previous State Board of Education and he did not sense that it was something the current State Board required action on at this time.

Nina Dorsch brought up a variety of issues that might need to be addressed before a decision is made to raise the cutscore to 50%. 35% is a low number, how do we justify it? How are these same individuals doing in terms of passing in other areas of the test? Has the profile changed over time in math?

Dennis Williams stated that the State Teacher Certification Board can come back to this issue with additional comments or questions at a later date.

Calendar for Fall 2006 and Spring 2007

Dennis Williams announced that the new calendar would be presented for approval at the next State Teacher Certification Board Meeting, April 7, 2006.

Item(s) for Information:

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

Dennis Williams reported that there were 5,020 recommendations for Standard / Master Certificates renewed in Group A for the period of November 30, 2005 through February 28, 2006.

(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.)

Secretary's Report:

Dennis Williams provided a brief status report stating that Certification still does not have a backlog. Mr. Williams added that Administrator Audits were on schedule.

He stated that there were several member terms that would be expiring and he also acknowledged those members who may be retiring: Elliott Lessen and Kay Acklin – June 30, 2006.

Mr. Williams reported that Rebecca Watts, Chief of Staff, Illinois State Board of Education, requested that he bring a "State Teacher Certification Board Recognition Program" proposal to the State Teacher Certification Board for review. No action is necessary at this time but the proposal will be on the April 7, 2006 agenda for further discussion.

Mr. Williams also provided a brief overview on the status of HOUSSE which led to an extensive discussion among the members with regard to teachers becoming Highly Qualified.

Closed Session:

Nina Dorsch moved that the State Teacher Certification Board go into closed session under the exception set forth in the Illinois Open Meetings Act as follows:

Section 2(c)(11) for the purpose of discussing pending litigation.

Nina Dorsch also moved that the Board request Renee Vilatte, staff attorney at the Illinois State Board of Education; Dennis Williams, Secretary; Angela McDermott, Recorder; and Mitch Hopper, Multi-Media Specialist, be present at the closed session. Andrew Brulle seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Linda Malone moved that the State Teacher Certification Board adjourn from closed session and return to open session. Richard Ammentorp seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Adjournment:

With no further business, Denise Albrecht moved that the State Teacher Certification Board meeting adjourn. Nina Dorsch seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote. The State Teacher Certification Board meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

APPROVED

Chairman

Secretary

ATTACHMENT

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

Recommended for Approval
by State Board Staff
March 2006

Aviston Grade School
Bureau, Henry and Stark Counties ROE 28
Jones College Prep
Riverview Community Consolidated School District 2
Roxana Community Unit School District 1
Warren Township High School 121