

ILLINOIS STATE TEACHER CERTIFICATION BOARD

**Illinois State Board of Education
Springfield, Illinois**

Friday, May 7, 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 9:05 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
William Briggs
Andrew Brulle
Roger Chamberlain
Deidre Dare
Nina Dorsch
Connee Fitch-Blanks

Nan Giblin
Brenda Humphrey
Elliott Lessen
Laura Lipe
Linda Malone
Mary Jane Morris
Linda Tafel
Denise Williams
Eugene Zalewski

Members Absent:

Marsha Allen
Bruce Dennison

Barbara Eason-Watkins

Others Present:

Laura Barwegen
Bob Bigham
Harry Blackburn
Karen Craven
Deborah Curtis
Phyliss Jones
Jodi Kupper
Robert McCaherty

Shirley McCaherty
Debbie Meisner-Bertauski
Lee Patton
Paula Purdue
Lou Ann Reichle
Susan Shea
Jeffrey Shuck
Joyce Steckel

Mark Steckel
Lynn Steffen
Judie Steinhauser
Brenda Stonecipher
Linda Tomlinson
Karen Williams

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the April 1 - 2, 2004 Illinois State Teacher Certification Board meeting were presented for consideration. Nina Dorsch moved that the April 1 - 2, 2004 minutes be approved. Linda Tafel seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Public Participation:

Linda Tafel, Chair, Facilitation Committee, asked that Harry Blackburn, Hearing Officer, provide clarification to members of the State Teacher Certification Board regarding "Public Participation" related to the Certificate Revocation Hearing.

Mr. Blackburn informed the Board that any information brought forward in "Public Participation" should not include comments that may reference any facts, conclusions or evidence that was brought forward from the Certificate Revocation Hearing in November 2003.

After discussion by Certification Board members, Elliott Lessen moved that the Illinois State Teacher Certification Board not receive any "Public Participation" that related to the Certificate Revocation Hearing in any way, shape or form, either by substance or topic that may be related to the hearing itself. William Briggs seconded the motion. The motion passed with two nay votes.

Facilitation Committee's Report:

Linda Tafel, Chair of the Facilitation Committee, provided a brief overview of the agenda.

Item(s) for Immediate Action:

Proposals for Activities that Meet Requirements for Standard Certificate Eligibility

Eugene Zalewski moved that the "Proposals for Activities that Meet Requirements for Standard Certificate Eligibility" dated May 5, 2004 be approved. Elliott Lessen seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote. (See Attachment)

Kay Acklin indicated that on Page 2, "Proposals for Induction and Mentoring Programs", that Hinsdale Township High School District was not in DeKalb County, but rather DuPage County. The final document will reflect the correction.

New Program Proposal(s)

Millikin University (Early Childhood Education)

Phyliss Jones, Principal Education Consultant, Department of Certification and Professional Development, introduced Dr. Jodi Kupper, Director, School of Education, Millikin University.

Nina Dorsch asked if coursework and standards were incorporated within the program to achieve special education approval as well. Dr. Kupper stated that was correct. Dr. Dorsch further asked where a typical development in language is covered in the proposal. Dr. Kupper indicated it would be a combination of two courses – ED 320 (The Exceptional Child) and ED 239 (Characteristics of Young Children with Special Needs).

Eugene Zalewski asked if Millikin University currently has a BS and BA program in existence. Dr. Kupper shared that the University has an Elementary Education program that has the option of both a Bachelor of Science Degree and a Bachelor of Arts Degree. The courses within the major do not change. If approved, Millikin staff are prepared to implement a BS or BA program for Early Childhood in the fall.

Eugene Zalewski asked for clarification on Page 5, Item #7 – Are there any other places where the dispositions are assessed and what is the type of assessment that will be completed with the dispositions? Dr. Kupper answered that a disposition form will be used as an evaluation tool to identify deficiencies. Dr. Zalewski suggested that it might be appropriate to incorporate the detailed explanation regarding dispositions and assessment into the written program proposal.

Andrew Brulle raised questions regarding Checkpoint #2 – Admission to Teacher Education and Retention Criteria – Items #5 and #6. Can you define the achievement courses and how are you going to assess the motivation for developing teaching skills? Dr. Kupper provided explanation.

Elliott Lessen clarified that when using courses that are in existence and talking about diverse needs, the notion of special education and students with special needs is not indicated in the course title. Dr. Lessen suggested that course titles be changed in all of the courses where students with special needs are discussed so they are specifically addressed. It is a critical piece given that many programs have very identifiable courses in particular issues that they deal with in regards to special needs in early childhood.

In regard to the assessment plan, Elliott Lessen shared his concern that activities are used over and over again. One should ask in terms with what you do with a program that you identify very specifically the activities and how they are related to the standards, also look very specifically at what students are asked to do.

In regard to addressing the issue of capacity to offer this program in terms of faculty (Page #9), Dr. Kupper stated this program will need additional faculty – two full time

faculty minimum – one with early childhood expertise and one with early childhood special education expertise. The implementation plan is to utilize adjuncts beginning in the fall for the first year, and by the fall 2005, hire one full time faculty for early childhood and another in the third year of implementation.

Linda Tafel shared concern related to Page 7 – Assessment, specifically the statement, “By fall of 2007, this Unit Assessment System will be fully developed and implemented for all teacher education programs within the School of Education at Millikin University.” Dr. Tafel encouraged Dr. Kupper to work with state staff, particularly given the comments about the alignment of assessment of dispositions, knowledge and skills, over particular checkpoints of the program, that the date be re-examined. The assessment system needs to be in place and data needs to be forthcoming so when Millikin University is coming up on their 2007 visit there would be significant data available. Dr. Kupper indicated that statement was misrepresented. The statement should have indicated that four years of candidates would have been gone through by 2007. There would then be full implementation and collection.

Elliott Lessen moved for acceptance by the Certification Board and recommendation to the State Board of Education the proposal for an Early Childhood Education program from Millikin University, including the Early Childhood Special Education approval program, with the stipulation that within one year (June 2005) the institution must provide the State Teacher Certification Board the following information:

- Evidence of a better-defined assessment system;
- Evidence that it has renamed courses containing the special education content of Language Development and Family and Community Relationships in the course title; and
- Evidence that the proposed staffing plan has been achieved through employment of additional faculty.

Denise Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Discussion Items:

Middle Grade Credentials – Report of the Middle Grades Task Force and Next Steps

Dr. Schiller invited Dr. Deborah Curtis, Chair, Middle Grades Task Force, to present and answer any questions from the Certification Board in regard to the Middle Grades Task Force Report. He further stated that this discussion would hopefully present an agreement to move forward with the proposed next steps and possibly have the Middle Grades Task Force return in the fall for formal consideration of a plan for middle grade credentials.

Dr. Curtis stated the current report recommends that on July 1, 2008 the grade range pattern for proposed certificates would be as follows:

Early Childhood Certificate	Birth – 3 rd Grade
Elementary Certificate	Kindergarten – 5 th Grade
Middle Grades Certificate	5 th – 9 th Grade
Secondary Certificate	9 th – 12 th Grade

Dr. Schiller asked clarification regarding the timeline. Dr. Curtis stated July 1, 2008 would serve as a four-year window to give higher education institutions time to make a transition to such a structure.

In regard to teachers in the field, Dr. Curtis noted that a practicing teacher would be eligible to exchange a current certificate for two if he or she

- has earned the middle grades endorsement, or
- submits transcripts that show completion of the middle grades endorsement coursework, or
- can document three or more years of successful teaching at the middle level, or
- submits passing scores on the middle grades core and subject matter tests.

Roger Chamberlain commented on the individual design of the schools. Local governance allows different schools to develop their middle school design at varying degrees.

Elliott Lessen moved that the State Teacher Certification Board receive the Middle Grades Task Force Report as a framework for planning. The Task Force should prepare to present at the September Certification Board meeting to provide a timeline of how to move from the present to 2008, as well as steps along the way in terms of action, consideration in the short term and decision points that the panel anticipates. Nina Dorsch seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**(Closed Session) –
Recommended Decision on Certificate Revocation Matter:**

Mr. Harry Blackburn, Hearing Officer, was asked to return to outline the procedures for the rest of the day. He stated that in regard to the matter of the Cary Knox case, the State Teacher Certification Board would be charged with deliberating in closed session on what is considered the official record that has been presented at the revocation hearing on November 13, 2003. At that hearing, testimony was given by witnesses on both sides for both Superintendent Schiller and Mr. Knox, evidence was presented, and subsequent to the actual closing of the hearing on November 13th one deposition was taken of a witness by agreement of both parties, transcript prepared and submitted to the Certification Board. Finally, the State Teacher Certification Board will deliberate on the Proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Decision submitted by Mr. Blackburn on April 15, 2004.

Subsequent to that process the Certification Board will also have the responsibility of issuing a final order or decision that is in accordance with the Illinois Administrative Procedures Act, Section 5, ILCS 100/10-50.

Elliott Lessen moved that the State Teacher Certification Board go into closed session under the exceptions set forth in the Open Meetings Act of the State of Illinois (5 ILCS 120/2(c)) as follows:

Section 2(c)(4) for the purpose of discussing evidence or testimony presented in open hearing,

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

Elliott Lessen also moved that the Board request that Harry Blackburn, Assistant Legal Advisor; Dennis Williams, Interim Secretary of the State Teacher Certification Board; and Kathy Stratton, Recorder, Multi-Media and Web Services, be present at the closed session. William Briggs seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Dr. Schiller chose to recuse himself from the Closed Session.

(Reconvene from Closed Session) –

William Briggs moved to return to open session. Denise Williams seconded the motion.

Elliott Lessen moved that the State Teacher Certification Board accept the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law submitted by Mr. Harry Blackburn. Linda Tafel seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Under the authority of Section 21-23 (a) of the School Code, Elliott Lessen moved that the State Teacher Certification Board suspend the Elementary Teaching Certificate No. 1964347 of Cary Knox from February 1, 2004 through June 30, 2004. Nan Giblin seconded the motion. The motion passed with four nay votes.

Under the authority of Section 21-23 (a) of the School Code, Elliott Lessen moved that the State Teacher Certification Board suspend the Secondary Teaching Certificate 1964348 of Cary Knox from July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2009. Linda Tafel seconded the motion. The motion passed with one nay vote.

Linda Tafel, on behalf of the State Teacher Certification Board, directed Mr. Harry Blackburn to rewrite the final statement for action at the June 2004 meeting of the State Teacher Certification Board in order to set the effective date of the order.

Special Reports and Information Items:

Legislative Update –

Dr. Schiller shared that several constituent groups (unions, higher education, State Board and others) have been meeting with Representative Currie on behalf of Speaker Madigan to look at ways to modify the legislation that sets forth the initial to standard and recertification processes. He indicated that legislative language was being crafted that would expand the options for teachers trying to establish standard certificate eligibility. He noted that the original intentions were well designed, but not well executed because of the time limitations and demands placed on teachers in the first four years.

He further indicated stakeholders should expect to see legislation that everyone has worked on that will dramatically reduce the paper process in the recertification arena with regard to LPDCs and approvals, etc.

Secretary's Report –

In regard to future meetings of the Illinois State Teacher Certification Board, the following calendar dates were proposed, discussed and confirmed:

<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>
June 10 and 11, 2004 (two days)	January 7, 2005
July 9, 2004	February 4, 2005
August 5 and 6, 2004 (two days)	March 4, 2005
September 10, 2004	April 1, 2005
October 1, 2004	May 6, 2005
November 5, 2004	June 2 and 3, 2005 (two days)
December 2 and 3, 2004 (two days)	July 8, 2005

Note: August 5 – 6, 2004 (Meet at 11 a.m. on August 5th)

As an information item, Dennis Williams stated that the State Superintendent of Education has revoked the certificates of Todd A. Ricketts pursuant to Section 21-23 (a) of the School Code. The certificates are as follows: Standard Secondary Certificate No. 2065128 and Administrative (General) Certificate No. 1353695.

Mr. Williams also indicated that a hearing will take place on May 21, 2004 for Cheryl Lynn Hall. The information from this hearing should be available to Board members at the July 9, 2004 meeting of the State Teacher Certification Board.

Dr. Schiller stated that the State Board of Education just received notice that the Governor signed into approval the supplemental appropriation that would allow the State Board to restore money for the teacher certification revolving fee fund. This will allow hiring back the transcript evaluators and reinstate services to Chicago.

Mr. Dennis Williams shared with the Certification Board members the document, "Procedures for the State Teacher Certification Board to Review and Make Determinations of the Renewal of Standard and Master Teaching Certificates". Board members will be provided with their own login and password. A brief overview was provided.

Linda Tafel confirmed that in June, for those who need technology assistance, a demonstration would be provided to Certification Board members.

Member Reports and Questions –

None.

Adjournment:

Nan Giblin moved that the State Teacher Certification Board adjourn. Elliott Lessen seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

APPROVED

Chairman

Secretary

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

Recommended for Approval
by State Board Staff
May 2004

(None)

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

Recommended for Approval
by State Board Staff
May 2004

(None)

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

Recommended for Approval
by State Board Staff
May 2004

Summit School District 104	Cook
Cooperative Association for Special Education	DuPage
Southern Will County Special Education Cooperative	Will
Nauvoo-Colusa CUSD 325	Hancock
Skokie School District 69	Cook
*Hinsdale Township High School District 86	DuPage
LaGrange Highlands School District 106	Cook
George Letcher, Durand Educational Association	Winnebago
Springfield School District 186	Sangamon
Lincolnshire-Prairie View School District 103	Lake
East Peoria District 86	Tazewell
Wabash CUSD 348	Wabash
Lemont-Bromberek District 113A	Cook
New Trier Township High School Dist. 203	Cook
Forest Ridge School District 142	Cook
*River Forest District 90	Cook
*Downers Grove Community High School District 99	DuPage
Macomb Community Unit School District 185	McDonough
Karen Buchanan, Ph. D	Cook

**Districts that Adopted Approved Programs
May 2004**

*Woodland CUSD 5	LaSalle
*Tri-Valley CUSD 3	Crawford
Prairie Central CUSD 8	Crawford
Dwight Common School District 232	Crawford
*Heyworth CUSD 4	Crawford

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

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

Recommended for Approval
by State Board Staff
May 2004

Regional Office of Education #12, Richland County
Township High School District #113, Lake County
Downers Grove Community H. S. District 99, DuPage County
Regional Office of Education 02, Pulaski County
DuPage Regional Office of Education, DuPage County
Mid-Illini Educational Cooperative, Tazewell County
Regional Office of Education #03, Fayette County
Regional Office of Education #40 (**three proposals**), Macoupin County
Illinois Federation of Teachers (**two proposals**), DuPage County
Lombard Elementary School District 44, DuPage County
Leatherman, Kathy Lee (**two proposals**), Cook County
South Berwyn School District 100, Cook County
Four Rivers Special Education District (**five proposals**), Morgan County
Associated Colleges of Illinois, Cook County
Wabash CUSD #348, Wabash County
Clinton Comm. Unit Schools #15, DeWitt County
Ruben Salazar Bilingual Education Center, Cook County
West Central Four ROE, Adams County