

**STATE TEACHER CERTIFICATION BOARD**  
**MINUTES**  
**September 7, 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	Dr. Linda Tafel
Dr. Andrew Brulle	Ms. Camille Taylor
Dr. Cozette Buckney	Ms. Linda Tomlinson
Dr. Roger Chamberlain	Ms. Denise Williams
Ms. Deidre Dare	Dr. Eugene Zalewski
Mr. Bruce Dennison	

Dr. J. Robert Sampson, Secretary Presiding

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

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**A. 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:

Ms. Peggy Babcock	Ms. Beth Hanselman	Mr. Dennis Williams
Dr. Laura Barwegen	Ms. Linda Kopecky	Ms. Karen Williams
Ms. Lucille Buscher	Mr. Mike Long	Ms. Marti Woelfle
Mr. John Gambro	Dr. Linda Pincham	
Ms. Pat Glenn	Dr. Susan Shea	

**B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 10, 2001**

Mr. Robert Blade moved that the minutes of the August 10, 2001, meeting of the State Teacher Certification Board be approved as amended. Ms. Williams seconded the motion, and the motion was passed by unanimous voice vote.

**C. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None.

**D. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Superintendent Glenn W. M<sup>c</sup>Gee was not present.

**E. FACILITATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

Spokesperson Linda Tomlinson reviewed the day's agenda and discussed future meeting times for program reviews, as well as the issue of direct billing for lodging and meetings with the State Board.

Dr. Brulle commented on the new certification renewal tracking system that allows interaction among teachers, LPDC's, and regional offices of education. He stated that he is impressed with the relative simplicity of this system, which keeps account of teachers' professional development plans and stated he plans to work with regional offices in his area and encouraged other Board members to receive the training. Linda Tomlinson agreed to serve as Facilitation Committee Secretary for the year.

**F. SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Dr. Sampson reviewed the latest developments regarding the design and implementation of certification tests. In that regard, he commented that the recent NCREL study of the comparisons of the CAAP, the ETS Praxis I, and the new enhanced Basic Skills test proved to be inconclusive and that further study of these tests will be conducted and reported to the State Board in December.

Dr. Sampson stated the first administration of the enhanced Basic Skills test is scheduled for September 15, after which the Content Advisory Committee and the Bias Review Committee will convene to make recommendations regarding cut scores. Dr. Sampson commented that compensatory scoring model, which allows an examinee to perform a little weaker in one subarea while scoring high marks in the other subareas and still pass the test, is a better model.

Dr. Sampson also commented on the results of the language proficiency tests, reporting that proficiency on the English language portion was not very high.

Dr. Sampson summarized the process of endorsement, testing, and printing of the new special education certificates and reported on the recent discussions related to out-of-country testing for bilingual teachers.

**G. Items for Immediate Action:**

1. National Louis University -- Program Proposal for New Secondary Education Program in Classical Languages (Latin) and Modern Language (French, German, Italian and Spanish).

Linda Tomlinson and Dr. Brulle requested clarification of several issues related to the proposal.

Ms. Tomlinson moved that the program be approved with the minor modification as agreed to by the National-Louis University representative. Ms. Humphrey seconded the motion.

Motion passes by voice vote. One abstention.

2. Notification of Suspensions and Revocations:
  - a. Joseph E. Hayes, Secondary Certificate No. 1686665, Administrative – General Certificate No. 967605, Administrative – Superintendent Certificate No. 1251491 suspended by the State Superintendent of Education for five years pursuant to Section 21-23 of the School Code July 18, 2001.
  - b. Vickie Rae Vickery, Special (Type 10) Certificate No. 0965454 revoked by the State Superintendent of Education pursuant to Section 21-14 of the School Code, August 31, 2001.

**H. Reports and Announcements:**

1. Certification Testing Update:

Dr. Sampson introduced Pat Glenn who provided an update on the developments in certification testing, including the basic skills, the NCREL Study, and the emergency rules for calculating the passing score on the new enhanced Basic Skills test. The NCREL Study of the enhanced Basic Skills, Praxis I, and CAAP proved inconclusive. Staff has been requested to report to the Board in December regarding further study of the tests.

Ms. Vogl joined the discussion and stated there was no comment on any portion of the bilingual testing rules. However, comments were received on the elimination of the test requirement for the self-contained general education endorsement which allows applicants to split their certificates and add the self-contained endorsement to the elementary certificate and to allow institutions to use completion of the subject matter test as a prerequisite for completing their program, thus ensuring a 100% pass rate on the test.

Ms. Tomlinson responded to a request for direction from Ms. Glenn that it should be the institution's responsibility to enforce its requirements regarding when the content matter tests should be taken by their students.

Pat Glenn reported on the discussions held with the bilingual advisory committee and individuals from public school districts who recruit teachers from Mexico and Spain. She stated that the agency is reviewing the possibility of issuing a provisional to teachers prepared in other countries who want to teach in Illinois in bilingual classrooms.

Ms. Taylor initiated a discussion of the use of ESL tutors by districts. Other members commented that in addition to the use of tutors, there is some evidence of the use of non-qualified teachers teaching non-English speaking students.

2. Administrative Rules Update:

Ms. Vogl reported on the development of rules for foreign language certification. She reminded the Board of the visit in March by Senator Lisa Madigan and her interest in increasing the number of people eligible to receive certificates in some foreign languages. Ms. Vogl discussed some of the complexities of the issue.

Ms. Vogl stated she hoped a proposal could be brought to the Board as well as the State Board at the November meeting.

3. Title II Update:

Dr. Sampson introduced Mr. Mike Long, Division Administrator for Professional Preparation, and Beth Hanselman of the Professional Certification Division. Mr. Long gave a brief background of the 1998 amendments to the Higher Education Reauthorization Act which created, in part, a requirement that purports to demand accountability of teacher education institutions in the states in which those institutions reside.

Ms. Hanselman reported on the different components of the State Plan including institution pass rates, program descriptions, and certification requirements. In addition, she commented on the waivers that will be reported and the federal definitions of waivers. The Illinois certificates that fit that definition include certificates held by anyone who does not hold an Initial certificate, including long-term substitute, transitional bilingual, alternative provisional, resident teacher, part-time provisional certificates, provisional vocational, and temporary provisional certificates.

Ms. Hanselman then provided clarifying information on the qualifications required of persons who are issued the certificates that fall within the waiver definition.

4. NBPTS Update:

Dr. Sampson introduced Mike Long and Linda Kopecky for a NBPTS Update. Mr. Long presented an update on the state initiative regarding National Board Certification.

Ms. Kopecky reported on the program design, the profile of Illinois teachers, the incentives, and the long term goal to have more than one thousand teachers participate in the program.

Ms. Humphrey stated that Chicago seeks to have six Board certified teachers per school.

Dr. Linda Tafel reported that the districts were resistant. Mr. Long stated that most of the districts with NBPTS teachers are in the northern part of the state, and there is a need to start targeting the central and southern portions of the state. He emphasized the fact that the recruitment will have to come from the districts through a grass roots effort.

5. Certificate Renewal Update:

Dr. Sampson introduced Mr. Dennis Williams, Division Administrator, Certificate Renewal.

Mr. Williams reviewed the progress to date in approving professional development providers, the information collected from 42 Regional Offices of Education focus groups, and his plan to reconvene the Professional Development Committee to make recommendations regarding any changes in the system that may be needed, although he cautioned that he anticipates no legislative changes.

Mr. Williams responded to a number of questions raised by the Board and provided a brief report on the recent contract that was awarded to MGT of America to conduct a three-year study of all aspects of the certificate renewal system.

Closed Session:

Dr. Sampson introduced Lou Ann Reichle from the State Board of Education Legal Office.

Mr. Babcock moved to go into closed session, under the exception set forth in the Open Meetings Act of the State of Illinois (5ILCS120/2(c)) as follows:

Section 2(c) (15) for the discussion of professional ethics in a teacher certification matter and that Lou Ann Reichle, Assistant Legal Advisor, be present at the closed session. Seconded by Dr. Tafel.

Roll Call Vote: 18 Yes      0 Nay.  
Motion carries.

Dr. Tafel moved to return to open session, seconded by Ms. Williams.

Roll Call Vote: 17 Yes      0 Nay.  
Motion carries.

Mr. Babcock moved that the Secretary of the State Teacher Certification Board inform Cheryl Lynn Hall, Jean Ann Joyner, and Linda M. Strean via U. S. mail certified, that each has the opportunity to surrender their certificate, and should that not occur in fourteen days, the State Superintendent will appoint an attorney licensed to practice law in Illinois to serve as the hearing officer to conduct a hearing in the revocation procedures regarding their certificates. Dr. Tafel seconded the motion.

Motion passes by unanimous voice vote.

Dr. Tafel moved that the State Teacher Certification Board adopt a procedure to govern the review of decisions by the State Superintendent of Education, to suspend teaching or administrative certificates under section 21-23 (a) of the School Code, as proposed by legal counsel for a period to extend to June 30, 2002, as amended. Motion seconded by Mr. Babcock.

Roll Call Vote: 13 Yes      5 present/abstention  
Motion carries.

Mr. Williams Briggs commented that all correspondence between a representative of the State Teacher Certification Board and the State Board of Education should go to everybody not one particular group.

Mr. Babcock moved that the State Teacher Certification Board request the Secretary of the Board to appoint an attorney licensed to practice law in Illinois to serve as the administrative law judge to conduct the review proceeding involving the appeal of the suspension of the certificates of Joseph E. Hayes. In connection with said proceedings, the administrative law judge shall be authorized to review the record on appeal, the briefs submitted, and the oral argument; make rulings on motions and objections; submit proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law; and to perform any other lawful duties as required to conduct a full, fair and impartial review proceeding. Dr. Tafel seconded the motion.

Motion passes by unanimous voice vote.

6. Ms. Reichle gave an update on Corey H. stating that Judge Gettleman ordered the State Board to implement and disseminate the transition rules on August 15, 2001. She also informed the Board on the petition to intervene which was denied by Judge Gettleman on August 15, 2001, and a motion made by the Chicago Board of Education to dismiss the lawsuit on intervention, for which the court set a status call for October 9, 2001. On August 17, the State Board submitted a draft implementation plan for parts of the settlement agreement. Paragraphs 29 through 33 of the settlement agreement entered into in 1999 deal with certification, continuing professional development, and teacher training. The State Board was required to submit an implementation plan to show specific steps that will be used to meet the agreement. In an Appeal from the Reed L. lawsuit in June 2001, the plaintiffs filed a motion for a temporary restraining order (TRO) and preliminary injunction to prohibit the State Board from going forward with the transition rules. The oral argument will be held September 25, on the appeal of the denial of the TRO in the Reed L. lawsuit. The State Board is moving forward with the transition rules.

Dr. Brulle moved that the State Teacher Certification Board adjourn. Mr. Briggs seconded the motion.

Motion passes by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVED

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Chairman

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Secretary