The meeting was called to order at 2:10 p.m. by the Chairman, Mr. Gidwitz, who asked Alison Harbour, the staff secretary to the Board, to call the roll. Ms. Harbour called the roll of members. A quorum was present.

The Chairman indicated that Mr. Serritella would not be attending the Board meeting this month due to business commitments.


The Chairman explained that the first agenda item was one of major importance and would address the following three pieces of new aligned system of support:

- The Designation System
- The Support System
- The Academic Warning List

Superintendent McGee reported that staff would be presenting final recommendations regarding the school designation system for planned action in December. He explained that staff would also discuss the alignment of the Support System to the Designation System, and the qualification process for schools to be placed on the Academic Warning List. He indicated that he would be recommending the Board’s approval of the Academic Warning List.

The Superintendent noted that it was his hope that the Board would act on the recommendations regarding the Designation System and further the discussion regarding the System of Support. He reported that a great deal of effort has been made to obtain input into the Designation System. He noted that Partner Groups have been open in their ideas, which are reflected in the Designation System design.
Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input. Staff members Michael Dunn, Carmen Pfeiffer Chapman, Sheryl Poggi, Xavier Botana, and Don Full assisted in answering questions. Phil Hanson, from the Chicago Public Schools, and Jim Rosberg, of the Belleville Public Schools, also assisted in answering questions.

The Chairman called for Agenda Item, Enhanced Basic Skills Test Cut Scores. The Chairman indicated that issues relating to teacher preparation, certification, and continuing professional development are receiving a great deal of attention. He commented that the Board is committed to improving this system and toward this goal has implemented the Enhanced Basic Skills Test.

Superintendent McGee stated that the first implementation of the Enhanced Basic Skills Test was in September 2001. He indicated that following that first administration, the Basic Skills Advisory Group, the Basic Skills Content Advisory Committee, and the Bias Review Committee met together for a passing score review meeting. He noted that the recommendations from that process were presented to the State Teacher Certification Board (STCB). He said that the STCB approved the recommendations for the State Board’s consideration and requested the passing scores in each subarea be reviewed annually with intent to raise the scores.

Discussion followed regarding the process for establishing the recommended passing scores and the rationale for each recommended score and for clarification purposes and Board members' input.

The Chairman called for Agenda Item, Rules and Regulations Overview. Chairman Gidwitz indicated that the Board would be taking action on a number of rule and regulations sets. He noted that staff would provide a brief overview of each set of rules and answer any questions that the Board might have.

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input.

The Chairman called for a motion to go into closed session. Mrs. Rogers moved that “the State Board of Education go into a closed meeting on November 14 at 5:30 p.m., or immediately following the recess of the public meeting, under the exceptions set forth in the Open Meeting Act of the State of Illinois as follows:

- Section 2 (c) (1) for the purpose of discussing information regarding appointment, employment or dismissal of an employee.
She further moved that Superintendent McGee be included in this meeting and that the Board be authorized to invite anyone else into the meeting as needed.”

Mrs. McConachie seconded the motion.

**Vote on Motion**

The Chairman called for a roll call vote on the motion. The motion passed with the following votes recorded.

- Ms. Branch - yes
- Mrs. Rogers - yes
- Dr. Steiner - yes
- Mr. Gidwitz - yes
- Mr. Sandsmark - yes
- Mrs. Turkal - yes
- Mrs. McConachie – yes

The public meeting recessed at 5:15 p.m. and the Board went into closed meeting at 5:30 p.m. The closed meeting recessed at 9:00 p.m. and reconvened on November 15 at 7:30 a.m. The closed session meeting recessed at 8:00 a.m.

The public meeting reconvened and was called to order by Chairman Gidwitz on November 15 at 8:15 a.m.

**Goals & Measures: Baseline Data**

The Chairman called for Agenda Item, Goals and Measures: Baseline Data.

The Chairman indicated that last month the Board adopted goals and measures for the Agency and the Board. He noted that at that time the Board had asked that baseline data be shared for those measures (see Addendum III).

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input.

**FY 2003 Budget**

The Chairman called for Agenda Item, FY 2003 Budget.

The Chairman indicated that the next item on the agenda was the State Board's Budget for FY 2003. He noted that the Board had held one Budget Hearing to obtain constituent and Partner input and would hold another Hearing that afternoon at 3:00 p.m.

The Superintendent reported that major budget issues face the Board at this time. He indicated that staff would be discussing three budget scenarios that the Board would need to deliberate and decide what next steps are necessary. He noted that after all input is obtained, the final budget recommendations for FY 2003 would be presented to the Board at its December Board meeting.

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input. Staff member David Wood assisted in answering questions.
The Chairman called for Agenda Item, Career and Technical Education (CTE).

The Chairman reported that in May of 2001, the Career and Technical Education Task Force had provided a presentation on their recommendations. He indicated that at that time, staff were asked to work internally and with the Board's Partners to prioritize and translate the recommendations into implementation actions. He indicated that staff would provide an overview of the progress relating to that request.

The Superintendent commented that staff anticipate returning with policy to assist in moving these recommendations forward at the December Board meeting. He indicated that alignment with the newly adopted Board Goals and Measures has been eminent in the work of the staff in this effort. He noted that implementation is designed to forge ahead in alignment with best practices, future trends, and most importantly, the Agency’s Goals and Measures.

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input. Staff member Diana Robinson assisted in responding to questions.

Chairman Gidwitz commented that there was additional time on the meeting agenda for discussion or reporting on issues of interest or concern. He indicated that Committee reports could be given at this time.

Mrs. Rogers indicated that the Committee was looking forward to the December Board meeting because the Board would be going on a field trip. She noted that students go on field trips and the Committee felt that the Board needed to go on a field trip also. She explained that the Committee would be working with Chairman Gidwitz regarding the arrangements for this trip during the meeting. She also reported that during the Joint Annual School Board Conference the Board members would be facilitating five focus group meetings with local board members. She noted that these focus groups would discuss the Board’s goals and qualifications for the State Superintendent’s position.

Mrs. Rogers also reported that she and Mr. Sandsmark, Dr. Steiner and Mrs. Turkal had been members of the Thomas Lay Burroughs Award Selection Committee. She noted that this Award would be presented by Chairman Gidwitz on Sunday of the Joint Annual School Board Conference. She commented that the Selection Committee members had agreed to discuss talking to the Illinois Association of School Boards to try and negotiate a different day during the Conference for this Award to be presented.
Mrs. Rogers also indicated that the Burroughs Selection Committee had agreed to ask some of the finalist for this Award to serve as members of an ongoing State Board advisory committee. She noted that this advisory committee would be especially helpful by giving the State Board input on the superintendent search process and the budget. She also indicated that the Selection Committee had agreed to give out additional awards to honor outstanding local board members called Educational Heroes Awards. She noted that these awards could be presented to the winners during their local district board meetings.

Mrs. McConachie reported that the Joint Education Committee had met on Tuesday, November 6 and discussed the following three items.

- The Core Curriculum to be required for all high school students;
- The Unified Plan; and
- Teacher Education Programs on Community College campus.

Mrs. McConachie reported that the Committee did not meet this month but she commented that the Chairman had given the Committee several recent assignments. She also indicated that the Committee still needs to report back to the Board with a proposal for its engagement with education governance issues.

Mrs. McConachie indicated that she had attended ten different national forums, State Board Network, legislative, and Schoolhouse meetings. She also noted that one of the meetings she attended was an educational policy meeting for Latinos in Illinois. She asked that her one-page summary of that meeting be distributed to the Board.

Mrs. McConachie also informed the Board that she had participated in various NASBE projects regarding e-Learning topics.

Chairman Gidwitz reported that Mrs. Turkal had agreed to serve as a member of the Board’s Strategic Agenda Committee. He also commented that he was creating an ad hoc committee to review the State Board’s Bylaws. He noted that he would be serving as chair of this committee unless another Board member had a desire to do so. He asked Board members to let him or Kathy Nicholson-Tosh know if they were interested in serving on this temporary committee.

Mrs. Turkal congratulated Superintendent McGee for being inducted into the Lyons Township Hall of Fame.

An audio tape of the meeting is available through the State Board office in Springfield (217/782-9560).
Adjournment  The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

__________________________________________
Connie Rogers, Secretary

__________________________________________
Ronald J. Gidwitz, Chairman