Agenda Topic: Education Summit

Materials: None

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Purpose of Agenda Item

- To present the final recommendations emerging from the Governor’s Statewide Education Summit; and

- To inform the Board about next steps.

Expected Outcomes of Agenda Item

- Board understanding of the recommendations and their implications for short- and long-term action by the State and the State Board of Education.

Background Information

In December 2001, Governor Ryan convened an Education Summit to study the status of Illinois’ educator workforce, and to make recommendations for both maintaining high quality and assuring sufficient numbers of teachers and administrators to staff our schools.

Summit delegates included legislators, K-12 and higher education leaders, parent representatives, employers, commerce and community leaders and education researchers. Their discussions covered a full range of educator supply and quality issues, including recruitment, preparation, retention and professional development. As background for their work, the delegates reviewed a white paper prepared by the Joint Education Committee in response to House Resolution 250, passed in the spring of 2001.

After gathering public feedback on their initial recommendations (see attached recommendations and summary of feedback), the Summit delegates reconvened in Springfield on January 28, 2002. At that meeting, they refined and prioritized their recommendations for action by the State.

A team representing the Governor’s Office, the State Board of Education, the
Board of Higher Education, and Summit participants is now translating the work of the Summit participants into a final set of priority recommendations and a comprehensive legislative and budget proposal. During the February Board meeting, the results of this effort will be shared with the Board.