MEMBERS PRESENT:
Ronald J. Gidwitz       William E. Hill       Vincent J. Serritella
Marjorie B. Branch      Connie Rogers       Janet Steiner

Glenn W. "Max" McGee, State Superintendent of Education

MEMBERS ABSENT:
David P. Gomez, Marilyn McConachie, Sandra M. Pellegrino

The meeting was called to order at 9:50 a.m. by the Chairman, Mr. Gidwitz, who asked Judy Carmody, the staff secretary to the Board, to call the roll. Mrs. Carmody called the roll of members. A quorum was present.

Chairman Gidwitz asked Mrs. Rogers to act as Secretary pro tem for the meeting.

The Chairman indicated that Mr. Gomez, Mrs. McConachie, and Ms. Pellegrino were unable to be present because of business conflicts. He noted that Mrs. McConachie would be joining the Board by phone for the Plenary Business Meeting.

Superintendent McGee indicated that the Board Priority Report for schools in academic difficulty does address several activities/efforts that assist the AEWL schools. He noted that beyond that, there are many additional areas/divisions of the agency that support low-performing schools.

Assistant Chief Deputy Michael Dunn and Division Administrators Xavier Botana, Sheryl Poggi, Don Full, and Eunice Greer gave a presentation on all the efforts in the agency that address the needs of these schools. They shared the value of addressing this issue from a broader perspective (see Addendum II).

The Superintendent reviewed the other Board Priority area accomplishments -- math, reading, quality educators, early learning, etc.

An audio tape of the meeting is available through the State Board office in Springfield (217/782-9560).
The Chairman called for Agenda Item B., Middle-Level Education: Draft Standards and Structural Recommendations.

Chairman Gidwitz reported that several of the Board members had asked about the status of the middle-level education teacher standards and the recommendations of the Middle-Grade Advisory Panel.

Superintendent McGee indicated that at this meeting, the Board members would have their first discussion regarding the recommendations of the Middle-Grade Advisory Panel.

Deb Curtis, chair of the Panel, and Division Administrator Mike Long provided an overview of the recommendations as they now stand. Discussion followed for clarification purposes.

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 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Connie Rogers, Secretary pro tem

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Ronald J. Gidwitz, Chairman