MEMBERS PRESENT:
Ronald J. Gidwitz  Marilyn McConachie  Janet Steiner
Marjorie B. Branch  Vincent J. Serritella  Beverly Turkal

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:
Connie Rogers

Roll Call  The meeting was called to order at 9:40 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 indicated that Mrs. Rogers was not able to attend the meeting this month.

Assessment System  The Chairman called for Agenda Item A., Assessment System Update. This item was deferred until a later meeting.

Federal Relations  The Chairman called for Agenda Item D., Federal Relations.

Gail Lieberman, Director of the Federal Relations Office, provided an update on federal relations issues (see Addendum II).

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input.

An audio tape of the meeting is available through the State Board office in Springfield (217/782-9560).

Early Learning  The Chairman called for Agenda Item B., Early Learning.

Superintendent McGee indicated that significant progress has been made in this Board priority area. He reported that with the formation of the Governor's Task Force for Universal Preschool, we anticipate an expanded focus and discussion on this priority area over the next year as policy considerations spring forth from the work of the Task Force and are brought to the Board. He asked the Board to share insights and endorse the work of agency staff on issues surrounding early learning.
The Superintendent thanked Linda Housewright, a teacher at Dallas City, for her testimony at the Capitol.

Division Administrator Kay Henderson and Ms. Housewright provided an update on the progress and future plans regarding the expansion of Early Learning programs (see Addendum III).

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members’ input.

An audio tape of the meeting is available through the State Board office in Springfield (217/782-9560).

Priority Reports

The Chairman called for Agenda Item C., Board Priority Reports.

The Superintendent indicated that he would provide the Board members the rest of his remarks for the Priority Reports at a later time.

Adjournment

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Janet Steiner, Secretary pro tem

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Ronald J. Gidwitz, Chairman