The meeting was called to order at 3:00 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.

Chairman Gidwitz asked for a motion for the Board to go into closed session. Mrs. Rogers moved that the State Board of Education go into closed session under the exceptions set forth in the Open Meetings 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;
- Section 2 (c) (4) for the purpose of acting as a quasi-adjudicative body; and
- Section 2 (c) (11) for the purpose of discussing litigation.

She further moved that the Board be authorized to invite anyone else into the meeting as needed.

Mrs. McConachie seconded the motion.

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

- Ms. Branch - yes
- Mr. Gidwitz - yes
- Ms. Gold - not present to vote
- Mrs. McConachie - not present to vote
- Mr. Sandsmark - not present to vote
- Dr. Steiner - yes
- Mr. Serritella - yes
- Mrs. Rogers - yes
- Mrs. Turkal - yes
The Board members went into a closed meeting at 3:05 p.m. and recessed at 4:00 p.m. The open meeting reconvened at 4:05 p.m.

Ms. Branch and Ms. Gold had to leave the meeting at this time.

The Chairman called for a motion regarding the Rockford YouthBuild Charter School.

**Motion**

Mrs. McConachie moved that the State Board of Education hereby requests additional information and/or responses to questions to assist in the determination of appeal status of YouthBuild Rockford Charter School as follows:

1. Copies of statute and the Code reference number from ISBE’s General Counsel identifying the responsibilities of public school districts in serving students and the age of youth to be served.

2. A comparison of YouthBuild’s program with the ROE alternative learning program and the District’s alternative program from YouthBuild.

3. Responses from YouthBuild regarding the use of Workforce Investment Act funds – are they used and, if so, for what purpose?

4. An explanation of the use of stipend funds as identified in the YouthBuild budget and the origin of the funds.

5. An independent financial analysis by ISBE staff of costs and budget impact of various scenarios on Rockford and YouthBuild budgets.

6. An explanation by ISBE’s General Counsel of the criteria that can be used for approval or disapproval of a Charter School appeal.

7. Identification of the specific hardships placed on Rockford District should this charter be approved.

8. Identification of Rockford programs that will be in jeopardy should this charter be approved.

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

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

The Chairman called for a motion to approve the State Superintendent’s employment contract.

Chairman Gidwitz moved that the State Board of Education hereby approves the employment agreement for Respicio Vazquez as State Superintendent of Education for a term commencing February 1, 2002, and ending June 30, 2002, at an amount not to exceed $79,167.00. The term of this agreement may be extended if the parties so agree.

Mr. Serritella seconded the motion.

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

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

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

___________________________________________
Connie Rogers, Secretary

___________________________________________
Ronald J. Gidwitz, Chairman