The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.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 indicated that Mr. Serritella will not be able to attend this meeting due to conflicting business engagements.

The Chairman called for Agenda Item B., Public Participation. The following individuals spoke to the Board.

Jay Runner, representing Facilitating Coordination in Agricultural Education, spoke to the Board regarding Agricultural Education.

Andy Schwarm, representing the Student Advisory Council, spoke to the Board regarding the Student Advisory Council.

Laura Arterburn, representing the Illinois Federation of Teachers, spoke to the Board regarding the Hazel Crest School District.

Bernadette Anderson, representing Metro-East Parent Connection Solid Foundation, spoke to the Board regarding parent involvement.

Debbie Meisner Bertauski, representing the Illinois Board of Higher Education, spoke to the Board regarding middle level certification.
Donna Baiocchi, representing ED-RED, spoke to the Board regarding the School District Financial Profile System.

**Approval of Minutes**

The Chairman called for Agenda Item C., Approval of Minutes.

**Motion**

Ms. Branch moved that the State Board of Education hereby approves the minutes of the meetings on September 18-19, 2002, as published.

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

**Financial Oversight Panel Report**

The Chairman called for Agenda Item D., Immediate Action Items, East St. Louis Financial Oversight Panel Annual Report.

The Superintendent recognized the State Board’s support for the tireless efforts of the East St. Louis Financial Oversight Panel members, and he recommended that the Board accept the Panel’s Annual Report.

**Motion**

Mrs. Turkal moved that the State Board of Education hereby accepts the East St. Louis School District #189 Financial Oversight Panel Annual Report.

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. McConachie – yes
- Dr. Steiner – yes
- Mr. Gidwitz – yes
- Mrs. Rogers – yes
- Mrs. Turkal – yes
- Ms. Gold – yes
- Mr. Sandsmark – yes
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Illinois Institute of Technology

The Chairman called for Agenda Item D., Immediate Action Items, Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT).

The Superintendent and Board members discussed and considered IIT’s notice of objection to the Certification Board’s recommendations concerning provisional unit accreditation and program.

Motion
Mrs. McConachie moved that the State Board of Education hereby approves the following decision:

Based on a review of the recommendations of the State Teacher Certification Board, the objections presented by the Illinois Institute of Technology to those recommendations and the supporting documentation, the State Board of Education recognizes the institution, accredits the educational unit without conditions and assigns provisional approval to the science education program. There is no requirement for a focused visit within two years as recommended by the State Teacher Certification Board. A written decision will follow within 30 days.

Mrs. Rogers 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. McConachie – yes  Dr. Steiner – yes
Mr. Gidwitz – yes  Mrs. Rogers – yes  Mrs. Turkal – abstain
Ms. Gold – yes  Mr. Sandsmark – yes

Middle Level Certification – Survey Results and Next Steps.

The Superintendent recommended that the Board propose the enhancement of the present middle level endorsement as an alternative to middle level certification by potentially redefining the present endorsement in terms of selected standards and performance indicators.

Motion
Mrs. McConachie moved that the State Board of Education hereby approves the next steps regarding the enhancement of the Middle Level Endorsement to increase its rigor and to align it with the State Standards.

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

The Superintendent asked the Board to consider the recommendation of the GED 2002 Fee committee and approve the proposed GED application fee increase.

Ms. Gold moved that the State Board of Education hereby approves the Illinois GED Testing Program Application Fee increase from $30 to $35 effective January 1, 2003.

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

The Superintendent asked the Board to authorize solicitation of public comment on Rules: Part 25 (Certification).

The Superintendent asked the Board to authorize solicitation of public comment on Rules: Part 25 (Certification). He indicated that with the Board’s authorization, staff will submit the proposed amendments to the Administrative Code Division for publication in the Illinois Register to elicit public comment. He said that additional means such as the Superintendent’s Bulletin and the agency web site (www.isbe.net) will also be used to inform interested parties of the opportunity to comment on this rulemaking.
Dr. Steiner moved that the State Board of Education hereby authorizes solicitation of public comment on the proposed rulemaking for:

Certification (23 Illinois Administrative Code 25),

including publication of the proposed amendments in the Illinois Register.

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

The Chairman called for Agenda Item D., Immediate Action Items, Reports
Finance, Audit, and Agency Operations Reports.

The Superintendent asked the Board to accept and approve the monthly Finance, Audit, and Agency Operations Status Reports.

Mr. Sandsmark moved that the State Board of Education hereby accepts the financial, audit, and agency operations reports presented during the meeting in October 2002.

Mrs. Turkal 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  Mrs. McConachie – yes  Dr. Steiner – yes
Mr. Gidwitz – yes  Mrs. Rogers – yes  Mrs. Turkal – yes
Ms. Gold – yes  Mr. Sandsmark – yes
Hazel Crest School District

The Chairman called for Agenda Item D., Immediate Action Items, Hazel Crest School District 152 ½ Petition for Financial Oversight Panel.

The Superintendent asked the Board to accept the petition requesting an Emergency Financial Oversight Panel for Hazel Crest School District 152 ½, certify the district as being "in financial difficulty," authorize him to appoint the Financial Oversight Panel, and direct him to meet with interested individuals regarding the situation.

Motion

Mrs. Rogers said that whereas, pursuant to Section 1B-4 of the School Code (105 ILCS 5/1B-4), Hazel Crest School District 152 ½ has petitioned the State Board of Education for emergency financial assistance and the establishment of a Financial Oversight Panel by affirmative vote of a majority of the board of Hazel Crest School District 152 ½ on October 7, 2002; and,

Whereas, Hazel Crest School District 152 ½ has presented clear and convincing documentation of its past, present and future financial condition that warrants the immediate Certification by the State Board of Education as being in financial difficulty pursuant to Section 1A-8 of the School Code by the Board; and,

Whereas, the State Board has reviewed the current financial condition of the School District and the Petition for Emergency Financial Assistance and the Establishment of a Financial Oversight Panel (Petition); and

Whereas, the State Superintendent has recommended that the clear and convincing financial documentation of the Hazel Crest School District 152 ½ warrants the immediate Certification by the State Board as a School District in financial need and that the Petition be granted; and

Whereas, pursuant to Section 1B-4 of the School Code (105 ILCS 5/1B-4), the State Board finds as follows:

1. That allowing the Petition is in the immediate and best educational interests of the students of the School District.

2. That allowing the Petition is in the near term best financial interests of the school district.
3. That the school district has sufficient pupil enrollment to provide and maintain recognized schools.

4. That allowing the Petition is in the best interests of the other schools of the area and the educational welfare of all the students therein.

5. That Hazel Crest School District 152 ½ intends to comply with the requirements of Section 1A-8 of the School Code regarding school districts certified to be in financial difficulty.

Therefore, Mrs. Rogers moved that the State Board of Education certifies that Hazel Crest School District 152 ½ is “in financial difficulty” and thereby grants the Petition for Emergency Financial Assistance and the establishment of a Financial Oversight Panel of Hazel Crest School District 152 ½.

Mrs. Rogers further moved that the State Board of Education directs the State Superintendent to meet with the local board of the Hazel Crest School District as well as other interested individuals to explore possible solutions.

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

**Supt. Report**

The Chairman called for Agenda Item E., Announcements and Reports, Superintendent.

Superintendent Schiller announced the following information:

- Staff member Nona Myers will retire at the end of October;
- The Assessment and Accountability Task Force met on September 23 and October 8;
• Additional clarifications and plans regarding baseline, target, group size, for Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) need to be finalized and become part the Consolidated State Plan for No Child Left Behind (NCLB);
• The NCLB Highly Qualified Teachers draft guidance document was disseminated after the September Board meeting and it has been well received by the school community;
• The NCLB Supplemental Education Services criteria was posted on the agency web site and the application for providers was finalized and also posted on the web site;
• The monthly status report regarding the implementation of the recommendations under the Deloitte and Touche Plan has been presented to the Board;
• Clarified that the Deloitte and Touche Plan outlines possible reoccurring savings to the agency and noted that there is some cost associated with potential savings;
• The Education Leadership Forums were very successful and he and the Board were very pleased with the information that was shared;
• He and the Board members had attended a breakfast meeting earlier in the day with local educators from the Edwardsville School District; and
• The Board’s Budget hearing would be held today at 1:00 p.m. in the Holiday Inn’s Ball Room A/B.

Chairman

The Chairman called for Agenda Item E., Announcements and Reports, Chairman. There was nothing further to report.

Committees

The Chairman called for Agenda Item E., Announcements and Reports, Committees.

Board

Mrs. Rogers reported that next month’s Board meeting would be held on Thursday, November 21 at the Museum of Science and Industry. She noted that this would enable the State Board members to participate in the Joint Annual School Board Conference being held on November 22-24. She commented that the Board hopes to continue the Education Leadership Forums at the Joint Annual Conference to discuss NCLB, funding issues, and teacher shortage issues. She also indicated that during the Joint Annual Conference the State Board would be presenting the following two awards:
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- Thomas Lay Burroughs Award for the state’s outstanding school board president; and  
- The Education Hero Award.

**Joint Education**  
Mrs. McConachie reported that the Joint Education Committee would meet on Tuesday, October 22 to discuss several topics including the Prairie State Achievement Examination (PSAE) tracking study and issues addressing impending teacher shortages.

**Members**  
The Chairman called for Agenda Item E., Announcements and Reports, Members.

Mrs. Rogers and Mrs. McConachie reported on their attendance at the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Annual Conference on October 11-12 in San Diego. They highlighted the following issues:

- No Child Left Behind (NCLB) excitement and trepidation;  
- Professional development and closing the achievement gap;  
- Annual testing and ways to address the achievement gap are two general agreement items among superintendents and other “education watchers”; and  
- NASBE Study Group on Restructuring High Schools: Rethinking the Institution.

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 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

______________________________  
Connie Rogers, Secretary

______________________________  
Ronald J. Gidwitz, Chairman