Agenda Topic: Strategic Planning: State Board of Education Vision, Mission and Goals

Materials: Vision Statement  
Mission Statement  
Goals and Measures

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Purposes of Agenda Item

- Presentation of final recommendations for Board/agency vision, mission and goals.

Expected Outcome

- Final Board action on the recommendations; and
- Board direction to staff regarding next steps.

Background Information

For several months, Board members and staff have been working to revise the existing vision, mission and goal statements and to identify appropriate measures for evaluating success. The purposes of this revision were to simplify the statements, to clarify their focus, and to highlight areas of priority.

The recommendations that follow are not intended to indicate a shift in Board direction nor an abandonment of earlier goals and priorities. In fact, all of the Board’s emphases during the past several years (whether they were called “commitments” or “priorities” or “goals”) are subsumed under 4 key goal areas. For example, teacher quality will be an area of significant strategic action under the “Student Achievement” goal.

However, implicit in these recommendations are several principles that the Board and staff have informally endorsed throughout their discussions. Those principles include

- Vision and mission statements, and goals and measures that apply to both the governing Board (i.e., Board members) and the state education agency (i.e., staff);
A vision for Illinois education that emphasizes a common set of expectations for all students (e.g., prepared to succeed in “post-secondary education and career opportunities”);

A mission statement and goals that reflect multiple State Board roles and responsibilities (e.g., leadership, advocacy and support);

A mission statement and goals that acknowledge that local school districts are the primary agent for delivery of educational services to students;

A mission statement and goals that emphasize that success will depend on collaboration among many partners;

Goals and measures that reflect research and best practices and add value to the efforts of others (particularly local school districts); and

Measures that are significant indicators and for which data can be obtained.

Proposal

The recommended vision, mission, goals and measures are presented on the following page. There are four key goal areas, each with four measures for determining progress.

A. Student Achievement  
B. Policies and Services  
C. Funding  
D. Collaboration

The recommended vision, mission, goals and measures will be used strategically in the following ways:

1. To demonstrate what the State Board of Education does.  
2. To establish a basis for measuring improvement.  
3. To provide a framework for business plans, internal measures, and public reports.  
4. To organize development of budgets.  
5. To shape goal-driven business plans across divisions and departments.  
6. To frame criteria for evaluating the pros and cons of Board action.

Recommendation

The State Board of Education should adopt the recommended vision, mission, goals and measures.

Next Steps
Use of the adopted vision, mission, goals and measures as shown above.