WEDNESDAY, January 15, 2003

11:00 a.m.  Finance & Audit Committee Meeting
            3rd Floor

12:00 p.m.  Lunch
            3rd Floor

1:00 p.m.   Board Member Inauguration Ceremony
            3rd Floor

1:15 p.m.   Call Meeting to Order/Roll Call

School District Showcase

Education Policy/Planning Issues
  ▪ Educator Supply & Demand in Illinois 2002 Annual Report**
  ▪ State Accountability System**
  ▪ 2003 Cumulative Waiver Report**
  ▪ Paraprofessional Assessment Guidance and Timeline**
  ▪ Illinois Virtual High School Update
  ▪ Rules for Adoption: **
      o Amendments to Part 25 (Certification).
      o Amendments to Part 29
        (Standards for Administrative Certification)
  ▪ Rules for Initial Review:**
      o Amendments to Part 228
        (Transitional Bilingual Education)

Finance and Audit Issues
  ▪ Standard Monthly Reports:
      o Finance, Audit, Agency Operations
        Status Reports**
  ▪ Qualified Zone Academy Bond Credit Allocations for
    FY 02 and FY 03**

5:00 p.m.    ADJOURN

7:00 p.m.    Dinner & Closed Session
9:30 a.m.  Governmental Affairs Issues

- State Legislative Update
- Federal Legislative Status Report

10:00 a.m.  PLENARY BUSINESS MEETING***

A. Call Meeting to Order/Roll Call

B. Public Participation

C. Approval of Minutes:
   - December 18 & 19, 2002 Board Meeting

D. Immediate Action Items**
   - Accept the Educator Supply & Demand in Illinois 2002 Annual Report and authorize its transmittal to the Governor, General Assembly, and institutions of higher education
   - Renew the Board’s endorsement of a multiple-indicator comprehensive accountability system and direct the Superintendent and staff to bring forward recommendations in February, March, and April that meet Board policy directives, best practice parameters, and comply with federal accountability requirements
   - Approve the 2003 Cumulative Waiver Report and authorize its transmittal to the General Assembly
   - Approve the Draft Guidance on Paraprofessional Assessment and the Paraprofessional Assessment Timeline; authorize staff to distribute the guidance document to local districts, regional offices of education, and other external stakeholders; and direct staff to proceed with the activities as defined in the Timelines’ document
   - Adopt the following rules:
     - Amendments to Part 25 (Certification)
     - Amendments to Part 29 (Standards for Administrative Certification)
   - Authorize solicitation of public comment on the following rule:
     - Part 228 (Transitional Bilingual Education)
   - Accept the Standard Monthly Reports and approve the RFP for the Student Identifier System
   - Approve the Qualified Zone Academy Bond Credit Allocations for FY02 and FY03
E. Announcements and Reports
   ▪ Superintendent
   ▪ Chairman
   ▪ Committees
     a. Board Operations- Vacant, Chair
     b. Finance & Audit- Richard Sandsmark, Chair
     c. Joint Education, Ronald Gidwitz, Chair
     d. Governmental Relations, Bev Turkal, Chair
     e. Education Policy Planning, Vacant, Chair
   ▪ Members

F. Other Information
   Monthly Status Report on Rulemaking

11:30 a.m.   Luncheon/Meeting with members of the Chicago Board of Education

1:00 p.m.    ADJOURN

*All meetings are accessible to persons with disabilities (see next page.)
**Action Items.
***Meeting will begin at the conclusion of the previous session.
Members present:
Ronald Gidwitz  Marjorie B. Branch  Dean Clark
Judy Gold  Joyce Karon  Gregory Kazarian
Richard Sandsmark  Janet Steiner  Beverly Turkal

State Superintendent: Robert E. Schiller

Members absent: None

Roll Call
The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by the Chairman, Mr. Gidwitz, who asked Kay Evans, assistant to the Executive for Board Services, to call the roll. Ms. Evans called the roll of members. A quorum was present.

New Member Inauguration
Chairman Gidwitz introduced Justice Mary Jane Theis, Appellate Court, First District who performed the swearing in ceremony for the three new Board members: Dean Clark, Joyce Karon, and Gregory Kazarian.

Chicago Public Schools Education Showcase
Mr. Gidwitz said that the Board would have Kathleen Mayer from Carson Elementary School and Mr. James Iles from Hancock High School both present for the Education Showcase.

Superintendent Schiller informed the Board that Carson Elementary School was a pre-k through 8 urban school with over 1,200 students. He noted that approximately 92% of the students were from a Spanish speaking background and 99% of the students were from low-income situations.

He also said that Rachel Carson Elementary School was a bicultural school with a transitional bilingual education program and a preschool dual language program.
Superintendent Schiller said Hancock High School had approximately 500 students, with 91% of the students from low-income situations. He said that although Hancock High School did make nearly a 6% gain on state tests (31.4 to 37.1%) last year, they were added to the Academic Early Warning List.

Ms. Kathleen Mayer praised her school’s achievements, and how they are improving.

Chairman Gidwitz asked Mr. Iles to wait until after the IVHS presentation in order to allow the individuals who traveled a great distance for their presentation to present.

Chairman Gidwitz said that at last month’s meeting it was decided that it was appropriate to have an update on the Illinois Virtual High School (IVHS). In August, 2000 the State Board adopted a framework to establish the IVHS. By January, 2001 the agency began the operation of the virtual high school and the Board directed the staff to design the IVHS with three principle purposes in mind. The first objective was to assure equitable access to rich and varied learning opportunities to Illinois students with an emphasis on curricular areas needed to ensure that all students can meet the Illinois Learning Standards and succeed in higher education and the work place.

The second objective was to expand the high quality professional development opportunities for Illinois teachers and other educators; and,

Thirdly, to support schools in integrating technology in teaching and learning.

Superintendent Schiller provided additional background on the IVHS and turned the presentation over to the presenters. The following individuals were part of the presentation:

Matt Wicks, Director of Virtual Learning, from the Illinois Math and Science Academy, who gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Virtual High School, Gary Greenberg, Director of the Collaboratory Project, from Northwestern University, who explained the Online Foreign Languages Initiative through IVHS; Vickie Phillips, Counselor at Rushville High School, along with two students, Alex Ring and Nathan Lunt, who spoke on the opportunities the IVHS has provided to Rushville High School.
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**Interim Board Secretary**

Chairman Gidwitz said for the record it should be noted he asked Board member Richard Sandsmark to serve as interim Board Secretary because Connie Rogers had retired from the Board. He said that consistent with the by-laws they will elect officers at the February meeting.

Chairman Gidwitz said he would like to welcome Board member Judy Gold to the meeting as she was just joining the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

**Hancock High School**

Mr. James Iles gave a background of Hancock High School. He continued to tell of the problems that have evolved since he has arrived at the school.

Following discussion, Chairman Gidwitz said that the Superintendent would ask them to tell their story on ISBE's website.

**Educator Supply and Demand**

Chairman Gidwitz stated that each year, the State Board of Education was required to submit to the General Assembly a report detailing the supply and demand of teachers throughout the state. He said that this report served as a vehicle for the State Board of Education and lawmakers to anticipate the education workforce trends.

He turned the discussion over to the Superintendent who stated that this was the fourth Supply and Demand annual report that the agency has prepared with the report outlining the workforce composition, supply indicators, demand factors, the over/under supply of educators, and projections of likely high demand. He asked for the Board's approval to forward the report to the Governor, General Assembly, and the institutions of higher education. He stated that staff would highlight a brief summary that would show we continue to see an undersupply of minorities entering the teaching profession. But, we were seeing an increase of 12% in the teacher preparation pipeline which was a good indicator more people were choosing teaching as a profession. The most alarming statistic he saw coming from the report was that it was estimated 18% of the workforce of teachers, and 38% of administrators were eligible to retire within 2 years. (2005) He said it is anticipated that through 2006 there is a need for 44,000 teachers, of which 27,000 will be first-time teachers.

The Superintendent stated that Dr. Connie Wise, Division Administrator for Data Analysis and Progress Reporting, and Jim Sweeney, along with Lynne Haeffelle Curry, Director, Planning and Performance were available to present on the subject.

She said the report showed that females were dominating the teaching positions, while males were dominating the leadership positions. Minorities were underrepresented. Further statistics were given by Jim Sweeney.

Chairman Gidwitz said that we should work with colleges of education, and guidance counselors in high schools. He stated we should interpret and make recommendations to them and explore how the document was used by institutions of higher education.

Greg Kazarian said that if we were going to get at the problem we needed to get smart about how we promoted and positioned the teaching as a profession. He said there were foundations that we might be able to partner with who were interested in promoting teaching.

Mike Long, Division Administrator, Professional Preparation and Recruitment, said the problem was a complex issue to which there was no ‘silver bullet’ to correct the problem. He said that right now we were trying to attack the problem from several different directions. One was by the pipeline direction, another was trying to tap into the reserve pool, which had people that were certified to teach but for one reason or another were not teaching.

Chairman Gidwitz said he would appreciate cause-and-effect data generated, which would help in making additional policy decisions. Greg Kazarian said he would also like to see data that reflected which teachers and administrators were eligible to retire with maximum benefits to understand when the problem would hit us. Jim Sweeney said he could work on this data and send it to the Board as an addendum.

Chairman Gidwitz stated that he would like this information posted on the website.

The Chairman said the next item was to review the effective components of a comprehensive accountability system.

Superintendent Schiller stated that the purpose of the discussion was to summarize the history with regard to the State Accountability System, and to present the decision points being asked of the Board.
within the next couple of months. He said that we have to submit to the Department of Education in May, 2003 a final plan for demonstrating our integrated unified single accountability system. An interim report is due the end of January, 2003. No action was needed at this meeting. He noted that a meeting was being planned for January 21 for the Assessment and Accountability Task Force where they hope to provide recommendations to bring back to the Board.

He asked Gail Lieberman, Manager, Student and School Progress, and Lynne Haeffele Curry, Director, Planning and Performance to continue telling us where we have been and where we are going.

Ms. Haeffele Curry covered the new federal law requirements of a unified accountability system and refreshed the Board of the previous decisions that were still standing in terms of Board policy, so that the Board would know the framework under which they were currently working in terms of their own policy decisions.

Ms. Haeffele Curry and Ms. Lieberman reviewed the questions that would be asked of the Board in the coming months.

Mr. Gidwitz said that he refused to accept that the low scoring school districts problems cannot be fixed. He said that it was possible to understand and define the problems. He said we need to take this to the General Assembly and talk about what is required to get it done.

Dr. Schiller said that the Board needed to look at what extent we want to limit ourselves to specific achievement outputs, or do we want to expand what our approach of how a school/district is doing. He said a school district should be looked at how it is doing over time and not just a snapshot of a test score at a given time. He would like to explore this with the task force based on what has been done previously, and then bring it back to the Board for consideration as a policy decision in the next couple of months.

Marjorie Branch said that since a test was required to get any job, she did not want the testing components to be de-emphasized. She noted that the challenge was to find a way to help students on tests.

Chairman Gidwitz called for the next agenda item regarding the 2003 Cumulative Waiver Report. He stated that the State Board of Education was required to submit to the Illinois General Assembly by February first of each year a report listing all types of waiver mandates, and modifications of mandates, granted by the Board or the General Assembly. He noted that last month the Board heard a
presentation from the Superintendent and staff regarding the 2003 Cumulative Waiver Report. He said he would like to underscore that these reports were sent to the General Assembly twice a year and most of the time they disregard our recommendation. He then turned the discussion over to Superintendent Schiller.

Superintendent Schiller stated that they he would be asking the Board to approve the 2003 Cumulative Waiver Report and authorize its transmittal to the General Assembly.

Chairman Gidwitz asked if anyone had any issues regarding this topic. Janet Steiner had a couple questions regarding health waivers which staff member Sally Vogl explained.

Greg Kazarian inquired about the legislative recommendation regarding holidays and the Prairie State Achievement Examination and the instructional day as presented. He wondered if this was the appropriate time to bring these items to the legislature for action. Mr. Vazquez, General Counsel, said that part of the law requires the Board to submit this report with recommendations, but it was still the Board decision whether it wants to submit the report.

Mr. Sandsmark remarked at the way the General Assembly handled Physical Education waivers in the past and thought that the Board should just recommend these for acceptance.

The next agenda item introduced by Chairman Gidwitz was the Paraprofessional Assessment Guidance and Timeline. He stated that the purpose of this item was to provide an opportunity for the Board to discuss and approve the draft Guidance and Paraprofessional Assessment, and the proposed timeline for implementation of paraprofessional assessment procedures. He then asked Superintendent Schiller for additional information.

Superintendent Schiller stated that the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) allowed paraprofessionals that serve in instructional assistance capacities three options to demonstrate qualifications in order to be hired after January 8, 2002, into programs supported by Title I funds. He further said that federal law stipulates that those hired before January 8, 2002, have until January 8, 2006, to meet the requirements. He asked Mike Long, Manager, Professional Preparation and Recruitment, to talk through details so that the Board understood the multiple options that we have provided the districts.

Mike Long, along with Dr. Inez Bosworth from the Educational
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Testing Service, made a presentation. He said they are asking the Board to allow staff to go ahead, in terms of standards setting and developing cut-scores, with the ParaPro assessment that had been developed by Educational Testing Service. It was presently being used by 20 states for the NCLB assessment and was designed for that purpose. He stated that Work Keys developed by ACT, was also being considered. Work Keys was being amended to address the ability to assist in instruction of reading, math and writing. He noted that it currently did not address these topics.

Chairman Gidwitz said that the Board would be talking about this in the future after hearing from the field. He asked Mike Long for the procedure and timeline for consideration. Mr. Long said they were going to distribute the guidance immediately using the agency’s website and the Superintendent Bulletin. He said they were also going to start working with ETS to set up a standards setting panel to determine a cut-score that will be reported back to the Board in March. He commented that they would like to come back to the Board with the ACT assessment also.

Chairman Gidwitz introduced the next agenda item on Rules: Part 25 – Certification.

Superintendent Schiller stated that these rules were presented for the Board’s review at the October, 2002, meeting and were subsequently published in the Illinois Register to elicit public comment. Three items were received that addressed specific aspects of the Illinois Teaching Excellence Program. He asked staff member Sally Vogl for clarification.

Superintendent Schiller said that we were recommending the adoption of the changes through the public process.

Chairman Gidwitz stated that we have one set of proposed amendments concerning Part 29, Standards for Administrative Certification. He asked Superintendent Schiller to open the discussion.

Superintendent Schiller said these amendments would put into place a new credential that would eventually be required of all individuals who wish to serve as directors or assistant directors of special education. These amendments were presented for the Board’s initial review in September of 2002 and were published in the Illinois Register to elicit public comment. He asked staff member Sally Vogl for clarification.
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Chairman Gidwitz said that we have one set of rules for initial review concerning Transitional Bilingual Education.

Superintendent Schiller stated that the amendments contained in this set of rules are technical revisions needed to implement Public Act 92-604, which took effect in July of 2002, and changed the requirements for the notice districts must provide to parents whose children are enrolled in bilingual education programs. He then turned the discussion over to staff member Sally Vogl, who said that the Illinois law was changed in response to NCLB. It would now comply with federal requirements, and we would have a State law backing this up.

Chairman Gidwitz asked for the Monthly Update on agency Finance, Audit and Agency Operations. He stated that in addition to these reports the Board would also receive information concerning the Request for Sealed Proposal (RFSP) for the Student Identifier System.

Superintendent Schiller said that in order to respond to the No Child Left Behind Act and state reporting requirements concerning student achievement and school performance, that we were seeking Board approval to release an RFSP to build and implement a state-level Student Information System. He stated that the use of individual student records would increase the state’s capacity to follow a student’s progress over time, improve the accuracy of state and local data, permit longitudinal studies, and improve policy decisions.

Superintendent Schiller turned the discussion and reporting over to David Wood, Director of Operations. A discussion followed as to why student identifiers were destroyed and did not follow the student. Chairman Gidwitz said he was always under the assumption it was the law. He told Res Vazquez that the Board wanted to know what the truth was and they wanted a legal opinion. He also said to the Superintendent that he would like to see how we were in the position of trashing these student identifiers all these years. He said we could have developed a system by now that would have worked. Mr. Wood said that staff could go back and look at the history. Mr. Gidwitz said he did not want the contract held up because the federal law requires that it be done.

Superintendent Schiller provided background information regarding the Qualified Zone Academy Bond (QZAB) program. He said the Qualified Zone Academy Bond program was created under Section 226 of the Taxpayers Relief Act of 1997. He noted that it permitted
school districts to borrow funds from certain financial institutions at substantial savings over other forms of debt because purchasers of such bonds received a federal tax credit in lieu of interest payments.

He noted that seventeen school districts listed in the Board materials on page 225 were the qualified applicants to have requested an authorization at this time, and have submitted copies of their program plan, a facility plan for the proposed Zone Academy, and documentation relevant to the bond issues. David Wood continued by stating that they were asking for approval, and said they would work with the Board if they wanted to direct a particular percent or methodology.

Chairman Gidwitz said he would suggest they leave the question of future funding to the policy that would be developed by the Finance Committee.

Chairman Gidwitz asked Janet Steiner to read the motion to go into closed session at 5:00 p.m.

Mrs. Steiner read the motion as follows:

I move 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, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of an employee.
- Section 2 (c) (11) for the purpose of discussing litigation.

The Board is authorized to invite anyone into these meetings as needed.

Mr. Kazarian seconded the motion.

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

The public General meeting reconvened at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, January 16, 2003

Chairman Gidwitz asked Ms. Evans to call the roll.

Members Present

Marjorie Branch          Ron Gidwitz          Dean Clark
Joyce Karon              Greg Kazarian       Richard Sandmark
Beverly Turkal

Members Absent:

Janet Steiner          Judy Gold (out of the room)

Peter Leonis, Governmental Affairs, provided an overview of state legislation. He stated that a repeat bill from last year, House Joint Resolution Constitutional Amendment #7 called for an elected State Superintendent. He stated that this year it was being sponsored by Representative Franks. He stated that all these bills would be reviewed by the Bill Review Team which has established meeting dates.

Chairman Gidwitz asked the Superintendent what we were going to do with similar Hazel Crest situations that we know exist. Mr. Leonis said that the agency has started discussion of these problems and will be coming forward with legislation later on in the session. Mr. Gidwitz said he thought the Board ought to have a public placeholder for this topic. He said there were three types of financial bills the Board needed to focus on including strategic and long term financing, tactical problems of getting ISBE’s budget passed, and school districts that are in dire crisis financially.

Mr. Leonis presented an overview of federal legislation but stated that the federal government still had not passed a budget.

He said that at the December Board meeting he advised the Board that the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) had issued new guidelines for school district claims. He said ISBE submitted comments opposing the new guidelines. Under the proposed guidelines funding would be substantially reduced. He said that this was being done by administrative rule rather than
Mr. Gidwitz asked Mr. Leonis to find out who was the driving force behind this action.

Mr. Leonis said that we were in the process of developing 2004 earmarks by working with local school districts. Before sending them to Washington he said they would share them with the Board.

Chairman Gidwitz asked if we work with ROE’s as well, and told the Superintendent to look into working with them in this regard.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting.

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

Respectfully submitted:

_________________________
Richard Sandsmark
Secretary Pro Tem

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Ronald J. Gidwitz
Chairman
MEMBERS PRESENT:

Marjorie Branch  Dean Clark  Ronald Gidwitz
Judith Gold  Joyce Karon  Greg Kazarian
Richard Sandsmark

Robert E. Schiller, State Superintendent of Education

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Janet Steiner

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m. by the Chairman, Ronald Gidwitz who asked Kay Evans to call the roll. A quorum was present.

Public Participation

The following individuals spoke to the Board:

Isadore Glover, Manager, Education Support Personnel Unit, Chicago Public Schools and Lily McDonogh, Project Manager, NCLB, Chicago Public Schools, asked the Board to accept the ParaPro Assessment for their paraprofessionals. They urged the Board to accept Work Keys as a second assessment when complete.

Jay Rehak, Assistant Director, Quest Center, Chicago Teachers Union and Maureen Callahan, Treasurer of the Chicago Teachers Union asked the Board to accept the ACT Work Keys assessment exam and the ETS ParaPro assessment tests.

Laura Arterburn, Illinois Federation of Teachers, asked that the Board accept the Work Keys and ParaPro tests. She also
handed out the Charter School Report from IFT.

Minutes  Chairman Gidwitz asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the December 18-19, 2002 Board meeting in Chicago.

Motion  Marjorie Branch moved that the State Board of Education hereby approves the minutes of the meeting on December 18-19, 2002, as published.

The motion was seconded by Greg Kazarian.

Vote on Motion  The roll was called and the motion passed with the following votes recorded.


Motion  Dick Sandsmark moved that the State Board of Education hereby accepts the Educator Supply and Demand in Illinois 2002 Annual Report and authorizes its transmittal to the Governor, General Assembly, and institutions of higher learning.

Greg Kazarian seconded the motion.

The Superintendent provided a summary of the previous discussion on the topic.

Vote on Motion  The roll was called and the motion carried with the following votes recorded.


Motion  Beverly Turkal moved that the State Board of Education hereby renews its endorsement of a multiple-indicator comprehensive accountability system and directs the Superintendent and staff to
bring forward recommendations in February, March, and April that meet Board policy directives, best practice parameters, and to comply with federal accountability requirements.

Greg Kazarian seconded the motion.

The Superintendent provided a summary of the previous discussion on the topic.

The roll was called and the motion passed with the following votes recorded.


Joyce Karon said the State Board of Education hereby approves the 2003 Cumulative Waiver Report, including proposed legislative recommendations addressing legally mandated school holidays and the instructional day, and authorizes its transmittal to the General Assembly.

The motion was seconded by Dick Sandsmark.

The Superintendent provided a summary of the previous discussion on the topic.

The roll was called and the motion passed with the following votes recorded.


Dean Clark moved that the State Board of Education hereby approves the Draft Guidance on Paraprofessional Assessment and the Paraprofessional Assessment Timeline; authorizes staff to distribute the guidance document to local districts, regional offices of education, and other external stakeholders; and directs staff to proceed with the activities as defined in the Timelines' document.

The motion was seconded by Beverly Turkal.
Superintendent Schiller said that a good resource of learning for their paraprofessionals was the Illinois Virtual High School. Chairman Gidwitz asked the Superintendent to look into what we could do, free of charge, to help these individuals prepare for the assessments and provide a report to the Board in February. He further suggested we partner with the Illinois Community College Board because of their expertise and resources. He stated the information needed to be packaged with resources and training materials.

The roll call was read and the motion passed with the following votes recorded.

Marjorie Branch –yes     Dean Clark – yes    Ronald Gidwitz -yes
Dick Sandsmark -yes    Greg Kazarian –yes Judith Gold - yes
Joyce Karon    Beverly Turkal – yes

Greg Kazarian moved that the State Board of Education hereby adopts the proposed rulemaking, including the changes recommended in response to public comments, for Certification (23 Illinois Administrative Code 25), and Standards for Administrative Certification (23 Illinois Administrative Code 29). Further, that the State Board authorizes the State Superintendent to make such technical or non-substantive changes as the State Superintendent may deem necessary in response to suggestions or objections of the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules.

The motion was seconded by Bev Turkal.

The Superintendent provided a summary of the previous discussion on the topic.

The roll was taken and the motion passed with the following votes recorded.

Marjorie Branch –yes Dean Clark – yes Ronald Gidwitz -yes
Dick Sandsmark -yes    Greg Kazarian –yes Judith Gold - yes
Joyce Karon       Beverly Turkal - yes

Judy Gold said that the State Board of Education hereby authorizes solicitation of public comment on the proposed rulemaking for Transitional Bilingual Education (23 Illinois Administrative Code 228) including publication of the proposed amendments in the Illinois Register.
Marjorie Branch seconded the motion.

**Vote on Motion**

The roll call was taken and the motion passed with the following votes recorded.

Marjorie Branch –yes  Dean Clark – yes  Ronald Gidwitz -yes
Dick Sandsmark -yes  Greg Kazarian –yes  Judith Gold - yes
Joyce Karon -yes  Beverly Turkal - yes

Dick Sandsmark said that the State Board of Education hereby accepts the financial, audit and agency operations report presented during the meeting of January 2003.

Joyce Karon seconded the motion.

**Vote on Motion**

The roll was called and the motion passed with the following votes recorded.

Marjorie Branch –yes  Dean Clark – yes  Ronald Gidwitz -yes
Dick Sandsmark -yes  Greg Kazarian –yes  Judith Gold - yes
Joyce Karon -yes  Beverly Turkal – yes

Marjorie Branch said that the State Board of Education hereby approves the RFSP for the Student Identifier System.

Dick Sandsmark seconded the motion.

The Superintendent summarized and stated that they would make available details as the Chairman requested. He added that they would track down, from the discussion of the General Session, the continuation of current identifiers. He said they will be submitting this in the next couple of days.

**Vote on Motion**

The roll was called and the motion passed with the following votes recorded.

Marjorie Branch –yes  Dean Clark – yes  Ronald Gidwitz -yes
Dick Sandsmark -yes  Greg Kazarian –yes  Judith Gold - yes
Joyce Karon -yes  Beverly Turkal – yes

Dick Sandsmark said that the State Board of Education hereby approves the Qualified Zone Academy Bond Credit Allocations for FY02 and FY03.
Joyce Karon seconded the motion.

The Superintendent provided a summary of the previous discussion on the topic.

The roll was called and the motion was passed with the following votes recorded.

- Marjorie Branch – yes
- Dean Clark – yes
- Ronald Gidwitz - yes
- Dick Sandsmark - yes
- Greg Kazarian – yes
- Judith Gold - yes
- Joyce Karon - yes
- Beverly Turkal – yes

Superintendent Schiller stated that the Assessment and Accountability Task Force would meet next week. A number of recommendations would be given at the next Board meeting for the Board’s consideration. He noted that on Tuesday, the Superintendent, Chairman Gidwitz and several staff members would be in Washington D.C. for a conference with the Undersecretary regarding pressing issues of NCLB as well as preparation of submittal of the checklist and tentative plans for NCLB due January 31, 2003. He said that on Saturday he would be addressing the Community College Trustees where he would mention their help in the preparation of paraprofessionals.

Clay Slagle, Assistant to the Superintendent, provided a report of agency operations and the employee evaluation and assessment process. Chairman Gidwitz requested a presentation the following month that included a comparison with specific examples of before and after job descriptions in order for everyone could see what a well written job description looked like. Joyce Karon asked that an example of the rubrics be included. Dick Sandsmark said he would like to compliment the staff on their work with this process.

Chairman Gidwitz stated that he has asked Dr. Steiner to Chair the Operations Committee. He suggested the new members visit the committee meetings, and then decide which committee they would like to serve on. He asked that each member let him know their wishes, and if any other Board member would like to change committees to also let him know.

He also said that according to the Bylaws, the Board would be selecting officers at the February meeting.
Adjournment  Chairman Gidwitz adjourned the Plenary Session at 11:30 a.m. The members of the Board then had lunch with the members of the Chicago Public Schools Board of Education from 11:50 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

___________________________
Richard Sandsmark
Secretary Pro Tem

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Ronald J. Gidwitz
Chairman