Board Operations Committee

Wednesday, October 17, 2007
1:00 p.m.

Core Room, Primary Center,
Mt. Vernon City Schools
401 North 30th Street, Mt. Vernon, Illinois

Public Conference Call Access Number: 1-866-297-6391 (listen only)
Confirmation # 19437806

AGENDA

1. Roll Call

2. Board Member Participation by Other Means

3. Public Participation

4. Discussion Items
   a. Minutes of the September Board Operations Committee Meeting (pp. 2-5)
   *b. Review New Nominations for Resolutions of Recognition (p. 6)
   c. Guidelines for Public Participation (pp. 7-9)
   d. Coordination of Board Priorities with Committee Agendas (p. 10)
   e. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items

5. Decision Items
   *a. Recommend Resolutions for Board Approval

6. Adjourn

NOTE: At the conclusion of any discussion item in which the committee is ready to make a decision, a discussion item may be immediately moved for a decision.

* Items listed with an asterisk (*) will be discussed in committee and Board action may be taken in the plenary session.
1. ROLL CALL
Dr. Chris Ward called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and asked members to introduce themselves for purposes of roll call. (See above.)

2. BOARD MEMBER PARTICIPATION BY OTHER MEANS
There was no participation by Board members through any other means for this committee meeting.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
Paula Pergament from Adler Planetarium shared the 2006-07 school year report on summer activities. She also respectfully requested that the Board consider including Adler in the FY09 budget. The Adler is very grateful to ISBE for including the museum in its FY08 budget. Ms. Pergament presented the Board with a proposed Scope of Work that Adler wishes the Board to consider supporting in its FY09 Budget. Ms. Pergament noted that the Adler is asking for $400,000 for FY09. This represents a $200,000 decrease from their previous request from FY08, as materials and best practices are in place or already developed for ongoing and new projects. Ms. Pergament thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak to them and asked the Board to let her know how the Adler can support state science education.

Mr. Clark asked Ms. Pergament to come to one of the Budget hearings with her request so that her request can be recorded in a budget hearing. She indicated she would be there. Ms. Holmes commented that she appreciates the information that members of the Adler receive and she hopes that just as the Board is going to visit the Ag High School, that we can work with Paula to visit the Adler as well. Dr. Hall indicated she is thrilled at what is going on at Adler and it is evident that it helps provide teachers with content for the classroom.

4.a. COMMITTEE MINUTES
Dr. Fields moved that the minutes of the Board Operations Committee for the May committee meeting be approved. Ms. Karon seconded the motion. The motion to approve the committee minutes passed with voice vote approval.

4.b. REVIEW NEW NOMINATIONS FOR RESOLUTIONS OF RECOGNITION.
The Board Operations Committee reviewed a resolution for a Will County board member to recommend for approval in plenary session on Thursday.

4.c. RETREAT DEBRIEFING
Discussion of Illinois College & Career Readiness Initiative: Superintendent Koch spoke to some progress which has been made with respect to the Achieve proposal regarding Standards Review and the draft timeline. Dr. Koch indicated that he and Susie Morrison had spoken with Achieve in follow-up to suggestions provided at the board retreat and asked them to include a comparison to standards from another large state which have been determined by Achieve to be exemplary. Achieve suggested that some states have more prominent standards in one area than
another state and, as such, it was decided that the comparison will be done by content area. Achieve will also include a comparison of state standards to College Board standards. The timetables will be revised to allow for these comparisons.

Staff have also asked to take a look at recent reports that ACHIEVE has done for other states so we can make suggestions for the Illinois report format.

Dr. Brown indicated that she doesn’t think Illinois has mastered the implementation of standards and would like to see an implementation strategy developed. She would also like to hear from ACHIEVE what they have learned about implementing a standard, how long it takes and what types of strategies work.

Dr. Hall would like to see the standards given to the parents at the beginning of each year.

Ms. Karon commented that she likes the side-by-side comparison. The graphic element helps simplify the information and helps people understand where we are headed. She added that whatever Achieve develops for us, she would like to see a document that is easily digested by the general public.

**Teacher & Administrator Diversity**
Superintendent Koch indicated that Steve Tozer and Jennifer Presley, who presented at the retreat also did so at the Superintendent’s Conference. Overall the presentation was well received. He commented that there is some information in Steve’s presentation that we can potentially use with the implementation of Targeted Interventions, once the Budget Implementation bill passes. There has also been an increase in conversations internally regarding rolling out the Principal Mentoring and Master Principal Projects.

Ms. Karon indicated that she attended the Illinois New Teacher Center meetings and they are looking at how to make the connection with Administrator Mentoring on their website and in their future projects. Dr. Ward commented that he would like to see the “Grow Your Own” organization have a component which begins getting high school students involved in associations that might get them interested in teaching as a career. Dr. Brown shared that the downstate community colleges are implementing this student awareness. Dr. Fields indicated that some schools have Future Teachers of America, but those initiatives are fragmented across the state.

**Future of High Schools in Illinois**
Superintendent Koch discussed the next steps following the receipt of the ACHIEVE study. The first phase may likely be completed in December. He intends to follow up at the October Board meeting with a work plan for the Longitudinal Data Systems.

With regard to recommendation #4 from this retreat presentation (comprehensive system of assessment for schools), with the passage of the budget, we were given an allocation for Growth Models. The Superintendent and his staff will attend a meeting on November 5 with the Education Roundtable to discuss Growth Models so that we can learn about them together. Dr. Koch also commented that discussions have begun with ACT to make Explore and Plan and additional support materials available statewide. Some of this appropriation was intended for that purpose.

Dr. Brown asked if the expertise of Growth Model Task Force would continue to be used in addition to the Education Roundtable. Superintendent Koch responded that they have had conversations about how to continue to keep the task force members involved.

Dr. Brown further commented on a portion of recommendation #1 (mid-term and end-of-term assessments). Our neighbors, Kentucky and Missouri have already started that in Algebra. Dr. Brown also hopes that regional superintendents can be a part of the term assessments because they are so close to the teachers that are teaching those areas.

Ms. Holmes indicated that in regards to the concept of Growth Models, and in the discussion of the Burnham Plan, there seemed to be some misunderstanding of what the federal law is and what Illinois’ role is. Ms. Holmes suggested that following Dr. Koch’s participation in the Education
Roundtable, perhaps there could be a brief update to key legislative education committee members to make them aware of what is possible and to keep them apprised of the progress on this initiative. Dr. Koch appreciated that suggestion.

Ms. Karon asked for clarification regarding ACT’s Explore and Plan. She wanted to discuss whether or not we are considering the additional WorkKey that would be necessary for the overall evaluation. She added that the third WorkKey would tie in to the College and Work Readiness initiative. Superintendent Koch responded that the additional WorkKey wasn’t anticipated with the line item we obtained, but perhaps he could come back with some cost proposals for next year’s budget development process.

Dr. Brown suggested that perhaps some of the vocational systems could pilot that portion of the test to see if the results are helpful to the students.

P-20 Council
Superintendent Koch indicated that the Governor has not yet signed this legislation.

Follow-up Questions
Superintendent Koch indicated that the stakeholders are currently responding to the High School Feedback Report. He doesn’t expect to see a recommendation until January.

Staff will continue to work collaboratively with ICCB, IBHE regarding College Readiness Standards.

Rene Valenciano is following up to add more practitioners on ISBE committees and advisory councils.

Ms. Holmes expressed frustration in that the work retreats lack follow-through on initiatives. Dr. Ward indicated that the Board packet memos over the last year have provided a linkage to the Strategic Plan and perhaps we could tie in another linkage in the memo to some of these other issues. The Board Operations Committee could continue to bring the focus of the agendas to those issues.

Chairman Ruiz agreed and indicated that he will send out a task list for Board members. Ms. Ladage commented that staff is getting closer to finishing the minutes of the retreat and reviewing the recordings. Perhaps those notes will be helpful to Mr. Ruiz in creating the task list and assignments.

Superintendent Koch commented that the Strategic Plan Update sent to the General Assembly included some of the Gates MOU items and staff can continue to make those linkages because they do relate.

Dr. Koch also mentioned the policy template. He confirmed receipt of Dr. Brown’s suggestion on the topic of Restructuring. Discussion on the template took place at the senior staff meeting. Superintendent Koch and staff will develop a process for all employees to be able to use that template.

4.d. PROPOSED CHANGES TO NASBE BYLAWS
Dr. Ward indicated that Board members have had time to review the proposed changes to the NASBE Bylaws printed in the packet. If anyone has any concerns with what is being proposed, please share your concerns with Dr. Hall who will be representing us at the business meeting.

4.e. NASBE ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Dr. Ward indicated that the annual conference agenda is printed in the packet. It appears that NASBE is pushing states to make a statement as to whether they support national standards. He asked members to share their comments. Mr. Clark commented that most state boards would stand opposed to national standards, but he also thinks that Congress will do as they please. Ms. Holmes suggested that the Illinois State Board of Education be on record as being opposed to national standards. Other members concurred, but no vote was taken.
Dr. Brown indicated that she saw a study about the number of common standards of Math in the fourth grade. She added that our work with Achieve as well as knowing what other states are doing, will help us determine what standards have some commonality.

Superintendent Koch commented that he appreciates the study being done by Achieve, because regardless of national standards, Illinois standards need to be able to stand up to national scrutiny. There will be NCLB incentives for us to demonstrate that given that it provides more common basis for state-to-state comparisons.

4.f. **COMMITTEE AGENDA PLANNING/ADDITIONAL ITEMS**
   - Incoming Nominations
   - Committee Guidelines for Public Participation
   - Coordination of Board Priorities with Committee Agendas

5. **DECISION ITEMS**
   Dr. Fields moved that the resolution honoring the board member from Wilmington S.D. be recommended for approval during plenary session. Ms. Karon seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

6. **ADJOURN**
   Dr. Fields moved to adjourn the committee meeting. Mr. Ruiz seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.
TO: Board Operations Committee  
Illinois State Board of Education

FROM: Chris Ward, Chair, Board Operations Committee  
Jean Ladage, Board Services Coordinator

Materials: Nomination(s)

Agenda Topic: Review Nominations for Board Recognition

Purpose of Agenda Item
To review incoming nominations received since the last Board meeting. Nomination materials that are received will be sent to Board members prior to the meeting.

Relationship to/Implications for the State Board’s Strategic Plan
The State Board’s Recognition Program was developed to show the Board’s support for the outstanding work of educators, staff and school boards that are serving all children in this state.

Expected Outcome(s) of Agenda Item
Recommendation of Board action.

Background Information
In May, 2005, the Board initiated a Board Recognition Program to become more proactive in its efforts to recognize the exemplary achievements of students, teachers, school administrators, and local board members in Illinois. Upon review and acceptance, the State Board of Education will pass a resolution describing the particulars of the achievement. The signed resolutions will be presented in one of the following three ways:

- mailed to the recipient(s);
- personally awarded to the individual(s) at their respective school(s); or
- presented to recipient(s) during the State Board meeting at which their resolution is approved

Superintendent’s Recommendation
No recommendation from the Superintendent.

Next Steps
Board Operations Committee will review the nominations received and make a recommendation based on that review.
ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
October 19, 2007

TO: Illinois State Board of Education
FROM: Christopher A. Koch, Ed.D., State Superintendent of Education
Jean Ladage, Board Services Coordinator

Agenda Topic: Review of Public Participation Policy for Board and Committee Meetings

Materials: Public Participation Policy – Board Meetings
Proposed Public Participation Policy – Committee Meetings

Staff Contact(s): Jean Ladage, Board Services Coordinator

Purpose of Agenda Item

Relationship to/Implications for the State Board’s Strategic Plan
GOAL 1 Enhancing Literacy; GOAL 2 Improving Educator Quality for All Children; or GOAL 3 Expanding Data-Informed School Management & Support Practices

Public participation during Board and Committee meetings allows for members to hear from constituents. Testimony from the public can be linked to any of the Board’s goals.

Expected Outcome(s) of Agenda Item
The Board Operations Committee will develop next steps for implementing the same or similar public participation policy for Board Committees as is already in place for the Board as a whole.

Background Information
The Board began hearing public participation in committees in 2005, but there has been no policy specifically for testimony in committee meetings.

Next Steps
To be determined by Board Operations Committee.
If you do not wish to speak to the Board, you do not need to sign in.

The following procedures will govern Public Participation for Board meetings:

1. Individuals wishing to address the Board must sign in prior to the time of public participation, as listed on the agenda.

2. Presentations must be specific to educationally-relevant issues; individuals wishing to address the Board must indicate on the sign-in sheet the specific topic or issues about which they will be speaking.

3. The total amount of time to be devoted to public participation will be a maximum of one-half hour. However, no individual will be allowed to speak for more than five minutes.

4. Except with the permission of the Board Chairperson, only one person may represent an organization in appearing before the Board at any given meeting (individuals from the same organization may present together; however, having more than one representative present will not increase the maximum presentation time).

5. Priority for presentation of testimony will be given to individuals who have not previously addressed the Board on a given issue.

6. Questions are to be directed to the State Board of Education as a whole and may not be put to any individual members of the Board or administrative staff.

7. It shall be in order for Board members to interrupt a speaker at any time to ask questions or make comments as frequently as necessary to clarify the discussions.

8. No person addressing the Board shall make charges or level complaints against individual employees under the jurisdiction of the State Board of Education. Such charges or complaints will only be accepted in writing and will not be considered unless signed by the person making the charges. The Board will investigate all charges.

9. Boisterous conduct will not be permitted at any Board meeting, nor will any defamatory or abusive language be tolerated. The Chairperson may terminate the privilege of any speaker who violates this regulation.

10. Exceptions will be made when the Board chooses by resolution to "suspend the rule."
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
State Board of Education Committee Meetings

*If you do not wish to speak to the Committee, you do not need to sign in.*

The following procedures will govern Public Participation for Board Committee meetings:

1. Individuals wishing to address the Committee must sign in prior to the time of public participation, as listed on the agenda.

2. **Presentations must be specific to Committee-relevant issues;** individuals wishing to address the Committee must indicate on the sign-in sheet the specific topic or issues about which they will be speaking.

3. The total amount of committee time to be devoted to public participation will be a maximum of fifteen minutes. However, no individual will be allowed to speak for more than three minutes.

4. Except with the permission of the Committee Chairperson, only one person may represent an organization in appearing before the Committee at any given meeting (individuals from the same organization may present together; however, having more than one representative present will not increase the maximum presentation time).

5. Priority for presentation of testimony will be given to individuals who have not previously addressed the Committee on a given issue.

6. Questions are to be directed to the Committee as a whole and may not be put to any individual members of the Committee or administrative staff.

7. It shall be in order for Committee members to interrupt a speaker at any time to ask questions or make comments as frequently as necessary to clarify the discussions.

8. No person addressing the Committee shall make charges or level complaints against individual employees under the jurisdiction of the State Board of Education. Such charges or complaints will only be accepted in writing and will not be considered unless signed by the person making the charges. The Board will investigate all charges.

9. Boisterous conduct will not be permitted at any Board or Committee meeting, nor will any defamatory or abusive language be tolerated. The Chairperson may terminate the privilege of any speaker who violates this regulation.

10. Exceptions will be made when the Committee chooses by resolution to "suspend the rule."
TO: Illinois State Board of Education

FROM: Christopher A. Koch, Ed.D., State Superintendent of Education
Jean Ladage, Board Services Coordinator

Agenda Topic: Coordination of Board Priorities with Committee Agendas

Materials: None

Staff Contact(s): Superintendent Koch
Jean Ladage, Board Services Coordinator
Linda Riley Mitchell, Finance & Audit Committee Staff
Darren Reisberg, Ad Hoc Rules Committee Staff
Rene Valenciano, Education Planning Policy Committee Staff
Nicole Wills, Governmental Relations Committee Staff

Purpose of Agenda Item
Provide for a mechanism by which the Board continues to receive updates regarding Board priorities.

Relationship to/Implications for the State Board’s Strategic Plan
All.

Expected Outcome(s) of Agenda Item
The Board Operations Committee will provide feedback to the Superintendent.

Background Information
At prior Board retreats, policy priorities have been discussed at length and certain issues have been agreed upon for the Board’s attention. The Board wishes to ensure that the Board priorities continue to be focused upon and progress made.

Superintendent’s Recommendation
The Superintendent suggests the addition of a Committee or Board agenda item each (or every other) month to allow for an update on the Board priorities. If there is a Board item, separate from that update, that relates to a particular Board priority, that will be clear on the face of the relevant Board materials memo.

Next Steps
Staff will include an Board Priorities Update agenda item to specific committee agendas or the plenary agenda.