NOTE: Staff presentations and detailed Board discussion typically take place during Committee meetings one month prior to State Board action in the plenary session.

Wednesday, January 16, 2008

10:00 – 10:45 a.m.  Tour Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences

10:45 a.m.  Education Policy Planning Committee of the Whole
Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences
1-866-297-6391 (listen only);  Confirmation # 2 0 2 6 1 2 1 8

1:00 p.m.  Governmental Relations Committee of the Whole
Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences
1-866-297-6391 (listen only);  Confirmation # 2 0 2 6 1 2 1 8

*1:45 p.m.  Finance & Audit Committee of the Whole
Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences
1-866-297-6391 (listen only);  Confirmation # 2 0 2 6 1 2 1 8

* The meeting will begin at the conclusion of the previous session.

Thursday, January 17, 2008

8:30 a.m.  Ad Hoc Rules Committee of the Whole
Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences
1-866-297-6391 (listen only);  Confirmation #2 0 2 6 1 2 1 9

9:45 a.m.  ISBE Plenary Session
Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences
1-866-297-6391 (listen only);  Confirmation #2 0 2 6 1 2 1 9

All State Board of Education meetings listed on this agenda will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Persons planning to attend who need special accommodations should contact the Board office no later than the date prior to the meeting. Contact the Superintendent's office at the State Board of Education, Phone: 217-782-2221; TTY/TDD: 17-782-1900; Fax: 217-785-3972.

NOTE:  Chairman Ruiz may call to order the Board's plenary session early for the sole purpose of hearing a motion to go into closed session.  In such case, the plenary session will reconvene for action items at the time posted.  Chairman Ruiz may also call for a break in the plenary session at which time the Board will go into closed session.
A. Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance
   1. Consideration of and Possible Actions on Any Requests for Participation in Meeting by Other Means

B. Resolutions & Recognition
   1. Welcome from Chicago Agricultural H.S.
   2. Alice Payne, Principal, Meade Park Elementary School, Danville, IL (Plenary pp. 4)

C. Public Participation

D. Superintendent’s Report
   * Consent Agenda
      All action consideration items listed with an asterisk (*) are considered to be routine and will be enacted in one motion and vote. Any board member who wishes separate discussion on any item listed on the consent agenda may remove that item from the consent agenda, in which event, the item will be considered in its normal sequence.

   Action Considerations
   *1. Approval of Minutes: December 13, 2007 (Plenary pp. 5-13)
   *2. Rules for Initial Review
      a. Part 60 (The “Grow Your Own” Teacher Education Initiative) (Rules Packet pp. 4-14)
      b. Part 575 (School Technology Program) (Rules Packet pp. 15-19)
   *3. Rules for Adoption
      a. Part 25 (Certification) (Rules Packet pp. 20-48)
      b. Part 675 (Providers of Supplemental Education Services) (Rules Packet pp. 49-87)
   *4. Recommendations of the Teacher Certification Board (Plenary pp. 14-21)
      a. Accreditation and Program Approvals
         1) Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville
         2) Saint Xavier University
         3) University of Illinois at Chicago
   *5. Contracts and Grants over $1 Million
      a. Pearson ISAT Contract Amendment (Finance & Audit Packet pp. 5-6)
      b. ACT Contract Amendment
      c. ISBE Technology Servers (Finance & Audit Packet pp. 9-10)
   *6. Cumulative Waiver Report (Governmental Relations Packet pp. 5-15)
   *7. Legislative Proposals (Governmental Relations Packet pp. 16-74)
   *8. State Board of Education Budget
      a. Ratification of FY08 State Board of Education Budget (Finance & Audit Packet pp. 11-18)
      b. Adoption of FY09 State Board of Education Budget (Finance & Audit Packet p. 19)
      c. ISBE Staffing

   (end of consent agenda)
   9. Contract for Legal Services regarding Certification Actions (as needed)

E. New Business
F. Announcements and Reports
   1. IBHE Liaison Report (Dr. Proshanta Nandi)
   2. Superintendent’s Announcements
   3. Chairman’s Report
   4. Committee Reports
   5. Member Reports

G. Information Items
   2. SBE Fiscal & Administrative Monthly Reports *(Plenary pp. 26-43)*

H. Adjourn

NOTE: Chairman Ruiz may call to order the Board’s plenary session early for the sole purpose of hearing a motion to go into closed session. In such case, the plenary session will reconvene for action items at the time posted. Chairman Ruiz may also call for a break in the plenary session at which time the Board will go into closed session.
Illinois State Board of Education Meeting
January 17, 2008
Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences
Chicago, Illinois

ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Jesse Ruiz, Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. Chairman Ruiz asked Ms. Jean Ladage, Assistant to the Board, to call the roll. A quorum was present. Dr. Christopher Koch, State Superintendent of Education, was also in attendance.

The Board members, Dr. Koch and anyone who wished to join them faced the American flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Ruiz announced that the Board meeting was being audio-cast live over the Internet.

Members Present:
Mr. Jesse Ruiz, Chairman
Dr. Christopher Ward, Vice Chairman
Dr. Vinni Hall, Secretary
Dr. Andrea Brown
Mr. Dean Clark
Ms. Joyce Karon

Members Absent:
Ms. Brenda Holmes
Dr. David Fields

Student Advisory Council Members Present:
Micah Berman
Gabriele Kendrick
Emma LePere
Ryan Ornstein

RESOLUTIONS & RECOGNITION

Chairman Ruiz introduced and thanked Principal William Hook of the Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences (CHSAS) for allowing us to have our January 2008 Board meeting at the school. Mr. Hook welcomed and thanked everyone for coming to the Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences.

Ms Lucille Shaw, Master Teacher, introduced Dr. Barbara Eason-Watkins of Chicago Public Schools, Mr. David Gilligan of Chicago Public Schools and former principal of CHSAS and Dr. Laura Kramer, Associate Dean for Academic Programs at the College of Ethicist of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Dr. Kramer indicated that she is very proud of the partnership that the U of I has with CHSAS. On behalf of Chief Executive Officer Arne Duncan and Board President Rufus Williams, Dr. Eason-Watkins welcomed everyone to CHSAS.

Mr. Marc Schulman, Chairman of CHSAS Business Education Advisory Council and President of Eli’s Cheesecake stated that CHSAS is built upon many strong partnerships; including businesses, colleges, universities as well as successful former students who provide inspiration to current students.

Chairman Ruiz commented that Alderman Virginia (Ginger) Rugai stopped by yesterday to welcome everyone to CHSAS. Chairman Ruiz stated that it is obvious CHSAS is successful due to the support within the community, faculty, students, business and educational institutions.

Resolution for Alice Payne of Danville

Motion
Dr. Ward moved that the State Board of Education adopt the resolution recognizing Ms. Alice Payne of Danville School District #118 for her disciplined work ethic, willingness to innovate, her proficient leadership and dedication to the
children of the State of Illinois. Ms. Karon seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous voice vote.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**Ms. Phyllis Weaver**, Director of English Language Learning in C.U.S.D. #200 in Wheaton/Warrenville represented her district and the people of DuPage County. She expressed the community’s concern that the ELL testing is not aligned with best practice and research, and they would like it to be.

Chairman Ruiz noted that the transition from IMAGE to ISAT was not a decision that was made freely by the State Board, but one that was imposed upon the Board by the U.S. Department of Education. He commented that Secretary Briggs recently outlined sanctions that would be imposed on Illinois schools and the students of Illinois if this transition is not completed. Chairman Ruiz went on to say that ISBE is working in the best interest of all Illinois students, and the Board understands the special needs of students in particular subgroups making these transitions. The Chairman reminded everyone that there would be further discussion at the February Board meeting on how best to assess English Language Learners.

The following people voiced their concerns on the growing number of Asian American population not being accompanied with the greater public understanding of the Asian-American community.

- **Bill Yoshino**, Midwest Director of the Japanese American Citizens League a National Education and Civil Rights Organization
- **Mryon Quon**, Legal Director of the Asian American Institute
- **Juanita Salvador-Burris**, Independent Research Consultant
- **Ritwik, Baneiji**, Youth Services Coordinator at the Indo American Center
- **Emily Tacek**, The Cambodian Association of Illinois
- **Bernarda Wong**, Chinese American Service League (CASL)
- **Peter Porr**, Director of South-East Asia Center

Issues of concern to the group were:

- The absence of Asian American history in curriculum profoundly affects students. According to groups such as the National Education Association when Asian American history is missing, it sends a clear message that Asian-Americans are unimportant.
- Better data collection on Asian Americans, broken down by ethnicity (and other relevant factors), in order to highlight ethnic groups that need greater attention.
- School safety training and anti-harassment training should include a component that incorporates an Asian American focus.
- Ensure that schools understand that students cannot be barred from public school enrollment on immigration status.
- Ensure that guidelines concerning disciplinary actions of students should not be allowed to influence the punishment of Asian American students due to racial, language, or cultural differences.
- Would like for public schools to reach out to the Asian American families in the community that attend their schools. Many of these students and their families are newly arrived immigrants who could benefit from this type of assistance in their transition.
- Would like to see an increase in funding for student immigrant integration programs (especially in the area of building relationships) between local schools, parents and families. Hire more bilingual educators.
- Strengthen and expand after-school programs to increase tutoring
opportunities for students in all grades.

• Increase funding and outreach to individuals suffering from post-traumatic situations.
• Need funding for cultural-sensitive counseling for immigrant families.
• Would like the Preschool for All program to be reexamined comprehensively.

Ms. Carmen Acevedo, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction for Plainfield Community Consolidated School District 202, a member of the Bilingual Advisory Council and a member of the Illinois State No Child Left Behind Committee of Practitioners addressed the Committee on ELL (English Language Learner) testing. Plainfield CCSD #202 is the fifth largest and fastest growing school district in state of Illinois. Of the 2000 students, 1 in 15 is an English Language Learner (ELL) and the ELL population has grown by 400 students this year alone. Ms. Acevedo commented that ELL students are often counted in other No Child Left Behind subgroups, some of these students are counted as many as 4 times. For example 425 ELL students are counted 3 times in the categories of Limited English Proficient, Ethnicity, and Individualized Education Plan or Low Income. As a result of testing ELL students using the ISAT and the PSAE several of NCLB subgroups will fail to demonstrate adequate yearly progress. The effect of these assessments will serve to negatively impact our commitment to data driven decision making.

Natividad Hernandez of the First Illinois Parent Council, a member of the Illinois State Bilingual Advisory Committee and a former President of the Chicago Multilingual Parent Council was accompanied by a large group of parents who are opposed to ELL testing. Ms. Hernandez expressed that she was very disappointed that the First Illinois Parent Council was not asked to provide input prior to the IMAGE decision. She is opposed to ELL students taking the ISAT test. If the test scores are not good it not only reflects on the school, but also the entire community. Ms. Hernandez also asked the Board to stand up to the federal government and not allow Washington to take anything from the children of Illinois. Ms. Hernandez noted that they are here today to support the agency. She would like us to ask the federal government for more time. Ms. Hernandez then translated in Spanish her conversation with the Board to the parents accompanying her.

Chairman Ruiz noted that there are already states under the federal requirements and that we need to abide by the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) request instead of jeopardizing the entire student population of Illinois.

Dr. Barbara Eason–Watkins of Chicago Public Schools spoke on her district’s concerns with the limited accommodations that are outlined for English Language Learners (ELLs). Dr. Eason-Watkins stated that the January 7th posting left little time for them to work with their 22,000 ELLs, 1,800 bilingual teachers and over 300 impacted schools. She commented that the CPS holds itself to very high standards. Probation standards actually exceed NCLB, and LEP students have been making AYP. She voiced her concern for students who have mastered the content being assessed, but cannot read the question because they have been receiving instructions in their native language. Dr. Eason-Watkins urged the Board on behalf of students at CPS and statewide to find a fair solution that will not penalize our students.

Chairman Ruiz commented that ISBE Assistant Superintendent of Standards and Assessment Dr. Connie Wise will be meeting with Chicago Public Schools later
Arlene Zielke, Illinois PTA Federal Legislative Consultant and former member of the State Board of Education (1979-1985), represented the 150,000 members of the Illinois PTA. Ms. Zielke shared with the Board a resolution that was adopted by PTA delegates at the Illinois PTA 2007 Annual State Convention. The resolution urges the Board to study and consider the Growth-Based Accountability Model as a more accurate way to gauge student performance. She proposed that it is also a fair way for schools to be held accountable for their students’ achievement. The Illinois PTA is looking forward to the Growth Model assessment system and are prepared to work with IBE toward achieving a federally approved Growth-Based Accountability Model. Ms. Zielke commented that the Illinois PTA will also urge the National PTA to advocate for expansion of Growth Model pilots authorized by the USDE.

Superintendent Koch commented that the General Assembly funded the Growth Model line item last year, which will allow us to make Explore and Plan testing available to 9th and 10th graders. Explore and Plan will provide a new means to measure student progress and growth toward achievement in 9th and 10th grades. Illinois has not been eligible to apply for Growth Model with the USDE because we have been out of compliance due to our scores being delivered late. We also need our testing system to meet standards and the changes with IMAGE will bring our assessment system into compliance, so that we can pursue additional flexibilities like the Growth Model. Dr. Koch noted that a lot of the states who have participated in the Growth Model have not seen the progress they expected to see or the flexibility. Superintendent Koch stated that we would be convening a group to discussions the Growth Model issue and welcomed Ms. Zielke and the Illinois PTA’s involvement.

Karen Mulattieri, Director of Language Minority Services of Cicero School District #99 stated that her district has 6,000 English Language Learners who make up 50% of the district’s population. Cicero School District’s trend data reflects a steady increase in test scores within LEP subgroups. The testing change will bring about a decline in some scores; and will not accurately portray students’ knowledge of academic content or the effectiveness of school programs. Ms. Mulattieri asked that ISBE take every flexibility with the USDE to change portions of the test that are under ISBE jurisdiction, if possible drop extended response questions for reading and math until we have a new assessment available for ELLS. If translation of the test is possible Ms. Mulattieri stated they would be willing to help. She thanked the Board for their time.

Josie Yanguas spoke on behalf of Mr. David Baker, Chair of the Illinois Advisory Council on Bilingual Education who could not attend the meeting. Ms. Yanguas stated that the Council continues to assert that English Language Learners’ mandated participation in the 2008 ISAT and PSAE will not yield reliable and valid information reflecting what Illinois English Language Learners know and can do. The Council has serious concerns regarding the problematic effects of this testing on Illinois English Language Learners and their schools. The Illinois ELL Assessment Advisory Committee and the Illinois Advisory Council on Bilingual Education recommends that the new RFSP for the assessment of Illinois English Language Learners include the following:

- A modified English version of the state achievement tests with appropriate accommodations;
- A translated version of the state achievement test in the 10 languages of highest frequency in Illinois;
• The development of a Spanish academic achievement test aligned to the Illinois Learning Standards and the Illinois Spanish Language Arts Standards. The Council further urges that the RFSP be issued no later than Spring, 2008. Ms. Yanguas asked that the Board incorporate these recommendations into the RFSP for the assessment of Illinois English Language Learners.

Dr. Zaida Cintron, President of the Board of Directors of the Illinois Multilingual Multicultural Education Organization (IAMME), also voiced concerns dealing with ELL assessment. Ms. Cintron stated that IAMME is a professional organization that promotes high quality educational policies and practices for linguistically and culturally diverse students, including English Language Learners. They believe in the benefits of multilingualism, multiculturalism and bi-literacy for all. Dr. Cintron stated that IAMME members and Board of Directors are concerned that even with the modifications to ISAT and PSAE for Illinois English Language Learners there will be adverse impact on the children that they serve. Scores from these tests will not produce any kind of valid, reliable or research based data regarding the academic progress of ELL’s. They would like to endorse the recommendations made by the Illinois Advisory Council on Bilingual Education that Josie Yaungas recommended today. They appreciate the effort ISBE is making in working with the community on this important issue and they encourage the Board to continue to pay attention to their accommodations for the benefit of all the children in Illinois.

Doris Salomon, Community Affairs Director for BP America explained that A+ for Energy is a program that awards a total of $750,000 in grants and scholarships to classroom teachers who offer innovative approaches to educating children about various energy options as well as energy conservation. In 2007, A+ for Energy awarded 94 grants that benefited over 43,000 children in the seven counties. In addition to cash grants they also provide scholarships for three day intensive energy education training for the winning teachers. Applications are now being distributed to eligible schools or can be downloaded from (www.aplusforenergy.org). The application deadline is March 7, 2008. Ms. Solomon asked that the Board support the program and encourage educators to apply.

Superintendent Koch asked Ms. Solomon to share the information with Matt Vanover who would help communicate the information to the schools.

Rosemarie Meyer of Community Consolidated School District #21 addressed the Board on the issue of assessment for English Language Learners. Ms. Meyer asked that ISBE implore more public comment on the nature of the accommodations. Ms. Meyer commented that when assessment results are released that there be a very clear explanation and interpretation of what is valid and how results will be interrupted for students. It is important to help community members understand that it is not the fault of the children and that the schools did not fail these children. She asked that more public attention be focused on what we know about our students and their language acquisition based on the language proficiency assessments. This information would make it clear to the public and the general community that school districts and the State Board are ensuring that students are learning English.

Rebecca Nelson, Superintendent of School District # 69 and Chairperson of Niles Township Superintendents’ Association spoke about the proposal for the Niles Township ELL Newcomers’ Center. The goal of the Center is to help immigrant
and refugee families more easily assimilate to the American education system so their children can achieve in school. Ms. Nelson stated that there are still many details to work out, but the Niles Township Superintendents Association and their Board of Education look forward to bringing the Center to reality. She asked for the State Board support and input, as well as, any funding that might be available.

Paula Pergament, Director of Foundation and Governmental Relations, Michael Mott, Associate Director for Curriculum and Classroom Instruction and Karen Carney, Director of Education of the Adler Planetarium updated the Board on the Adler Planetarium’s vision for serving the education needs of children throughout Illinois. Ms. Carney explained the variety of ways the Adler inspires and reaches children in Illinois; from distance outreach to video conferencing, checkout kits of curricular materials, downloadable documents, pod casting, field trips and teacher training. Mr. Mott discussed professional development workshops ranging from introductory to graduate level sessions to help teachers to gain a better grasp of complex learning methodology inquiry-based learning. Mr. Mott stated that they are redesigning how the impact of the Alder’s work with teachers is evaluated, to gain greater insight into the knowledge gained by teachers and students. This plan will also include mechanisms that will allow the Adler to determine what is working, and to adjust programs in areas that need improvement. The Adler believes that connecting our children to materials is a critical part of their learning.

Peg Agnos of the Legislative Education Network of DuPage (LEND) spoke on behalf of Susan Schwickardi, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction for School District #45. Ms. Agnos stated that District #45 is concerned over the decision of the State Board of Education to test ELLs with ISAT. No amount of extra time or one-on-one administration will make a difference in these students’ scores. Ms. Agnos commented that they have contacted the USDE in Washington and will be meeting with them and the Congressional Delegation on February 7-8, 2008. They have also begun the process to file a resolution to encourage all of state representatives and senators to be in touch with their congressional delegation.

Okab Hassan, Principal of Peck Elementary School and member of the Arab Minority Language Group of Chicago asked that ELL students be tested in their native language and provided with the translation required by the state law. He asked that ISBE stand firm against the USDE.

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<tr>
<th>SUPERINTEDENT’S REPORT CONSENT AGENDA</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chairman Ruiz commented that all items listed with an asterisk (*) on the agenda are considered to be routine and will be enacted in one motion and vote. Any board members who wishes separate discussion on any item listed on the consent agenda may remove that item from the consent agenda, in which the event, the item will be considered in its normal sequence.</td>
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<td>Mr. Ruiz stated that consent agenda items # 4. a.1.) Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, # 6. Cumulative Waiver Report, # 7 Legislative Proposals and # 8.b. Adoption of FY09 State Board of Education Budget will be removed from the consent agenda and considered as separate items for discussion.</td>
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<td>Dr. Hall commented that she is concerned about 5.a. Pearson ISAT Contract Amendment. Chairman Ruiz asked General Counsel to respond.</td>
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<td>Mr. Reisberg stated that ISBE needs to ensure that every student in Illinois is tested in whatever way he/she needs to be tested. The decision at this point is for ELL’s to be assessed through ISAT and PSAE with accommodations, which</td>
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means that both contracts with Pearson and ACT will need to be revised in order to make revisions so assessments can be taken, scored and returned on time. From the fiscal standpoint there is an increase in these two contracts, but a decrease in the IMAGE contracts that are being canceled as a result of IMAGE not going forward. Pearson and ACT continue to work and have ensured us that there will be enough testing materials to accommodate the students.

Dr. Koch explained that we have written the USDE regarding our policy considerations in terms of the way that AYP is counted, flexibility for students taking ACCESS at a particular percentage. Dr. Koch stated that the USDE has reported that they have told CPS that they support our decision and we are doing the right thing, we have the letter that lays out the sanctions. The only thing now on the table with the USDE is policy considerations that were recommended by the Bilingual Council and others. Dr. Koch stated that this would not have any bearing on whether or not to pursue this contract as he sees it.

Motion:
Ms. Karon moved that the State Board of Education hereby approve the consent agenda items as presented, with the exception of agenda items # 4.a.1.) Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, # 6. Cumulative Waiver Report, # 7 Legislative Proposals and # 8.b. Adoption of FY09 State Board of Education Budget. Dr. Ward seconded the motion. Dr. Hall “abstained” from the voting on consent agenda item #4. a. 3.) University of Illinois at Chicago. The revised consent agenda passed with a roll call vote.

The following motions were approved by action taken in the consent agenda motion:

Approval of Minutes
The State Board of Education hereby approves the minutes for the meeting of January 17, 2008 Board meeting.

Rules for Initial Review
Part 60 (The “Grow Your Own Teacher” Education Initiative)
The State Board of Education hereby authorizes the solicitation of public comment on the proposed rulemaking for:

The “Grow Your Own Teacher” Education Initiative (23 Illinois Administrative Code 60),
including publication of the proposed amendments in the Illinois Register.

Rules for Initial Review
Part 575 (School Technology Program)
The State Board of Education hereby authorizes the solicitation of public comment on the proposed rulemaking for:

School Technology Program (23 Illinois Administrative Code 575),
Including publication of the proposed amendments in the Illinois Register.

Rules for Adoption
Part 25 (Certification)
The State Board of Education hereby adopts the proposed rulemaking for:
Certification (23 Illinois Administrative Code 25),
Further, the Board authorizes the State Superintendent of Education to make such technical and nonsubstantive changes as the State Superintendent may deem necessary in response to suggestions or objections of the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules.
**Rules for Adoption**

**Part 675 (Providers of Supplemental Educational Services)**

The State Board of Education hereby adopts the proposed rulemaking for:

Providers of Supplemental Educational Services (23 Illinois Administrative Code 675),

Further, the Board authorizes the State Superintendent of Education to make such technical and nonsubstantive changes as the State Superintendent may deem necessary in response to suggestions or objections of the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules.

**Recommendations of the Teacher Certification Board**

**Accreditation and Program Approvals**

**Saint Xavier University**

The State Board of Education hereby assigns the status of "continuing accreditation" to Saint Xavier University. This action is in accordance with Section 25.125 (j) (1) of the State Board's administrative rules and authorizes the institution to conduct its programs and recommend candidates for certification by entitlement until the time of the institution's next scheduled review. This review will occur in 2014.

In accordance with Section 25.127 (j) (1) (A) of the State Board's administrative rules on review of individual programs, the State Board of Education assigns "continuing approval" to the following professional education preparation programs for Saint Xavier University as they meet the applicable Illinois content area standards.

- Early Childhood Education
- Elementary Education
- English Language Arts - Undergraduate
- Mathematics
- Music
- Reading Specialist
- Reading Teacher
- Science – Biology - Undergraduate and Graduate
- Social Science – History – Undergraduate
- LBSI
- Speech-Language Pathologist
- Visual Arts

**University of Illinois at Chicago**

The State Board of Education assigns the status of "continuing accreditation" to the University of Illinois at Chicago. This action is in accordance with Section 25.125 (j) (1) of the State Board's administrative rules and authorizes the institution to conduct its programs and recommend candidates for certification by entitlement until the time of the institution's next scheduled review. This review will occur in 2014.

In accordance with Section 25.127 (j) (1) (A) of the State Board's administrative rules on review of individual programs, the State Board of Education assigns "continuing approval" to the following professional education preparation programs for the University of Illinois at Chicago as they meet the applicable Illinois content area standards.

- General Administrative – Principal
- Superintendent
- Early Childhood Special Education
- Elementary Education – Undergraduate and Graduate
- English Language Arts
Recommendations For Teacher Certification Board (D.8.b.)

- Foreign Language
- Mathematics – Undergraduate and Graduate
- Master's of Education in Secondary Education
- Reading Specialist
- Science – Chemistry
- Science – Physics
- Social Science - History
- LBS I
- School Nurse
- School Social Worker
- Visual Arts

Contracts and Grants over $1 Million

Pearson ISAT Contract Amendment
The Illinois State Board of Education moves to amend the contract with PEM to include the establishment of additional testing sites and funding for increased numbers of students; and establishing a total funding amount not to exceed $38,500,000 through the current Term of the contract (October 13, 2006 through September 30, 2009).

ACT Explore & Plan Contract Amendment
The Illinois State Board of Education moves to amend the contract with ACT, Inc. to include a growth model component, the establishment of additional testing sites, and funding for increase numbers of students; and establishing a total funding amount not to exceed $60,000,000 through the current Term of the contract (July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2010).

ISBE Technology Servers
The State Board hereby approves the Agency’s purchase of new data center equipment, software, installation and services for the purpose of refreshing the Agency’s data centers through the Dell/EMC state master contract with CMS for a cost up to $1,000,000 spread over a five year scheduled payment period.

State Board of Education Budget

Ratification of FY08 State Board of Education Budget
The Illinois State Board of Education hereby ratifies the FY2008 budget.

END OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Accreditation and Program Approval
Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville

Mr. Clark moved the State Board of Education hereby assigns the status of "continuing accreditation" to Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. This action is in accordance with Section 25.125 (j) (1) of the State Board's administrative rules and authorizes the institution to conduct its programs and recommend candidates for certification by entitlement until the time of the institution's next scheduled review. This review will occur in 2014.

Further, in accordance with Section 25.127 (j) (1) (A) of the State Board’s administrative rules on review of individual programs, the State Board of Education assigns "continuing approval" to the following professional education preparation programs for Southern Illinois University Edwardsville as they meet the applicable Illinois content area standards.
Ms. Karon seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous voice vote. Dr. Brown “abstained” from the vote.

**Cumulative Waiver Report (D.6.)**

Mr. Clark moved that the State Board of Education hereby authorize transmittal to the General Assembly before February 1, 2008, of the 2008 Cumulative Waiver Report, which includes:

- Notification to the General Assembly that the State Board intends to advance legislative proposals to amend Sections 24-2 and 18-8.05 (F)(2)(d)(1) of the School Code, as described in the report; and
- A recommendation that the General Assembly introduce legislation to eliminate the fee limit of $50 in Section 27-23 of the School Code, thus allowing districts to set the fee in response to local conditions, with the stipulation that the district set a fee only after providing appropriate advance notices and holding a public hearing in order to take comments from parents, other community members, and affected teachers and staff members.

Dr. Hall seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous voice vote.

**Legislative Proposals (D.7.)**

Dr. Hall moved that The State Board of Education hereby approves the following additional legislative proposals to move forward as agency initiated proposals for the spring 2008 legislative session:

- Educator Misconduct
- Obsolete & Duplicative Repeals and Statutory Clean-up

Mr. Clark seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous voice vote.

**Adoption of the FY09 State Board of Education Budget (D.8.b.)**

Linda Mitchell, Chief Financial Officer, stated that after yesterday’s Finance and Audit Committee meeting staff revised schedules to reflect the consensus of the committee. Ms. Mitchell noted that 67% of the increases that the Board discussed yesterday will go to General State Aid and mandated categoricals. In addition there are number of critical initiatives to the agency for the coming year which are reflected in the budget. Those initiatives include a $12.6 million dollar change and increase in assessments, which is about a 72% increase in assessment cost for the coming year.
New items being added to the budget are:
- Educator Misconduct $750,000 dollars,
- Increases in Agricultural Education,
- $1.1 million dollar increase in Bilingual Education and
- $3.0 million dollar increase in Homeless Education.
- $28.0 million dollar increase that reflects the Board’s response to the eight budget hearings. Included in those are the Adler Planetarium, After School Matters, Arts Education, Blind and Dyslexic, and Grow Your Own Teachers. Many programs included in this group had considerable funding increases. (See handout for further Budget details.)

Ms. Mitchell asked Don Evans, Director of Human Resources to share with the Board a brief update on ISBE Staffing.

Mr. Evans noted that we have a headcount of 480; 13 retires by the end of this fiscal year. The agency has 26 positions posted for external and internal candidates. Ms. Mitchell went on to comment that Personal Services would increase by $1.4 million dollars which includes the impact of certain contractual personnel cost and 21 additional positions for next year.

Ms. Mitchell stated that the total proposal to the Governor and General Assembly would be $305,432.4. A significant portion of the Agency budget (about $2 billion) is from federal funds. Yesterday we received an additional $5 million dollars to add to the amounts on your previous schedule for the 21st Century Programs. The federal increase would now be projected at $129 million dollars.

Ronny Wickenhauser commented that the federal budget passed eliminated the Title V Program. That program gave Illinois about $4.1 million dollars each year. There were also decreases in funding for Title IV, Safe & Drug Free Schools and Reading First, the biggest concern being the Title V funding. Mr. Wickenhauser stated that it would not affect us as much in FY09 because the Reading First Program was slow to get started so we had an extension. It is a six year program so we will feel more of its effects in FY2010. If they fund it at the level the federal government funded at this year, ISBE would lose a significant amount of money for Reading First. There are discussions the national level of eliminating the Reading First program altogether and that could have a significant impact on our schools and their reading programs. We will continue to monitor the program.

Mr. Clark moved that the FY09 Budget be approved, as amended in the January 16, 2008, Finance & Audit Committee of the Whole. Dr. Brown seconded the motion passed with unanimous roll call vote.

### ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

**Fiscal Year 2009 General Funds Budget Increases**

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Budget Hearing Requests $28,408.3
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  Teach for America $200.0
  Tech for Success $2,500.0
  Truant Alternative and Optional Education $3,000.0

TOTAL $305,432.4

NEW BUSINESS
There was no new business at this time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS
Chairman Ruiz introduced Dr. Proshanta Nandi who has been joining the Board meetings as a representative from the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE). Dr. Nandi stated that the next Board of Higher Education meeting is not until
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<th>IBHE Liaison Report</th>
<th>February 5th at the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel and Conference Center in Springfield, Illinois.</th>
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<td>Superintendent's Announcements</td>
<td>Superintendent Koch reminded districts that Explore and Plan is now available for 9th and 10th graders this year. The deadline for Explore and Plan is February 1, 2008.</td>
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<td>Chairman’s Report</td>
<td>Chairman Ruiz reported that he has been spending a lot of his time on the IMAGE/ISAT issue and helping in the budget development process.</td>
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| Committee Reports | Education Policy Planning Committee  
Dr. Hall reported in the absence of Dr. Fields that the committee discussed the following topics:  
- Public Participation on IMAGE and PSAE testing concerning ELL students.  
- Received welcoming remarks from Principal Bill Hook of CHSAS and President of Eli’s Cheese Cake, Marc Schulman. Ms. Lucille Shaw, Master Teacher, and Ms. Wendy Dallain, ETC Coordinator, shared a power point presentation on CHSAS.  
- Linda Jamali, Anne Hallett and Madeline Talbot addressed the Committee on Grow Your Own Teachers.  
- Marica Cullen updated the Committee on the State’s Response to Intervention Plan.  
- Superintendent Koch and Susie Morrison shared a verbal update with the Committee on Illinois College and Work Readiness.  
- The Committee discussed the agenda for the February 2008 Education Policy and Planning Committee Meeting. |
| Finance and Audit Committee of the Whole | Mr. Clark reported that the Finance and Audit Committee of the Whole discussed the following topics:  
- Approved the minutes of the December 2007 Joint Committee Meeting.  
- Connie Wise updated the Committee on the Pearson Contract Amendment and the ACT Explore and Plan Contract Amendment.  
- Linda Mitchell and Ronny Wichenhauser updated the Committee on the budget.  
- The Committee discussed the agenda for the February 2008 Finance & Audit Committee Meeting. |
| Governmental Relations Meeting of the Whole | Mr. Clark reported in the absence of Ms. Holmes that the Governmental Relations discussed the following topics:  
- Shelley Helton and Winnie Tuthill discussed the 2008 Cumulative Waiver Report.  
- Nicole Wills updated the Committee on legislative proposals.  
- Public Participation from Lydia Bullock of the Illinois Federation of Teachers |
| Ad Hoc Rules Committee of the Whole | Chairman Ruiz reported that the committee discussed the following topics:  
- Linda Jamali updated the Committee on Rules for Initial Review Part 60 (“Grow Your Own” Teachers Education Initiative).  
- Marica Cullen updated the Committee on Rules for Initial Review Part 575 (School Technology Program). |
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<tr>
<th>Members’ Reports</th>
<th>Chairman Ruiz announced that Voices for Illinois Children will be having its Kids Count Conference on March 28th at the Chicago Federal Reserve Bank. The Chairman invited anyone who might be interested to attend.</th>
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<td>Information Items</td>
<td>Chairman Ruiz asked that the Board members please read the Monthly Status Report on Rulemaking and the State Board of Education Fiscal and Administrative Monthly Reports printed in the Board meeting materials each month for information purposes. (Reports start on page 22 of your Plenary packet.). There were no inquiries this month regarding these reports.</td>
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<td>CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENT (Prior to Closed Session)</td>
<td>Chairman Ruiz announced that the Board would enter into a motion to go into a brief close session and then reconvene to act on agenda item D.9. Contract for Legal Services regarding Certification Actions. Following the action on item D.9 there will be no further action taken, other than to adjourn the meeting.</td>
</tr>
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| Closed Session                                            | Dr. Hall moved that the Board enter into closed session under the exceptions set forth in the Open Meetings Act of the State of Illinois as follows:  

**Section c 1** for the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, compensation, performance or dismissal of an employee;  
**Section c11** for the purpose of considering pending or probable litigation against or affecting the Board.  

Dr. Hall further moved that the Board might invite anyone they wish to have included in this closed session.

Dr. Ward seconded the motion and it was passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

The open meeting recessed at 12:13 p.m. and the Board went into closed session at 12:20 p.m. The open meeting reconvened at 12:47 p.m. |
| Contract for Legal Services Regarding Certification Action | Mr. Clark moved that the State Board of Education authorize Agency staff to negotiate and enter into a contract with the law firm of Shefsky and Froelich to handle the prosecution of allegations of educator misconduct; provided however that (a) the blended hourly rate for legal services cannot be more than $295.00 per hour; (b) the maximum contract amount is $100,000.00; (c) Agency staff will work separately to negotiate budgets for each individual certification matter; and (d) the Agency will have the law firm handle only a subset of pending matters at the outset, so that the Agency can evaluate such work in accordance with the agreed upon budgets.  

Dr. Vinni Hall seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous roll call vote. |
| Special Thanks                                            | On behalf of the State Board of Education, Chairman Ruiz thanked Principal William Hook, Assistant Principal Martha Hamilton and Ms. Lucille Shaw for their assistance in making the Board meeting possible. He also thanked the students |
from Julian High School and the instructor, Joe Smith from Hyde Park High School for taking care of the Board’s audio needs.

| Motion for Adjournment          | Dr. Ward moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Clark seconded the motion and it passed with unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m. |

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Vinni Hall  
Board Secretary

Mr. Jesse Ruiz  
Chairman
AGENDA

1. Roll Call

2. Board Member Participation by Other Means

3. Public Participation

4. Minutes of the December Education Policy Planning Committee Meeting *(pp. 2-4)*

5. Presentation from Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences

6. Grow Your Own Update *(Linda Jamali, Anne Hallett) (pp. 5-6)*

7. State Response to Intervention Plan *(Beth Hanselman, Marica Cullen) (pp. 7-19)*

8. Illinois College & Work Readiness Partnership (verbal update) *(Chris Koch, Susie Morrison)*

9. Committee Agenda Planning

10. Adjourn
The Education Policy Planning Committee meeting convened at 11:00 a.m.

1. **ROLL CALL:** Acting Chair Vinni Hall requested a roll call. See above.

2. **BOARD MEMBER PARTICIPATION BY OTHER MEANS:** There was no participation from Board members by any other means.

3. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Student Advisory Council Members Emma LePere, Ryan Orenstein, Micah Berman and Gabrielle Kendrick were present at the EPPC meeting.

   Lisa Small from Township High School District was present to discuss issues concerning ELL students participating in the PSAE without adequate accommodations. Ms. Small stated that only eight students classified as ELL have been deemed ready to take the PSAE in four years. Ms. Small requested that the state consider allowing teachers to determine students’ readiness to take the assessment. Ms. Small suggested that they use this year as a pilot year to gather data on the ELL population.

   Representatives from Legislative Education Network of DuPage (LEND), Peg Agnos, Dr. Hank Gmitro, and Michelle Lentz were present at the EPPC meeting to share their concerns regarding elementary age ELL students taking the ISAT. Dr. Gmitro stated that their position is that ELL students are not ready nor are they prepared to take this test. Similarly, Special Education students are not able to take a multiple choice test rather than the Illinois Alternate Assessment. Dr. Gmitro stated that their district has debated whether or not to administer the test as they believe that ISAT is not an appropriate assessment of these students and, consequently, could have a negative impact. Dr. Gmitro and his colleagues stressed the need of an appropriate assessment instrument.

   Erika Lindley, Executive Director of Education Research Development (ED RED) was present to share three major concerns regarding standardized testing of ELL students. They are as follows:
   - There is frustration in the field concerning the impact on ELL students and on AYP.
   - Accommodations applied to the ACT/PSAE will not allow for accurate measurement of skills for ELL students, resulting in invalid test data.
   - ISBE should begin outreach as soon as possible to communities and parents in an effort to prepare them for resulting low test score data in these circumstances.

   Maria Soto, Director of Latino Initiatives at National Louis University was in attendance to inform the board of National Louis' new initiative and commitment to the Latino community. Ms. Soto said the university is creating a new Latino Center that will provide mentoring and assist Latino students in obtaining post secondary education. Ms. Soto added that National Louis also administers a Grow Your Own program.

   In response to concerns raised by attendees, Dr. Koch stated that ISBE is requesting U.S. Department of Education’s permission for flexibility with regard to accountability requirements. Dr. Koch thanked LEND and other organizations that have offered assistance in helping Illinois move...
forward. Dr. Koch concluded by saying that while NCLB has been problematic it has had a positive impact in that it has illustrated the need for an accurate assessment instrument for special needs and non-English speaking students.

Ms. Hall recognized Lydia Bullock, Charlene Lutz and ISBE staff members who were also in attendance for the EPPC Meeting.

Ms. Hall introduced Mr. Marc Schulman, President, Eli’s Cheesecake and Chairman of the Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences Business Education Advisory Council and Mr. Bill Hook, Principal of Chicago Agricultural High School.

4. MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 2007 EPPC MEETING: The Committee approved the minutes from the December 2007 EPPC Meeting with the stipulation that the minutes show Vinni Hall as a member of the EPPC Committee under “Committee Members Present” for record of attendance.

5. PRESENTATION FROM CHICAGO HS FOR AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES (CHAS) (Ms. Lucille Shaw Principal, Ag HS, Linda Delawn): Lucille Shaw and Linda Delawn gave a presentation about CHAS, highlighting goals, student activities and the positive impact the school has on the lives of students. Ms. Shaw stated that CHAS is a Chicago Magnet School and able to take students from all over the city. This offers urban students an opportunity to explore over 300 career opportunities in Ag Sciences to which they would not otherwise have had exposure. She stated that as well as having a quality Career Tech Program, all students are required to take college prep courses. Ms. Shaw added that CHAS offers a high quality education and has a commitment to continuous improvement.

6. GROW YOUR OWN UPDATE (Linda Jamali, Anne Hallett, Statewide Outreach Coordinator, Madeline Talbot, Action Now): Linda Jamali, Anne Hallett and Madeline Talbot gave an update on Grow Your Own (GYO), an incentive program to encourage students to explore careers in teaching. Ms. Jamali stated that the GYO is a P-20 Partnership in its second full year whose students consist of a very diverse group and that they are progressing toward their goal of certifying 1000 teachers by 2016. Ms. Jamali stated that the program targets communities with hard to staff schools; eight of the sixteen schools are in the Chicago area. Ms. Jamali added that last year they began an outreach program that focused on downstate schools in an effort to spread programs throughout the state. Ms. Jamali then introduced Ms. Hallett who concluded the update by saying they have enjoyed a wonderful partnership with ISBE and are very appreciative of support from ISBE and the Board.

7. STATE RTI PLAN (Beth Hanselman, Marica Cullen): Marica Cullen gave an update on the State RtI Plan. Ms. Cullen stated that extensive input has been obtained from the field and the current draft was presented at the December Board Meeting and is posted on the ISBE website. Ms. Cullen added that a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section and a Resource document are under development for the website and an External Stakeholder Workgroup has been formed. Ms. Cullen wanted emphasis on the fact that they are working across divisions to align resources.

8. ILLINOIS COLLEGE & WORK READINESS PARTNERSHIP (verbal update) (Chris Koch, Susie Morrison): Superintendent Koch stated that the initiative to make the Explore and Plan tests available to all students rolled out this week. Dr. Koch said that the General Assembly chose to fund Explore and Plan following a recommendation of this Board. Dr. Koch added that Districts all over the state can now allow 9th and 10th graders to take the tests, allowing for greater insights into student abilities. Dr. Koch believes that the use of these assessments will have a positive impact on instruction for students. Dr. Koch thanked the General Assembly, members of the Board, Susie Morrison and Darren Reisberg.

9. COMMITTEE AGENDA PLANNING (for February):
   - ACT/PSAE Update — Elaine Johnson (moved to March)
   - Progress Report on District Consolidated Plans
   - Supplemental Education Services (SES) Evaluation
   - EC Policy Discussion—Kay Henderson
   - ELL Assessment Readiness Plan

10. ADJOURNMENT: Chris Ward motioned to adjourn the EPPC meeting and Dean Clark seconded the motion. The EPPC meeting adjourned at 12:13 p.m.
AGENDA

1. Roll Call

2. Board Member Participation by Other Means

3. Public Participation

4. Minutes of the December Joint Committee Meeting (Approval of Finance & Audit portion) (pp. 2-4)

* 5. Contracts & Grants Over $1 Million
   a. Pearson ISAT Contract Amendment (Joyce Zurkowski) (pp. 5-6)
   b. ISBE Technology Servers (pp. 9-10)

* 6. State Board of Education Budget (Linda Mitchell & Ronny Wickenhauser)
   a. Ratification of FY08 State Board of Education Budget (pp. 11-18)
   b. Adoption of FY09 State Board of Education Budget (pp. 19)
   c. ISBE Staffing

7. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items

8. Adjourn

* Items listed with an asterisk (*) will be discussed in committee and Board action may be taken in the plenary session.
FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Wednesday, January 16, 2008
Chicago Illinois

Committee Members Present
Dean Clark
Vinni Hall
Jesse Ruiz
Andrea Brown
Chris Ward
Joyce Karon

Staff Present
Chris Koch
Linda Riley Mitchell
Susie Morrison
Darren Reisberg
Connie Wise
Linda Tomlinson
Ronny Wickenhauser
Don Evans
Rene Valenciano

Nicole Wills
Beth Hanselman
Deb Vespa
Matt Vanover
Jean Ladage
Marsha Moffitt
Linda Jamali
Marica Cullen

1. ROLL CALL
Board members David Fields and Brenda Holmes were absent.

2. BOARD MEMBER PARTICIPATION BY OTHER MEANS
None

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Rosetta McPherson, Grow Your Own Illinois
- Asked for $4.5 million in fiscal year 2009
- Handouts were submitted to committee members.

Andrea Martinez and Regina Jones and Ofelia Sanchez, Parent Mentor Collaborative Project
- Asked for $300,000 in fiscal year 2009.
- Handouts were submitted to committee members.

Jane Sharka and Lou Ann Jacobs, Illinois School Library Media Association
- Asked for $5 million for Online Library Resources for fiscal year 2009.

Peter Skosey, Metropolitan Planning Council and Amy Wagner, Illinois Housing Council
- Asked for $3 million for Good Housing/Good Schools in fiscal year 2009.
- Handouts were submitted to committee members.

Josh Anderson, Teach for America
- Asked for support for an increase to $2.1 Million for Teach for America in fiscal year 2009.

4. MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING
- Motion to approve the minutes passed.

5. CONTRACTS & GRANTS OVER $1 MILLION
A. Pearson ISAT Contract Amendment
Connie Wise stated this amendment would allow ISBE to establish additional testing sites at private facilities for public school students and it would also address the additional cost for the increase in students taking the ISAT as a result of the cancellation of the IIMAGE test. The total value of the contract will not exceed $38,500,000.

B. ACT Explore & Plan Contract Amendment
Connie Wise stated that the Board previously approved a budget of $52,130,000. ISBE is anticipating additional costs that would bring the contract up to about $60 Million.

C. Servers
Scott Norton stated that this spring ISBE would like to purchase new servers in Chicago and Springfield. Mr. Norton stated that the average age of ISBE servers is about 72 months and that servers are considered obsolete at between 48 and 60 months. The newest servers ISBE has are four years and four months old and our oldest are over 10 years old. Mr. Norton state that this can be done for just under $1 million dollars including the cost to set up the equipment. He also stated that we are running out of storage space and need more. This will be a lease to purchase over five years so that the cost will be spread out.

6. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET
   A. Ratification of FY08 State Board of Education Budget
      Linda Mitchell requested that the Board ratify the fiscal year 2008 budget. Ms. Mitchell stated that the fiscal year 2008 budget has passed and the BIMP has finally been approved. Ms. Mitchell requested that the Board formally approve the final fiscal year 2008 budget.
   B. Adoption of FY09 State Board of Education Budget
      Linda Mitchell spoke about three different scenarios for the Board to consider for its fiscal year 2009 budget recommendation. Ms. Mitchell noted that ISBE had eight budget hearings around the state. She also stated that ISBE had a presentation from the Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability about the state’s revenue situation. Ms. Mitchell asked the Board to consider making a recommendation of approximately $300 million for this year. Ms. Mitchell noted that in the past the Board focused the majority of the money in the areas of General State Aid, Mandated Categoricals and Early Childhood. Ms. Mitchell also talked about additional positions ISBE would like to request. Ms. Mitchell stated that staff recommends that the agency phase in the requested 64 positions over three years, rather than ask for all 64 in one year.

      Board members engaged in various discussions on individual line items in the budget. Committee members came to a consensus on a General State Aid foundation level increase of $125, continuing to fund Mandated Categoricals at 100%, funding 25 additional positions for ISBE, and asking for $45 million for Early Childhood Education. Board members continued discussing various other line items for proposed increases. Board members proposed a brief recess in the committee meeting and asked Dean Clark, Jesse Ruiz and Superintendent Koch to come up with a recommendation for increases to various other line items. After a 30 minute break, Mr. Clark, Mr. Ruiz and Superintendent Koch came back to the Board with suggested increases. The Board members accepted their proposal.

      The fiscal year 2009 budget recommendation was forwarded to the Board for approval at its plenary session (see below).

      ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
      Fiscal Year 2009 General Funds Budget Increases

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7. **COMMITTEE AGENDA PLANNING/ADDITIONAL ITEMS**
   For the February, 2008 Finance and Audit Committee meeting, staff plans to present an audit update on both the FY06 Financial and Compliance Audit and the FY06 A133 Audit. Staff will also update the Board on the financial status of several school districts including districts in financial difficulty and FOP districts. We would also anticipate reviewing Contracts and Grants over $1 million. There will also be an update on the 2009 budget.

8. **ADJOURN**
AGENDA

1. Roll Call

2. Board Member Participation by Other Means

3. Public Participation

4. Minutes of the December Joint Committee Meeting (pp. 2-4) (Approval of Governmental Relations portion)

*5. 2008 Cumulative Waiver Report (Shelley Helton) (pp. 5-15)

*6. Legislative Proposals (Nicole Wills, Leigh Ann Vanausdoll) (pp. 16-74)

7. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items

8. Adjourn

* Items listed with an asterisk (*) will be discussed in committee and Board action may be taken in the plenary session.
GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE
Wednesday, January 20, 2008
Chicago, Illinois

Committee Members Present
Dean Clark, Chair
Vinni Hall
Jesse Ruiz
Andrea Brown
Joyce Karon
Chris Ward

Committee Members Absent
Brenda Holmes
David Fields

SAC Members
Emma LePere
Ryan Ornstein
Micah Berman
Gabriel Kendrick

Staff Present
Chris Koch
Linda Mitchell
Susie Morrison
Darren Reisberg
Connie Wise
Linda Tomlinson
Ronny Wickenhauser
Don Evans
Rene Valenciano
Andrea Wingo
Shelley Helton
Nicole Wills
Beth Hanselman
Matt Vanover
Jean Ladage
Marsha Moffett

1. ROLL CALL

2. BOARD MEMBER PARTICIPATION BY OTHER MEANS
   None

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
   Lydia Bullock, Illinois Federation of Teachers
   Ms. Bullock made remarks pertaining to the Educator Misconduct legislative proposal and
   the work IFT had done to participate in the proposals development. She expressed
   concerns with the proposals reliance on indicated reports from the Department of
   Children and Family Services and expressed hope that continued discussions would take
   place with IFT and other interested parties.

4. MINUTES OF JANUARY COMMITTEE MEETING
   Chairman Jesse Ruiz made a motion to approve the December Joint Committee notes
   and the motion was seconded by Chris Ward.

5. 2008 CUMMULATIVE WAIVER REPORT
   Shelley Helton presented the 2008 Cumulative Waiver Report. At the Board’s request,
   the Superintendent prepared recommendations regarding the legislative
   recommendations section of the report concerning driver’s education fee waivers. The
   Committee agreed to make a recommendation that the General Assembly introduce
   legislation that eliminates the $50 cap on the driver’s education fee set in Section 27-23
   of the School Code, with the stipulation that local districts set a fee only after providing
   appropriate notice to interested parties and holding a public hearing to take comments
   from parents, teachers and staff and other community members.

6. LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS
   Staff presented additional information on the Education Misconduct proposal (#9) and the
   Clean-up bill for Obsolete and Duplicative Provisions in the School Code (#10).
**Educator Misconduct Proposal:** The proposal makes changes regarding educator misconduct. The suggested changes fall in two categories: (a) clarifying and streamlining the investigation and hearing system when the agency receives notice of alleged educator misconduct; and (b) improving reporting mechanisms so that the Agency receives notice of alleged educator misconduct. Specific changes that are included in the proposal include:

- Increasing the number of enumerated convictions for which a certificate revocation is automatic.
- Vesting the power to initiate suspensions and revocations only with the State Superintendent, and thus relieving the Regional Superintendents of this concurrent obligation.
- Requiring that any initial hearing, whether for a suspension or a revocation, occur before the State Teacher Certification Board (instead of suspension hearings occurring before the State Superintendent and then being appealed to the STCB).

**Clean-up bill for Obsolete and Duplicative Provisions** This proposal continues the agencies goal of streamlining School Code provisions and deleting unnecessary or out-of-date provisions.

Agency staff anticipates bringing amendments for the Board’s review at the February Board meeting for both initiatives.

7. COMMITTEE AGENDA PLANNING/ADDITIONAL ITEMS

**Agenda Planning**

Governmental Relations staff will provide the Committee with an update on legislation filed and the status of ISBE legislative initiatives, as well as bring any necessary changes on legislative proposals.

**Additional Items**

Nicole Wills updated Committee members on three bills that had been introduced prior to the meeting:

- **SB 1874** – This legislation provides for a supplemental appropriation of $21,000,000 to be used for school districts that will receive less funding in the 2007-2008 school year as a result of Public Act 93-1022.
- **SR 483** – This resolution urges the agency to request a one-year extension from the U.S. Department of Education, so that the IMAGE assessment can be administered in 2008 and urges the Department to accept any such request.
- **HB 4266** – This legislation requires ISBE to reimburse school districts for interest not earned on general State aid allocations beginning in August 2007 due to the delay in the FYI 2008 State budget.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Andrea Brown made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Chairman Jesse Ruiz.
AGENDA

1. Roll Call

2. Board Member Participation by Other Means

3. Public Participation

4. Minutes of the December Ad Hoc Rules Committee Meeting (pp. 2-3)

*5. Rules for Initial Review
   a. Part 60 (The “Grow Your Own” Teacher Education Initiative) (Linda Jamali) (pp. 4-14)
   b. Part 575 (School Technology Program) (Marica Cullen) (pp. 15-19)

*6. Rules for Adoption
   a. Part 25 (Certification) (Linda Jamali & Patrick Murphy) (pp. 20-48)
   b. Part 675 (Providers of Supplemental Education Services) (Randy Niles) (pp. 49-87)

7. Information Item/Discussion Item
   a. School Comparison of School Food Service Rules Part 305 and the proposed revisions
      (Chris Schmitt, Mark Haller) (pp. 88-100)

8. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items

9. Adjourn

* Items listed with an asterisk (*) will be discussed in committee and action may be taken in the plenary session.
Chairman Ruiz called the meeting to order at 8:55 a.m. and noted that no members were participating by other means.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Chris Ward moved approval of the minutes of the December 13, 2007, meeting and Dean Clark seconded the motion. It was adopted unanimously and the minutes were approved as presented.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
Chairman Ruiz indicated that a number of individuals had signed up for public participation and clarified the opportunity to testify on more general subjects during the plenary session instead if they so wished. With seven who wished to comment at the Rules Committee’s meeting, it was determined that each would be allocated approximately four minutes.

Steve Pines, Executive Director of the Education Industry Association, spoke on the pending amendments to Part 675, Providers of Supplemental Educational Services. He congratulated the Board’s staff for providing national leadership to improve accountability and the quality of tutoring services for low-income students. He noted that ISBE’s past rulemakings had helped raise program standards and felt the current rulemaking would continue in that vein.

Mr. Pines informed the Board that his organization had raised a number of issues during the public comment and expressed appreciation for the serious consideration that had been given to those points and the changes that had been made in the rules as a result. He gave examples of those changes but noted there remained a small number of outstanding issues that he wished to bring to the Board’s attention. First, he advocated authorization for in-home tutoring using live tutors, stating that this practice was permitted by 48 other states and that provisions could be included in rules to establish appropriate safeguards for students’ safety. He urged the Board to include such provisions in the rules based on best practices and to defer action on the relevant subsection until such language could be developed. He provided copies and outlined the content of written material summarizing research on this topic. He emphasized the benefits of involving parents in the tutoring process and parents’ central role in supporting students’ education.

Mr. Pines went on to discuss the calculation of the billing rate and the relative costs of the first and last hours of service in the context of providers’ opportunity to recover their costs. This was the rationale for his organization’s request for the rules to permit a start-up fee of approximately $200 per student instead of the uniform hourly rate currently required.
Finally, Mr. Pines recommended extending the timetable for the start-up of tutoring services from 30 days to 30 business days after a contract is completed and the list of eligible students is provided by the district. In his view this would ensure adequate planning time and smoother program operation. He concluded by reiterating his compliments to staff for the responses to the comments submitted.

Andrea Brown requested clarification of Mr. Pines’ remarks about 30 business days in terms of whether districts have trouble getting the student lists to providers within that time. That was explained not to be the issue, in that the 30 days in question follow the provision of those lists.

Janet Knupp, Founding President of the Chicago Public Education Foundation, addressed the “master principal” designation being established in Part 25 of the rules. She noted the Foundation’s history of support for national certification of teachers and thanked the Board for its support for this initiative. She went on to stress the importance of principals to students’ success and outlined the Foundation’s efforts to strengthen the principalship in the Chicago Public Schools. She urged the Board to consider the model provided by the master teaching certificate as plans for the master principal designation were finalized, advocating authorization for only a single, independent statewide organization to offer the program for the designation. She stressed the importance of a common body of knowledge and high standards.

Chairman Ruiz asked Ms. Knupp which organization she believed should operate the program, to which she replied that she had no specific one in mind but that it should be a statewide one organized under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Andrea Brown elicited further clarification regarding the comparison between this initiative and certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, particularly in terms of an independent body.

Jane Sharka of the Illinois School Library Media Association spoke on the subject of a pending amendment to Part 1 of the rules (Public Schools Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision) that would provide more concrete standards for staffing and funding of schools’ programs of library media services and would be coming before the committee for adoption at a later date. She stated that new language was needed because of current ambiguities and pointed to evidence arising from research on the effects of school libraries and school librarians. She noted the existing requirements pertaining to the qualifications of school librarians and the existence of certification programs for the required credential, indicating the contributions trained school librarians can make to students’ academic success. She also stressed the importance of information literacy to businesses and other employers. In view of the persistence of the positive effects of library services, she stated perceiving school libraries as luxuries to be short-sighted.

Ms. Sharka stated that the difficulty schools might experience in funding the kind of improvements inherent in the proposed rule did not change the need for such improvements. She voiced the Association’s strong support for the language of the proposed amendment because it reflected research and best practice.

Georgiann Burch, a long-time educator in library media services currently working at the University of Illinois’ Graduate School of Library Information Science, also addressed the pending amendment to Part 1. She explained that the coursework in the university’s preparation program was on line and that candidates from all areas of the state were able to participate. She reiterated the positive effects of school libraries that are adequately funded and appropriately staffed and pointed to the relationship of these effects to schools’ efforts to meet the requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act. Ms. Burch recounted a short story on the consequences of life without access to libraries to illustrate her point and then urged the Board to consider the consequences of the action it would eventually be taking with regard to this rule.

Lou Ann Jacobs thanked the Board for proposing the changes in the rule on library media services, indicating that she had been a member of the advisory committee that had presented
recommendations on this subject. She stated that it was readily apparent which incoming high school students had had the benefit of strong library media programs in their elementary years and noted that it was very difficult to compress 12 years of information literacy into the final four years of a student’s schooling.

Doug Kenshol, regional manager for Knowledge Learning Corporation, addressed the Board regarding the amendments to Part 675. He thanked the Board and staff for the thoughtful work that had occurred to date on the rules for supplemental educational services. He made special mention of the efforts of Gary Greene.

Mr. Kenshol expressed support for most of the staff recommendations that were before the Board. However, he wished to raise two points. He differed from the staff’s recommendation in terms of the potential for a start-up fee, believing such a fee to be in line with federal guidance regarding the ability of providers to charge their actual costs of services. He also believed such a policy would ultimately expand choice for parents, in that providers would not be inclined to offer services in areas where they could not reasonably expect to recoup their expenditures.

The second matter on which Mr. Kenshol commented was the suggestion that ISBE conduct an audit when districts had not spent sufficient resources on SES (Section 675.175). He disagreed with the staff’s indication that it would not be practical to determine an expected level of participation in SES for a given district. He also pointed to a communication from U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings identifying a threshold for districts’ spending that was a reaction to unacceptably low participation in some districts. He believed that districts spending below this threshold (20 percent of Title I funds) should be required to demonstrate that their outreach efforts had been adequate before being allowed to use the funds for other purposes. He concluded by stating that it appeared clear that the U.S. Department of Education expected states to take a stronger role in ensuring adequate spending for tutoring.

Erika Lindley, representing ED-RED, spoke on the pending amendment to Part 1 regarding library media services. She noted that it was easy to believe in a positive correlation between high-quality library media programs in schools and students’ achievement but pointed to issues of money and feasibility in connection with implementation of the proposed rule. She referred to the budget discussion of the day before and the state’s bleak financial picture for the coming year. An unfunded mandate would be a “difficult pill” for districts to swallow under these circumstances. Ms. Lindley also pointed to the need to hire additional, qualified staff and noted the uncertain availability of sufficient numbers of trained professionals. Costs associated with computer equipment, supplies, and materials would also be a factor, and space would be a significant problem in some cases.

Ms. Lindley concluded by offering ED-RED’s assistance in gathering comprehensive information about the status and capacity of its member districts in terms of the ability to implement more intensive requirements related to the library media program.

Ms. Lindley's remarks concluded the portion of the agenda devoted to public participation, following which Chairman Ruiz turned the meeting over to General Counsel Darren Reisberg for a discussion of the rules.

5. RULES FOR INITIAL REVIEW:

PART 60 (The “Grow Your Own” Teacher Education Initiative)

Mr. Reisberg indicated that there were two sets of rules being presented, the first of which was Part 60. He noted that Division Administrator Linda Jamali was present and available to answer any questions the Board members might have. He also pointed out that the amendments were due to recent legislative changes. No questions were raised.
PART 575 (School Technology Program)
Mr. Reisberg identified Division Administrator Marica Cullen and noted that the change was a proactive one being proposed out of experience with implementing the school technology loan program and a desire to assist the participating school districts. Board members had no questions on this amendment.

6. RULES FOR ADOPTION
Mr. Reisberg noted that the Board had already heard discussion of both the sets of rules being presented for adoption.

PART 25 (Certification)
The amendments to Part included a number of components, the most salient of which was the new rule for the “master principal” designation. Linda Tomlinson and Linda Jamali were available to answer any questions on the various aspects of these amendments, which had been presented for initial review in September and were now ready for adoption.

Andrea Brown wished to achieve a clearer understanding regarding the independent organization that had been advocated for operating the master principal program. Linda Tomlinson indicated that, under the rules, multiple entities could apply, but the decision as to how many to approve would rest with the Superintendent. Rules Coordinator Sally Vogl indicated that the proposed rule reflected the statutory language. Therefore the rule did not state what type of entity would operate the program, since that decision would come after the review of applications and the Superintendent’s decision-making process. Discussion followed on the potential independence of organizations that would be interested in implementing this program.

PART 675 (Providers of Supplemental Educational Services)
This set of amendments had also been presented for initial review in September. Division Administrator Randy Niles and staff member Gary Greene were present to answer questions. Vinni Hall reiterated her long-standing concern for the diversion of poor schools’ Title I funds to outside tutoring programs and her desire to see a strong connection between the use of those funds and services to students. She also expressed significant discomfort with in-home tutoring. She noted her appreciation for NCLB’s emphasis on finding innovative options for addressing students’ learning needs but stated her preference for abiding by the staff’s recommendation that in-home tutoring be prohibited.

Andrea Brown noted the difficulty of avoiding bias in favor of governmental units, especially in small districts and rural areas. She was hopeful that trend data would emerge regarding parents’ choices in these areas that would demonstrate the extent of this effect. She would support the rules but wished for ongoing review of the data.

Chairman Ruiz asked staff to address the points raised regarding the start-up cost and the 30-day implementation timeline. Randy Niles reiterated the sense that providers’ start-up costs should be considered part of the cost of doing business and the notion that the approach taken in the rules would be the cleanest. He acknowledged that school districts would have a slight advantage in this respect. Gary Greene commented on the general concept of business risk and noted that calculations of costs should take this into consideration. He also pointed to the permissibility of certain mechanisms providers may use to provide students with incentives to stay in the SES program. He outlined the approach some providers had wanted to take, i.e., attributing the entire cost of the program to the first half of the hours offered and then stating that the remaining hours were being provided free of charge.

As to the providers’ request to lengthen the time allowed for beginning services, it was clarified that this deadline is calculated after districts have provided signed contracts and lists of students so that providers are in a position to finalize their plans. Dr. Greene outlined the larger context for this timeframe, explaining the amounts of time allotted within the rules for the preceding steps in the start-up of the program each year. He noted in particular that providers would already be well
aware of the likelihood that students would need to be served, since in fact they had sought to serve them in the first place.

7. **COMMITTEE AGENDA PLANNING/ADDITIONAL ITEMS:** Darren Reisberg mentioned the possibility of revisiting Part 305 (School Food Services) at the February meeting and noted that Mark Haller was present to address any questions. Mr. Reisberg reminded the Board of the changes to the nutrition rules that had been made in 2006, including the provision which calls for the initiation of further revisions after review of the School Wellness Task Force’s recent report. The best way to comply with that provision was to have staff come before the Board with some general thoughts about the content of potential additional revisions.

Mr. Haller outlined for the Board the three forums that had been held throughout the state to gather reactions to the recommendations found in the report and the other sources of input that had contributed to the staff’s recommendations. He noted that the current rules pertained only to grades K-8 and indicated that there would be no recommendation to extend requirements beyond those grades. However, it would be recommended that the restrictions on foods to be sold be extended to the entire school campus, whereas the current rules discussed only the food service area. This would mean consistent provisions for the whole premises, as contemplated by the Task Force in its recommendations.

Another important point would be the extension of the standards to cover not only the entire school day but also the 30-minute periods before and after school. Commenters attending the agency’s forums had made this point, and it was consistent with advice from the Institute of Medicine, an independent body working on nutrition issues with the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Haller also discussed splitting the standards that now apply from kindergarten through grade 8 into two grade groupings: K-5 and 6-8. This distinction would allow the needs of the older students to receive appropriate attention by giving them additional latitude in choosing a la carte items and consuming additional calories. He noted that several other states had adopted a similar approach.

Implementation of these changes was foreseen for the 2009-10 school year. Mr. Haller indicated that staff believed this timeframe would allow ample time for planning, training, and guidance for schools, as well as for the food industry to make any necessary changes with respect to packaging their products. He also noted that there would be technical updating within Part 305.

Darren Reisberg indicated that specific rule text might be presented for initial review at the February meeting. He also noted that several sets of rules would be due for adoption at that meeting and that amendments to the rules for driver education (Part 252) would be initiated in response to recent legislation.

8. **ADJOURNMENT:** Chris Ward moved that the meeting be adjourned. Vinni Hall seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.