WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2009

8:30 a.m.  Tour Springfield S.D. #186 Early Learning Center  
            2501 South First Street, Springfield, IL

9:45 a.m.  WORK STUDY: Early Childhood Education  
            Board Room, 4th Floor

*11:15 a.m.  Governmental Relations Committee of the Whole  
              Board Room, 4th Floor

12:30 p.m.  Break for Lunch

*1:00 p.m.  Education Policy Planning Committee of the Whole (immediately following lunch)  
             Board Room, 4th Floor

*2:25 p.m.  Finance & Audit Committee of the Whole  
              Board Room, 4th Floor

*4:00 p.m.  Board Operations Committee of the Whole  
              Board Room, 4th Floor

NOTICE:  In accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act, notice is hereby posted that some or all members of the Illinois State Board of Education may be attending, as guests, the Illinois Education Roundtable Legislative Forum at the Inn at 835, Springfield, IL, beginning at 5:30 p.m. No Board action will be taken. If members of the public wish to attend this forum, please RSVP to the Illinois Education Roundtable at nalee@niu.edu by February 13, 2009.

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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2009

8:45 a.m.  Ad Hoc Rules Committee of the Whole  
            Board Room, 4th Floor

*9:15 a.m.  ISBE Plenary Session  
            Board Room, 4th Floor

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

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 on Thursday 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. Ridgeview Elementary School (Colfax) - Silver Level Healthier US School Challenge School (p. 4)
   2. Bushnell-Prairie City Elementary School - Silver Level Healthier US School Challenge School (p. 5)

C. Public Participation
   9:15 – 9:45 a.m.

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
      consent agenda items: 9:45 – 10:00 a.m.

      *1. Approval of Minutes: January 27, 2009 (Plenary Packet pp. 6-12)
      *2. Rules for Initial Review
         a. Part 140 (Calculation of Excess Cost Under Section 18-3 of the School Code) (Rules pp. 4-11)
         b. Part 240 (Alternative Learning Opportunities Program) (Rules pp. 12-16)
         c. Part 405 (Payments to Certain Facilities Under Section 14-7.05) (Rules pp. 17-26)
      *3. Rules for Adoption
         a. Part 1 (Public Schools Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision) (Rules pp. 27-42)
         b. Part 25 (Certification) (Rules pp. 43-54)
      *4. Contracts & Grants Over $1 Million
         a. Contract Renewal: Target Area Development Corporation (Grow Your Own Illinois) (Finance pp. 6-18)
         b. Contract: Southern Illinois University – Carbondale (School Meals Initiative Review) (Finance pp. 19-20)
         c. Contract: Harte Hanks (Third Party Assessment Oversight) (Finance pp. 21-22)
         d. Request for Proposals (RFP): Preschool for All Children Ages 3 to 5 Years: FY10 (Finance pp. 23-24)
         e. Request for Proposals (RFP): Prevention Initiative Birth to 3 Years: FY10 (Finance pp. 25-26)
      *5. Spring Mandate Waiver Report (Governmental Relations Packet pp. 49-80)
      *6. Revision of 2009 Calendar of Meetings (Board Operations Packet pp. 7-8)
      *7. Teacher Certification Board Recommendations
         a. Accreditation and Program Approvals (Plenary Packet pp. 13-20)
            (1) Aurora University
            (2) Erickson Institute
            (3) Quincy University
            (4) Trinity Christian College
            (5) University of St. Francis
         b. Program Approval (Plenary Packet pp. 21-23)
            (1) Loyola University
      *8. Partnership for 21st Century Skills (Education Policy Planning Packet pp. 5-10)

End of consent agenda
9. Election of Officers 10:00 – 10:10

10. Federal Stimulus (as needed)

E. New Business 10:10 – 10:15 a.m.

F. Announcements and Reports 10:15 – 10:55 a.m.
   1. IBHE Liaison Report (Dr. Proshanta Nandi) 10:15 a.m. – 10:25 a.m.
   2. Superintendent’s Announcements 10:25 – 10:35 a.m.
   3. Chairman’s Report 10:35 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
   4. Member Reports 10:45 - 10:55 a.m.

G. Information Items
   1. ISBE Fiscal & Administrative Monthly Reports *(Plenary pp. 24-51)*

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 at the time announced. Chairman Ruiz may also call for a break in the plenary session at which time the Board will go into closed session.
ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Dr. Christopher Ward, Vice Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Vice Chairman Ward 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.

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

Members Present:  
Dr. Christopher Ward, Vice Chairman  
Dr. Vinni Hall, Secretary  
Dr. Andrea Brown  
Mr. Dean Clark  
Dr. David Fields  
Ms. Brenda Holmes  
Ms. Joyce Karon  
Ms. Lanita Koster

Members Absent:  
Mr. Jesse Ruiz, Chairman

RESOLUTIONS & RECOGNITIONS

Mr. Clark moved that the State Board of Education adopt the resolutions recognizing the following schools:

Dr. Brown presented the resolution to Superintendent Larry Dobbs recognizing Ridgeview Elementary School in Colfax as being the first Illinois school to receive the Silver Level Award for the U.S. Healthier School Challenge Silver Level Award. Ms. Holmes read the resolution recognizing Bushnell-Prairie City Elementary School for also being named as a recipient of the U.S. Healthier School Challenge Silver Level Award. The Illinois State Board of Education extends its sincere appreciation to the administration and staff at these two schools for their commitment and dedication to providing the healthiest learning environment possible.

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

Dr. Larry Dodds, Superintendent of Ridgeview Community Unit District #19 spoke on the district’s commitment to the Wellness Policy, and the process to become a healthier school. Dr. Dodds stated that the United States Department of Education will be visiting the school on March 17, 2009 for a formal presentation of the award. Dr. Koch he is looking forward to attending the award presentation.

Mark Williams, Division Administrator of Career & Technical Education presented the Board with a Governor’s Proclamation for Entrepreneurship Education Week. Illinois Entrepreneurship Education Week is February 21-28, 2009.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Dr. Roger Thornton, Retired Superintendent of Township High School District #211 was accompanied by Dr. Nancy Robb, Superintendent and Mr. Jeff Butzen. Dr. Thornton stated he feels that only the State Board can respond to District #211’s appeal of its 2008 Prairie State Achievement Exam (PSAE) scores for the district, school, and students.
District #211 asks for decisive action and transparency in the scoring and reporting of the PSAE scores. Mr. Thornton asked that the Board hear their appeal, consider its claim, and then discuss with them and other interested districts potential remedies for the future.

Dr. Koch stated that the district’s appeal is asking that the Agency reverse prior years of data. Doing so would have many implications for the state assessment system. Dr. Koch explained that the Board and Agency are approaching the issue of coherence between standards, curriculum, assessment and college entry through the America Diploma Project. Dr. Koch noted that he has invited Superintendent Nancy Robb to be on the State Testing Review Committee so District #211 can be directly involved in the work of bringing coherence into the system.

Superintendent Koch commented that the PSAE consists of the ACT, Work Keys and additional items and the federal government has indicated that the PSAE aligns to our standards and has approved its use. We do not at this time have another test to use and test development takes considerable time. There is a movement toward national assessments and national standards there will likely be incentives coming from the USDE for states that are doing work on ADP and longitudinal data.

Superintendent Nancy Robb commented that they are pleased with the American Diploma Project (ADP) and District #211 staff is working with them, but there is still not an assessment piece. Dr. Robb asked if they could have something that would give them a criterion reference.

Dr. Koch responded that it will take 18 to 24 months for the ADP process and we are already 6 months into the process. Dr. Robb expressed concern that, during that window, many schools will be considered failing.

Superintendent Koch said that he knows that Secretary Duncan is aware of these issues and is concerned. The Council for Chief State School Officers has taken a strong position on the fact that there has not been growth shown or allowed with the current configuration to the degree that we would like. Flexibility could come sooner through the federal regulation process, but it is not there now.

Dr. Robb said that they are here today to help us. Dr. Koch said he and the Board want these issues addressed as well. The Board appreciates the work that District #211 has done.

Dr. Thornton stated that they are not asking the State Board to ignore Counsel, but the State Board has not acted on this and that is an issue for District #211 as they try to move forward. Dr. Thornton thanked the Board for their time.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Vice Chairman Ward 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 wish 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.

Motion:
Dr. Hall moved that the State Board of Education approve the consent agenda items excluding agenda item D 6, Revision of 2009 Calendar of Meetings. Item D 7.a(5) Teacher Certification Board Recommendations for the University of St. Francis has been pulled from the consent agenda item and will be discussed and considered separately. Ms. Holmes seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous 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 January 27, 2009 Board meeting.

**Rules for Initial Review**

**Part 140 (Calculation of Excess Cost Under Section 18-3 of the School Code)**
The State Board of Education hereby authorizes the solicitation of public comment on the proposed rulemaking for Calculation of Excess Cost Under Section 18-3 of the School Code (23 Illinois Administrative Code 140), including publication of the proposed amendments in the Illinois Register.

**Part 240 (Alternative Learning Opportunities Program)**
The State Board of Education hereby authorizes the solicitation of public comment on the proposed rulemaking for Alternative Learning Opportunities Program (23 Illinois Administrative Code 240), including publication of the proposed amendments in the Illinois Register.

**Part 405 (Payments to Certain Facilities under section 14-7.05)**
The State Board of Education hereby authorizes the solicitation of public comment on the proposed rulemaking for Payments to Certain Facilities Under Section 14-7.05 of the School Code (23 Illinois Administrative Code 405), including publication of the proposed amendments in the Illinois Register.

**Rules for Adoption**

**Part 1 (Public Schools Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision)**
The State Board of Education hereby adopts the proposed rulemaking for: Public Schools Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision (23 Illinois Administrative Code1). 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.

**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.

**Contracts and Grants Over $1 Million**

**Contract Renewal: Target Area Developmental Corporation**
The State Board of Education hereby authorizes agency staff to renew the contract in FY 10 for $350,000 with the Target Area Developmental Corporation to administer the GYO Statewide Outreach Program (subject to appropriation). The total contract will not exceed $1,896,825.

**Contract: Southern Illinois University – Carbondale (School Meals Initiative Review)**

The State Board of Education hereby authorizes agency staff to renew the contract on FY10 for $195,475 with Southern Illinois University Carbondale to contract for and conduct School Meal Initiative Reviews. The total contract will not exceed $1,011,900.

**Contract: Harte Hanks (Third Party Assessment Oversight)**

The State Board of Education hereby authorizes agency staff to amend the contract for an increase of $360,000 with Harte-Hanks, Inc. for oversight management. The total contract will not exceed $1,011,900.

**FY10 RFP: Preschool for All Children Ages 3-5 years: FY10.**

The State Board of Education approves the release of the Request for Proposals (RFP): Preschool For All Children Ages 3-5 Years. Proposals received will be evaluated in comparison with other proposals received by the Illinois State Board of Education using both quantitative and qualitative criteria. Final determination for selection will be made by the State Superintendent of Education and will be based upon recommendations resulting from the evaluation/review process.

**FY10 RFP: Prevention Initiative Birth to 3 Years: FY10**

The State Board of Education approves the release of the Request for Proposals (RFP): Prevention Initiative Birth to 3 Years: FY10. Proposals received will be evaluated in comparison with other proposals received by the Illinois State Board of Education using both quantitative and qualitative criteria. Final determination for selection will be made by the State Superintendent of Education and will be based upon recommendations resulting from the evaluation/review process.

**Spring Mandate Waiver Report**

The State Board of Education hereby forwards the 100 waiver requests summarized in the Spring 2009 report to the General Assembly without comment.

**Partnership for 21st Century Skills**

The State Board of Education hereby supports the application for Illinois to be considered for recognition as a "P 21 Leadership State".

**Teachers Certification Board Recommendations**

**Board Accreditation and Program Approvals**

**Motion #1 Aurora University**

The State Board of Education hereby assigns the status of "continuing accreditation" to Aurora University. This action authorizes the institution to conduct its programs and recommend candidates for certification by entitlement until the time of the institution's next scheduled review.

The State Board of Education hereby assigns "continuing approval" to the following professional education preparation programs for Aurora University.
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<th>Motion #2 Erickson Institute</th>
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<tr>
<td>The State Board of Education hereby assigns the status of &quot;continuing accreditation&quot; to <strong>Erickson Institute</strong>. This action authorizes the institution to conduct its programs and recommend candidates for certification by entitlement until the time of the institution's next scheduled review.</td>
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The State Board of Education hereby assigns “continuing approval” to the following professional education preparation programs for **Erickson Institute** as it meets the applicable Illinois content area standards.

- General Administrative – Principal
- Superintendent
- Elementary Education
- English Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Reading Specialist
- School Social Worker

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<th>Motion #3 Quincy University</th>
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<td>The State Board of Education hereby assigns the status of &quot;accreditation with conditions&quot; to <strong>Quincy University</strong>. This action requires that the unit make adjustments so as to satisfy the conditions expressed within six months, and submit documentation that addresses the unmet standards as well as any other areas for improvement within that time. Quincy University is authorized to conduct its approved programs and to recommend candidates for certification by entitlement. Quincy University shall, within 30 days after receipt of the State Board's decision, provide written notification to the candidates enrolled in the unit's programs to this effect.</td>
</tr>
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The State Board of Education hereby assigns “continuing approval” to the following professional education preparation programs for **Quincy University** as it meets the applicable Illinois content area standards.

- General Administrative – Principal
- Elementary Education
- English Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Music Education
- Physical Education
- Science – Biology
- Social Science – History
- LBS I
- Visual Arts
- School Counselor

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<th>Motion # 4 Trinity Christian College</th>
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<td>The State Board of Education hereby assigns the status of &quot;continuing accreditation&quot; to <strong>Trinity Christian College</strong>. This action authorizes the institution to conduct its programs and recommend candidates for certification by entitlement until the time of the institution's next scheduled review.</td>
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The State Board of Education hereby assigns “continuing approval” to the following professional education preparation programs for **Trinity Christian College** as it meets the applicable Illinois content area standards.

- General Administrative – Principal
- Elementary Education
- English Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Music Education
- Physical Education
- Science – Biology
- Social Science – History
- LBS I
- Visual Arts
- School Counselor
**Christian College** as it meets the applicable Illinois content area standards.

- Business Education
- Elementary Education
- English Language Arts
- Foreign Language - Spanish
- Mathematics
- Music Education
- Physical Education
- Science – Biology
- Science - Chemistry
- Social Science – History
- LBS I
- Visual Arts

**Program Approval Recommendations**

The State Board of Education provisionally approves the Loyola University Chicago Learning Behavior Specialist II with an endorsement in Behavior Intervention Specialist program, thereby authorizing the university to conduct the program and to recommend candidates for certification by entitlement until the time of the institution’s next accreditation review.

(END OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

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<th>D7. a.(5) Teachers Certification Board Recommendations: University of St. Francis</th>
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<td>Dr. Hall moved that the State Board of Education hereby assigns the status of &quot;continuing accreditation&quot; to the <strong>University of St. Francis</strong>. This action authorizes the institution to conduct its programs and recommend candidates for certification by entitlement until the time of the institution's next scheduled review.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The State Board of Education hereby assigns &quot;continuing approval&quot; to the following professional education preparation programs for <strong>University of St. Francis</strong> as it meets the applicable Illinois content area standards.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• General Administrative – Principal</td>
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<td>• Elementary Education</td>
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<td>• Mathematics</td>
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<td>• Reading Specialist</td>
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<td>• Science – Biology</td>
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<td>• Social Science – History</td>
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<td>Mr. Clark seconded the motion and it passed with a roll call vote. Dr. Ward &quot;abstained&quot; from the vote.</td>
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<th>ELECTION OF OFFICERS</th>
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<td>Mr. Clark moved that the State Board of Education elect Dr. Christopher Ward as Vice Chairman and Dr. Vinni Hall as Secretary. Ms. Karon seconded the motion and it was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.</td>
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<th>NEW BUSINESS</th>
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<td>Dr. Brown inquired if we still have a back log in expenditures and obligations at the Comptrollers Office. Linda Mitchell responded that the Comptrollers Office is about 60 days behind except for General State Aid payments; they are hoping to release a GSA payment tomorrow.</td>
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<th>ANNOUNCEMENTS &amp; REPORTS</th>
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<td>Vice Chairman Ward introduced Dr. Proshanta Nandi from the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE). Dr. Nandi stated that the IBHE met on</td>
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Superintendents Announcements

Tuesday, January 27, 2009 at the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel and Conference Center in Springfield. Highlights of the meeting included the following:

- Judy Erwin, IBHE Executive Director, provided an update and invited a Board discussion of an implementation plan for the Public Agenda for College and Career Success.
- The IBHE is working with ISBE staff on legislation to support P-20 longitudinal data capacity in Illinois; so that we can track student achievement to ensure student success. We also are working with the Chicago Public Schools on 21st Century Scholars legislation, which will help low-income students, beginning in middle school, plan academically for college and guarantee them financial support.
- The IBHE approved budget recommendations for Fiscal 2010 for operations, grants, and capital improvements, all supportive of the Public Agenda.
- The Council of Community College Presidents, led by Chair Bob Mees, Phil Minnis, Dean for Workforce Development and Community Education and Darren Pulley, Associate Dean for Corporate Education, all from John A. Logan College gave a presentation on "How Community Colleges are Responding to Workforce Preparedness and Economic Development in Illinois."
- The IBHE approved nine new associate degree programs at community colleges; one associate, five baccalaureates, and one doctoral program at the independent colleges, and three baccalaureate programs at the public universities.

Dr. Nandi noted that the next IBHE Meeting will be April 7, 2009 at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel and Conference Center in Springfield.

Dr. Koch indicated that he attended the Illinois Education Round Table Legislative Forum on February 18, 2009 in Springfield. He thanked Dr. Michael Jacoby and Dr. Diane Rutledge for a successful forum.

Superintendent Koch, Linda Mitchell and Darren Reisberg met with Representative Linda Chapa LaVia and Representative Suzanne Bassi to discuss the budget and the federal stimulus.

Dr. Koch informed Board members that he would be going to the Senate Appropriation Hearings to talk about the federal stimulus. He will be sharing a copy of the document released today by the Council Chief State School Officers (CCSSO). The document summarizes the act.

Dr. Koch attended the simultaneous reading of the Gettysburg Address by Illinois students at the Abraham Lincoln Museum and Library.

Dr. Koch stated that Secretary Arne Duncan has invited all the Chief State School Offices to Washington on February 25, 2009 for a White House briefing on the stimulus package.

Dr. Ward stated that he and Susie Morrison will be attending the
NASBE/CCSSO Meeting the Turnaround Challenge on March 11, 2009. He will also be attending the NASBE Board of Directors meeting in Washington on March 13-14, 2009.

Ms. Karon stated that she had the opportunity to visit the Newcomer Center in High School District #214 on February 12, 2009 and shared with the Board an informational document about the center.

Dr. Fields expressed his appreciation for the visit to the Early Childhood Center yesterday. Ms. Koster agreed and thought the program was exceptional.

Mr. Clark indicated that he visited the Abraham Lincoln Elementary School in Glen Ellyn and was there for the Gettysburg Address reading on Feb 12, 2009. There were 650 students reading the address simultaneously. He also visited the school’s Early Childhood Center in the morning.


Dr. Brown stated that she also enjoyed the visit to the Early Childhood Center. She indicated that she has spent much of her time responding to inquiries on extraordinary needs money.

Dr. Hall reported that she will be going to Washington on March 13-14, 2009 to attend the NASBE Study Group on Community Partnerships. She will also join the Chicago Tribune and other board members to review an academic competition. She commented that she has been enjoying and celebrating Black History Month.

Vice Chairman Ward asked that the Board members read the Monthly Status Report on Rulemaking and the Fiscal and Administrative Monthly Reports (Plenary PP 24-51) printed in the Board meeting materials. There were no inquiries this month regarding these reports.

Mr. Clark moved that the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Karon seconded the motion and it passed with unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Vinni Hall
Board Secretary

Mr. Jesse Ruiz
Chairman
Board Operations Committee of the Whole

February 18, 2009
3:30 p.m.
(This meeting will begin immediately following the previous session.)

All open meetings will be audio cast on the Internet at: www.isbe.net

AGENDA (timeframes are estimated for planning purposes)

1. Roll Call
2. Board Member Participation by Other Means
3. Public Participation 3:30 – 3:35 p.m.
4. Minutes of the December Board Operations Committee Meeting (pp. 2-3)
5. Review Nominations for Recognition 3:35 – 3:40 p.m. (pp. 4-6)
6. 2009 Board Calendar 3:40 – 3:50 p.m. (pp. 7-8)
8. Discussion Items
   a. Board Committee Structure 3:55 – 4:05 (pp. 10-14)
9. Board Reflection 4:05 – 4:15 (pp. 15)
10. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items
11. Committee Wrap-up (Superintendent Koch) 4:15 – 4:20
12. Adjourn

* Items listed with an asterisk (*) will be discussed in committee and action may be taken in the plenary session.
1. **ROLL CALL:** Dr. Chris Ward called the meeting to order at 3:40 p.m. and announced that all members were present. (See roll call above.)

2. **BOARD MEMBER PARTICIPATION BY OTHER MEANS:** None.

3. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None.

4. **COMMITTEE MINUTES:** Ms. Karon moved that the minutes of the Board Operations Committee for the December 2008 committee meeting be approved. Mr. Clark seconded the motion. Ms. Holmes requested a correction in the minutes under the Board Calendar discussion. The first statement was corrected to read “Ms. Ladage informed the Board that if the Superintendent’s Conference is confirmed for October in Springfield, then perhaps the Board could travel to Chicago in September.” The motion to approve the minutes as amended passed on a unanimous voice vote.

5. **REVIEW NEW NOMINATIONS FOR RESOLUTIONS OF RECOGNITION:** Dr. Hall moved that resolutions for Ridgeview Elementary School in Colfax, and Bushnell-Prairie City Elementary School be recommended for approval. Both schools are receiving recognition for receiving HealthierUS School Challenge Awards. Ms. Koster seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

6. **2009 BOARD CALENDAR DISCUSSION:** Dr. Ward first focused the Board’s attention on the June and September meetings. He expressed a desire for board discussion of the justification for the cost of moving a Board meeting out of Springfield to alternative sites, whether that is a downstate or a Chicago/suburban Chicago meeting site. Following a discussion of the advantages of getting the Board to communities and the cost and staff time for doing so, a request was made for staff to review the status of the Board’s travel budget. The committee deferred the decision to the Board Chair following a review of the fiscal impact. The Board will then act on the 2009 calendar in March.

7. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS:** Dean Clark and Joyce Karon served as the Nominating Committee for recommendation of elective Board officers. They recommend that Dr. Chris Ward be re-elected as Vice-Chairman and that Dr. Vinni Hall be reelected as Board Secretary. (The Chairman of the State Board is appointed by the Governor.)
8. **DISCUSSION OF COMMITTEE STRUCTURE:** The Bylaws call for appointment of committees no later than March 1 of odd-numbered years. It was suggested that until new appointments or reappointments are made for members whose terms expired in January, the structure of the current Board committees remain the same. Members have agreed to serve until the appointment process has been completed; however Mr. Clark indicated that he may need to resign prior his replacement being named. Dr. Fields moved that the committees remain the same until new members join the Board. Ms. Karon seconded the motion for the purposes of discussion.

There was a question as to whether the Joint Education Committee (as referenced in the Bylaws) still exists since the P-21 Council was created. Mr. Reisberg confirmed that the Joint Education Committee is still in statute, although the body has not met.

It was decided that once a new Board is in place, the new Board should revisit committee structure. There was a suggestion that since Board committees currently meet as committees-of-the-whole, chairs of committees could be named, but that all members be listed as committee members. Otherwise, committees should be recognized and meet separately and make recommendations to the full board. That discussion will be left until new appointments or reappointments are made.

The question was called on Dr. Fields’ motion to keep committee memberships the same until new members join the Board. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

9. **BOARD REFLECTION:** This agenda item will be removed from the Board Operations Committee agenda, as it is a duplication of member reports.

10. **COMMITTEE WRAP-UP:** Dr. Koch summarized the meeting. The minutes were approved, as well as the recommendations for recognition. The 2009 Calendar was discussed and the Board asked staff to review the fiscal impact of meeting downstate in June. The Board also expressed a desire for continuity in Board officers and committee structures.

11. **ADJOURN:** Mr. Clark moved that the Board Operations Meeting of the Whole be adjourned. Mr. Ruiz seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous voice vote. The committee meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.
AGENDA (timeframes are estimated for planning purposes)

1. Roll Call

2. Board Member Participation by Other Means

3. Update from the 2008-09 ISBE Student Advisory Council 1:00 – 1:15 p.m. (p. 2)

4. Public Participation 1:15 – 1:30 p.m.

5. Minutes of the December Education Policy Planning Committee Meeting (pp. 3-4)

*6. Partnership for 21st Century Skills (Susie Morrison) 1:30 – 2:00 p.m. (pp. 5-10)

7. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items 2:00 – 2:05 p.m.

8. Committee Wrap-up (Superintendent Koch)

9. Adjourn

* Items listed with an asterisk (*) will be discussed in committee and Board action may be taken in the plenary session.
The Education Policy Planning Committee (EPPC) meeting convened at 1:00 p.m.

1. **ROLL CALL:** Committee Chair, Dr. David Fields started the committee meeting by noting that all members were present. See above for detailed listing.

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

3. **UPDATE FROM THE 2008-09 ISBE STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL:** The Student Advisory Council indicated they are researching and recommending revisions to Health Learning Standards that would benefit today’s teenagers. They are researching practices in other states and will be meeting with Glenn Steinhausen in Curriculum & Instruction as well as staff in the Department of Public Health. It was recommended that the students consider looking at recent AIDS information and bills that have been introduced that change how students with HIV can interact with other public school students and she would get that information to the SAC. Ms. Holmes volunteered to get the bill numbers to the SAC members. Chairman Fields thanked the students for their update and recommended that they visit and compare larger and smaller districts if the opportunity arises for them to do so.

   Ms. Morrison indicated that she has suggested the possibility of the Student Advisory Council becoming involved in a student summit on dropout prevention. The students responded that after discussion on Wednesday evening they would be very interested in leading a student summit on that topic and look forward to hearing more.

4. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** There was no public participation.

5. **MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 2008 EPPC MEETING:** Dr. Hall moved to approve the minutes from the December 2008 Education Policy Planning Committee Meeting. Dr. Ward seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

6. **Partnership for 21st Century Skills:** Susie Morrison gave an update on the activities and progress of the American Diploma Project (ADP). The teams for Math and English
Language Arts have been selected and conducted their first meeting in January. The teams will have a second meeting in February and will continue their work through the summer.

Ms. Morrison indicated that Jo Anderson, Chris Koch, and she traveled to Wisconsin in the fall and met with Wisconsin Department of Education staff to discuss the incorporation of 21st Century Skills expectations with the standards review process. As our state goes through the standards revision process we know it is important to remember that it is not just about the content and knowledge, but it is about expected skills and abilities that today’s students will need to be successful in the workplace. Dr. Koch indicated that Wisconsin has paired ADP and the Partnership for 21st Century Skills. It is important for Illinois boards and teachers to understand the relevance of standards. Superintendent Koch introduced Ted Stilwill, Chief Operating Officer for Learning Point and Chief Officer for the State Services Group.

Mr. Stilwill indicated the primary goal of this partnership is to serve as a catalyst to position 21st century skills by building collaborative partnerships among education, business and community and government leaders. Currently there are 38 members that represent all sectors of American society. 21st century skills are another source of influence for our standards. Work with ADP fits into a general national movement that indicates there is a new social contract with the education community, parents, and others that support the schools, state, and federal government. This new contract emphasizes that all students who graduate from high school should be ready for success in post secondary education. The framework for 21st Century Learning describes the skills, knowledge and expertise students must master to succeed in work and life. Having standards and assessments, curriculum and instruction, professional development and learning environments are the support system that 21st Century Skills are based on. Mr. Stilwill added that there is a summit which provides an opportunity for member states to network.

Ms. Morrison informed the Board that there is an application required and that the agency would like to be part of the next leadership meeting in June. Ms. Karon moved to recommend support of the application process. Mr. Ruiz seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

7. COMMITTEE AGENDA PLANNING/ADDITIONAL ITEMS: It was suggested the Board consider about school violence and mental health in our schools. Members appealed to staff to get information prior to the work-study so board members have a chance to formulate questions. In addition it was suggested that a discussion guide be prepared to allow an opportunity for the Board to be brought into the discussion and to guide the conversation.

8. COMMITTEE WRAP-UP: Superintendent Koch indicated that the committee heard from the Student Advisory Council about projects they are working on and how they are organizing a student component for the dropout summit. The Committee also learned about the Partnership for 21st Century Skills and recommends that Illinois join other states who are asking the difficult questions about what students should know and are able to do beyond content and then taking on the riskier proposition on how we measure that and communicate that to others so that folks know that students are learning. We look forward to putting the application together.

9. ADJOURNMENT: Dr. Fields motioned to adjourn and it was seconded by Jesse Ruiz. The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.
Finance & Audit Committee of the Whole
February 18, 2009
2:25 p.m.
(This meeting will begin immediately following the previous session.)
All open meetings will be audio cast on the Internet at: www.isbe.net

AGENDA (timeframes are estimated for planning purposes)

1. Roll Call

2. Board Member Participation by Other Means

3. Public Participation (2:15 – 2:30)

4. Minutes of the January Finance & Audit Committee Meeting (pp. 2-3)

5. FY10 Budget Update - verbal update (Superintendent Koch, Linda Mitchell) (2:45 – 2:55)

6. Audit Update (Lisa LaBonte) (pp. 4-5)
   a. FY 07 Financial & Compliance Audit (2:55 – 3:10) (pp. 5-11)
   b. FY 07 A-133 Statewide Single Audit (3:10 – 3:25) (pp. 12-15)

*7. Contracts & Grants Over $1 Million (2:30 – 2:45)
   a. Contract Renewal: Target Area Development Corporation (Grow Your Own Illinois) (pp. 16-18) (Linda Jamali)
   b. Contract for Southern Illinois University – Carbondale (School Meals Initiative Review) (pp. 19-20) (Chris Schmitt)
   c. Contract: Harte Hanks (Third Party Assessment Oversight) (Joyce Zurkowski) (pp. 21-22)
   d. Request for Proposals (RFP): Preschool for All Children Ages 3 to 5 Years: FY10 (pp. 23-24) (Kay Henderson)
   e. Request for Proposals (RFP): Prevention Initiative Birth to 3 Years: FY10 (pp. 25-26) (Kay Henderson)

8. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items (3:25 – 3:30)

9. Committee Wrap-up (Superintendent Koch)

10. Adjourn

* Items listed with an asterisk (*) will be discussed in committee and Board action may be taken in the plenary session.
Chairman Clark called the meeting to order.

**Members Present**
- Mr. Dean Clark, Chairman
- Dr. Andrea Brown
- Dr. David Fields
- Dr. Vinni Hall
- Ms. Brenda Holmes
- Ms. Joyce Karon
- Ms. Lanita Koster
- Mr. Jesse Ruiz
- Dr. Chris Ward

**Staff Present**
- Superintendent Koch
- Linda Mitchell
- Susan Morrison
- Darren Reisberg
- Matt Vanover
- Connie Wise
- Beth Hanselman
- Linda Tomlinson
- Tim Imler
- Robert Wolfe
- Deb Vespa
- Toni Waggoner
- Jason Hall
- Jean Ladage

**Members Absent**
- None

**BOARD MEMBER PARTICIPATION BY OTHER MEANS**
- None

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
- *Kevin Frank* from Museum of Science and Industry discussed their programs and requested funding for the museum.

**MINUTES OF THE JANUARY FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Motion:**
- Ms. Karon moved that the minutes of the January Finance and Audit Committee be accepted. Dr. David Fields seconded the motion. Ms. Brenda Holmes made a correction for a typographical error. The Motion passed by unanimous voice vote on the amended minutes.

**FY10 BUDGET UPDATE**

- Ms. Mitchell informed the members that following the Board’s approval of the recommended budget, Agency staff reviewed the budget with legislative staff on January 30. Superintendent Koch also conducted meetings with a number of members of the appropriation committees. There have also been requests from legislators for meetings to discuss the federal stimulus package as they have many questions about the process.

- Ms. Mitchell responded to questions from members of the Board regarding the federal stimulus package. And indicated that there may be a need for a supplemental FY09 budget with respect to the Stimulus legislation.

- Ms. Mitchell commented that there has been no request to make reductions in K-12 education funding despite what had been asked of other agencies. The FY10 ISBE budget bill has not yet been filed.
**AUDIT UPDATE**

**FY07 Financial & Compliance Audit**

Ms. Lisa LaBonte indicated that the FY08 audits are winding down. Next year, the Auditor General's office is looking at only conducting the Financial Audit annually and the Compliance portion would be done every other year. Ms. LaBonte said that the Auditor General's legal staff has reviewed the audit findings in which statute indicates that the language is subject to appropriation and we will not be cited for those instances in the future. Ms. LaBonte reviewed the status of the remainder of the audit findings and fielded questions from Board members.

**CONTRACTS & GRANTS OVER $1 MILLION**

The Committee approved moving the following contracts to be voted on at its Plenary session on February 19:

- **Contract Renewal: Target Area Development Corporation (Grow Your Own Illinois)**
- **Contract for Southern Illinois University – Carbondale (School Meals Initiative Review)**
- **Contract: Harte Hanks (Third Party Assessment Oversight)**
- **Requested for Proposals (RFP): Preschool for All Children Ages 3 to 5 years: FY10**
- **Request for Proposals (RFP): Prevention Initiative Birth to 3 Years: FY10**

**COMMITTEE AGENDA PLANNING/ADDITIONAL ITEMS**

Mr. Dean Clark stated that Contracts & Grants over $1 million, FY10 Budget update, a report on the financial condition, update on school districts in financial difficulty, and the annual report of school finance authorities would be on the agenda next month.

**COMMITTEE WRAP-UP**

Superintendent Chris Koch reviewed that the Budget update, the findings of the Audit were discussed and that the Board would vote on the contracts and grants tomorrow.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion:**

Dr. Fields moved for adjournment of the Finance and Audit Committee of the Whole. Dr. Christopher Ward seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.
AGENDA (timeframes are estimated for planning purposes)

1. Roll Call

2. Board Member Participation by Other Means

3. Public Participation  11:15 – 11:30 a.m.

4. Minutes of the January Governmental Relations Committee Meeting (pp. 2-3)

*5. Spring Waiver Report (Winnie Tuthill) 11:30 – 11:50 a.m. (pp. 49-80)


7. Legislative Update (Nicole Wills, Shawn Rotherham) 11:55 – 12:15 p.m. (pp. 4-48)

8. Committee Wrap-up (Superintendent Koch) 12:15 – 12:20 p.m.

9. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items

10. Adjourn

* Items listed with an asterisk (*) will be discussed in committee and Board action may be taken in the plenary session.
GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
February 18, 2009
Springfield, Illinois

Committee Members Present
Brenda Holmes, Chair
Jesse Ruiz
Chris Ward
Lanita Koster
Vinni Hall
Andrea Brown
Dean Clark
David Fields
Joyce Karon

Staff Present
Chris Koch
Darren Reisberg
Nicole Wills
Jean Ladage
Marsha Moffett
Connie Wise
Linda Tomlinson
Susie Morrison
Matt Vanover

Student Advisory Council Members
Lindsey Ahrens
Jeffrey Barnes
Sarah Chapman
Skye David
Brittany Kendrick
Gabrielle Kendrick
Alex Maxwell
Ryan Ornstein
West Quivey
Hanna Rhoades
Shelby Wills

1. ROLL CALL
See above.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
None

3. MINUTES OF THE JANUARY COMMITTEE MEETING
Board member Dean Clark made a motion to approve the January Committee minutes and the motion was seconded by Dave Fields. The minutes were approved with a unanimous voice vote.

4. SPRING WAIVER REPORT
Staff member Winnie Tuthill presented the 28th Annual Spring Waiver Report to the Committee. The report contains 100 requests that seek to waive mandates of School Code provisions upon which the General Assembly must act. These requests address:

- Driver Education Fees (29 waiver requests)
- Nonresident Tuition (16 waiver requests)
- Limitation of Administrative Costs (15 requests)
- School Improvement/In-service Training (11 requests)
- Parent-Teacher Conferences (7 requests)
- Alternative Practice Driving Methods (four requests)
- State Graduation Requirements (1 request)

Ms. Tuthill noted that there were two errors in the written information provided in the Governmental Relations packets, which are noted below.

1. The State Superintendent has approved 60 (not 100) waiver requests that modify the School Code mandate pertaining to legally mandated school holidays (page 49).

2. The Waukegan CUSD 60 request was to allow the district to charge a fee not to exceed $500 (not $250) of students who participate in driver education courses (page 58).
The Committee reviewed the report and approved moving it forward to the Plenary Session.

5. ISBE LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS
Nicole Wills stated that Governmental Relations staff was in the process of securing sponsors for all ISBE initiated legislation and Board members would receive a list of the applicable bill numbers and sponsors when that information is available.

6. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

- **HB 80** – This bill is Representative Lou Lang’s initiative that would change the structure and duties of the State Board. The bill as introduced requires additional reporting from the agency concerning ex parte communication, an advisory body of legislators to help oversee the Board, a nominating panel to assist in selection of Board members and various other requirements. Governmental Relations staff has heard various rumors with respect to potential amendments to the legislation but nothing has been filed to date.

- **HB 481 and SB 238**: Identical bills have been introduced in the House and Senate to create an independent charter school authorizer. These bills are an initiative of the Illinois Network of Charter Schools.

- **HB 209**: This bill creates a system wherein if a charter school is not abiding by all the requirements in Article 27A, there is a process for the charter to submit a corrective action plan to fix the compliance issues. If the charter school is unable to fix the compliance issues within a set period of time, the charter must be revoked by the chartering entity.

- **HB 449**: Representative Ford has introduced this initiative which would require ISBE to develop a draft expulsion policy for the state. Each school district would then need to develop and implement its own policy based on state’s draft policy.

- **HB 618**: Representative Ford also introduced legislation that would require that the net proceeds from the Lottery Fund be distributed to school districts as grants based on the percentage of lottery sales in the school district. There are concerns regarding this bill because the lottery money is automatically deposited into the Common School Fund. By dividing the money among school districts for grants, the state would be left with a $600 million hole in education funds. The General Assembly would either have to reduce the education appropriation by that amount, increase education funding by a lesser amount or find another method to fill the hole left by the redistributed funds.

- **HB 628**: This bill would allow parents who utilize the services of expert witnesses in special education due process proceedings to be reimbursed for expenses of the expert witness if his or her participation contributed to a favorable outcome for the parent.

- **HB 739**: This legislation would require ISBE, subject to appropriation, to provide financial incentives to school districts that participate in energy conservation.

The House has created the Public Policy and Accountability for Education Committee, which is a new education committee. Representative Golar is the Chair and Representative Eddy is the Minority Spokesperson. So far only two bills have been assigned to this committee: HB 744 and HB 788.

  - **HB 744** is an initiative from Representative Kathy Ryg and stems from a report from the Metropolitan Mayor’s Caucus on education accountability. A major part of this legislation would require an Education Inspector General,
which would be housed in the Attorney General’s Office. The Representative introduced similar legislation in the 95th General Assembly.

- HB 788 is an initiative from Representative Bob Rita. This legislation would create a Management Oversight Panel that could be put in place in school districts that are certified in management difficulty. The Representative introduced similar legislation in 2007.

- HB 987: This legislation would reduce the 1 ½ mile demarcation for providing free transportation (without a serious safety hazard) to one mile.

- SB 45: This legislation amends the Tax Code to provide that the discounts vendors currently receive from sales would no longer be instituted and that the additional revenues would be deposited into a special fund that ISBE would utilize to disburse grants for preschool programs and hiring truant officers

- SB 79: This initiative is from one of the subcommittees of the Early Learning Council. It requires that there be a formal memorialization of the relationship between Preschool For All Programs and local Head Start Programs. Most of the requirements in this legislation are already established by ISBE Administrative Rules.

- SB 1276: This bill establishes a program for superintendent mentoring. The Illinois Association of School Administrators has introduced this legislation in previous years and has done so again this spring.

- HR 56: Requires ISBE to establish a comprehensive plan to close the student achievement gap by the 2010-2011 school year.

- HJR 4: Urges ISBE to rename the Illinois Teacher of the Year Award the Willard Carl Widerberg Illinois Teacher of the Year Award.

Jack Wuest from the Alternative Schools Network updated the Board on efforts to develop legislation to provide incentive programs for reenrolling drop-outs.

7. ADJOURN

Board member Dean Clark made the motion to adjourn the Committee. The motion was seconded by Lanita Koster.
AGENDA *(timeframes are estimated for planning purposes)*

1. Roll Call

2. Board Member Participation by Other Means

3. Public Participation 8:45 – 8:55 a.m.

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

*5. Rules for Initial Review 8:55 – 9:05 a.m.*
   a. Part 140 (Calculation of Excess Cost Under Section 18-3 of the School Code) *(pp. 4-11)* *(Tim Imler)*
   b. Part 240 (Alternative Learning Opportunities Program) *(Patrick Murphy) (pp. 12-16)*
   c. Part 405 (Payments to Certain Facilities Under Section 14-7.05) *(pp. 17-26)* *(Tim Imler, David Andel)*

*6. Rules for Adoption 9:05 – 9:15 a.m.*
   a. Part 1 (Public Schools Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision) *(pp. 27-42)* *(Patrick Murphy, Terry Chamberlain)*
   b. Part 25 (Certification) *(Patrick Murphy) (pp. 43-54)*

7. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items

8. Adjourn

* Items listed with an asterisk (*) will be discussed in committee and action may be taken in the plenary session.
Vice Chairman Chris Ward called the meeting to order at 8:50 a.m. After the roll call, he announced that no members would be participating by other means. No one had signed up for public participation.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
David Fields moved approval of the minutes of the Committee’s meeting of January 26, 2009, and Brenda Holmes seconded the motion. It was adopted unanimously, and the minutes were approved as presented.

5. RULES FOR INITIAL REVIEW
Dr. Ward turned the meeting over to General Counsel Darren Reisberg, who stated that three sets of rules were being presented for initial review. He first introduced a technical revision to Part 240, Alternative Learning Opportunities Program, noting that the only change involved was an update to a cross-reference. Board members had no questions regarding this rulemaking.

Mr. Reisberg moved next to agenda item 5c, new Part 405 (Payments to Certain Facilities Under Section 14-7.05 of the School Code). He indicated that Division Administrators Tim Imler and David Andel were present to discuss any questions the Board members might have. He provided brief background information on the origins of the legislative initiative that had led to this new set of rules, noting that in the past placements by juvenile courts and state agencies had occurred without the involvement of school districts or ISBE. When placements were made into non-approved facilities, there had been confusion over the payment obligation. The law had been revised to make this clear but rules were needed in order to implement certain of the statutory provisions. No questions were raised regarding Part 405.

Finally, Mr. Reisberg addressed agenda item 5a, a set of proposed amendments to Part 140 (Calculation of Excess Cost Under Section 18-3 of the School Code). He noted that some of the changes were being made as a direct result of recent legislation. In response to a question from Dr. Brown, Tim Imler clarified that the change in the deadline for the submission of claims had been made for the purpose of consistency with the timeframe for special education claims. He also mentioned that there were not large numbers of claims submitted under Section 18-3 because a weighted formula already applies to districts’ reimbursement and only costs in excess of the formula amount would come into play. There were no further questions.
6. **RULES FOR ADOPTION**

Mr. Reisberg noted that two sets of amendments were being presented for adoption, i.e., Parts 1 (Public Schools Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision) and 25 (Certification). Both of these had come before the Board for initial review in November of 2008. The main impetus for revising Part 1 had been to institute some flexibility in the assignment of teachers at the middle-grade level. Mr. Reisberg stated that one comment had been received and that the issue raised had been addressed in the version being presented for adoption. Andrea Brown asked who had submitted the comment, and Rules Coordinator Sally Vogl indicated it had come from the certification officer in a regional office of education.

Mr. Reisberg went on to note that the amendment to Part 25 involved a delay in accreditation visits to the institutions of higher education that offer preparation programs. No public comment had been received, and the version being presented for adoption was identical to that originally proposed. No further discussion of this rulemaking was needed.

7. **COMMITTEE AGENDA PLANNING/ADDITIONAL ITEMS**

Darren Reisberg stated that only a moderate amount of rulemaking was expected to come to the Board at the March meeting.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Vinni Hall moved that the meeting be adjourned. Joyce Karon seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:57 a.m.
AGENDA

1. Roll Call

2. Board Member Participation by Other Means

3. Early Childhood Education
   Outline for Discussion  \textit{(pp. 2)}
   History of Illinois Early Childhood Block Grant \textit{(pp. 3-6)}
   Highlights – FY08 Pre-K Preschool for All \textit{(pp. 7-9)}
   Early Childhood Overview \textit{(p. 10)}
   ISBE Pre-K End of Year Report FY06 \textit{(pp. 11-60)}
   The State of Illinois Preschool – National Institute for Early Education Research \textit{(pp. 61-62)}
   NIEER Federal Early Childhood Policy Guide for the First 100 Days \textit{(pp. 63-68)}

4. Adjourn
History of ISBE early childhood initiatives

- Programs
- Funding
- Children Served

How have we been successful?

- High Standards
  - Program Standards
  - Teacher Standards
  - Learning Standards
- Infrastructure
  - Social/Emotional Consultation
  - Teacher Preparation
  - Monitoring
  - Evaluation
  - Training and Technical Assistance
- Data-Driven Decisions
  - IECAM
  - SIS
  - IWAS
- Collaboration and Shared Vision
  - System Planning and Implementation
  - Birth to 5
  - Federal/State/Local
  - Public/Private

What is the ultimate vision?

- High Quality Early Childhood Education System
  - Child Outcomes
  - Parent/Family/Community Needs
  - Maximum impact of public funds
- Birth to Grade 3 Continuum

What are the Challenges?

- Changing demographics
- Quality Assurance
- Leadership/Infrastructure
Ms. Morrison publicly thanked Dr. Walter Milton, Superintendent of Springfield School District #186, and the staff of the district’s Early Learning Center (ELC) for the tour of the facility this morning. Listening to the comments of Principal Jill Grove and the success at the ELC was a nice prelude to today’s work study topic. Ms. Morrison introduced Kay Henderson, Division Administrator for Early Childhood Education.

Ms. Henderson presented a detailed programmatic history as well as a summary of past funding with regard to Early Childhood Education (ECE) in Illinois. She pointed out that the ISBE state preschool program was initially funded in 1986, as part of a larger school reform effort. Funding has increased every year since, with the exception of three years when the funding was held level. Kay discussed ISBE’s success with standards, infrastructure (social emotional consultation, teacher preparation, monitoring, evaluation & training), data collection and collaboration. ISBE’s preschool program has gained national recognition for high quality and access for 3 year olds. She also informed the Board of the challenges facing ECE, which include changing demographics and quality assurance. Kay suggested the ultimate vision for ECE is a high quality program that produces positive child outcomes, meets family and community needs, maximizes the impact of public funds and supports a birth to grade 3 continuum.

Board member Dr. Vinni Hall then presented remarks about her involvement in early childhood. She has represented the Board on a number of early childhood initiatives, including the Illinois Early Learning Council, the Early Childhood Evaluation Advisory Committee, and the steering committee of the National Center for Professional Development on Inclusion (NCPDI) state grant. Dr. Hall was complimentary of the work done by the Early Childhood Division and others in building a birth to five system in Illinois, but cited some remaining issues to be resolved.
These include alignment of 0-5 to the k-12 system, early childhood teacher compensation in community programs, space constraints, Head Start collaboration, transportation, and inconsistent eligibility requirements between preschool and child care, and lack of heterogeneous learning environments for high risk children.

Board member Joyce Karon noted that she was sitting on the Board when the Illinois Early Learning Standards were adopted. She feels that the IELS have given the program direction and sustainability. She expressed concern that we may not be able to keep pace with the needs resulting from changing demographics with the growth of non-English speaking populations across the state, especially in areas where a number of languages and dialects are spoken. Ms. Karon also wondered what percentage of the 111 centers, serving 35,000 children in Cook County, are located in the city of Chicago. She noted that Chicago Public School District 299 receives 37% of the grant. In closing, Ms. Karon told of a Newcomers Center she recently visited. It was located in a high school district, where high school students are learning English and honing their skills by reading to children in the preschool program housed in the same building. This was an interesting, unique connection.

Board member Dr. Chris Ward expressed concern that Chicago Public School District 299 receives 37% of the total Early Childhood Block Grant funds, yet our statutory preschool report often identifies a problem with data collection and reporting from CPS. Dr. Ward stated that data collection and reporting is important as it relates to transparency and the fact that the appropriation of $380 million represents a large item in the ISBE budget. He asked if there is some policy action the Board can take that would result in better data collection from CPS. Kay Henderson responded that CPS has fully participated in enrolling their students in the Student Identification System (SIS) and this should go a long way in fixing the problem. Susie Morrison added that it is also important that the Board support the longitudinal data system and the inclusion of preschool data in that system.

Board member Dr. Andrea Brown closed the session with comments about her long time interest in and support of early childhood education programs. She asked if ISBE’s appropriation for the Early Childhood Block Grant is proportionate to that of other states, given the high quality of our programs. Kay Henderson responded appropriation itself seems very large, due to large increases in recent years. However, the average cost per child in Illinois is about $3,300, and is in the mid-range of the per capita funding of all states.

Kay Henderson introduced the Early Childhood Division staff seated in the audience, and the Board applauded their work.

The Work Study Session adjourned at 11:15 a.m.