PRE-SERVICE STANDARDS ADVISORY GROUP CHARGES

Illinois State Board of Education
July 28, 2009

Background

The Illinois State Board of Education has requested that the Agency provide them with Standards and additional recommendations for reading, ELL and Special Education by September 1, 2009. They requested recommendations for a standards-based outcome approach to the deficiencies identified in the teacher preparation study by Dan Reschley, entitled “Evaluation of LBS-1 Teacher Preparation in Inclusive Practices, Reading and Classroom Organization – Behavior Management.”

In an effort to accomplish this goal, the State Board of Education has developed the Pre-Service Standards Advisory Group to work together to develop standards and make recommendations to the Board. Reaching out to the stakeholders who this will affect, ISBE seeks the assistance of this group to be charged with developing standards. Charges have been designed around the following areas:

- Individualized Instruction (Special Education, ELL, and Gifted)
- Literacy for PK-12 levels
- Recommendations

Individualized Standards

We know that “regular education” teachers are required to work with students from diverse backgrounds, diverse cultural and language backgrounds, and diverse individual needs. Therefore, it is imperative that teachers be prepared for this diversity and be able to address the individual needs of all students.

The **charge** is to draft a set of outcomes-based standards to address the needs of Special Education, English Language Learners, and Gifted.

Literacy Standards

When the Illinois Professional Teaching Standards and the Language Arts Standards for All Teachers were developed, there were no standards developed to specifically address the needs of all teachers to be able to help students in the various content areas related to reading. As a result reading scores are dropping as student’s progress through their schooling and teachers are not prepared to work with students with reading in specific content areas.

The **charge** is to develop standards that all teachers will be required to meet addressing the reading needs of children and incorporating the current English Language Arts Standards for all Teachers into one set of standards.
Recommendations

The Group is further charged to make recommendations for moving forward requiring standards as distinct courses or to be infused into other courses (referring to the Reschley report) across the curriculum. If infused are there additional requirements to ensure covered across the curriculum and not just mentioned in courses. Additionally, the group should consider the middle school standards that have been developed but never implemented. Should a recommendation go forward to change from the six hours of course work to the middle school standards? Should these standards be required for K-12, elementary, and secondary programs? Finally, the group should consider whether there is a continuing need to keep separate standards for Technology Standards for All Teachers. When these standards were developed, technology was new but today, it is infused throughout programs.

The **charge** to the Pre-Service Standards Advisory Group is to develop recommendations related to required courses or infusion into courses and decision about advancing middle level standards.