

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Seasons Lodge*
12575 Golf Course Drive
Whittington, IL 62897

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

October 18-19, 2000

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18

10:00 a.m. **WORK-STUDY SESSION I**
Boardroom

A. Certificate Renewal Continuous Improvement

[Cover](#)

B. JEC P-16 Action Plan

[Cover](#)

[Report to the Joint Education Committee](#)

BHE Report

C. Induction and Mentoring

[Cover](#)

[Beginning Teacher Induction Program
Benefits](#)

[Induction/Mentoring Critical Features](#)

[Other State Induction Plans](#)

[Funding Model #1](#)

[Funding Model #2](#)

D. Education Funding Advisory Board Update

[Cover](#)

11:30 a.m. LUNCH**
Cabana
(Board may discuss business during lunch)

1:00 p.m. WORK-STUDY SESSION II**
Boardroom

A. Teacher Assessment

[Cover](#)

B. School Designation System

[Cover](#)

[School Designation Task Force](#)

[School Designation Task Force](#)

C. Legislative Issues (State)/FY 2002 Budget

6:00 p.m. DINNER
Boardroom
(Board may discuss business during dinner)

7:00 p.m. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**
Closed Meeting
Boardroom and Hotel Conference Room

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

8:00 a.m. CONSTITUENCY BREAKFAST
(Meal by invitation only)
Boardroom
(Board may discuss business during breakfast)

10:00 a.m. WORK-STUDY SESSION III**
Boardroom

A. Board Priority Reports

B. [Auditor's Report](#)

10:30 a.m. PLENARY BUSINESS MEETING**
Boardroom

A. Call to Order/Roll Call

B. Approval of Minutes: September 20-21, 2000

[MINUTES OF THE WORK STUDY
SESSIONS I AND II](#) (September 20)

[MINUTES OF THE WORK STUDY
SESSION III](#) (September 21)

[MINUTES OF THE PLENARY BUSINESS
MEETING](#) (September 21)

C. Public Participation

D. Items for Immediate Action

1. School Designation System

[Cover](#)

[School Designation Task Force](#)

[School Designation Task Force](#)

2. Induction and Mentoring
(See Work Study Session I)

3. Teacher Assessment
(See Work Study Session II)

4. Ratification of Expenditures
for Legal Services

5. Certification Board Appointments

[Cover](#)

E. Information Items

1. Round Lake Emergency Financial
Assistance

[Cover](#)

F. Announcements and Reports

1. Chairman
2. Superintendent
3. Committees
4. Board Members

G. Adjourn

[INFORMATION ITEM](#)

- * All meetings are accessible to persons with disabilities
- ** Meeting will begin at the conclusion of the previous session

**MINUTES OF THE WORK STUDY SESSIONS I and II
and CLOSED MEETING
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

Seasons Lodge
Whittington, Illinois
October 18, 2000

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ronald J. Gidwitz	William E. Hill	Sandra M. Pellegrino
Marjorie B. Branch	Marilyn McConachie	Janet Steiner
David P. Gomez		

Glenn W. "Max" McGee, State Superintendent of Education

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Connie Rogers, Vincent J. Serritella

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m. by the Chairman, Mr. Gidwitz, who asked Judy Carmody, the staff secretary to the Board, to call the roll. Mrs. Carmody called the roll of members. A quorum was present. (Dr. Steiner joined the meeting at 11:10 a.m.)

Chairman Gidwitz indicated that for medical reasons, Mrs. Rogers was not present but would be joining the Plenary Business Meeting by phone on October 19. He noted that Mr. Serritella was not present due to business conflicts.

The Chairman thanked Marilyn Holt and the other Mt. Vernon staff members who helped with the details of this Board meeting.

Certificate
Renewal

The Chairman called for Agenda Item A., Certificate Renewal Continuous Improvement.

Chairman Gidwitz reported that in an effort to develop a continuous improvement strategy for the Certificate Renewal System, the State Teacher Certification Board was requested by the State Board to recommend an alternative to the establishment of an ad hoc advisory group. He noted that in the next 20 minutes, we would be discussing recommendations for this improvement strategy.

Superintendent McGee reported that on October 6, the State Teacher Certification Board developed an alternative proposal for the continuous improvement of the Certificate Renewal System. He indicated that Linda Tomlinson from the Certification Board and staff are going to review the recommendations for a continuous improvement system in the area of certificate renewal. He noted that staff had reviewed the proposal and, in concert with the Certification Board

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members, refined it. The Superintendent asked for the Board's input and direction regarding this recommendation and next steps.

Linda Tomlinson; Deputy Superintendent Frank Llano; and Lee Patton, Director of the Policy Development Office; provided an overview of the recommendation (see Addendum II).

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

JEC P-16 Plan

The Chairman called for Agenda Item B., JEC P-16 Action Plan.

Chairman Gidwitz indicated that during the next 30 minutes we will be discussing the efforts of staff of the ISBE, IBHE, ICCB, AND SIU to develop a comprehensive action plan that focuses on student achievement and teacher quality for action by the Joint Education Committee.

Superintendent M^CGee reported that two documents were included in the Board materials that relate to this topic:

1. A BHE report that outlines some of the issues associated with student achievement and teacher quality; and
2. An action plan that has been drafted and outlines four major recommendations that are to be addressed collaboratively by the agencies. This action plan will have legislative and budget implications.

The Superintendent asked for the Board's input and reactions.

Lee Patton, Director of the Policy Development Office, reviewed the recommendations. Discussion followed for clarification purposes.

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

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:20 p.m. and reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

Education Funding

The Chairman called for Agenda Item D., Education Funding Advisory Board Update.

Chairman Gidwitz indicated that we are going to have an update on the progress of the Education Funding Advisory Board and some of our mutual interests in changes to the general state aid formula. He introduced Robert Leininger, Chair

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of the Advisory Board and a former State Superintendent, who would discuss activities to date.

The Illinois General Assembly created the board to recommend changes to the general state aid formula. The board will also recommend a new foundation level, necessary for the general state aid formula. The board must issue its first report to the General Assembly by January 1, 2001, with future reports due on the first day of odd-numbered years. By law, the continuing appropriation for the current general state aid formula, which gives a funding level for each school based on student attendance, sunsets at the end of FY 2001.

Dr. Leininger introduced Dr. Marleis Trover, an Advisory Board member and Superintendent of Vienna High School District #133. After Dr. Leininger provided a status report, a brief discussion followed for clarification purposes.

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

The meeting agenda was changed, and the next item for consideration was regarding the School Designation System from Work Study Session II.

School

Designation

The Chairman called for Agenda Item B., School Designation System.

Chairman Gidwitz reported that during the September Board meeting, the Board participated in a discussion about the proposed School Designation System and the deliberations of the Designation System Task Force. He noted that at this meeting, we would spend approximately 90 minutes discussing the recommendations of the Task Force and the System components.

Superintendent M^CGee indicated that as one of the Board's legislative priorities, we see a need to spend substantial time discussing this issue, so we are able to move forward in crafting the necessary legislation to support the Task Force recommendations or modifications thereof.

Chief Deputy Superintendent Lynne Haeffele introduced the Task Force members that were present.

- Superintendent James Rosborg, Belleville School District #118
- Philip Hansen, Chief Accountability Officer, Chicago District #299
- Assistant Superintendent Gwendolyn Lee, Thornton Township HS #205
- Charles Pinto, State Board staff

Discussion followed regarding the model and recommendations.

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

The meeting recessed at 2:25 p.m. and reconvened at 2:40 p.m.

Induction/
Mentoring

The Chairman called for Agenda Item C., Induction and Mentoring.
(from Work Study Session I)

Chairman Gidwitz reported that during the past several months, we have been discussing the implementation of an induction and mentoring program for teachers. He noted that we would spend the next 30 minutes discussing staff recommendations for this program.

Superintendent M^CGee reported that in August, we provided an overview of the critical components of an induction and mentoring program and the anticipated value derived from an induction program. He noted that in September, he reviewed some data with the Board, highlighting states that had induction programs, the range of costs associated with these programs, and components of these programs. He indicated that at this meeting, we wanted to review components of a high-performing induction and mentoring program and highlight two models with various funding options for the Board's consideration.

The Superintendent commented that on October 19, he would be requesting that the Board endorse this initiative and direct the development of a complete legislative and budget proposal.

Division Administrator Mike Long and staff member Jennifer Bolander provided an overview of the initiative (see Addendum III).

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

Teacher
Assessment

The Chairman called for Agenda Item A., Teacher Assessment.
(from Work Study Session II)

Chairman Gidwitz reported that the Board has been discussing the development of a new system of certification assessments as required by law by July 2003 for the past year. He noted that at this meeting, we would discuss the direction for assessment development related to basic skills, the initial certificate, and the standard certificate.

Superintendent M^CGee introduced Deputy Superintendent Frank Llano, Division Administrator Rob Sampson, and staff member Pat Glenn who provided an

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overview of this issue. Discussion followed for clarification purposes (see Addendum IV).

The Chairman requested a proactive activity of revising existing assessments and their alignment with Teacher Content Standards, so we may not need to start from scratch. He commented that staff could be creative and look for others.

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

Staff
Reception

Chairman Gidwitz indicated that during the September Board meeting, there was an opportunity for the Board members to say thank you to the Springfield-based employees and to "kick off the new school year." He noted that at this time, the Board would be doing the same thing with the Mt. Vernon employees -- saying thank you for their efforts.

The meeting recessed at 3:40 p.m. and reconvened at 4:15 p.m.

Legislative/
Budget

The Chairman called for Agenda Item C., Legislative Issues (State)/ FY 2002 Budget.

Chairman Gidwitz noted that the next 90 minutes would be focused on a discussion of the legislative issues that have been identified as Board priorities and beginning discussion on the FY 2002 budget.

Superintendent M^cGee indicated that we would like to discuss the Board's initial thoughts on priority legislative initiatives: reading 5 clock-hours, induction and mentoring, and health-life safety. He commented that in addition, we would like the Board members' reaction to the preliminary efforts to organize and "tell our story" through the budget book. He noted that it was our intent to come back in November with legislative proposals and a draft budget book.

Assistant Chief Deputy Superintendent David Wood, Peter Leonis (Director of the State Relations Office), and program staff highlighted critical components of the Board's initiatives and related budget issues.

Chairman Gidwitz left the meeting to take a business call. Ms. Pellegrino took over as chair of the meeting.

Vice Chair Pellegrino chaired the discussion regarding the budget and legislative issues.

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

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Closed Meeting

Vice Chair Pellegrino asked for a motion for the Board to go into a closed meeting following dinner.

Motion

Dr. Steiner moved that "the State Board of Education go into closed session under the exceptions set forth in the Open Meetings Act of the State of Illinois as follows:

- Section 2 (c) (1) for the purpose of discussing information regarding appointment, employment, or dismissal of an employee; and
- Section 2 (c) (11) for the purpose of discussing litigation.

She further moved that Superintendent M^cGee be included in this meeting and that the Board be authorized to invite anyone else into the meeting as needed."

Dr. Hill seconded the motion.

Vote on Motion

The Vice Chair called for a roll call vote on the motion. The motion passed with the following votes recorded.

Ms. Branch - yes

Dr. Hill - yes

Ms. Pellegrino - yes

Mr. Gomez - yes

Mrs. McConachie - yes

Dr. Steiner - yes

The meeting recessed at 5:25 p.m. and reconvened in closed session at 6:15 p.m. The closed session recessed at 7:45 p.m. and reconvened at the Lodge at 7:55 p.m.

Adjournment The Vice Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn McConachie, Secretary

Ronald J. Gidwitz, Chairman

**MINUTES OF THE WORK STUDY SESSION III
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

Seasons Lodge
Whittington, Illinois
October 19, 2000

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ronald J. Gidwitz
Marjorie B. Branch
David P. Gomez

William E. Hill
Marilyn McConachie

Sandra M. Pellegrino
Janet Steiner

Glenn W. "Max" McGee, State Superintendent of Education

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Connie Rogers, Vincent J. Serritella

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by the Chairman, Mr. Gidwitz, who asked Judy Carmody, the staff secretary to the Board, to call the roll. Mrs. Carmody called the roll of members. A quorum was present.

Chairman Gidwitz indicated that for medical reasons, Mrs. Rogers was not present but would be joining the Plenary Business Meeting by phone. He noted that Mr. Serritella was not present due to business conflicts.

Priority
Reports

The Chairman called for Agenda Item A., Board Priority Reports.

Superintendent McGee indicated that in keeping with the request of Board members during the September Board meeting, we would like to highlight the priority reports associated with educator quality -- specifically the activity of certificate renewal.

Deputy Superintendent Frank Llano and Division Administrator Dennis Williams provided an update on certificate renewal. (Materials were included in the supplemental packet.)

The Superintendent gave an update in the areas of early childhood, mathematics, Academic Early Warning List and the system of support, and reading.

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

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Internal
Auditor

The Chairman called for Agenda Item B., Auditor's Report.

Superintendent M^CGee introduced Tammy Rust, Director of Audit Services -- Chief Auditor, who provided an update on audit activity and her division efforts.

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

Adjournment The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn McConachie, Secretary

Ronald J. Gidwitz, Chairman

**MINUTES OF THE PLENARY BUSINESS MEETING
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

Seasons Lodge
Whittington, Illinois
October 19, 2000

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ronald J. Gidwitz
Marjorie B. Branch
David P. Gomez

William E. Hill
Marilyn McConachie
Sandra M. Pellegrino

Connie Rogers*
Janet Steiner

Glenn W. "Max" M^CGee, State Superintendent of Education

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Vincent J. Serritella

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by the Chairman, Mr. Gidwitz, who asked Judy Carmody, the staff secretary to the Board, to call the roll. Mrs. Carmody called the roll of members. A quorum was present. (*Mrs. Rogers was connected to the meeting by phone.)

Chairman Gidwitz indicated that for medical reasons, Mrs. Rogers was not present but would be joining the meeting by phone. He noted that Mr. Serritella was not present due to business conflicts.

Approval of Minutes

Dr. Hill moved that "the State Board of Education hereby approves the minutes of the September 20-21, 2000, meetings of the State Board. The motion was seconded by Mrs. McConachie, and it was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Public Participation

The Chairman called for Agenda Item C., Public Participation. He reviewed the rules for public participation. The following individuals spoke to the Board. (*Mrs. Rogers joined the meeting at this time.)

Zanele Sibanda, Director of Education and Public Policy for Chicago United, noted that it has pursued its mission of race relations by advocating for equal access of resources in education and economic development – most of that time spent focusing on improving the Chicago Public Schools. She reported that regarding teacher quality, research has been very clear that high quality instruction impacts student outcomes, and that impact is even more important for students of color who are in urban centers. She commented that unfortunately, most of those students often have a stream of least qualified teachers, and as the Superintendent showed in data on October 18, the student achievement outcomes are often lower.

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Ms. Sibanda indicated that Chicago United feels very passionately about improving the quality of teachers across the state but especially for those at-risk students in urban centers like Chicago. She noted that in years to come, the workforce will be made up more in students of color, so they feel it is very important to make sure that the students do have good teachers to help them reach high standards of achievement. She reported that as the organization that pushed the legislation on teacher certification, their anticipation was that by instituting an effective system of preparation, certification, and professional development, all activities would be based on standards of knowledge and performance to propel all teachers to the highest standards of the professional.

Ms. Sibanda commented that from the basic skills test to the content test and the performance assessment, their message is the same – that Illinois must reach for a rigorous, high-quality, standards-based assessment. She noted that where possible, we must take advantage of work that has already been done. She indicated that we should be able to make comparisons with other states, and that the participation of business, teacher unions, and higher education should be included in the process to make suggestions on what instruments should be made.

Ms. Sibanda commented that they felt that Chicago United's role is both to push for the highest and the best but also to support the Board wherever they can. She noted that they asked for a fair and open process where there is consideration for other voices in the decisions. She reported that they do have very specific recommendations on work and research they have done but also from work that has been recognized nationally.

Ms. Sibanda indicated that Chicago United does support efforts of the Board regarding the induction program that they feel is important to teacher quality, and they support the recommendation made on October 18 to continually improve on the recertification model. She strongly emphasized Mrs. McConachie's comment that there is contact not just on an organizational level but direct contact with consumers. She noted that it is important to think of those people who do not have access to the web.

Ms. Sibanda commented that she was pleased to hear from Chairman Gidwitz and Dr. Hill on the teacher compensation issues. She noted that Chicago United had made some outreach to the unions and the board and had extensively conversed with Chief Deputy Superintendent Lynne Haeffele concerning the University of Wisconsin that has been working with a number of school districts across the country on new teacher compensation models. Ms. Sibanda reported that all of those models are predicated on a strong, rigorous assessment system that requires high standards, skills, and knowledge. She commented that they are asking students to reach high standards, and as such, they feel that they should not be afraid to ask teachers to do the same.

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Mary Ellen Abell, representing the Illinois State Advisory Council on the Education of Children with Disabilities, indicated that the Council recently developed a list of its top priorities that it would be working on this year. She noted that the top priority of the five happens to be special education funding. Ms. Abell reported that the Council's goal is to see the state and federal government develop a better funding plan, so the special education students throughout the state can be better educated. She asked the Board to consider this issue.

School

Designation The Chairman called for Agenda Item D.1., Items for Immediate Action,
System School Designation System.

Chairman Gidwitz indicated that at the request of the Board Operations Committee, in September the Board started taking a roll call vote on all substantive issues to ensure everyone is aware of the outcome.

Superintendent M^CGee commented that realizing that the School Designation Task Force report that the Board saw on October 18 is a work-in-progress, he asked that the State Board endorse the 14 recommendations of the Task Force. He noted that we do intend to come back with a report after the next few meetings, and there may be some revisions. He highlighted four that he thought were extremely important.

- It is a system that calls for six designation levels -- a more rigorous system than the current one.
- A means for public reporting and public recognition of school improvement is provided.
- Disaggregated data will be reported.
- There is a recommendation for annual, standards-based assessment.

The Superintendent emphasized the budget. He reported that the program would cost \$60 million new dollars, and of that money, almost half of it goes directly to support the schools and students at-risk – approximately 350 schools would be on the Academic Warning and Watch List, which is five times the number of districts that are currently on the Watch List.

A brief discussion followed for clarification purposes.

Mrs. McConachie commented that on October 18, the Chairman often raised the issue of what the alternative costs are, and she thought about that earlier that day as she read erroneous reports about the testing system -- that this would make Illinois' students the most tested in the country; when in fact the intention is to reduce the amount of testing. She reported that on October 18, the Board heard from Phil Hansen of the Chicago Public Schools that they would welcome this

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alternative as a way of reducing their own testing costs by shifting to standards-based assessments provided by the state. She asked if there was a way to look at the numbers -- how much districts are spending on testing that they could replace. Mrs. McConachie indicated that over time there would be an enormous cost savings to local districts. She asked if we could begin to try to quantify some of that, because we are talking about transferring the expense to the state level and away from the local level, which would free up money at the local level to do other kinds of important work.

Chairman Gidwitz indicated that the Illinois Business Roundtable had been doing research in that area and had compiled a list. Chief Deputy Superintendent Lynne Haeffele would provide that information.

Mrs. McConachie commented that when we talk about this proposal, we need to hold the numbers in front of people so they understand that this is less testing and savings to local districts.

The Chairman provided some of the information regarding what the Chicago Public Schools could save by eliminating the local testing if the state adopted annual testing.

Mrs. Rogers indicated that she understood we are saving districts money to do this, but the primary reason for doing this is to improve student learning. Chairman Gidwitz responded that was correct and commented that then we would be able to measure performance building by building. He noted that if the ISAT test is used, we would be measuring against absolute standards as opposed to many of the tests that measure against other students' performance.

Motion

Mrs. McConachie moved that "the Illinois State Board of Education hereby endorses the findings of the Designation Task Force and adopts the proposed 14 recommendations, and when the Task Force reconvenes, it consider factors than other test scores in establishing the designation system (see Addendum II)."

Dr. Hill seconded the motion.

Vote on Motion

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

Ms. Branch - yes
Mr. Gidwitz - yes
Mr. Gomez - yes

Dr. Hill - yes
Mrs. McConachie - yes
Ms. Pellegrino - yes

Mrs. Rogers - yes
Dr. Steiner - yes

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

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Induction/
Mentoring The Chairman called for Agenda Item D.2., Items for Immediate Action, Induction and Mentoring.

Superintendent M^CGee reported that on October 18, the induction and mentoring initiative was discussed with two models presented for consideration:

1. A sequential phase-in model and
2. A full and immediate implementation model.

The Superintendent recommended that the Board endorse the proposed sequential phase-in model -- Model #1 with the funding option #3 as identified on Chart #5 in the Board packet. He noted that in the next fiscal year, this would consist of \$5 million that would go primarily to local districts for planning and for training of mentors. He indicated that the following year, it would be \$8 and 1/2 million for working with first-year teachers -- then moving to \$15.1 and finally about \$20 million in FY 05.

Superintendent M^CGee reported that the research clearly indicates that an induction and mentoring program will be successful in retaining quality teachers, hopefully in the districts where they are most needed. He also recommended that the Board authorize the development of appropriate legislative and budget proposals to support this induction and mentoring initiative.

Motion Dr. Hill moved that "the Illinois State Board of Education hereby endorses the recommendations of staff to implement an induction and mentoring program in keeping with Model #1, Option #3. In addition, the State Board authorizes staff to develop appropriate legislative and budget proposals to support the induction and mentoring initiative (see Addendum III)."

Mrs. Rogers seconded the motion.

Ms. Pellegrino expressed her serious concerns about the human cost of adopting Model #1 instead of Model #2.

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

Ms. Branch - yes

Dr. Hill - yes

Mrs. Rogers - yes

Mr. Gidwitz - yes

Mrs. McConachie - yes

Dr. Steiner - no

Mr. Gomez - yes

Ms. Pellegrino - no

Teacher
Assessment The Chairman called for Agenda Item D.3., Items for Immediate Action, Teacher Assessment.

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Superintendent M^CGee reported that he was making two recommendations related to Teacher Certification Assessments.

1. Regarding the initial teaching certificate, he recommended the Board authorize the Superintendent to develop and release an RFSP for the acquisition of a common-core test. This test will be aligned with the new Illinois Professional Teaching Standards (IPTS) and the new technology, language arts, and special education standards for all teachers, and content area tests aligned with Illinois certification standards.
2. In relation to the standard teaching certificate, he recommended that the Board endorse the portfolio review as the primary strategy for determining eligibility for the standard certificate. He also recommended that the Board authorize the development of a timeline and projected budget for implementing portfolio review and the release of an RFSP for development of a portfolio assessment system based upon IPTS standards.

Motion

Mrs. McConachie moved that "the State Board hereby adopt the following two motions.

Initial Teaching Certificate

'The State Board of Education hereby authorizes the Superintendent to develop and release an RFSP for the acquisition of

1. A common-core test, aligned with the new Illinois Professional Teaching Standards and the new technology, language arts, and special education standards for all teachers; and
2. Content area tests aligned with Illinois certification standards.

The Board further directs the Superintendent to explore similar assessments that are used by other states, organizations, and/or industries that might not be identified through the RFSP to determine the appropriateness of these assessment instruments and processes for the initial certification examination in Illinois.

Finally, the Board directs that the results of these efforts be reported to the Board, with recommendations for final action.'

Standard Teaching Certificate

'The State Board of Education hereby endorses the portfolio review as the primary strategy for determining eligibility for the standard certificate and authorizes the Superintendent to

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1. Develop a timeline and projected budget for implementation of a portfolio review system, and
2. Release an RFSP for the development of a portfolio assessment system based on the Professional Teaching Standards.

The Board further directs the Superintendent to provide regular progress reports to the Board."

Mrs. Rogers seconded the motion.

Vote on Motion

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

Ms. Branch - yes	Dr. Hill - yes	Mrs. Rogers - yes
Mr. Gidwitz - yes	Mrs. McConachie - yes	Dr. Steiner - pass
Mr. Gomez - yes	Ms. Pellegrino - no	

Expenses - Legal Services - The Chairman called for Agenda Item D.4., Items for Immediate Action, Ratification of Expenditures for Legal Services.

Superintendent M^CGee reported that we have had an excessive legal workload during the past year and, with such, have found it necessary to obtain assistance in fulfilling all of the Board's responsibilities. He recommended to the Board that we ratify expenditures for some contractual legal services to assist us specifically in a certification case related to an issue in East St. Louis School District #189.

Chairman Gidwitz asked how much money was involved, and General Counsel Res Vazquez responded that it would be amount not to exceed \$20,000.

Motion

Ms. Pellegrino moved that "the Illinois State Board of Education hereby ratifies the expenditure for additional legal services in the Hayes case not to exceed \$20,000 (Attorney James Stern -- not to exceed \$10,000; Dr. Robert Allen -- not to exceed \$5,000; and Dr. Ruth Koester, Laboratory Corporation of America -- not to exceed \$5,000)."

Dr. Hill seconded the motion.

Vote on Motion

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

Ms. Branch - yes	Dr. Hill - yes	Mrs. Rogers - yes
Mr. Gidwitz - yes	Mrs. McConachie - yes	Dr. Steiner - yes
Mr. Gomez - yes	Ms. Pellegrino - yes	

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Board Travel The Chairman called for Agenda Item D.5., Items for Immediate Action, Board Quarterly Travel (not on published agenda).

Chairman Gidwitz reported that each Board member received a copy of the Board quarterly travel expenditures.

Motion Dr. Hill moved that "the State Board of Education hereby approves the quarterly travel expenditures of the State Board members." (A copy of the travel expenditures is on file in the State Board office in Springfield.)

Mrs. Rogers seconded the motion.

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

Ms. Branch - yes	Dr. Hill - yes	Mrs. Rogers - yes
Mr. Gidwitz - yes	Mrs. McConachie - yes	Dr. Steiner - yes
Mr. Gomez - yes	Ms. Pellegrino - yes	

Certification Board The Chairman called for the General Consent Agenda Item, State Teacher Certification Board Appointment.

Chairman Gidwitz reported that we have had a recommendation to appoint Ms. Denise Williams to the State Teacher Certification Board to complete the term of Nancy Dunton who has resigned effective October 13, 2000.

Hearing no objections, the Chairman indicated that Ms. Williams is appointed to the Certification Board.

Round Lake The Chairman called for Agenda Item E.1., Information Items, Round Lake Emergency Financial Assistance.

Chairman Gidwitz reported that a grant request has been submitted by the Round Lake Area Schools -- District #116 Financial Oversight Panel for emergency financial assistance.

Superintendent M^CGee indicated that the State Board members were very familiar with the financial situation in Round Lake that continued to decline after several years. He commented that we are especially grateful to Oversight Panel Chairman Marc Spivak and Financial Administrator Jim Tapscott for their efforts.

Mr. Spivak, Mr. Tapscott, Deputy Superintendent Gary Ey, and Division Administrator Chuck Schmitt discussed the events leading up to the request for the emergency financial assistance.

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Mr. Ey indicated that a copy of a letter from Mr. Tapscott requesting an emergency financial assistance (one-time) grant was distributed to Board members' places. He reported that this would be the first grant, once it has been approved, that the state has given to a school district. He noted that there was a loan given to Mt. Morris School District, and East St. Louis did not petition for a loan when it received its Oversight Panel. The Board members were provided with information regarding the demographics of the District. Mr. Ey indicated that the Board did not need to take action on this issue but just concur with the recommendation of the Superintendent.

Mr. Spivak commented on the Round Lake School District's financial situation and the efforts of the Financial Oversight Panel.

A brief discussion followed for clarification purposes.

Mr. Ey commented that the expenses of the Financial Oversight Panel were being funded by the state, and the grant is additional money that would need to be appropriated. He noted that we would like to see the funds in the fall Veto Session.

Hearing no objections, Chairman Gidwitz indicated that the Board members concurred with the Superintendent's recommendation. He thanked those individuals present for their efforts in this situation.

Mrs. Rogers thanked Mr. Spivak for his work. The Chairman commented that for the record, Mrs. Rogers had recommended Mr. Spivak for this position.

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

Chairman
Report

The Chairman called for Agenda Item F.1., Announcements and Reports, Chairman.

Chairman Gidwitz noted that Ms. Pellegrino would be spending the next couple of months in Florida as she serves out the balance of her statutory term. He indicated that because of her concern of whether or not she would be able to make some of the subsequent meetings, she recommended the transition of responsibility for chairing the Board Operations Committee to Mrs. Rogers beginning in November. He reported that Mrs. Rogers had agreed to serve in this capacity, so he officially made that appointment.

The Chairman thanked Ms. Pellegrino for her gallant service as the Chair of the Board Operations Committee, and the Board looked forward to hearing from Mrs. Rogers on a regular basis in the future.

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Supt. The Chairman called for Agenda Item F.2., Announcements and Reports,
Report Superintendent.

Superintendent M^CGee reported that during the constituency breakfast earlier that day, the following comments were received from local superintendents and board members.

- Unanimously, they want to see more opportunities for interaction with the State Board members.
- They were very appreciative of the Chairman's comments and of all the Board members' engagement and interaction.

The Superintendent recognized the special accomplishments and achievements of several staff members.

- Marilyn Holt, Suzanne Dillow, Sue Easton, Leah Covey, Cecelia Norris, Bridget Bryant, and other Mt. Vernon staff -- for making this Board meeting so successful.
- Sally Vogl and Lou Ann Reichle -- for their work above and beyond on the special education rules.
- Kathy Nicholson-Tosh -- for her work in putting the details together for the Employee Summit and the October Board meeting during the same week.
- Team of staff involved in planning and participating in the Employee Summit -- for their great contributions.

Superintendent M^CGee reported that the Schoolhouse Meetings have gone very well. He reiterated that the common concern is school funding -- far and above anything else. He expressed appreciation to the Chairman for his comments earlier that day that was responsive to what we hear -- the need for more funding and an alternative revenue stream. The Superintendent reported that other issues that came up during the Schoolhouse Meetings were support for agricultural education, education-to-careers, great service from the State Board offices, special education funding, and appreciative remarks regarding the Board's federal efforts to get more dollars. He commented that the Schoolhouse Meetings continue to be a great success, and he expressed appreciation for the staff who participates to answer technical questions. He noted that if nothing else, we have to continue to press forward for fair, equitable, and adequate funding.

Superintendent M^CGee gave a brief update on the federal funding issues.

Committees The Chairman called for Agenda Item F.3., Announcements and Reports,
Report Committees. There was nothing further to report.

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Board Members

The Chairman called for Agenda Item F.4., Announcements and Reports, Board Members.

Dr. Hill reported that two or three weeks ago, he spoke to the Kishwaukee IASB/IASA Division superintendents, and he noted that two regional superintendents were also in attendance. He indicated that the essence of the discussion and feedback was essentially what the Board members heard earlier today during the constituency breakfast.

Mrs. Rogers reported that she reviewed the Superintendent's travel and found it all in order.

Mrs. McConachie reported that she and Chairman Gidwitz attended the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Annual Conference on October 13-14 in St. Louis. She indicated that at that time, Illinois was proud to present the National Policy Leader of the Year Award to Mayor Richard Daley of Chicago. She noted that he was nominated by this Board and was selected by the NASBE.

Mrs. McConachie commented that this was a hard decision for NASBE, because it believes in citizen (lay) leadership for education, and to present this kind of award to a mayor who now has authority and responsibility for a school system was a tough call. She reported that Chairman Gidwitz introduced Dr. Blondean Davis who came in Mayor Daley's stead at the very last minute, and Dr. Davis went over very well with the large group of people from about 40 states who attended the Conference. She commented on Dr. Davis' remarks.

Mrs. McConachie also reported that during the NASBE Conference, Mrs. Rogers was recognized at length for her leadership of the NASBE legislative and government committee. She indicated that Mrs. Rogers would be receiving in the mail, if she hasn't already, a very large plaque. She commented on Mrs. Rogers' contributions and how she changed that whole committee's structure and activities.

Mrs. McConachie also reported that she presented the study from the study group that she chaired on Alternatives to Social Promotion and Retention. She indicated that the study group determined that we should not be talking about either social promotion or retention; in fact, we should be looking at not accepting that a child will not succeed. She noted that Board members would receive a copy of the study as part of their regular NASBE monthly mailing. Mrs. McConachie commented on the study and thanked staff members Kathy Nicholson-Tosh and Sheryl Poggi and her staff for putting together handouts for the presentations that she made and for the very good feedback that she received on the efforts we are making in Illinois.

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Dr. Steiner complimented the Superintendent on the Schoolhouse Meetings and indicated that everyone enjoyed them.

Chairman Gidwitz asked if there was a compilation of issues that were raised at the Schoolhouse Meetings and what we are doing about them. Superintendent McGee responded that one was done after the first series, and another one will be put together after this one. He noted that we would put the progress reports on the agenda for the November Board meeting.

Dr. Hill indicated that he was not certain if Ms. Pellegrino would be present at the next two meetings, and he personally wanted to say how much he has enjoyed being on the Board with her. He commented that he would miss her immensely -- and he was sure that the Board would miss her.

The Chairman thanked the Mt. Vernon staff for all of their efforts.

Chairman Gidwitz indicated that the location of the November Board was undecided at that time.

The Chairman thanked the Board for their work and the staff for their presentations. He complimented the State Board staff for the progressively better archive CD-ROM that the Board members are receiving that is a great help to him. He noted that the information is on the web.

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

Adjournment The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn McConachie, Secretary

Ronald J. Gidwitz, Chairman