



# Illinois State Board of Education

Jesse Ruiz, Board Chair  
Dr. Christopher Koch, State Superintendent

## ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Illinois State Board of Education Offices\*  
100 North First Street  
Springfield, Illinois  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor Board Room

### SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND AGENDA February 21-22, 2001

#### WEDNESDAY, February 21

2:00 p.m.

#### WORK-STUDY SESSION I

Board Room  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor

- A. Special Education Due Process Review: Findings of Study
  - [Cover](#)
  - [Study of the Illinois Due Process Procedures](#)
- B. Special Education Certification Rules and Regulations
  - [Cover](#)
  - [Summary of Proposed Rules to Implement Special Education Certification Structure](#)
- C. Waiver Issues: Physical Education
  - [Cover](#)
- D. Waiver Rules
  - [Cover](#)
  - [Title 23: Education and Cultural Resources Part 1-Public Schools Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision](#)
- E. Teacher Effectiveness: The Education Trust Report
  - [Cover](#)

5:30 p.m.

#### CLOSED MEETING AND DINNER

Governor's Cabinet Room  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Renaissance Hotel

#### THURSDAY, February 22

7:30 a.m.

#### LEGISLATIVE COFFEE

Board Room  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor

9:00 a.m.

#### WORK-STUDY SESSION I

- A. Improved Learning Environments
  - [Cover](#)
- B. East St. Louis Annual Performance Report
  - [Cover](#)
  - [Annual Report to the State Superintendent from the Financial Oversight Panel for East St. Louis School District #189 as of November 2000](#)
- C. Board Priority Reports (under separate cover)

■ Board Priority Accomplishments-February 2001

10:45 a.m.

**PLENARY BUSINESS MEETING**

- A. Approval of Minutes: January 17-18, 2001
  - MINUTES OF THE WORK-STUDY SESSION I and CLOSED MEETING (January 17-18, 2001)
  - MINUTES OF THE WORK-STUDY SESSION II and CLOSED MEETING (January 18, 2001)
  - MINUTES OF THE PLENARY BUSINESS MEETING (January 18, 2001)
- B. Public Participation
- C. Immediate Action Items
  - 1. Special Education Certification Rules  
(See Work-Study Session I)
  - 2. P.E. Waiver Policy  
(See Work-Study Session I)
  - 3. Waiver Rules (See Work-Study Session I)
  - 4. Superintendent Travel Expenditures  
(under separate cover)
- D. Announcements and Reports
  - 1. Chairman
  - 2. Superintendent
  - 3. Committees
  - 4. Members
- E. Adjourn

Noon

**LUNCH**

Superintendent's Conference Room  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor

**OTHER INFORMATION**

\* All meetings are accessible to persons with disabilities

**Illinois State Board of Education**

100 North First Street  
Springfield, IL 62777

**MINUTES OF THE WORK-STUDY SESSION I  
and CLOSED MEETING  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
State Board of Education Office and Renaissance Hotel  
Springfield, Illinois  
February 21, 2001

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Marilyn McConachie	Connie Rogers	Beverly Turkal
Marjorie B. Branch	Janet Steiner	

Glenn W. "Max" M<sup>C</sup>Gee, State Superintendent of Education

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Ronald J. Gidwitz, Vincent J. Serritella

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Roll Call

In the absence of Chairman Gidwitz, the meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by the Vice Chair, Mrs. McConachie, 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.

Vice Chair McConachie noted that Chairman Gidwitz would not be present this month, and on February 22, Mr. Serritella would be connected by phone to the Plenary Business Meeting.

The Vice Chair introduced Beverly Turkal of Robinson, the newest Board member who was appointed this past week.

Spec. Ed.  
Due Process

The Vice Chair called for Agenda Item A., Special Education Due Process Review: Findings of Study.

Vice Chair McConachie reported that during the November Board meeting, a local district superintendent and a director of special education came to the State Board meeting to share their experience in implementing due process. She indicated that at this meeting, staff would share their findings related to a review of the process and procedures initiated by the local input.

Superintendent M<sup>C</sup>Gee commented that at the request of the State Board, staff had analyzed data associated with due process implementation throughout the state. He asked for the Board members' input and direction in the implementation of the recommendations.

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Deputy Superintendent Gordon Riffel and staff member Bobbie Reguly discussed the findings of this analysis and reviewed the recommendations made as a result of the analysis and their implications.

Discussion followed with Board input. Legal Counsel Res Vazquez also assisted in responding to Board members' questions.

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

Spec. Ed. Certification The Vice Chair called for Agenda Item B., Special Education Certification Rules and Regulations.

Vice Chair McConachie indicated that during the next segment of the meeting, the Board would discuss the status of changes in the rules for certification in special education. She noted that these rules are developed to implement the new structure and standards for certification of special education teachers.

Superintendent M<sup>C</sup>Gee reported that the draft rules describe the transition from the current system to the new system of certification with special emphasis on the effect of these requirements on current teachers. He commented that a summary of the draft rules was widely distributed and was included in the Board packet. He indicated that on February 22, he would be recommending that the Board approve dissemination of the rules.

General Counsel Res Vazquez and staff members Lou Ann Reichle and Sally Vogl commented on the rules. Discussion followed for Board members' input.

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

P.E. Waivers

The Vice Chair called for Agenda Item C., Waiver Issues: Physical Education.

Vice Chair McConachie indicated that the State Board received and discussed the cumulative report on waivers. She noted that several policy issues were reviewed including those associated with the school calendar, substitute teacher service limitations, non-resident tuition, criteria for waiver requests, and waiver report submission dates and physical education. She reported that at that time, the Board adopted recommendations associated with all issues except those regarding physical education.

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The Vice Chair indicated that staff were asked to review the implications of changing the waiver policy regarding physical education to consider the attainment of learning standards in physical development and health, as well as limiting the length of time in which P.E. waivers are in effect for any given district.

Superintendent M<sup>C</sup>Gee reported that on February 22, he would be recommending that the Board adopt a policy statement on physical development and health waivers. He indicated that this policy statement recognizes the importance of the learning standards and this area of learning. He noted that proof that schools requesting a waiver are meeting learning standards and a time limit for the waiver are both critical components of the policy statement.

Lee Patton, Director of the Policy Development Office; Phyllis Pickett from Lake Park High School in Roselle; and Mark Peysakhovich, representing the American Heart Association, commented on the issue.

Discussion followed for Board members' input. Lee Patton was commended for her efforts.

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

The meeting recessed at 3:50 p.m. and reconvened at 4:00 p.m.

Teacher Effectiveness The Vice Chair called for Agenda Item E., Teacher Effectiveness: The Education Trust Report.

Vice Chair McConachie reported that the State Board would develop a certification assessment system aligned to the new certification structure by 2003. She indicated that this includes assessment of the basic skills of teacher candidates that must be more rigorous in the future. She noted that at this meeting, the Board would discuss a report by Education Trust related to the research on teacher effectiveness and an analysis of existing licensing examinations.

Superintendent M<sup>C</sup>Gee reviewed the timelines and key responsibilities proposed for the NCREL study/contract. He also reviewed the role of Education Trust in the process.

Kati Haycock from Education Trust was connected to the meeting by phone, and she responded to Board members' questions.

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

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Waiver  
Rules

The Vice Chair called for Agenda Item D., Waiver Rules.

Vice Chair McConachie indicated that in keeping with our discussion on waivers, concerns were raised about local district observations of the requirement to hold public hearings regarding waivers. She noted that this requirement is relevant to all waiver request areas.

Superintendent M<sup>C</sup>Gee reported that on February 22, he would be recommending that the Board give preliminary approval of the rules and authorize their distribution for public comment. He indicated that these rule changes would require local districts to submit a copy of the hearing notices provided to the public, the participants in the hearing, and the nature of the testimony.

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

Mrs. McConachie reviewed the change in the schedule of meetings for February 22, so the Board members can attend the Education Committee meeting.

Vice Chair McConachie suggested that in the future, Board members submit questions before the Board meeting.

Closed  
Meeting

The Vice Chair called for a motion for the Board to go into a closed meeting.

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<sup>C</sup>Gee be included in this meeting and that the Board be authorized to invite anyone else into the meeting as needed."

Mrs. Rogers 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

Mrs. McConachie - yes

Mrs. Rogers - yes

Dr. Steiner - yes

Mrs. Turkal - yes

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and CLOSED MEETING  
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The meeting recessed at 4:40 p.m. and went into closed session at 5:30 p.m. at the Renaissance Hotel.

Adjournment The Vice Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Connie Rogers, Secretary

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Marilyn McConachie, Vice Chair

**MINUTES OF THE WORK-STUDY SESSION II  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

State Board of Education Office  
Springfield, Illinois  
February 22, 2001

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Marilyn McConachie  
Marjorie B. Branch

Connie Rogers  
Janet Steiner

Beverly Turkal

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Ronald J. Gidwitz, Vincent J. Serritella

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Roll Call

In the absence of Chairman Gidwitz, the meeting was called to order at 8:40 a.m. by the Vice Chair, Mrs. McConachie, 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.

Vice Chair McConachie indicated that Chairman Gidwitz was not able to attend the Board meeting this month, and Mr. Serritella was ill but would be connected by phone to the Plenary Business Meeting later that day.

Motion to  
Recess

Mrs. Turkal moved that "the State Board of Education recess the meeting at this time, so the Board members could go to the Capitol to attend an education committee meeting."

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

Mrs. Rogers - yes

Mrs. Turkal - yes

Mrs. McConachie - yes

Dr. Steiner - yes

The meeting recessed at 8:44 a.m. and reconvened at 10:25 a.m.

Learning  
Environments

The Vice Chair called for Agenda Item A., Improved Learning Environments. This item was deferred until a later meeting.

East  
St. Louis

The Vice Chair called for Agenda Item B., East St. Louis Annual Performance Report.



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Vice Chair McConachie indicated that the Financial Oversight Panel for East St. Louis had submitted their fourth annual report to the State Board. She noted that at this meeting, information regarding the progress made by the Oversight Panel and challenges they face would be shared.

Superintendent M<sup>C</sup>Gee introduced Richard Mark, chair of the Financial Oversight Panel; Jim Tapscott, the Financial Administrator; and Deputy Superintendent Gary Ey. He thanked Mr. Mark and the other Panel members for their time and dedication.

The Superintendent indicated that the report of the Oversight Panel shows that progress toward financial stability and accountability is being made. He noted that it also reflects improvement in the communication between District officials and the Panel. He commented that while the Board did not need to take any formal action, he would like to formally thank and ask the Board to continue their support of the East St. Louis Financial Oversight Panel efforts.

Mr. Mark, Mr. Tapscott, and Mr. Ey provided information on the report of the Financial Oversight Panel for East St. Louis. A copy of the power-point presentation can be found in Addendum II.

The Board members and Superintendent M<sup>C</sup>Gee offered their assistance.

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

### Board Priorities

The Vice Chair called for Agenda Item C., Board Priority Reports.

Superintendent M<sup>C</sup>Gee introduced Deputy Superintendent Carmen Chapman Pfeiffer who shared information on Standards, Assessment and Accountability.

Vice Chair McConachie requested a list of web sites, and the Superintendent responded that we would provide that information.

Superintendent M<sup>C</sup>Gee highlighted other priorities.

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

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Adjournment The Vice Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Connie Rogers, Secretary

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Marilyn McConachie, Vice Chair

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

State Board of Education Office  
Springfield, Illinois  
February 22, 2001

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Marilyn McConachie  
Marjorie B. Branch

Connie Rogers  
Vincent J. Serritella\*

Janet Steiner  
Beverly Turkal

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ronald J. Gidwitz, Vincent J. Serritella

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Roll Call

In the absence of Chairman Gidwitz, the meeting was called to order at 11:45 a.m. by the Vice Chair, Mrs. McConachie, 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. (\*Mr. Serritella was connected to the meeting by phone.)

Vice Chair McConachie indicated that Chairman Gidwitz was out of the country and could not be present at the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Rogers moved that "the State Board of Education hereby approves the minutes of the January 17-18, 2001, meetings of the State Board. The motion was seconded by Dr. Steiner, and it was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Public Participation

The Vice Chair called for Agenda Item B., Public Participation. The following individuals spoke to the Board.

Jim Guilinger, representing the Illinois Leadership Council for Agricultural Education, reported that in June, they would complete two additional CD's (in management and mechanics) -- all meeting the state goals for learning and skill standards. He indicated that one of the other positive things that had happened this year is the continual work with outside organizations in agricultural with the 26 county literacy programs in the state, and he commented on the funding associated with those programs.

Mr. Guilinger reported that they had worked with a study (the IOICC which was funded by the State Board) that showed that about 24 and 1/2 percent of the population in Illinois are involved in ag industry careers. He noted that another interesting thing was in a *Newsweek* article: on a national level, 39.7 percent of high school freshmen go on to college soon after graduation; for Illinois, that number was 49 percent; and for Illinois ag education graduates, that number is 67

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percent (18 percent above the average). He commented that they think they are training young men and women to move forward.

Mr. Guilinger, as a member of the CTE committee, expressed concerns about the direction of that, and he indicated that hopefully this was an area that the Board would address. He reported that the appearance that they received from those meetings (in ag education and other vocational entities) was if this and the funding moves into the community college, then they lose what they think is a very valid part of what should be in secondary education. He noted that as far as the youth organization, it would totally disappear in Illinois, because there is not any one to serve as advisers to local FFA at the community college level.

Laura Arterburn, on behalf of the IFT, commented that regarding the Corey H. transition rules that were presented on February 21, it should be noted that as the State Board discusses these, the State Teacher Certification Board rejected these rules, and this was not brought up yesterday.

Ms. Arterburn expressed concerns regarding the comments made by the Superintendent on the Governor's budget report and the proposal to begin to take apart the state agency.

- This will be a disruption of services to local school districts throughout the state.
- By fragmenting the agency in this way, there is no longer going to be an umbrella that is going to watch over and keep things better coordinated. It will be the situation again that one part that is located in one agency is not going to know what is going on in another agency -- when all of this needs to be brought together.
- This has the potential to politicize the education department once again. This was an issue that they thought the 1970 Constitution's whole purpose was to keep it de-politicized, and now there is the potential to go back to that.

Ms. Arterburn indicated that last week in *Education Week*, it stated that Indiana is moving to return to a former organizational structure. She commented that they are quite concerned that all of these moves are not going to be designed to build up the education agency but rather to break it down, as well as be aggressive rather than progressive.

Phil Lawler, representing the Naperville schools, spoke on the critical issues regarding physical development and health. He indicated that just as twenty years ago the nation had no clue about the harms of tobacco, he believed that physical education is in the exact same place 20 years earlier. He commented that there would come a time when people will say, "Do you remember when the leadership was eliminating students from physical activity on a daily basis?"

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Mr. Lawler noted that we have not made the shift in leadership to understand that physical education directly relates to health. He asked that the Board members be open minded enough to really investigate this issue, and he commented that eliminating physical activity is not best for children. He asked that the Board members stay in contact with the professionals in this field as they go through the process and make some of the critical decisions.

Sean McLaughlin, on behalf of EFE #330 and as an education for employment system director and a member of the final review team for the science standards, talked about how the Career and Technical Ed Challenge Task Force recommendations and the field of career and technical education relate directly to the Board's priorities. He indicated that they would like the rest of the curricular areas to follow Mr. Guilinger's example and align their programs with the Illinois Learning Standards and upgrade their curriculum. He noted that they serve 60 percent of all students every year in high schools.

Mr. McLaughlin reported that they do help match the skill requirements with the current job market. He commented that we have to ensure that all students are prepared for the changing work place and have the academic and the technical skills to succeed. He called the Board members' attention to the chart he had distributed that showed while 37 percent of the students went directly from high school to work, 62 percent continued their education and, in some cases, worked as well.

Mr. McLaughlin indicated that they heard reports of the possibility of Career and Technical Education governance being moved out of this agency. He commented that his fear is if this happens, the students would not ever make the college level.

Stephen Riley, representing OmniBus Education Management, displayed posters to commemorate Presidents' Day and African-American History Month and briefly spoke on the issue. He thanked the Board members and the Superintendent for their continued endeavors to try to reshape and restructure American education. He indicated that he regretted that Governor Ryan has reduced the agency's overall operations, and he would try to interact with the Governor regarding trying to provide the agency with additional funding and perhaps additional staff.

Deborah Wolf, as president-elect of the Illinois Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (IAHPERD) and a professor at EIU, indicated that she wanted to substantiate Phil Lawler's comments that the method of delivery in physical education is changing dramatically. She noted that her mission for IAHPERD is to see that our professionals deliver health-related fitness concepts in their own school districts and, as a professor, to see that her students deliver those concepts to their future students.

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Ms. Wolf reported that she had recently visited some of the most committed professionals in all of the schools in the state, and they are doing a wonderful job in the new physical education. She indicated that she had seen preventive medicine at its best in kindergarten all the way through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. She commented that some districts had taken upon themselves to eliminate students choosing to waiver out of physical education even though they qualified to waiver by offering stimulating and motivating programs.

Ms. Wolf, speaking from a university perspective and working with future physical educators, relayed a personal story where students said they never knew that they would be responsible for teaching all of the things and did not know how to do it, because they did not take physical education in high school. She indicated that we need to have the standards that are in place now, and we need to see that they are well-defined and well-documented. She commented that districts need to be held accountable for meeting these standards. Ms. Wolf offered her assistance in any way that she could.

Susan Shea, representing IEA, thanked the Board for its concern and the seriousness which it is approaching the physical education waivers issue. She also thanked the Board for the rules on waivers, stating that a district must have a public hearing, attach the copy of that public notice, and a brief summary of what occurred. She noted that they would be helping the Board support those rule changes.

Dr. Shea brought to Mrs. McConachie's and Mrs. Roger's attention that currently a teacher cannot get any credit for online CD completion of an activity. (These are the two Board representatives on the committee that juries the kinds of credit that a teacher can get for professional development.) She indicated that this is a problem, because if any university would offer an online course that it has juryed and decided is worth 3 semester hours, the teacher would get credit for taking the course. She commented that however, if they do it in the course of a workshop, at a conference, or independently, there is nothing that is in the manual under Appendix D.

Dr. Shea noted that she is the director of educational policy and agency relations, and she wanted the Board to know that she is not keen on chasing the Board's programs to a lot of other agencies (which has been proposed).

Dr. Shea reported that earlier in the day, the Superintendent gave a presentation to the education committee on Corey H., and she wanted to clear up one thing. She indicated that three or four months ago, the Certification Board voted on the standards, and the five IEA members present did not vote in support of them. She noted that the standards still went forward, because most issues are by majority rule. Dr. Shea asked the Superintendent not to report that the IEA supported the standards, because they did not. She noted that on their own, they are fine, but

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the Board took each of those and put them together. She commented that the reason the IEA did not support them is because the Board dumped them all in one "LBS I" -- it is when one teacher is expected to be able to handle all those things, that is what is wrong with them.

Superintendent M<sup>C</sup>Gee indicated that he was referring to a conversation between Dr. Shea, Ms. Davis, and Mr. Roth in his office, and he had a different understanding about what she had said regarding the standards. He noted that he was trying to communicate that there is nothing wrong with the standards, and if he miscommunicated, he was in error. He commented that now we understand the distinction.

Mrs. McConachie asked Dr. Shea to define in writing for the Board the issue with technology-based professional development and CPDU's -- to distinguish what is possible and what is not possible. She noted that if this is an oversight as the rules were drawn up, then the issue needs to be addressed.

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

Spec. Ed. Certification The Vice Chair called for Agenda Item C.1., Immediate Action Items, Special Education Certification Rules.

Superintendent M<sup>C</sup>Gee reported that on February 21, General Counsel Res Vazquez and staff members Lou Ann Reichle and Sally Vogl provided an update on the status of the certification rules for special education teacher certification. He noted that they discussed the draft rules to transition from the current system of certification to the new system with emphasis on the effect of the requirements on current teachers. He indicated that approval has been requested to hold public hearings to seek input, and all actions based on public comment would be taken in consultation with the court overseeing the Corey H. settlement agreement. The Superintendent commented that as he mentioned on February 21 and again earlier that day to the education committee, we did request that of Judge Gettleman, and we hoped that the Judge would respond very shortly and allow the public hearings on these proposed rules.

Superintendent M<sup>C</sup>Gee reported that at the request of the Board, he asked staff to develop a visual (graphic) depiction of the process for current teachers of special education. He recommended that the Board authorize the distribution of these draft rules for comment.

Motion Mrs. Rogers moved that "the Illinois State Board of Education hereby authorizes the Superintendent to distribute the proposed transition rules to implement the new special education certification structure for public comment."

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Ms. Branch 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	Mrs. Rogers - yes	Dr. Steiner - yes
Mrs. McConachie - yes	Mr. Serritella - yes	Mrs. Turkal - yes

P.E. Waiver

The Vice Chair called for Agenda Item C.2., Immediate Action Items, P. E. Waiver Policy.

Vice Chair McConachie distributed copies of a revised policy statement on the physical education waiver and three actions that the Board is requested to take. She reported that in discussing this issue at the break in between meetings, her recommendation is that the Board talk about the policy statement but not try to take action on it at this meeting. She indicated that the Board needs to discuss this issue further; the staff needs to think through the implications; and the policy statement itself needs some editing. Mrs. McConachie noted that the Board may be able to take action on two of the action items. She commented that she thought the staff needed to hear what the Board members' concerns are, so they can use those in further consideration of what the policy statement should say. She asked the Superintendent to read the following policy statement.

"The Illinois Learning Standards for Physical Development and Health define the knowledge and skills that students need to achieve in this area, including the attainment and maintenance over time of an appropriate level of physical fitness. To support student achievement of these Standards, school districts should be expected to provide learning opportunities that are aligned to the Standards and they should be held accountable for learning results.

If a district wants to waive the law in this learning area, that district should provide evidence that its students have and will continue to have learning opportunities that will allow them to acquire the designated knowledge and skills. If a district is given a waiver for physical education, it should be for a limited time (no more than two years) and any request for its renewal should be accompanied by evidence that the district's students continue to meet the Standards."

Discussion followed for Board members' input on the policy statement.

Mrs. McConachie repeated the question that Dr. Steiner asked on February 21, "Does this mean that there will be almost no P.E. waivers granted by the Board, and if we were to do that, she thought the Board needed to hear from the



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Superintendent and staff what the implications are. She noted that that was the way the discussion was going, but the Board needs to know what that means.

Mr. Serritella indicated that he thought we were getting to the position that he had hoped we would be in where we do serve some leadership in this particularly critical area while recognizing that standards and achieving the standards are our preeminent baseline for measurement. He noted that he would like to go back and look at -- for a local district, what would be the implications for them in being able to establish the baseline data and the benchmarks and being able to demonstrate that they were somehow in compliance with what we are setting forth here -- in other words, what the real impact is in getting to this bigger position. He commented that he felt that the Board has taken a good, strong step forward in providing leadership by supporting the importance of this particular set of standards.

Mrs. McConachie indicated that that was a good question -- what are the implications for a local district that wants to meet the criteria to have the standard waived. She commented that she hoped we would look at what the impact is on individual students who use the P.E. waiver to take additional academic courses, especially in those districts that have short days and do not allow enough periods for students to meet all of their learning needs. Mrs. McConachie noted that we regard this as a basic learning need. She hoped that the Board would look on this as a precedent for addressing fine arts standards where we have not begun yet, and those advocates have not yet arrived -- that is the next area into which we need to move.

Vice Chair McConachie asked the Board to look at the first two recommended actions that she thought the Board could act on.

### Motion

Ms. Branch moved that "the State Board directs staff to take the following actions:

1. Work with the Illinois Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (IAHPERD); the American Heart Association; the Management Alliance; teacher associations and other interested organizations to support and assist school districts' abilities to provide learning opportunities that are aligned with the Physical Development and Health Standards; and
2. Support improved assessment and reporting of student achievement in relation to the Physical Health and Development Standards."

Mrs. Turkal seconded the motion. In response to Mrs. Rogers inquiry for the need for this motion, the Vice Chair indicated that the Board was asked to make this a strong directive to ensure that it moved ahead.

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Superintendent M<sup>C</sup>Gee commented that he was comfortable with that, and he pointed out that improved assessment reporting is at both state and local levels. He noted that the emphasis is on local reporting which in many ways can be equally, if not more, important than state reporting.

### Vote on Motion

The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

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

### Waiver Rules

The Vice Chair called for Agenda Item C.3., Immediate Action Items, Waiver Rules.

Superintendent M<sup>C</sup>Gee reported that rules changes are proposed that would require districts to submit, as part of their waiver requests, a copy of the hearing notices provided to the public and their collective bargaining agents. He indicated that this would serve as a threshold for ISBE consideration of the request. The Superintendent noted that in addition, the rules changes would require districts to provide a description of its public hearing and the nature of the testimony. He reported that this information would provide a background about the request.

Superintendent M<sup>C</sup>Gee reported that the rule change results from concerns raised about the extent to which local districts are observing the requirement for public hearings regarding waivers. He recommended that the Board authorize the distribution of the draft rule amendments and their publication in the *Illinois Register* for public comment.

### Motion

Mrs. Turkal moved that "the Illinois State Board of Education hereby authorizes the Superintendent to distribute the proposed amendments to the waiver rules (Part 1 - Public Schools Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision) and their publication in the *Illinois Register* for public comment."

Dr. Steiner seconded the motion.

### Vote on Motion

The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

### Supt.'s Travel

The Vice Chair called for Agenda Item C.4., Immediate Action Items, Superintendent Travel Expenditures.

Mrs. Rogers reported that she had reviewed the Superintendent's travel expenditures in detail, and they were all in order.

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Motion Mrs. Rogers moved that "the Illinois State Board of Education hereby approves the Superintendent's quarterly travel expenditures."

Dr. Steiner 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	Mrs. Rogers - yes	Dr. Steiner - yes
Mrs. McConachie - yes	Mr. Serritella - yes	Mrs. Turkal - yes

Chair The Vice Chair called for Agenda Item D.1., Announcements and Reports, Chair.

Vice Chair McConachie announced that the next Board meeting would be March 21-22 in Springfield.

Mrs. McConachie reported that she and Mrs. Rogers would be attending the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Legislative Conference and committee meetings. She indicated that she would also be chairing a study group on e-learning and the implications for state policy action. She noted that Deputy Superintendent Mary Jayne Broncato would be joining her as a part of an expert panel on how all the e-learning issues come together in the virtual high schools, and the study group would develop a report on policies that state boards of education need to adopt.

Supt. The Vice Chair called for Agenda Item D.2., Announcements and Reports, Superintendent.

Superintendent McGee called the Board members' attention to Gail Lieberman's (Director of the Federal Relations Office) report in the Board packet and indicated that it is a terrific report as usual. He expressed appreciation for how she summarizes President Bush's agenda, and he noted that there would be some policy discussions at the staff level about various elements of that agenda. He commented that Ms. Lieberman had done a good job of driving those discussions, and the thoughts would be shared with the Board.

The Superintendent reported that in the newspaper last week, it said that Judy Biggert (a member of Illinois' congressional delegation) is on the education committee; this is the first time in some time that we have had someone on that committee. He indicated that a bill was put out regarding homeless education, and it cites Illinois as the number one state in providing for the educational needs of homeless children.

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Superintendent M<sup>C</sup>Gee indicated that regarding Corey H., as he said to the education committee earlier that day, we have draft rules for the transition from the current categorical certification system to a system which has a cross-categorical certificate (the LBS I) that the Board just approved. He reported the following.

- We are asking the Judge to allow us to have an opportunity to collect public comment, and we are working on scheduling six meetings around the state.
- We will do a good job of publicizing those meetings and preparing materials provided we can go ahead.
- We are staying out of the way of any potential conflict between JCAR and Judge Gettleman. Judge Gettleman has not yet issued a ruling on how he reacted to JCAR's suspension of the rules. We are not debating JCAR's ability to suspend those rules. The Judge and JCAR will do what they need to do, and we will continue to look out for the best interest of the students.

The Superintendent commented that in the spirit of continuous improvement, we heard a couple of comments earlier in the meeting about the headcount reduction plan. He indicated that we would have specifics before the next Board meeting, but he did say that the State Board is committed to continuing customer service and customer improvement. He reported that we recently received several responses to an RFP that was part of the plan that was launched last June 1.

Superintendent McGee noted that the RFP is to collect data related to how we are doing at meeting and understanding districts' needs and exceeding their needs for customer service. He indicated that we are very excited about working on this and working with our stakeholders to develop the system. He reported that we are interested in having a survey based on Baldrige criteria that looks at leadership, at articulation of our mission, and at how we do at implementing our specific mission and our priorities.

The Superintendent commented that he thought we are doing a good job of responding cordially and courteously and of articulating our mission. He reported that the survey would also ask about how we involve our stakeholders, and he thought that we need to do a better job of understanding what the needs of our member districts are.

Superintendent M<sup>C</sup>Gee indicated that one of the themes from the morning education committee meeting was "we are all in this together" -- it is not just the state education agency, the IEA, the General Assembly, the management alliance, or the Governor's Office. He noted that if we are going to make a difference in the lives of students, we are going to have to work together and share a common agenda, vision, and commitment to improving the lives of our 2,000,000 students. He commented that we want to get data back this spring, so as we move into our summer strategic work sessions, we have some good data to inform activities.

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

- Nona Myers - for the support at a planning retreat on a Saturday in Iowa.
- Teleconference staff -- for the conference by staff at DuPage ROE who participated in a V-tel conference at the Chicago office
- Reading staff -- for the excellent example of the reading kits from other superintendents of public instruction from California and Indiana
- Craig Rechner and Debby Vespa -- for auditors passing their CCSBO exam
- Tammy Rust -- for internal auditor passing a significant professional exam
- Child Nutrition - for being openly helpful to the Glen Ellyn School District
- Sonny Distel and auditors -- Carpentersville School District applauded their efforts
- Auditors -- for the positive experiences with retiring Cook County superintendent
- Grants management staff (Carolyn Huff, Kayleen Irizarry, and Albert Holmes) -- for grant work with Burbank School District #11
- Gwen Pollock -- for building a presence for science launch, a national program that we heard about earlier
- Gary Ey -- for visit to Kirby School District and honest and forthright dialogue and latest developments in school finance
- Mary Hill and external review team -- for visit at Thurgood Marshall Elementary School in Bellwood
- Boyd Ferguson -- for visit at Reagan Middle School in Dixon

Committees The Vice Chair called for Agenda Item D.3., Announcements and Reports, Committees.

Mrs. McConachie indicated that Kathy Nicholson-Tosh (Director of Board Services Office) has requested that the Board Operations Committee meet jointly with the Strategic Planning Committee in the coming month for the purpose of redesigning the Board's agendas. She commented that we would be seeking to align the Board's work with the continuous improvement model that the agency has adopted. She noted that she hoped every one would be able to make themselves available during the month for that meeting, and Ms. Nicholson-Tosh would schedule it.

Mrs. Rogers, chair of the Board Operations Committee, reported that she, Mrs. McConachie, the Superintendent, and Ms. Nicholson-Tosh are to meet to begin preparation for the Board's Annual Work Conference in June. She noted that she would take that back to the Board Operations Committee at that point.

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Members The Vice Chair called for Agenda Item D.4., Announcements and Reports, Members.

Mrs. Rogers commented on the highlights of the congressional visits during the upcoming NASBE Legislative Conference. She would also be participating in the NASBE Governmental Affairs Committee.

Ms. Branch would also be going to Washington to participate in the NASBE study group -- 2001 Changing Face of America's School Children.

Adjournment The Vice Chair adjourned the meeting at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Connie Rogers, Secretary

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Marilyn McConachie, Vice Chair