



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
4th Floor Board Room

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND AGENDA May 17-18, 2001

THURSDAY, May 17

Noon **WORK-STUDY SESSION I**

ISBE

Board Room - 4th Floor

- A. Student Advisory Council Report and Luncheon (1:00 p.m.)
 - o Cover
 - o Student Advisory Council 2000-2001
- B. Career-Technical Education Challenge Task Force
 - o Cover
 - o Career and Technical Education Challenge Task Force 2001
- C. Educator Standards
 - o Cover
 - o Middle Level School
 - o School Service Personnel/Directors of Special Education
- D. Special Education Due Process Plan
 - o Cover
 - o Study of the Illinois Due Process Procedures: Improvement Strategies
- E. Strategic Planning Committee/June Work Conference

4:30 **CLOSED MEETING**

Superintendent's Conference Room

4th Floor

6:00 p.m. **ISBE/IASB Dinner**

Board Room

4th Floor

FRIDAY, May 18

8:00 a.m. **WORK-STUDY SESSION I**

ISBE

Board Room - 4th Floor

- A. Assessment System Update
 - o Cover
- B. Early Learning
 - o Cover
 - o Universal Preschool National Trends, State Programs, and Implications for Illinois
- C. Board Priority Reports
 - o Board Priority Accomplishments-May
- D. Federal Relations

- o Cover
- o Washington Education News, May 7, 2001

**10:45
a.m. ****

PLENARY SESSION

ISBE

Board Room - 4th Floor

- A. **Approval of Minutes: April 18-19 and April 30, 2001**
 - o MINUTES OF THE CLOSED MEETING (April 18, 2001)
 - o MINUTES OF WORK-STUDY SESSION I MEETING (April 18, 2001)
 - o MINUTES OF WORK-STUDY SESSION II MEETING (April 19, 2001)
 - o MINUTES OF THE PLENARY SESSION MEETING (April 19 , 2001)
 - o MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
- B. Public Participation
- C. Immediate Action Items
 - 1. Qualified Zone Academy Bond (QZAB)
 - Cover
 - 2. Part 1 Rule Amendments: Waivers and Modifications
 - Cover
 - Rules
 - 3. UIC-The Golden Apple Foundation: Proposal for Alternative Teacher Certification Program
 - Cover
 - Alternative Certification Program Proposal-Staff Analysis, May 2001
- D. Announcements and Reports
 - 1. Chairman
 - 2. Superintendent
 - 3. Committees
 - 4. Members
- E. Adjourn

Noon

LUNCH

ISBE

Superintendent's Conference Room - 4th Floor

OTHER INFORMATION

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

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
Springfield, Illinois
May 17-18, 2001

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ronald J. Gidwitz
Marjorie B. Branch

Marilyn McConachie
Vincent J. Serritella

Janet Steiner
Beverly Turkal

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Connie Rogers

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order on May 17 at 12:05 p.m. by the Chairman, Mr. Gidwitz, who asked Dr. Steiner to act as Secretary pro tem in Mrs. Rogers' absence. The roll call of members was taken later in the meeting. There was not a quorum at this time. (Mr. Serritella joined the meeting at 12:25 p.m., Superintendent McGee at 12:35 p.m., and Mrs. McConachie at 12:50 p.m.)

Chairman Gidwitz indicated that Mrs. Rogers was not able to attend the meeting this month. He noted that the Superintendent was at the Capitol and would be joining the meeting shortly.

Student
Advisory
Council

The Chairman called for Agenda Item A., Student Advisory Council Report and Luncheon.

Chairman Gidwitz reported that the Student Advisory Council (SAC) would be sharing their activities of this past year. He indicated that during the past two years, the SAC has been involved with school safety and has focused on this topic through the production of a school safety audit last year and piloting the audit this year. The Chairman noted that the Board would hear from the SAC and discuss their recommendations and activities during a late lunch. He commented that the Board plans to further address their report and recommendations during the June or August meeting.

Chairman Gidwitz introduced Marilyn Holt and Mike Kotner, the SAC advisors from the State Board staff. The SAC introduced themselves individually (see Addendum II for membership list).

The SAC members provided an update and status report on the school safety activity, as well as recommendations for dissemination of the audit, and they also

provided a report on their preparation to serve as spokespersons on two additional issues of teacher quality and school funding. In addition, student recommendations for future SAC activities and Board and staff action were shared.

School Safety Audit -- The SAC gave four suggestions to the State Board.

1. The State Board should formally endorse the student/school safety audit and encourage schools to consider implementing it.
2. The Board should send the audit to all schools.
3. There should be some training for student/school safety teams on strategies for implementing the audit and safety initiatives that might follow.
4. There should be some technical assistance and funding available to student/school safety teams that get involved with the audit to help insure its success.

Global Education -- Proposed Social Studies State Goal 19:

Understand how the different social, economic, and political systems of the world function as a whole in today's interconnected global society.

This goal aims to cultivate in students a sense of belonging to the newly emerging global community. In order to be successful, this community needs its members to appreciate each other's cultural differences. The respect will best come from an education with a strong global perspective.

LEARNING STANDARDS

Social Systems:

Understand the nature and evolution of different societies with diverse cultures and their interactions with one another over time.

Economic Systems:

Understand the interdependence of economic systems that forms the global economy.

Political Systems:

Understand different political systems around the world are designed to suit their respective societies, yet come together to interact on the global stage.

(Mr. Serritella joined the meeting -- 12:25 p.m.)

Teacher Quality -- Following are conclusions of a student survey on becoming teachers.

1. Improving teacher salaries is critical to attracting young people into teaching.
2. The issue of teachers as negative models for teaching and learning must be addressed. No other profession is as visible to students as teaching, and no other professionals have comparable opportunities to influence what students think about their profession.

SAC members also identified "best teacher" qualities.

School Funding -- The SAC visited two schools in southernmost Illinois to gain perspective on educational opportunities in Illinois. They also attended a workshop in school funding and completed a structured interview with their local school administrators and teachers about the impact school funding issues have on their respective schools. SAC members are prepared to speak about school funding and educational opportunity issues on behalf of the Board.

(The Superintendent joined the meeting -- 12:35 p.m.)

The SAC provided comments on the advisory issues of teacher preparation, the high school experience, the Japan trip, and the Prairie State Achievement Exam.

(Mrs. McConachie joined the meeting -- 12:50 p.m.)

Chairman Gidwitz expressed appreciation on behalf of the Board to the SAC members for the presentation and for the time they invested all year. He indicated that the Board would find some ways that will make the SAC's time spent next year at least as productive, if not more so, as a learning experience and as well to help the Board accomplish some goals it has outlined.

Superintendent M^CGee thanked the SAC for the comprehensive overview of their activity. He recommended that the Board take this report into consideration for future action relating to the role of students in promoting school safety and the dissemination of the school safety audit as well as teacher quality. He also recommended that the Board continue to support and endorse the work of the SAC on the student school safety audit and student involvement in facilitating a safe school environment, teacher quality, equitable educational opportunities, and school funding, as well as other Board priorities.

Chairman Gidwitz and Superintendent M^CGee presented certificates to the graduating seniors of the SAC.

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

The meeting recessed for lunch at 1:10 p.m. and reconvened at 2:00 p.m. Chairman Gidwitz asked Judy Carmody, the staff secretary to the Board, to call the roll. Mrs. Carmody called the roll of members. A quorum was present.

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and CLOSED MEETING

May 17-18, 2001

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Career-
Technical
Education

The Chairman called for Agenda Item B., Career-Technical Education Challenge Task Force.

Chairman Gidwitz indicated that members of the CTE Task Force would be providing recommendations for repositioning career and technical education to support the Illinois Learning Standards. He noted that the Board had a preliminary discussion in January.

Superintendent M^CGee reported that the Career and Technical Education Task Force had been meeting for over a year, and at this meeting, they will present their final report which includes recommendations related to equity and access, standards-based instruction and assessment, teacher preparation, curriculum and instruction, accountability, and governance. He asked Deputy Superintendent Diana Robinson and Virginia McMillan of the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) staff to introduce the Task Force members and the report. He noted that Ms. Robinson and Ms. McMillan had partnered in working with the Task Force.

Mike Skarr, President & CEO of the Naperville Area Chamber of Commerce; Kathy Cihlar, Principal of Midwest Central High School; and Ed Schwarze, from the Human Resource Department of Caterpillar, Inc., commented on the Task Force's final report and recommendations.

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input.

After discussing the report with members of the Task Force, the Board asked them to consider "re-upping" for additional deliberations. Noting the importance and complexity of the recommendations, the Board members indicated that the next steps should engage Board members in the process and lead to a resolution of issues raised during these deliberations. Plans for these continued discussions would be developed by staff in consultation with the Board and the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB), which has been a partner in this project.

Ms. McMillan thanked the Board for joining the ICCB in this effort and also thanked the Task Force members.

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

The meeting recessed at 3:05 p.m. and reconvened at 3:20 p.m.

Educator
Standards

The Chairman called for Agenda Item C., Educator Standards: Middle Level Education, School Service Personnel, and Directors of Special Education.

Mrs. McConachie took over as chair of the meeting in Mr. Gidwitz's absence. The Superintendent was also out of the room at this time.

Vice Chair McConachie indicated that this agenda item would cover recommendations on standards for middle level teachers, school service personnel, and special education directors. She reported that the Board first addressed middle level standards during its December meeting, and she believed this was the first time we had specifically addressed recommendations regarding the certificate structure and standards for special education directors and school service personnel.

Mrs. McConachie noted that the educator standards are a critical piece in the implementation of a standards-led system of education, and a thorough overview of the current requirements and panel recommendations were provided in the Board materials. She indicated that at this meeting, the standards are presented for comment and direction from the Board members. She reported that unique features of the suggested standards and structure, as well as timelines for completion, would be discussed.

Vice Chair McConachie commented that as indicated in the Board materials, it is planned to share the final sets of these standards no later than January 2002 to be effective no later than July 2004.

(The Superintendent returned to the meeting at 3:25 p.m.)

Division Administrator Mike Long provided a power-point presentation (see Addendum III).

(The Chairman returned to the meeting at 3:35 p.m.)

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input. Deb Curtis from Illinois State University assisted in responding to questions.

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

Special Ed. The Chairman called for Agenda Item D., Special Education Due Process
Due Process Plan.

Chairman Gidwitz indicated that in February, a study of the Illinois Due Process procedures was presented to the Board, and at that time, a progress report was requested by the Board on the implementation of the improvement strategies.

Superintendent M^CGee reported that in February, significant data was provided regarding due process. He noted that these data indicated that of 109 cases heard between June 1999 and November 2000 all were resolved within seven hearing days with the exception of one case of 19 days.

The Superintendent indicated that in keeping with continuous improvement, the progress report that was included in the Board materials as an information item identifies significant improvements in the procedures to increase process effectiveness and efficiency. He noted that some of these include:

- The addition of a parent liaison to coordinate parent training and technical assistance as well as oversee Illinois' new parent training and partnerships project;
- Increased training for hearing officers on due process case management;
- Identification and investigation of possible statute and regulatory changes; and
- Development of training for school personnel and parents on pre-hearing and hearing strategies.

Superintendent M^CGee introduced the following staff who assisted in responding to Board members' questions: Chris Koch, Acting Deputy Superintendent of Special Education, and Division Administrator Jack Shook.

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

June Work Conference The Chairman called for Agenda Item E., Strategic Planning Committee/June Work Conference.

Mrs. McConachie, chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, highlighted the activities of the Committee and shared a draft Work Conference agenda with the Board members, as well as requested input.

The Superintendent provided an update on activity regarding performance information and data gathering in preparation for the June Work Conference.

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input.

Closed Meeting

The Chairman asked for a motion for the Board to go into a closed meeting.

Motion

Dr. Steiner moved that "the State Board of Education go into a closed meeting on May 17 at approximately 4:30 p.m. 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."

Mrs. Turkal 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

Mrs. McConachie - yes

Dr. Steiner - yes

Mr. Gidwitz - yes

Mr. Serritella - yes

Mrs. Turkal - yes

Chairman Gidwitz indicated that if the Board members did not mind, it has been requested to switch the first two topics on May 18's Work Study Session agenda: begin with Early Learning followed by Assessment. There were no concerns regarding this change expressed by Board members.

The Board members went into a closed meeting at 4:35 p.m. and recessed for dinner at 6:00 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 9:00 p.m. and recessed for the day at 10:00 p.m.

On May 18, the closed meeting reconvened at 7:30 a.m.

Adjournment The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Steiner, Secretary pro tem

Ronald J. Gidwitz, Chairman

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

State Board of Education Office
Springfield, Illinois
May 18, 2001

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ronald J. Gidwitz
Marjorie B. Branch

Marilyn McConachie
Vincent J. Serritella

Janet Steiner
Beverly Turkal

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Connie Rogers

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 9:40 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 Mrs. Rogers was not able to attend the meeting this month.

Assessment System

The Chairman called for Agenda Item A., Assessment System Update. This item was deferred until a later meeting.

Federal Relations

The Chairman called for Agenda Item D., Federal Relations.

Gail Lieberman, Director of the Federal Relations Office, provided an update on federal relations issues (see Addendum II).

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input.

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

Early Learning

The Chairman called for Agenda Item B., Early Learning.

Superintendent M^CGee indicated that significant progress has been made in this Board priority area. He reported that with the formation of the Governor's Task Force for Universal Preschool, we anticipate an expanded focus and discussion on this priority area over the next year as policy considerations spring forth from the work of the Task Force and are brought to the Board. He asked the Board to share insights and endorse the work of agency staff on issues surrounding early learning.

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The Superintendent thanked Linda Housewright, a teacher at Dallas City, for her testimony at the Capitol.

Division Administrator Kay Henderson and Ms. Housewright provided an update on the progress and future plans regarding the expansion of Early Learning programs (see Addendum III).

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input.

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

Priority
Reports

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

The Superintendent indicated that he would provide the Board members the rest of his remarks for the Priority Reports at a later time.

Adjournment The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Steiner, Secretary pro tem

Ronald J. Gidwitz, Chairman

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

State Board of Education Office
Springfield, Illinois
May 18, 2001

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ronald J. Gidwitz
Marjorie B. Branch

Marilyn McConachie
Janet Steiner

Beverly Turkal

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Connie Rogers, Vincent J. Serritella

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by the Chairman, Mr. Gidwitz. Chairman Gidwitz asked Dr. Steiner to act as Secretary pro tem in Mrs. Rogers' absence. He 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 Ms. Rogers was unable to attend the Board meeting this month, and Mr. Serritella had to leave earlier in the day to attend a business meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Dr. Steiner moved that "the State Board of Education hereby approves the minutes of the April 18-19 Board meeting and the Special Board meeting of April 30, 2001." The motion was seconded by Mrs. McConachie, and it was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Public Participation

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

Laura Arterburn, representing the IFT, called the Board members' attention to a few concerns regarding the middle school standards, the content areas, and clinical experiences.

- Page 1-44, where it states that it is the intention of the panel that teachers earning certificate endorsements prior to the implementation date of the new certificate and that they be grandfathered in -- They thought it would probably be beneficial if we could qualify that by saying that those teachers currently certified but not necessarily teaching middle grades would also be grandfathered in -- not just take those who are currently teaching. She was not sure that was clear in the language, but by doing that, we would end up with more teachers certified. The Chairman commented that we should not have a problem with this.
- Page 1-46, where it states that middle grade teachers be prepared in one subject area to be certified at the middle level but strongly recommend preparation at least in two subject areas -- They have no problem with that, but

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they thought that the State Board needs to designate the number of credit hours that might be necessary. They also thought this may be helpful for teachers who plan to do this in terms of recertification, etc., so if the wording could be a little more specific, it may be beneficial.

Superintendent M^CGee responded that we are trying to move away from the credit hours to the standard-based, so he would consult with staff on this issue.

Ms. Arterburn commented that even if it is standards, they are going to be given in coursework and materials, and their view is to let them know exactly what they are going to have to do for this recertification or to pick up the option. She indicated that there is the same thing on the next page where it talks about appropriate preparation in the teaching of reading. She asked what is appropriate preparation -- is there a specific number of hours or is it a whole regiment of coursework. She asked if we could be a little more specific on what that is.

- Page 1-49, where it states it is strongly recommended that teacher preparation programs should engage students in early and continuous experiences in the middle-level classrooms throughout the teacher preparation sequence, and teachers should be required to complete student teaching in grades five through nine -- They have no problem with that, but they strongly suggested that the State Board have a program for dual certification as well in the teacher preparation programs. This is going to give not only the teacher but a district as well greater options.

The Chairman indicated that he wanted to make sure that the record is delivered to the person who receives the comments. The Superintendent responded that they would be.

Ms. Arterburn noted that concerning the Golden Apple Program which the Board would be voting on later in the meeting, she reminded the State Board that approval is going against what the State Teacher Certification Board voted. She commented that they did not wish to approve it, and part of their reasoning was that this was a K-9 certification program. She indicated that it is a pilot program, and they understood that it is only for 20 people. Ms. Arterburn reported that it is also only an eight-week program in the summer for people who may be fresh out of college with absolutely no educational background or training; it is a self-contained program; and sometimes it is only a three-hour day. She noted that it is a school that currently yields among the lowest scores in the City, and it is also one that is probably one of the most underachieving. She commented that she wondered why we would not want to bring in better trained people, and why we would want to use those students in particular as a pilot program is difficult to understand.

The Chairman noted that he was sure the Superintendent would share his reasoning when we get to that point on the agenda.

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Ms. Arterburn indicated that when the issue came up for the middle school certification and the other service personnel, service personnel are not in a classroom directly, but they deal with students every day and in every way. She commented that to say that their certification requirements need to be less rigorous they thought is harmful to students, and they thought that all certification levels need to be rigorous. Ms. Arterburn noted that they agree we do need to draw more teachers, and there is a shortage -- but there are other simple solutions rather than reducing the amount of training and preparation that the people who are working with the students have.

The Chairman responded that he thought the intention was to say that the appropriate training needs to be delivered to all levels of personnel irrespective -- but appropriate level.

David Farache, coordinator for Metro-East Education to Careers Partnership, indicated that he represented a transition partnership in East St. Louis, and representatives from the Special Education division of East St. Louis School District #189 and Goodwill Industries were also with him. He reported that Transition is the program that works with the special education students as they near the end of their high school career to transition them successfully into the community with employment and an independent lifestyle as much as possible. He provided background information on the partnerships and distributed information on this issue.

Mr. Farache indicated that the funding for the transition partnerships is coming to an end in June, and it was done under a pilot program. He asked the Board to continue supporting the project and to look into spreading it to other communities throughout the state. He commented that they felt that the benefits to those students with special needs are tremendous. He noted that they are able to go out and live their own lives, not necessarily need to be supported by state and federal funding for the remainder of their lives, and can contribute to their community and their society.

Mr. Farache reported that in East St. Louis, Education to Careers (ETC) has taken a strong role with the transition partnership in an effort to bring employers into the picture to give work experiences to the students for those initial jobs just like any other high school student. He noted that that is the first step towards their personal independence.

Mr. Farache agreed to help determine where the resources could come from.

Superintendent M^CGee expressed appreciation to Mr. Farache for his hard work, success, and dedication. He indicated that he could contact Deputy Superintendent Mary Jayne Broncato who deals with that grant, so she can follow up.

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Stephen Riley, on behalf of Omnibus Educational Management, commented that his topic would be the greatness of the American community, and he introduced his administrative aide, Douglas Hope. He distributed posters for Board members to view. He reported that since last November, he had been engaging the American community in a specific inquiry, "How would you define greatness in the American community." He noted that "community" includes the legislature, the education community and other aspects of the American community -- churches, hospitals, nursing homes, youth centers, libraries, and museums.

Mr. Riley indicated that he had been busy the last eight weeks with the General Assembly. He reported that they had recently provided him with some emergency funding, and he had also submitted a proposal to them regarding the kinds of concerns that the American community has omitted or overlooked regarding his agency. He commented that in the proposal that the Board members had before them that was directed to members of the General Assembly, he had specifically outlined just how his historical and contemporary quest for American justice might be best served regarding him and his agency.

As Mr. Riley completed his presentation, he asked the Board members to remember his desire to escort 25 at-risk, primary grade students around the nation to outstanding academic locations, and he was also trying to complete his book.

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

QZAB

The Chairman called for Agenda Item C.1., Immediate Action Items, Qualified Zone Academy Bond (QZAB).

Superintendent M^CGee reported that the Qualified Zone Academy Bond Program provides some financial assistance to repair public school facilities or repair equipment. He indicated that each year an allocation is made to Illinois, and this year, the allocation is \$13,905,000. He congratulated Deputy Superintendent Gary Ey and Division Administrator Nona Myers for getting the news out to the local districts.

The Superintendent asked that the Board approve allocations for four school districts -- Aurora West, Champaign, Chicago Public Schools, and DeKalb. He noted that these districts are the only qualified districts requesting authorization at this time. He indicated that following approval of these applications, \$5,500,000 would remain for the calendar year, and agency staff would continue to assist districts in meeting QZAB qualification requirements.

Motion

Mrs. McConachie moved that "the State Board of Education hereby approves the following applications for Qualified Zone Academy Bond Credit for the calendar year of 2001.

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Aurora West Unit School District #12 (Kane County) - \$2,000,000
Champaign Community Unit School District #4 (Champaign County) - \$1,964,885
Chicago Public Schools District #299 (Cook County) - \$3,940,115
DeKalb Community Unit District #428 (DeKalb County) - \$500,000"

Ms. Branch seconded the motion

Discussion followed for clarification purposes, and Mr. Ey and Gail Lieberman, Director of Federal Relations, assisted in responding to Board members' questions.

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

Mrs. McConachie - yes

Mrs. Turkal - yes

Mr. Gidwitz - yes

Dr. Steiner - yes

Waivers & Modifications

The Chairman called for Agenda Item C.2., Immediate Action Items, Part 1 Rule Amendments: Waivers and Modifications.

Superintendent M^CGee reported that the waivers and modifications rule amendments make additional application requirements regarding public hearings and notification of the hearings and respond to recent legislation. He indicated that these rules were published in the *Illinois Register* to elicit public comment, and eight letters were received. He noted that two issues were addressed in these letters: 1) that the additional paperwork was overly burdensome and 2) that the State Board lacks the authority to limit P.E. waivers to one year.

Division Administrator Connie Wise reviewed the public comments that were received and the response.

The Superintendent recommended that the Board adopt the proposed amendments as presented and authorize their publication in the *Illinois Register*.

Motion

Mrs. McConachie moved that "the State Board of Education hereby adopts the proposed rulemaking for: Public Schools Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision (23 Ill. Adm. Code 1). Further, the Board authorizes the State Superintendent of Education to make such technical or nonsubstantive changes as the State Superintendent may deem necessary in response to suggestions or objections of the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules."

Ms. Branch seconded the motion.

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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

Mrs. McConachie - yes

Mrs. Turkal - yes

Mr. Gidwitz - yes

Dr. Steiner - yes

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

UIC Proposal

The Chairman called for Agenda Item C.3., Immediate Action Items, UIC - The Golden Apple Foundation: Proposal for Alternative Teacher Certification Program.

Superintendent M^CGee indicated that as presented in the Board materials, he requested that the Board approve the Alternative Elementary Teacher Certification Program presented by the UIC in partnership with the Golden Apple Foundation and Chicago Public Schools. He reported that the statute requires the State Board to approve a course of study developed by a partnership such as this within 30 days of proposal submission. He noted that staff review and analysis of the program proposal indicates that the program is designed to address a clear need for committed elementary teachers in Chicago Public Schools and meets statutory requirements.

The Superintendent commented that although he greatly respects the debate and diligence of the State Teacher Certification Board, the 10-7 vote shows that there was not uniform agreement or disagreement obviously. He reported that he had reviewed the materials.

Superintendent M^CGee indicated that past experience with the Golden Apple program with Northwestern University proved to be enormously successful. He noted that he was at the Teacher Certification Board meeting when they heard teachers from that program talk about what they have done. He reported that Golden Apple has a sterling track record for preparing teachers and for recognizing quality teachers. The Superintendent commented that the fact that they have built ongoing assessment into this program, the fact that they have built in regular reports back to the Certification Board, and the fact that mentoring and induction play such a significant piece all spoke to him very clearly of a need to approve this program. He indicated that although he understood the IFT's concern with the school they are going into, perhaps this is a school that needs an infusion/injection of new and talented teachers, and maybe then we will see some improvements.

Deputy Superintendent Frank Llano reported that staff reviewed the proposal and believe that it meets the minimum requirements of the law. He noted that the recommendations and suggestions of the State Teacher Certification Board were taken into consideration. He indicated that the law requires that the State Board shall approve the proposal submitted within 30 days of submission.

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Chairman Gidwitz asked if the law gives the Board the option of disapproving it. The Superintendent responded that if it meets the requirement, then we need to approve it.

Division Administrator Mike Long commented that the Golden Apple Foundation and the University of Illinois at Chicago considered some of the criticisms that were raised by the Certification Board at their meeting earlier this month. He reported that they changed their proposal and strengthened it in a couple of areas, most notably reading and reading literacy (an area that some members of the Certification Board felt was not articulated as clearly as it should be). He indicated that we have complete confidence in the University of Illinois at Chicago to deliver a quality program. Mr. Long commented on a similar program that was approved by the Certification Board for the University of Illinois at Chicago at the April meeting.

Chairman Gidwitz asked that the issues raised by Ms. Arterburn be answered. The Superintendent responded that he thought we had addressed reading -- that some changes were made.

Mr. Long indicated that regarding the question of the requirement for five years of experience, he knew that was raised by the Certification Board, but this particular piece of legislation exempts the City of Chicago from the five-year requirement. He noted that candidates to the program do not have to have five years of experience. He commented that at the Certification Board meeting, he thought that Dominic Belmonte, Director of Teacher Preparation for the Golden Apple Foundation, assured the Certification Board members that they look for candidates with experience in given fields, particularly in fields in which the individual has achieved an undergraduate degree.

Mr. Long reported that we recognize that this school has academic problems. He noted that it is a bit unusual that the Certification Board has questioned institutions in the past for not engaging their students in schools that have high need and high diversity but at the same time, in this particular occasion, seem to question the use of this school that has high diversity and high need for this particular program. He indicated that personally, he cannot reconcile the differences, but he thought that the University of Illinois at Chicago and Golden Apple Foundation worked very diligently in identifying a school that this program could address and impact appropriately.

The Chairman asked if a representative from the Golden Apple Foundation would like to comment.

Dominic Belmonte thanked the Chairman and the Board members for considering this proposal. He indicated that their track record that they had established with Northwestern University shows that they have a capable and productive path with teaching for the mid-career adult. He noted that they continue to look forward to

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opportunities to present people of quality who wish to change their careers in midstream to help the children of Chicago.

Superintendent M^CGee said that he respected the deliberations of the Certification Board. He commented that although the Board's legal mandate was clear, he made this recommendation to the Board enthusiastically and in all good conscientiousness, and he was pleased that they are going into one of the more difficult schools. He expressed appreciation for the mentoring, assessment, and ongoing reports of the Certification Board, so he would be glad to keep the Board informed of the progress of this program as well. He asked that the Board approve the alternative certification program.

Motion

Mrs. McConachie moved that "the State Board of Education hereby approves the alternative teacher certification program for elementary teacher certification proposed by the University of Illinois - Chicago in partnership with The Golden Apple Foundation and Chicago Public Schools."

Mrs. Turkal 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 - no
Mr. Gidwitz - yes

Mrs. McConachie - yes
Dr. Steiner - no

Mrs. Turkal - yes

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

Chairman

The Chairman called for Agenda Item D., Announcement and Reports, Chairman.

Chairman Gidwitz reported that the State Board's Annual Work Conference would be held on June 21-23, 2001, in Oak Brook. He indicated that there would be a brief Board meeting at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 21.

Superintendent

The Chairman called for Agenda Item D., Announcements and Reports, Superintendent.

Superintendent M^CGee reported that we continue to get a significant number of letters from the field commending the members of our staff for their fine work and their great customer service. He expressed appreciation to staff for their efforts at last night's dinner with the Board of Directors of the Illinois Association of School Boards. He indicated that it was a great meeting.

The Superintendent reported that the Virtual High School continues to be quite a success. He noted that there are 295 students enrolled, and he interviewed one of the students on television last night. He indicated that the mentoring program is

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working very well, and we have paired each student with an adult mentor in the program. Superintendent McGee reported that Illinois was selected for the site of the Second Annual National Virtual High School Symposium, which is quite an honor. He commented that next year we are looking at including many more courses. He noted that this has gone better than we anticipated.

The Superintendent reported that Mr. Serritella has been working with our Schools Without Walls Program and trying to coordinate the independent contractors and working with Chairman Gidwitz and Chief Technology Officer Lugene Finley. He noted that he thought we had made enormous progress. He indicated that this would be as the early childhood website -- really a preeminent website in the country for tying the museums to the schools and promoting education in a non-traditional manner.

Chairman Gidwitz commented that it was his understanding that we are going to have a revision of the website. He asked if the Board could have a brief demonstration at whatever meeting follows the new website being put up, including some curricula material if possible. The Superintendent responded that that would be done, and we would want to have a separate agenda item on this.

Superintendent McGee reported that we did put up on the website a chance for all superintendents, principals, and test supervisors in schools where the PSAE was administered to comment on the Prairie State Survey. He indicated that the responses are due at the end of the day today, and as of ten minutes ago, we had 154 superintendents respond and 346 test supervisors (out of 650 total).

Committees The Chairman called for the Agenda Item D., Announcements and Reports, Committees. There was nothing further to report.

Members The Chairman called for Agenda Item D., Announcements and Reports, Members. There was nothing further to report.

Adjournment The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Steiner, Secretary pro tem

Ronald J. Gidwitz, Chairman