



Illinois State Board of Education

Glenn W. McGee, State Superintendent Ronald J. Gidwitz, Board Chairman

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION*

State Board of Education Offices
Fourth Floor Board Room
100 North First Street
Springfield, Illinois 62777
(217) 782-2223

SCHEDULE AND AGENDA OF MEETINGS October 17-18, 2001

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WEDNESDAY, October 17

11:00 a.m. ILLINOIS STATE BOARD MEETING

Call to Order/Roll Call

Strategic Planning: Goals and Measures

- [Cover](#)
- [Vision, Mission, Goals, and Measures](#)

11:45 a.m. LUNCH

Superintendent's Conference Room - 4th Floor

12:45 p.m. RECONVENE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Academic Warning List

- [Cover](#)
- [Rules](#)

Budget/School Funding

- [Cover](#)
- [Illinois School Funding 2001](#)

2:30 p.m. BREAK

2:45 p.m. RECONVENE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

MEETING

FAAS Report Card

- [Cover](#)
- [Exhibit B - Districts on Financial Watch List \(School Years 1987-88 through 1999\)](#)
- [Exhibit C - Referenda Summaries \(1997 - April 2001\)](#)
- [FAAS Tables](#)
- [Financial Report Card System \(Proposal\)](#)

Standard Examination Advisory Committee

- [Cover](#)
- [Final Report of the Standard Examination Advisory Committee \(SEAC\) to the State Superintendent](#)
- [Standard Examination Advisory Committee \(SEAC\)](#)
- [Process by Which Initial Teaching Certificate-holders Earn Their Standard Teaching Certificate](#)
- [Plan B-Standard Teaching Certificate Portfolio Assessment Outline](#)
- [Plan B-Standard Teaching Certificate Assessment Implementation Plan](#)
- [Plan B-Beginning Teacher Support and Standard Teaching Certificate Assessment Plan](#)
- [Standard Teaching Certificate Assessment Proposal Letter](#)

**4:15 p.m. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Closed Session**

**6:00 p.m. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Closed Meeting and Dinner
To be Announced**

THURSDAY, October 18

**7:30 a.m. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Closed Session and Breakfast**
Inn at 835 Bed and Breakfast, 835 South Second St.

Call to Order/Roll Call

**9:30 a.m. RECONVENE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING**
State Board of Education Office
Board Room - 4th Floor

Call to Order/Roll Call

**Baldrige in Education - Key System Partner's
Update**

- [Cover](#)
- [Illinois State System of P-16 Education \(Draft\)](#)

10:15 a.m. BREAK

10:30 a.m. PLENARY BUSINESS MEETING

A. Call Meeting to Order/Roll Call

B. Approval of Minutes: September 19-20, 2001

[Minutes of the State Board of Education Meeting
and Closed Session \(September 19-20, 2001\)](#)

[Minutes of the Plenary Business Meeting
\(September 20, 2001\)](#)

C. Public Participation

D. Immediate Action Items

1. Vision, Mission, Goals (See Wednesday's
Agenda)

2. Standard Examination (See Wednesday's
Agenda)

3. Physical Development/Health and Fine Arts
Cut Scores

a. [Cover](#)

b. [Performance Levels for the Illinois
Standards Achievement Tests: Fine
Arts and Physical Development/Health](#)

E. Announcements and Reports

1. Chair

2. Superintendent

3. Committees

4. Members

F. Other Business

G. Adjourn

Noon

LUNCH

Superintendent's Conference Room

OTHER INFORMATION

- [Illinois State Board of Education 2001-2002 Calendar](#)

*All meetings are accessible to persons with disabilities.

** Meetings 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

MINUTES OF WORK STUDY SESSIONS I

and II and CLOSED MEETING

October 18, 2000

Page 2

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

MINUTES OF WORK STUDY SESSIONS I

and II and CLOSED MEETING

October 18, 2000

Page 3

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.

MINUTES OF WORK STUDY SESSIONS I

and II and CLOSED MEETING

October 18, 2000

Page 4

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

MINUTES OF WORK STUDY SESSIONS I

and II and CLOSED MEETING

October 18, 2000

Page 5

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).

MINUTES OF WORK STUDY SESSIONS I

and II and CLOSED MEETING

October 18, 2000

Page 6

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).

MINUTES OF WORK STUDY SESSION III

October 19, 2000

Page 2

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
and CLOSED SESSION
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**
State Board of Education Office
Springfield, Illinois
October 18, 2001

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ronald J. Gidwitz
*Marjorie B. Branch

Marilyn McConachie
Connie Rogers

Janet Steiner
Beverly Turkal

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Vincent J. Serritella

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 10:45 a.m. by the Chairman, Mr. Gidwitz, who asked Terri Morris, the executive secretary to the General Counsel, to call the roll. Mrs. Morris called the roll of members. A quorum was present. (*Ms. Branch left the meeting at 11:15 a.m.)

Chairman Gidwitz indicated that Mr. Serritella was unable to attend the Board meeting this month due to business conflicts.

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Rogers moved that "the State Board of Education hereby approves the minutes of the September 19-20, 2001, meetings of the State Board." Mrs. McConachie seconded the motion, and it was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Public Participation

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

Jim Guilinger, representing the Illinois Leadership Council for Agricultural Education, stated that he wanted to thank the Board for its efforts to improve Illinois Education. He updated the Board members regarding the two things that his organization would be focusing on to improve agriculture education programs. He explained that the first item was a budget increase in the line item for agriculture education. He noted that his organization's request for a budget increase was submitted to the State Board on August 9, 2001.

Mr. Guilinger said that the second focus item was to continue encouraging the State Board to maintain at least two staff members in the agriculture education department. He reported that the last two curriculum compact disks are in the process of being completed. He indicated that Senator Todd Sieben has agreed to replace retiring Senator John Maitland as a supporter of agriculture education programs in the General Assembly.

Mr. Guilinger also reported to the Board that there had been 65 openings in Illinois as of July 1, 2001, for secondary education agriculture and horticultural teachers. He indicated that only 33 people had graduated from the 4 major institutions with agriculture teaching degrees. He noted that 18 of those 33 people chose to teach, and 4 teachers were acquired from outside the state of Illinois.

Laura Arterburn, representing the Illinois Federation of Teachers, stated that she would be talking about the Standards Examination Advisory Committee's report (SEAC). She commented that she had appreciated the staff and the SEAC co-chairs presentation during yesterday's Board meeting. She stated that she values the Board's support of this Committee and that it is very important to her organization that this work is done in careful, incremental steps that are in the right order. She reported that her organization stands firmly behind the initial task force that looked at adopting a solid state-wide induction and mentoring program.

Ms. Arterburn stated that her organization is in favor of a very rigorous assessment program. She explained that her organization is not sure there is any test that is necessary after perspective teachers take an ACT or SAT exam, take a basic skills test, do their course work and practical studies, do their student teaching, and participate in an induction and mentoring program. She commented that she agrees with the goals of Connecticut's program. She noted that these goals are to support teachers, help perspective teachers, and make sure teachers have what they need to be successful in the classroom.

Ms. Arterburn noted that she appreciates the Board's support regarding taking care of those teachers who are currently in the initial phase of their teaching certificates. She commented that she also appreciated the Board's willingness to take time and make sure that the process is done right.

John Hill, representing East Richland School District, spoke to the Board regarding the physical education waivers rules and regulations. He commented that he is superintendent of a unit school district that has 2,200 students located in rural, southeastern Illinois. He noted that his district spends about \$5,500 per student, and about 35% of that comes from general state aid, 30% from local taxes, 10% from federal dollars, and 25% comes from other local sources. He explained that his district has a poverty rating of approximately 38%.

Mr. Hill indicated that the elementary school in his district has a 50% poverty rating. He noted that if his high school students would fill out the forms for the free and reduced lunch program, his district poverty rating would be at approximately 50%. He stated that he was sharing this information with the Board members to let them know that the percentage of the district's students that meets and exceeds in the major ISAT and PSAE exams will average about 10-15%. He noted that this was higher than the state averages in those exams.

Mr. Hill reported that his district currently has three physical education waivers. He noted that the district's elementary school waiver allows the students to have physical education four days a week rather than the mandated five. He explained that the reason for the waiver is primarily due to facilities, but it is also due to a schedule which incorporates art, music, and computer education in rotation classes. He stated that the district's middle school waiver allows a four-day physical education schedule for band students during sports sectionals.

Mr. Hill stated that the district's high school waiver lets students take one semester of physical education during the school year, because the high school is on a block-four schedule. He commented that the high school also waives out their marching band students, as well as the students participating in the junior ROTC program. He said that efforts to implement the Illinois Learning Standards reflect the district's priorities. He noted that if a person wants to know what is important to a school district, look at the schedule.

Mr. Hill commented that the most critical commodity that his district has is instruction time. He stated that his district devotes instruction time to reading, mathematics, science, social studies, fine arts, and physical education – in that priority order. He explained that the district has limited the physical education classes, because additional instruction time is needed in the top priority areas of reading and math. He indicated that his school district is doing its best to meet the Illinois Learning Standards and make sure that the children are prepared to compete.

Susan Shea, representing the Illinois Education Association (IEA), stated that she wanted to echo the comments of Laura Arterburn regarding the SEAC report. She stated that she wanted to talk to the Board about Plan A and also comment on what Connecticut is doing. She reported that she had spoken for three hours with her counterparts from Connecticut. She stated that she wanted to explain that Plan A is built on a model that it is very similar to what a standard teaching certificate holder does to renew their certificate, but it is not the same.

Ms. Shea indicated that her group has tried to hone in on the kinds of activities that an Initial Teacher Certificate holder can take to make the test much more rigorous. She explained that on a Standard Teaching Certificate, the first thing that the State Board wants them to do is to write a plan for their teaching and learning position in their certificate area. She indicated that her group wants an Initial Teaching Certificate holder to do exactly the same thing. She also commented that the State Board wants teachers to write a purpose for the state priorities, and then the Board would set the priorities of math, reading, science, technology, and assessments.

Ms. Shea also reported that these priorities are the five state priorities that the Board has set for the recertification cycle. She explained that one of the things that she does at the IEA is work with those teachers who are on remediation. She stated that she had done empirical research to look at why teachers are on remediation plans.

Ms. Shea noted that beginning teachers get in trouble with classroom behavior management techniques, learning styles of at-risk kids, students from low-performing schools, parental involvement, and working with students that have special education needs. She said that these trouble areas are listed in Plan A, under Purpose C. She reported that Purpose C hones in on these trouble areas instead of requiring a School Improvement Plan, which is what a Standard Certificate holder would have to do.

Ms. Shea indicated that Purpose D, under Plan A, allows teachers to go after an advanced degree or an advanced certificate. She noted that her group has also proposed adding induction and mentoring to the Standard Teaching Certificate Manual. She explained that this is the manual that Mrs. Rogers and Mrs. McConachie worked on very laboriously. She noted that this proposal would give holders of an Initial Teaching Certificate credit for participating in an induction and mentoring program.

Ms. Shea stated that the induction and mentoring proposal is appropriate for a beginning teacher and not really appropriate to what Standard Teacher Certificate holders write their plan to. She reported that everyone wants rigor and the brightest and best teachers. She said that the way to get them is to hone and refine the kinds of activities that the Board gives teachers credit for taking.

Ms. Shea reported that Connecticut's process is three years in length – Illinois' is four. She explained that in Connecticut, during the second year of their certificate, the teachers write their plans and shadow two students for two weeks, and then they do what she calls a "teaching moment" – they put the teaching lesson together and then teach it. She noted that the teachers then come back and reflect and analyze the process.

Ms. Shea noted that Connecticut has not been able to prove that its process does make a difference in teaching and learning, and it has not been able to show that it improves its standards. She asked the Board to look very carefully at Plan A, because her group has attempted to make it rigorous and meet the needs of what that State Board wants to do.

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

(Ms. Branch left the meeting at 11:15 a.m.)

Vision,
Mission
Goals, and
Measures

The Chairman called for Agenda Item D., Immediate Action Items, Strategic Planning: Vision, Mission, Goals, and Measures.

The Superintendent stated that he and Mrs. McConachie had reviewed the Vision, Mission, Goals, and Measures that are being recommended for adoption. He commented that these Goals focus on student achievement, policies and services, funding, and collaboration. He explained that these Goals will be used by both the Board and the Agency to do the following things.

1. Demonstrate what the State Board of Education does;
2. Establish a basis for measuring improvement;
3. Provide a framework for business plans, internal measures, and public reports;
4. Organize development of budgets;
5. Shape goal-driven business plans across divisions and departments;
and
6. Frame criteria for evaluating the pros and cons of Board action.

Superintendent M^cGee stated that he was recommending that the Vision, Mission, Goals, and Measures be adopted by the Board (see Addendum II).

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input.

Motion

Mrs. McConachie moved that "the State Board of Education hereby adopts the Vision, Mission, Goals, and Measures to frame the work of the Board and the Agency."

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.

Mr. Gidwitz - yes

Mrs. Rogers - yes

Mrs. Turkal - yes

Mrs. McConachie - yes

Dr. Steiner - yes

Standard- Examination The Chairman called for Agenda Item D., Immediate Action Items, Standard Examination.

Chairman Gidwitz stated that final action would not be taken on this agenda item, because the Board and the Superintendent have agreed that the Standard Examination Advisory Committee (SEAC) should reconvene to see if a consensus recommendation could be developed. He asked the Superintendent to work with the SEAC and others, as appropriate, to provide short- and long-term recommendations for determining eligibility for the Standard Teaching Certificate. He noted that the short-term recommendations should address concerns about teachers now working toward a Standard Certificate who do not know what requirements they will need to meet beginning in 2003. He also commented that the long-term recommendations should provide a thoughtful, probably incremental, strategy for addressing issues raised by the Committee and by Board members, including funding.

The Chairman explained that all groups that have looked at teacher quality issues during the last several years have agreed on the critical importance of providing support for beginning teachers. He said this support is primarily through induction and mentoring programs. He asked that the recommendations be ready for the Board's consideration in November.

Physical Development/Health and Fine Arts Cut Scores The Chairman called for Agenda Item D., Immediate Action Items, Physical Development/Health and Fine Arts Cut Scores.

Fine Arts Cut Scores The Superintendent commented that he is recommending approval of the cut scores as recommended by the Standard-Setting Panels.

Motion Mrs. Rogers moved that "the State Board of Education hereby approves the ISAT cut scores for Physical Development/Health and Fine Arts (see Addendum III).

Dr. Steiner 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.

Mr. Gidwitz - yes

Mrs. Rogers - yes

Mrs. Turkal - yes

Mrs. McConachie - yes

Dr. Steiner - yes

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

Superintendent M^cGee stated that he wanted to bring to the Board's attention the ACT newsletter activity. He explained to the Board that the ACT is a part of the Prairie State Achievement Examination (PSAE) that receives a lot of press. He commented that the work-key component of the PSAE is also a part of this Exam, but it receives very little press. He noted that the work-key component is important in measuring the standards in reading and mathematics.

The Superintendent reported that during the June Work Conference, the Board had requested that he and staff develop an exceptions report regarding the Board and Agency goals and priorities. He noted that this report was to indicate when the budget and strategic initiatives were not being met. He thanked staff members Lynne Haeffele and David Wood for their hard work on this report. He commented that he preferred to call this information an overview status report (see Addendum IV).

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input. Ms. Haeffele and Mr. Wood assisted in responding to questions.

Chair The Chairman called for Agenda Item E., Announcements and Reports, Chair.

Chairman Gidwitz reported that yesterday a media alert had announced that the Board might take action on an item regarding the transition to a new State Superintendent. He indicated that there would not be an action item regarding the transition process at this meeting. He explained that he would take this opportunity to update the public and many interested other partners on the status of the transition process. He commented that the three following items are the components of the transition.

1. Three outside studies that will complement the search for a new permanent superintendent;
2. The search process itself; and
3. The appointment of an interim superintendent.

The Chairman explained that the in and outside studies will provide information about the Agency that will be important of itself, will complement the search, and will be useful to the Board's partners and the General Assembly. He noted that the studies will examine the Agency's infrastructure and how it actually performs and look at the Human Resource department's operations and needs.

Chairman Gidwitz reported that the Board will create committees to oversee various aspects of the search. He explained that a firm would be hired to conduct a national search. He stated that a detailed search timetable would be available soon, as well as a Request for Sealed Proposal (RFSP) to hire the search firm.

The Chairman also commented that the Board is looking for an interim superintendent to lead the Agency after Superintendent M^cGee leaves. He noted that the Board has received several names of potential candidates from a variety of sources. He explained that the Board has engaged in discussions with candidates and has narrowed down the field. He stated that the Board will have something definitive to say in the very near future.

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

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

Other Business The Chairman called for Agenda Item F., Other Business. There was nothing further to report.

Closed Session Motion Mrs. Rogers moved that "the State Board of Education go into a closed meeting on October 18 at 11:45 a.m. under the exceptions set forth in the Open Meeting 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.

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. McConachie 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.

Mr. Gidwitz - yes

Mrs. Rogers - yes

Mrs. Turkal - yes

Mrs. McConachie - yes

Dr. Steiner - yes

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

The meeting recessed at 11:25 a.m. and the Board went into closed session at 11:45 a.m.

Adjournment The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Rogers, Secretary

Ronald J. Gidwitz, Chairman

**MINUTES OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
and CLOSED SESSION
ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

State Board of Education Office
Springfield, Illinois
October 17-18, 2001

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ronald J. Gidwitz
Marjorie B. Branch

Marilyn McConachie
Connie Rogers

Janet Steiner
Beverly Turkal

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Vincent J. Serritella

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 11:20 a.m. by the Chairman, Mr. Gidwitz, who asked Alison Harbour, the staff secretary to the Board, to call the roll. Ms. Harbour called the roll of members. A quorum was present. (Dr. Steiner arrived at 11:30 a.m. on October 17, and Mrs. Turkal arrived during the lunch break on October 17.)

Chairman Gidwitz indicated that Mr. Serritella was unable to attend the Board meeting this month due to business conflicts.

Strategic
Planning:
Goals &
Measures

The Chairman called for Agenda Item, Strategic Planning: Goals and Measures.

The Chairman indicated that during the August and September Board meetings, the Board had discussed and continued to refine the Vision, Mission, Goals, and Measures that were initially developed during the June Work Conference. He noted that during today's meeting the Board would discuss the final recommendations of the Strategic Planning Committee and staff.

The Superintendent stated that following the September Board meeting, the draft Vision, Mission, Goals, and Measures were disseminated to Policy Council Members for review and input. He explained that during the Policy Council meeting, these materials were discussed and suggestions regarding revisions were identified. He indicated that these suggestions were then provided to the Strategic Planning Committee who, with staff, developed the document that was printed in this month's Board meeting materials. He reported that during conversation with the Strategic Planning Committee, six uses of the Goals and Measures were identified.

Superintendent McGee explained that the Committee and staff have attempted to bring clarity and brevity to the Goal statements, and rely on the Measures to assist in embellishing all dimensions of each Goal.

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input (see Addendum II).

The meeting recessed at 11:40 a.m. and reconvened at 12:50 p.m.

Academic
Early
Warning
List

The Chairman called for Agenda Item, Academic Early Warning List.

The Chairman indicated that this discussion would update the Board members regarding the status of the Academic Early Warning List and recommended timelines for its implementation.

The Superintendent noted that staff would provide a detailed background and review past activity relating to the requirements associated with the Academic Early Warning List. He explained staff would also provide an overview of services that are or have been provided to Warning List schools. He explained that his recommendation states that between now and November, he would like staff to conduct a detailed analysis of the specific support services and their impact on the schools that have been previously identified and remain on the Warning List. He said that he would plan to recommend action on the Warning List during the November Board meeting.

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input (see Addendum III).

Budget/
School
Funding

The Chairman called for Agenda Item, Budget/School Funding.

The Chairman indicated that the Board had discussed the Fiscal Year 2003 Budget during the past two Board meetings, and would continue these discussions in preparation for hearings and a line item budget recommendation in November. He explained that in keeping with the Board's focus for learning on school finance, staff member Bill Hinrichs would provide insight on the General State Aid Formula. He also indicated that Nona Myers would provide an update on the school construction program.

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input. Staff members David Wood, Nona Myers, and Bill Hinrichs assisted in responding to questions (See Addendum IV).

FAAS
Report
Card

The Chairman reported that last spring an update on the Financial Watch List and Financial Reporting System was provided to the Board. He explained that at that time the Board discussed the need to develop a reporting methodology that the public could easily understand and use. He indicated that today's discussion would provide an update on the Reporting system and its development status.

The Superintendent reported that in addition to the need for a clear and concise reporting methodology for public consumption, the Board had requested staff coordinate and integrate concepts of the Academic and Financial Report Card. He noted that staff are not quite there yet but that is their direction. He stated that staff member Gary Ey would provide the Board with an overview of activity since last spring.

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input (see Addendum V).

Examination
For
Standard
Teaching
Certificate

The Chairman stated that during the past few months an advisory committee had been meeting to address the issues associated with the need to develop a high-stakes examination as a condition for certification. He noted that today's discussion would focus on the recommendations of the advisory committee and next steps associated with those recommendations.

The Superintendent explained to the Board members that the information in the Board meeting materials provides a thorough overview of the deliberations of the advisory committee. He reported that specific items of clear consensus are highlighted in the meeting materials, and a variety of options where consensus has not been gained are also noted. He introduced two members of the advisory committee, Renee Clift and Bob Gerry, who are also the co-chairs.

Superintendent M^cGee stated that he recommends the advisory committee revisit the proposals and attempt to establish a consensus report. He noted that this report should be based on the reality of funding and resources available for implementation of an assessment.

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input. Staff members Rob Sampson and Pat Glenn assisted in responding to questions.

Closed
Session
Motion

The Chairman called for a motion to go into closed session.

Mrs. Rogers moved that "the State Board of Education go into a closed meeting on October 17 at 4:15 p.m. and on October 18 at 7:30 a.m. under the exceptions set forth in the Open Meeting 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.

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. McConachie 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

Mrs. McConachie - yes
Mrs. Rogers - yes

Dr. Steiner - yes
Mrs. Turkal - yes

The public meeting recessed at 5:15 p.m. and the Board went into closed meeting at 5:30 p.m. The closed meeting recessed at 9:00 p.m. and reconvened on Thursday, October 18 at 7:30 a.m. The closed meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

The public meeting reconvened and was called to order by Chairman Gidwitz on October 18 at 9:35 a.m.

The Chairman announced that for various reasons a minor change was being made to the meeting agenda. He explained that the Baldrige in Education update was being postponed until the November or December meeting.

Physical
Development
Health/Fine
Arts Cut
Scores

The Chairman called for Agenda Item, Physical Development Health/Fine Arts Cut Scores.

The Chairman stated that the Board has approved cut scores for all ISAT content areas. He noted that in keeping with this practice, the Board will review and act on the Physical Development and Health/Fine Arts cut scores.

The Superintendent reported that the areas of Fine Arts and Physical Development and Health are different than other ISAT content areas. He explained that the process for recommending cut scores on these assessments was the same. He said that the differences include the following information.

1. There is no requirement in statute to assess these skills annually – the only requirement is to conduct special studies periodically; and
2. While 50 items were used for establishing cut scores, each individual student is assessed on only 10 items – thus no individual student scores will be reported.

Superintendent M^cGee stated that he would be recommending approval of these cut scores as recommended by the Standard Setting panels.

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input. Carmen Chapman Pfeiffer assisted in responding to questions.

The Chairman indicated that there was extra time on the meeting agenda to discuss any issues of importance to the Board or the Superintendent.

Supt.
Report

The Superintendent reported that the October 17 Special Senate Hearing regarding Reading had gone very well. He asked staff member Michael Dunn to update the Board on the Hearing specifics. Mr. Dunn commented that the Hearing had been one of the Agency's finest moments. He noted there had been 22 oral testimonies given and the State Board's reading improvement efforts were highly praised. He explained that he had been impressed with the broad range of state-wide representation and the range of responsibilities of the various people who had given testimony. He further explained that he had been very pleased to hear testimony which gave specific examples of how the Illinois Reads and the Reading Improvement Block Grant materials, products, and services have helped students and teachers.

Federal
Issues
Update
Report

Superintendent M^cGee asked staff member Randy Burge to update the Board members regarding federal issues. Mr. Burge reported that the Conference Committee had been scheduled to meet on October 17 but the meeting had been canceled due to the adjournment of the House. He noted that there were still tough issues to be resolved and two of these are annual testing and the definition of adequate yearly progress. He also reported that some members of Congress are starting to doubt whether or not they will be able to finish the reauthorization of ESEA this fall. Mr. Burge noted that the House leadership and the President have both said they want to finish work on the reauthorization, and he believes that they will still push to do that. He stated that the House Appropriations Committee had passed their spending bill for education and gave it a seven billion dollar increase – the largest increase in history for education. He indicated that there was quite a great deal of interest in the House and Senate regarding the school renovation program, and that there is funding in the House Appropriations bill for this project.

Chairman Gidwitz commented that there was still additional time on the meeting agenda for discussion or reporting on issues of interest or concern. He indicated that Committee reports could be given at this time.

Board
Operations
Committee
Report

Mrs. Rogers commented that in the mode of continuous improvement, the Board had received a book on the subject of ten trends regarding educating children for a profoundly different future. She noted that she felt this book had been a "really good read." She asked that staff look at the Goals that the State Board had developed and see where they fit in with these future trends. She indicated it would be helpful to find out if we are on or off target and if we are off target, how far off are we. Mrs. McConachie stated that this process should be brief and succinct. Superintendent M^cGee assured the Board that it would be.

Joint
Education
Committee
Report

Mrs. McConachie reported that she and the Chairman had attended another meeting of the Joint Education Committee – a long and intense discussion of the “Unified Plan” for preparing quality educators in Illinois. She noted that the Board of Higher Education, the Community College Board, the State Board of Education, the Workforce Investment Council, and the Student Assistance Commission are all working together to try and come up with a common plan. She explained that this plan would advance the agenda that the State Board has been working on with quality educators. She reported that the plan is moving closer and closer to something that we are all going to be able to support. Mrs. McConachie noted that this plan will be the central topic of conversation on November 19 at the Governor’s State Summit regarding quality educators. She indicated that the Board would be acting on this document following the Summit in November.

Strategic
Planning
Committee
Report

Mrs. McConachie reported that the Strategic Planning Committee had completed work on the Vision, Mission, Goals, and Measures and now they would be integrated by staff into the Agency division business plans and also integrated across all divisions for the major Board initiatives. She also reported that the Committee had discussed Board training and Bill Hinrichs’ presentation during yesterday’s meeting was a part of that plan. She noted that this training will continue to focus, for the short term, on finance since that is a major Board goal. She noted that this training would help the Board members become well informed about the finance system and about adequacy and equity issues.

Mrs. McConachie reported that the Committee had also discussed governance issues. She commented that these issues are being talked about in the press, by Legislators, and by practitioners in the field. She explained that these groups are concerned about how education in Illinois should be governed and the following questions are being raised.

- Does the current system work well enough?
- What are the system’s strengths and weaknesses?
- What are some alternatives?

She noted that the Committee felt that these questions were in the purview of the State Board to discuss and to research. Mrs. McConachie commented that the Committee is proposing that the Board engage in discussions at subsequent meetings over the next six months with our critics, our partners, with Legislators, and with experts in the field. She explained that this public dialogue would focus on structure, selection of state board members, organizational models – strengths and weaknesses, and appropriate roles and responsibilities.

Mrs. McConachie stated that the Committee believes that this dialogue would not only help the Board improve on its own work as presently constituted, but it would also inform the public and the Senate Committee that is interested in this subject. She said that this proposal would be referred to the Board Operations Committee for their consideration.

Board
Member
Report

Mrs. McConachie reported that on October 19 she would be participating in a press conference at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., to announce the results of the NASBE year-long study on e-Learning policy. She explained that e-Learning refers to uses of on-line technologies in classrooms across regions, across states, and across international boundaries. She noted that the title of this report is *Any Time, Any Place, Any Path, Any Pace: Taking the Lead on e-Learning Policy*. She explained that this report was about state board's policies and opportunities for revising state board policy to accommodate e-Learning issues.

Mrs. McConachie commented that e-Learning has the potential to totally upset the apple cart of not only state governance but local governance and organization of education. She reported that in Pennsylvania there are on-line charter schools that are operating state-wide and are pulling substantial amounts of per-pupil stipends from the state out of school districts. She said that there is a similar and much more expansive program in Alaska. She commented that these kinds of operations change where students want to attend school.

Mrs. McConachie indicated that there are accountability issues associated with this learning strategy because some online programs are of poor quality. She noted that some of these programs are excellent – but there are no consumer guides out there to tell people which one is which. She indicated that these e-Learning programs are not proceeding as aggressively as they were a year ago. She explained that these programs would be back and would change the way we think and do business.

Mrs. McConachie stated that in the NASBE report there is an interesting chart that has questions that assume the current educational system, and questions that do not assume the current educational system. She shared the following information from the report.

The questions that assume the current educational system:

1. How can computers improve schools?
2. How is today's technology best used in classrooms? Is it being used well?

The questions that do not assume the current educational system:

1. How can new technologies enhance learning wherever it occurs?
2. How might you use emerging new types of networked computer and digital devices to enhance learning at anytime, anywhere, at any pace, and calibrated for the individual child?

Mrs. McConachie also stated that there are interesting trends emerging in terms of customizing for individuals, rather than delivering a mass education as we have done in the past. She said that she was grateful to staff members Lugene Finley and Lee Patton for putting together her bullet points for the press conference. She asked that copies of the NASBE report be provided to each Board member. She indicated that this is one of those out-in-front issues where there are wonderful opportunities for leadership and action.

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 10:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Rogers, Secretary

Ronald J. Gidwitz, Chairman