



Illinois State Board of Education

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

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

* 100 North First Street
State Board Room, 4th floor
Springfield, IL 62777
217/782-9560

SCHEDULED AGENDA OF MEETINGS February 20-21, 2002

WEDNESDAY, February 20, 2002

1:00 p.m. LUNCH
Superintendent Conference Room, 4th floor

1:45 p.m. STATE BOARD MEETING CONVENES
State Board Room, 4th floor

Call Meeting to Order/Roll Call

***Rules Overview**

- New Part 26 – Standards for Certification in Early Childhood Education and in Elementary Education
- New Part 27 – Standards for Certification in Specific Teaching Fields
- New Part 29 – Standards for Administrative Certification
 - Cover
 - Part 26 Rules
 - Part 27 Rules
 - Part 29 Rules
- Amendments to Part 23 – Standards for the School Service Personnel Certificate
 - Cover
 - Part 23 Rules
- Amendments to Part 260 – Reading Improvement Program
 - Cover
 - Part 260 Rules
- Amendments to Part 252 – Driver Education
 - Cover
 - Part 252 Rules

School Code Review Update

- Cover

Education Summit

- Cover

Legislation Discussion

- Cover

- HR1 Cover

*** YouthBuild Rockford Charter School**

(Materials will be distributed at the Board Meeting on February 20.)

5:00 p.m. CLOSED SESSION

6:30 p.m. CLOSED SESSION AND DINNER
Renaissance Hotel

THURSDAY, February 21, 2002

7:00 a.m. LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST

9:45 a.m. STATE BOARD MEETING RECONVENES

Board Bylaws Discussion

- Cover
- Bylaws

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

State Board Room, 4th floor

- A. Roll Call/Call Meeting to Order
- B. Approval of Minutes: January 16-17, 30 and February 1, 2002
 - o Minutes of the State Board of Education Meeting and Closed Session for January 16-17, 2002
 - o Minutes of the Plenary Business Meeting for January 17, 2002
 - o Minutes of the Special Board Meeting and Closed Session (via conference call) on January 30 and February 1, 2002
 - o Minutes of the Emergency Board Meeting (via conference call) on February 1, 2002
- C. Public Participation
- D. Immediate Action Items
 1. YouthBuild Rockford Charter School
 2. Rules
 - New Part 26 – Standards for Certification in Early Childhood Education and in Elementary Education (See Wednesday's Agenda)
 - New Part 27 – Standards for Certification in Specific Teaching Fields (See Wednesday's Agenda)
 - New Part 29 – Standards for Administrative Certification (See Wednesday's Agenda)
 - Amendments to Part 23 – Standards for the School Service Personnel Certificate (See Wednesday's Agenda)
 - Amendments to Part 260 – Reading Improvement Program (See Wednesday's Agenda)
 - Amendments to Part 252 – Driver Education (See Wednesday's Agenda)
 3. Closed Session Minutes
- E. Announcements and Reports
 1. Chairman
 2. Superintendent
 3. Committee
 4. Members
- F. Adjourn

Noon

LUNCH

Superintendent Conference Room, 4th floor

OTHER INFORMATION

- Illinois State Board of Education 2002 Calendar

*Action Items

*All meetings are accessible to persons with disabilities.

** Meetings will begin at the conclusion of the previous session.

Illinois State Board of Education

100 North First Street

Springfield, IL 62777

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

State Board of Education Office
100 North First Street
Springfield, Illinois
February 20-21, 2002

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Marjorie B. Branch	Marilyn McConachie	Vincent Serritella
Ronald J. Gidwitz	Connie Rogers	Janet Steiner
*Judith A. Gold	Richard Sandsmark	Beverly Turkal

Respicio F. Vazquez, State Superintendent of Education

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

Roll Call The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.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.

The Chairman indicated that Mr. Serritella, Mrs. Turkal, and Mrs. Rogers were absent at this time but would be joining the meeting later in the day and tomorrow. He also noted that the *Ms. Gold would be participating in the meeting by telephone.

The Chairman welcomed new State Superintendent Vazquez and Dr. Chris Koch, Director of Teaching and Learning.

School The Chairman called for Agenda Item, School Code Review Update.

Code

Overview Chairman Gidwitz stated that during this agenda item discussion Dr. Hazel Loucks, Deputy Governor for Education, would be providing an update on the School Code review and rewrite. He thanked Dr. Loucks for attending the Board meeting.

Update

Superintendent Vazquez also welcomed Dr. Loucks and indicated that he and the Board looked forward to her presentation regarding the work of the School Code Commission and the process for completing revisions to the Code. He also noted that a variety of State Board staff have been working with the various committees identified to look at the different components of the School Code. He explained that he and the Board have high hopes that this will assist efforts in improving the State Board's efficiency and effectiveness in supporting local school districts.

Dr. Loucks provided an overview of the Commission's work and the process for completing the revisions.

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input.

Education
Summit

The Chairman called for Agenda Item, Education Summit.

Chairman Gidwitz stated that educator quality issues have been at the forefront of the Board's discussions for the past several years. He indicated that the Governor's Education Summit was initially convened in December 2001 to study the educator workforce. He explained that he had been a participant in the Summit and had the opportunity to engage in dialogue with education leaders, parents, employers, commerce and community leaders, and researchers.

The Superintendent reported that the Summit delegates had met twice to address teacher and administrator quality and supply issues. He explained that the resulting recommendations were not only a response from these two meetings but will be compiled into a comprehensive legislative and budget package after gathering public feedback.

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input. Dr. Hazel Loucks and staff members Lynne Haeffele and Peter Leonis assisted in responding to questions (see Addendum II).

Rules &
Regulations
Overview

The Chairman called for Agenda Item, Rules & Regulations Overview.

Chairman Gidwitz indicated that at this time the Board would hear public participation comments from Richard Laine, representing the Illinois Business Roundtable (IBRT). He indicated that Mr. Laine would be unable to attend the regular public participation comment period on February 21.

Mr. Laine spoke to the Board regarding the rules overview – specifically the amendments to Part 260 – Reading Improvement Program. He indicated that while HR 1 needs to be the context in which these rules are developed, the law must be the driving factor in which these rules are shaped (see Addendum III).

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

Chairman Gidwitz reported that six sets of rules would be addressed during the meeting. He noted that four sets of rules deal with standards for certification, the fifth addresses amendments to the reading improvement program, and the sixth addresses driver education amendments. He explained that staff will be addressing any and all questions the Board might have relating to these rules.

Superintendent Vazquez noted that the first three sets of rules regarding standards were addressed in an earlier Board meeting and disseminated for public comment. He explained that 17 letters of comment were received and he asked staff members Mike Long and Sally Vogl to summarize the comments received and the recommended changes. The Superintendent noted that he would be asking for the Board's adoption of these proposed rules and recommended changes.

Superintendent Vazquez reported that the fourth set of rules regarding standards relate to the School Service Personnel Certificate. He indicated that these standards were approved at the last Board meeting. He explained that the fifth set of rules that need to be addressed are the proposed amendments to Part 260 – the Reading Improvement Program. He stated that these amendments were initially presented to the Board in November and then published for comment. He noted that the final set of rule amendments relate to drive education.

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input. Staff members Chris Koch, Sally Vogl, Mike Long, Shelley Helton, Marcia Sailsbury and Don Byram assisted in responding to questions.

Mrs. Turkal joined the meeting at 2:45 p.m.

Legislation
Discussion

The Chairman called for Agenda Item, Legislation Discussion.

Chairman Gidwitz reported that the Board would now have the opportunity to discuss legislative recommendations and bills of interest to the Agency in preparation for the spring Legislative Session.

Superintendent Vazquez also commented that the Board is in need of input and direction on the legislative agenda for the spring Session. He reported that today's discussion would consist of both federal and state issues and how the Agency is attempting to align the two in legislative efforts.

Staff members Peter Leonis, Randy Burge, Carmen Chapman Pfeiffer, and Gail Lieberman (by telephone), provided an overview of HR 1 and how it should be transitioned to specific action for the legislative agenda. Peter Leonis discussed the process, the timelines, and other legislative recommendations from the state perspective.

Youthbuild
Rockford
Charter
School

The Chairman called for Agenda Item, Youthbuild Rockford Charter School.

Chairman Gidwitz stated that the Youthbuild Rockford Charter School has come before the Board for consideration following the denial of this Charter by Rockford District 205.

The Superintendent reported that the Board meeting material highlights the events that have taken place relative to Youthbuild Rockford Charter School. He noted that following the denial of the Charter School, the sponsor appealed to the State Board of Education. He commented that a hearing was conducted by an appeal panel and they found that the proposal was in compliance with the Charter Schools Law and in the best interest of students it was designed to serve.

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input. Staff members Sharon Roberts and Janet Allison (by telephone) 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 February 20 at 5:00 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.
- Section 2 (c) (11) for the purpose of discussing litigation.

She further moved 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

Mrs. McConachie - yes

Mrs. Turkal - yes

Mr. Gidwitz - yes

Mr. Sandsmark - yes

Ms. Gold - yes

Dr. Steiner - yes

The public meeting recessed at 5:00 p.m. and the Board went into a closed meeting at 5:15 p.m. The closed meeting recessed at 9:00 p.m. and the public meeting reconvened on February 21 at 9:50 a.m.

Board
Bylaws
Discussion

The Chairman called for Agenda Item, Board Bylaws Discussion.

Chairman Gidwitz indicated that he had requested the Board's General Counsel, Harry Blackburn, to begin looking at the bylaws to review and identify changes that would enhance the Board's efficiency and effectiveness. He indicated that he had asked Mrs. McConachie to lead the discussion on the Bylaws so that needed changes could be identified. He commented that it was his desire to have staff draft language revisions based on today's discussion and direction for review during the March Board meeting.

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,

Connie Rogers, Secretary

Marilyn McConachie, Vice Chair

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

State Board of Education Office
100 North First Street
Springfield, Illinois
February 21, 2002

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Marjorie B. Branch
Ronald J. Gidwitz
*Judith A. Gold

Marilyn McConachie
Connie Rogers
Richard Sandsmark

Vincent J. Serritella
Beverly Turkal

Respicio Vazquez, State Superintendent of Education

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 10:35 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.

The Chairman indicated that *Ms. Gold would be participating in the meeting via telephone.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Branch moved that the State Board of Education hereby approves the minutes for the meetings held on January 16-17, the Special meeting on January 30, and the emergency meeting on February 1, 2002.

Mr. Sandsmark 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.

James Hess, an attorney representing the Rockford School District, spoke to the Board regarding the YouthBuild Charter School application. Mr. Hess stated that he would be confining his remarks to the financial soundness of the Rockford YouthBuild Charter School application. He noted that the original application was submitted on June 16, 2001, and it provided for 100% of the per capita tuition rate at the time which was \$7471.00. He said that the application also stated that the special education expenses would be provided by the applicants, and he commented that the application assumed there would be an 85% attendance rate. He reported that between June 16 and the public hearing there were many discussions held with the applicants.

Mr. Hess stated that the applicants submitted a revised proposal after the hearing that had a variable rate, which was anywhere from 88-95%. He noted that the application also provided that the assumption on the attendance rate would be 90% and there was a proviso that if this was not accepted and recommended to the school district board, that it would be withdrawn. He indicated that the application was not accepted by the committee and was withdrawn. He said that if the State Board looks at the application and the revised proposal, it will better understand the financial condition of both parties.

The Chairman informed Mr. Hess that the State Board had decided to consider this matter at a later date because the Board wanted to take the time to carefully review all of the material regarding the application and the hearing. He asked Superintendent Vazquez to have staff work with Mr. Hess to make sure that the Rockford School District's point of view is succinctly represented to the Board at its upcoming Special Board meeting on this issue.

Donna Baiocchi, Executive Director of ED-RED, spoke to the Board regarding the renewed search for a State Superintendent of Education. She explained that she was speaking on behalf of 116 school districts. She indicated that everyone was aware of the recent history of the State Superintendent's position and the controversy, concern, and confusion that it has caused. She urged the Board to stay on track regarding the search for the State Superintendent and adhere to their search timeline.

Ms. Baiocchi told the Board that the State Superintendent should be a superior educator, and she commented that effective education is as much an art as it is a science. She noted that the new State Superintendent should thoroughly understand that improved teaching and learning is not as simple as a mathematical progression, especially when you relate to each student as an individual, each with his or her own package of strengths, weaknesses, and learning characteristics. She said that the thrust of the State Board's efforts so far has been to find a State Superintendent who practices a business model for educational governance.

Ms. Baiocchi commented that there is no question that the State Superintendent must be accountable for results and must create a culture in the Agency that is equally accountable. She also said that she fully agrees that student progress must be measured on a continuing basis, and she favors leadership that sets priorities and funds them accordingly. She noted that the goal of schools is not to continually increase shareholder value, and the scoreboard for schools can not be reduced to a balance sheet or a cash flow statement.

Ms. Baiocchi stated that adopting a business system for the schools may not be the wisest choice. She commented that the next State Superintendent should be first and foremost an experienced and talented educator, and understand the intelligent application of proven accountability and assessment systems to an educational environment. She said the State Board needs a focused and consistent educator with a vision that is guided by an equal vision of fiscal responsibility. She commented that she was concerned that unless the State Board significantly depoliticizes the Agency, the General Assembly will act to reduce or eliminate the State Board's autonomy.

Ms. Baiocchi said that the effort of recent years to appease concerns of the business community have shifted school governance away from what should be its primary focus – improved teaching and learning. She asked the Board to make the State Superintendent's contract coterminous with the term of the Governor, and then step back and let him or her do the job. She thanked the Board for the opportunity to address them.

Laura Arterburn, representing the Illinois Federation of Teachers (IFT), spoke to the Board regarding the State Board of Education staffing issues. She indicated that she was concerned about the State Board's productivity because of the changes that have gone on at the Agency in such a relatively short time. She commented that people work better when they are feeling confident, which makes them feel more relaxed and even happy in their work effort. She asked the Board to put their reorganization efforts on hold, especially until the budget matter is settled.

Ms. Arterburn commented that to reorganize before the budget is addressed would be going back to the old notion that the State Board does something for two or three months and then changes it. She commented that the schools in the State of Illinois would view the State Board with greater confidence if the reorganization was delayed. She also asked the Board to get input regarding the reorganization directly from the people involved with the changes – the staff and the unions.

Kerry Knodle, Executive Director of Comprehensive Solutions, Inc., spoke to the Board regarding the YouthBuild Rockford Charter School application. He indicated that his corporation is the sponsor and developer of this proposed Charter School. He reported that the State Board is being asked to consider a decision that is critical to hundreds of young people in Rockford – the approval of Rockford's first charter school. He explained that this application, which is the second application that they have submitted to District 205 in the last two and one-half years, is the result of a need that is critical in the community. He commented that the need is an educational environment that provides a combination of drop-out recovery, solid academic preparation, vocational training, workforce preparation, and support services (see Addendum II).

Mr. Knodle extended his appreciation to the Rockford School District and the State Board staff for the work that has been done regarding this application. He stated that if this application is approved, his corporation will operate a high-quality school that will achieve its intended results. He indicated that they will work in earnest to craft a contract that will be equitable to all parties involved, and he urged the Board to make a timely decision on this issue. Mr. Knodle thanked the Board for their consideration.

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

YouthBuild
Rockford
Charter
School

The Chairman called for Agenda Item D., Immediate Action Items, YouthBuild Rockford Charter School.

Chairman Gidwitz indicated that the Board had decided to delay final action on this agenda item because additional information is needed. He indicated that March 15 is the deadline for taking action on this issue, and a special Board meeting will be arranged via conference call to discuss this agenda item.

Rules

The Chairman called for Agenda Item D., Immediate Action Items, Rules.

Chairman Gidwitz called for motions to approve Rules -- Part 26, 27, 29; Rules – Reading Improvement Program (23 Illinois Administrative Code 260); Rules – New Part 23; and Rule Amendments to Part 252.

Motion

Mr. Serritella moved that the State Board of Education hereby adopts the proposed rulemaking for:

Standards for Certification in Early Childhood Education and in Elementary Education (23 Illinois Administrative Code 26);

Standards for Certification in Specific Teaching Fields (23 Illinois Administrative Code 27); and

Standards for Administrative Certification (23 Illinois Administrative Code 29).

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.

Mrs. Rogers seconded the motion.

Vote on Motion

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

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

Motion

Dr. Steiner moved that the State Board of Education hereby adopts the proposed rulemaking for:

Reading Improvement Program (23 Illinois Administrative Code 260).

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.

Mrs. Rogers seconded the motion.

Vote on Motion

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

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

Motion

Mrs. Turkal moved that the State Board of Education hereby authorizes solicitation of public comment on the proposed rulemaking for:

Standards for the School Service Personnel Certificate (23 Illinois Administrative Code 23), including publication of the proposed rules in the *Illinois Register*.

Mrs. Rogers seconded the motion.

Vote on Motion

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

Ms. Branch - yes	Mrs. McConachie - yes	Mr. Serritella - yes
Mr. Gidwitz - yes	Mrs. Rogers - yes	Dr. Steiner - yes
Ms. Gold - not present for vote	Mr. Sandsmark - yes	Mrs. Turkal - yes

Motion Mr. Sandsmark moved that the State Board of Education hereby authorizes solicitation of public comments on the proposed rulemaking for:

Driver Education (23 Illinois Administrative Code 252), including publication of the proposed amendments in the *Illinois Register*.

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

Mrs. McConachie - yes

Mr. Serritella - yes

Mr. Gidwitz - yes

Mrs. Rogers - yes

Dr. Steiner - yes

Ms. Gold - yes

Mr. Sandsmark - yes

Mrs. Turkal - yes

Chairman The Chairman called for Agenda Item E., Announcements and Reports, Chairman. Chairman Gidwitz extended his thanks for everyone's time and attention to the issues of the past month, and especially thanked Superintendent Vazquez and staff for working tirelessly on the reorganization. He also thanked the Superintendent for his willingness to serve as State Superintendent of Education and he indicated that he was looking forward to working with him.

Supt. The Chairman called for Agenda Item E., Announcements and Reports, Superintendent. Superintendent Vazquez reported that State Board staff would be participating in the High Priority Schools Conference on February 27-28 in Itasca. He commented that this conference would provide a great opportunity for dialogue with key partners and Academic Early Warning List districts on how we can improve the academic situations in those local school districts. He also said that this conference would give us a chance to spark some new ideas and partnerships in improvement.

Superintendent Vazquez thanked the staff who put the Board packet together, and he also thanked the Agency's employees for their patience during the reorganization effort. He stated that it was a very difficult time for everyone, and he said that he had tried to keep staff and the unions apprised of the changes. He also commented that he would welcome alternative ideas from the unions regarding the reorganization plan.

Mrs. McConachie also expressed her appreciation to the staff and commended them for doing quality work under difficult conditions. She indicated that the Agency Core Leaders have gone to great lengths to make the transition easier and to keep the business of the Board proceeding in a dignified and effective fashion.

Committees The Chairman called for Agenda Item G., Announcements and Reports, Committees.

Mrs. Rogers stated that the Board Operations Committee is currently in the process of trying to set up meetings with the six area regions regarding the middle school recertification issue. She noted the next meeting of the Operations Committee would be held on Thursday, February 28.

Mrs. Turkal stated that staff members Peter Leonis and Randy Burge had both given very succinct legislative reports at yesterday's meeting. She noted that the legislative scene would be very busy in the next couple of weeks.

Ms. McConachie reported that the Chairman had given the Strategic Planning Committee a new assignment regarding revising the Board Bylaws. She commented that the Committee would be reporting back to the Board about this assignment at next month's meeting.

Mrs. McConachie reported that on March 8-9 she would be attending the NASBE Future of High Schools Study Committee meeting in Washington, DC, and Mrs. Turkal would be attending the NASBE Legislative Conference also in Washington, DC on March 7-8.

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

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

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Rogers, Secretary

Marilyn McConachie, Vice Chair