

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

July 25, 2002  
(via conference call)

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

Marilyn McConachie  
Connie Rogers  
Richard Sandsmark

Janet Steiner  
Beverly Turkal

Respicio F. Vazquez, State Superintendent of Education

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Vincent J. Serritella

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Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 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.

Chairman Gidwitz indicated that Mr. Serritella was unable to join to meeting today due to a previous commitment.

Closed  
Session  
Motion

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

Ms. Branch moved that the State Board of Education go into a closed meeting 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.

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

Dr. Steiner – yes

Mr. Gidwitz – yes

Mrs. Rogers – yes

Mrs. Turkal – yes

Ms. Gold – not present to vote    Mr. Sandsmark – yes

Ms. Gold joined the meeting during the closed session.

Illinois State Board of Education  
Minutes of the Special Meeting and Closed Meeting  
July 25, 2002

The Board went into closed session at 8:35 a.m. and recessed at 9:00 a.m. The open meeting reconvened at 9:05 a.m.

The Chairman called for a report from the Superintendent Search Committee.

Report  
From the  
Search  
Committee

Mrs. Rogers commented that she was pleased to report that the Search Committee was right on schedule according to the Search Timelines. She noted that Board members conducted focus groups and several meetings throughout the state to get constituents' input on qualities desired in the State Superintendent position. She explained that Proact Search, Inc. assisted in locating candidates meeting the criteria and helped guide the process.

Mrs. Rogers indicated that more than 30 individuals either applied for or were nominated for the announced opening. She said that Board members conducted interviews with several finalists who best met the criteria for the position. She stated that after several interviews and numerous discussions, the Board had made a final decision.

The Chairman called for a motion regarding the Board's decision.

Motion

Ms. Branch moved that the State Board of Education employ Dr. Robert Schiller to be the State Superintendent of Illinois starting August 2002 for three years, and authorize Chairman Gidwitz to sign the contract on behalf of the State Board of Education (see Addendum II).

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.

Ms. Branch – yes

Mrs. McConachie – yes

Dr. Steiner – yes

Mr. Gidwitz – yes

Mrs. Rogers – yes

Mrs. Turkal – yes

Ms. Gold – yes

Mr. Sandsmark – yes

The meeting recessed at 9:20 a.m. and reconvened in closed session at 6:30 p.m.

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 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Connie Rogers, Secretary

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Ronald J. Gidwitz, Chairman