



# 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, 4<sup>th</sup> floor  
Springfield, IL 62777  
217/782-9560

### SCHEDULE AND AGENDA OF MEETINGS August 21-22, 2002

**WEDNESDAY, August 21, 2002**

**11:00 a.m. Call Meeting to Order/Roll Call**

State Superintendent's Conference Room, 4<sup>th</sup> floor

#### **CLOSED SESSION**

- Personnel Issues

**2:00 p.m. STATE BOARD MEETING CONVENES**

State Board Conference Room, 4<sup>th</sup> floor

#### **Education Policy/Planning Issues**

- 2002 Statewide Student Achievement Data
  - Cover
  - Summary
- No Child Left Behind Status Report
  - USDE Approval of IL Application
  - Choice Schools Status
  - Supplemental Education Services Status
  - Reading First Grant Application Status
  - Update on Data and Reporting Requirements
  - Communications & Next Steps
- 2002-2007 State Technology Plan Status Report\*\*
  - Cover
  - Five-Year Plan - Draft
- Special Education
  - Annual Evaluation of Illinois' Due Process Procedures January 1 through December 31, 2001\*\*
  - President's Commission on Excellence in Special Education Executive Summary
- Middle Level Certification Survey Status Report
  - Response Data File
- Rules for Adoption
  - Part 375: Student Records\*\*
    - Cover
    - Rules
  - Part 50: Evaluation of Certified School District Employees in Contractual Continued Service\*\*
    - Cover
    - Rules

**4:00 p.m. BREAK**

**4:15 p.m. Finance and Audit Issues**

- Chicago Public School District 299 - FY03 Supplemental General State Aid Plan\*\*
  - Cover
  - Executive Summary
- FY04 State Budget
  - Cover
  - Calendar
  - Revenue Update
  - Education Appropriation Update
  - Budget/Policy Issue Papers
- Petition for Round Lake School Finance Authority\*\*
- Finance, Audit and Agency Operations Status\*\*
  - Cover
  - Appropriations and Spending by Program
  - Grant and Contract Detail
  - Federal Applications, Awards, and Appropriations
  - \$1 M RFSP - E-Grant
  - Monthly Headcount Graph
  - Staff Detail
  - Personnel Transactions
- Rules for Adoption - Part 155: Electronic Transfer of Funds\*\*
  - Cover
  - Rules
- AFSCME Agreement\*\*
  - Cover

**6:30 p.m. CLOSED SESSION**

Renaissance Hotel

**THURSDAY, August 22, 2002**

**7:30 a.m. CLOSED SESSION (if needed)**

**9:00 a.m. STATE BOARD MEETING RECONVENES**

State Board Conference Room, 4<sup>th</sup> floor

**Governmental Affairs Issues**

- State Legislative Status Report and 2002-2003 Schedule
  - Cover
- Federal Legislation Status Report

**10:00 a.m. PLENARY BUSINESS MEETING\*\*\***

**A. Call Meeting to Order/Roll Call**

**B. Public Participation**

**C. Approval of Minutes:**

June 20-22, 30 2002

July 1, July 25, 2002

**D. Minutes of the State Board of Education Meeting**

**E. Immediate Action Items\*\***

- Authorize 2002-2007 State Technology Plan for Distribution
- Accept and Authorize for Distribution Due Process Procedures Report
- Approve FY03 Chicago PS District 299 Supplemental General State Aid Plan
- Accept Petition for Round Lake School Finance Authority\*\*
- Adoption of Rules\*\*

Part 375: Student Records

Part 155: Electronic Transfer of Funds

Part 50: Evaluation of Certified School District Employees in  
Continued Contractual Service

- Accept Financial Reports
- AFSCME Agreement

F. **Announcements and Reports**

- Superintendent
- Chairman
- Committees
- Members

G. **Other Information**

- Status Report on Rulemaking

**Noon ADJOURN AND LUNCH**

\*All meetings are accessible to persons with disabilities.

\*\*Action Items

\*\*Meeting 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  
August 21-22, 2002

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

Marilyn McConachie  
Connie Rogers  
\*Richard Sandsmark

Janet Steiner  
Beverly Turkal

Robert E. Schiller, State Superintendent of Education

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Vincent Serritella

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Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 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 was unable able to attend the meeting due to conflicting business meetings, and \*Mr. Sandsmark will participate by phone.

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 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.

Ms. Branch 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 – not available to vote	

The public meeting recessed at 12:05 p.m., and the Board went into a closed meeting at 12:07 p.m. The closed meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m., and the public meeting reconvened at 2:00 p.m.

Oath  
of Office

The Chairman stated that Article XIII of the State Constitution requires that all prospective holders of offices created by that constitution “take and subscribe” to an oath of office. He indicated that the Board was very pleased to begin today’s meeting with the oath of office for new State Superintendent Robert E. Schiller. Justice Susan Myerscough, Illinois Appellate Court, 4<sup>th</sup> District, administered the verbal oath to Superintendent Schiller.

Chairman Gidwitz announced that the agenda had been modified to include an additional item – the petition for appointment of a financial authority for the Round Lake School District. He noted that the Board will discuss this issue later in the meeting and will take action to accept the petition during the Plenary Business meeting on August 22.

The Chairman also indicated that the agenda items had been grouped to align with the new committee structure – Education Policy/Planning Issues, Finance and Audit Issues, and Governmental Affairs Issues. He noted that he planned to appoint chairs and members to each of the new committees.

2002  
Statewide  
Student

The Chairman Called for Agenda Item, 2002 Statewide Student Achievement Data.

Achievement  
Data

The Superintendent reported that statewide student data results for the spring ISAT and PSAE have been analyzed in terms of achievement against the Illinois Learning Standards, achievement changes over time, and achievement results for income and racial groups. He noted that the analysis shows that more than half of Illinois students who took the tests are meeting the Standards, but there are still many students who are not achieving at the Illinois State Board of Education desired levels.

He said that there are clear upward trends in elementary mathematics and science achievement, and high school science achievement.

Superintendent Schiller reported that with the exception of 5<sup>th</sup> grade writing, which declined sharply this year, other subject areas for ISAT and PSAE have remained relatively stable over time. He commented that there are significant achievement gaps in all subjects and at all levels between low-income students, and between white and minority students. He noted that minority and low-income students improved their scores in most subjects and grades tested on the 2002 ISAT. He indicated that compared to the nation as a whole, Illinois is performing better in both reading and mathematics.

The Superintendent commented that his Task Force on Assessment and Accountability will be appointed in the near future. He noted that Board action on recommendations from this task force is planned for December 2002.

Staff member Lynne Haeffele Curry presented the data and policy implications for Board discussion (see Addendum II for PowerPoint Presentation) and assisted in responding to questions.

Policy issues associated with the findings from the analysis include the following:

- Improving achievement against the Standards;
- Closing the achievement gaps;
- Providing effective assistance to those schools with the most students not meeting standards;
- The lack of movement in reading achievement;
- Student access to strong teachers;
- Student access to rich, Standards-based curricula, especially at the high school level;
- The drop in 5<sup>th</sup> grade writing scores; and
- The need for consensus and support for the state testing program and accountability system.

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input.

No Child Left Behind Status Report      The Chairman called for Agenda Item, No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Status Report.

Chairman Gidwitz indicated that NCLB will be a regular agenda item, allowing the Board to remain current on staff implementation efforts and to respond to policy issues as they arise.

Superintendent Schiller and staff members Chris Koch and Gail Lieberman informed the Board about the following issues:

- The Illinois Consolidated Plan for NCLB and the Homeless Education Grant application were approved in July. The Homeless Education grant award has been received, as have all of the awards for consolidated plan programs.
- Approval of the Illinois Reading First application is pending, pursuant to several discussions with the United States Department of Education (USDE) and modifications to the original application.
- The agency has notified all districts which have schools that must offer "choice" this year and provided guidance for choice-related local actions.
- Discussions with the USDE regarding Supplemental Education Service requirements are ongoing; meanwhile, an application to select vendors is being prepared.
- The state education agency has made a number of changes to its data collection and reporting vehicles to address NCLB requirements; this includes modification of the state report card and the End-of-Year Report.
- A two-part Request for Sealed Proposal (RFSP) will be disseminated this fall for a total redesign of the state report card, development of an interactive website, and refinement and updating of the Illinois School Improvement Website (ILSI).
- A contract has been awarded for a feasibility study of a Student Identification System. An RFSP for a feasibility study of a data warehouse is in the development stage.
- Staff is developing a comprehensive RFSP for the evaluation of Reading First, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers, Comprehensive School Reform and Learning Technologies. The goal is to coordinate efforts so that federal reporting requirements can be met while minimizing the data burden on school districts and eliminating redundant site visits.

The Board and staff also discussed the implications of these issues for the agency, local school districts, and the legislative session.

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input.

2002-2007  
State  
Technology  
Plan Status  
Report

The Chairman called for Agenda Item, 2002-2007 State Technology Plan Status Report.

The Chairman reported that the State Board has been working toward the development of a new state technology plan for about two years. He noted that the last complete draft plan was presented to the Board in December 2001. He explained that at that time the Board indicated that the analysis of accomplishments and unmet goals provided a strong foundation for additional refinement of the plan itself. He said that the additional work on the plan was to include strategies for addressing new federal requirements, which were at that time still in draft form.

Chairman Gidwitz commented that in May of this year, the Board discussed the NCLB requirements and adopted the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) National Education Technology Standards (NETS). He indicated that the Board also asked staff to bring the full state plan back to them in August.

The Superintendent reported that the draft plan has been built on previous drafts and work that resulted in the State Board's NCLB application. He noted that the plan is considerably more succinct than previous documents, with limited background and a tight focus on priority actions for the next five years.

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input. Staff members Chris Koch, Dick Miguel, and Rich DeHart assisted in responding to questions.

Due  
Process  
Evaluation

The Chairman called for Agenda Item, Annual Evaluation of Illinois' Due Process Procedures.

Chairman Gidwitz reported that Illinois law requires the State Board to conduct an annual evaluation of the state due process system. He explained that this was the fourth evaluation report.



The Superintendent indicated that he was asking the Board to accept the report and authorize its distribution to the parties stipulated in the law.

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input. Staff members Chris Koch, Anthony Sims (who was officially introduced to the Board), and Bobbie Reguly assisted in responding to questions.

President's  
Commission  
on Special  
Education

The Chairman called for Agenda Item, President's Commission on Excellence in Special Education.

Chairman Gidwitz reported that in October 2001, President Bush appointed the Commission on Excellence in Special Education. He noted that this group has now finished its work.

The Board discussed the findings and recommendations of the President's Commission, as well as their implications for Illinois.

The Chairman indicated that this report will be considered by Congress during the reauthorization of IDEA. He noted that the report findings will also be discussed by the Illinois State Advisory Council on the Education of Children with Disabilities.

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input. Staff members Chris Koch and Anthony Sims assisted in responding to questions.

Middle  
Level  
Certification  
Study  
Survey

The Chairman called for Agenda Item, Middle Level Certification Study Survey.

Chairman Gidwitz reported that when the Board last discussed the middle level certificate issue, staff was asked to survey various stakeholder groups to get a better handle on their concerns.

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input. The Board asked staff to distribute the survey again to garner additional feedback on the issues, with particular attention to stakeholders underrepresented in the first survey (e.g., teachers and local board members). Staff members Chris Koch and Mike Long assisted in responding to questions and agreed to report back to the Board regarding this agenda item in October 2002.

Rules  
Part 375 &  
Part 50

The Chairman called for Agenda Item, Rules for Adoption, Part 375: Student Records and Part 50: Evaluation of Certified School District Employees in Contractual Continued Service.

Chairman Gidwitz indicated that these two sets of rules needed the Board's consideration at this time, and he noted that both sets of rules will be presented tomorrow for final Board action.

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input. Staff member Sally Vogl assisted in responding to questions.

Chicago  
Public  
Schools  
FY03  
SGSA

Chairman Gidwitz called for Agenda Item, Chicago Public Schools FY03 Public Supplemental General State Aid Plan (SGSA).

The Chairman reported that the next agenda item pertains to an annual Board responsibility – approval of the Chicago District 299 plan for use of supplemental general state aid funds.

The Superintendent and staff described the plan and responded to Board member questions.

FY04  
Budget

The Chairman called for Agenda Item, FY04 Budget.

Chairman Gidwitz reported that this was the first of many discussions leading to the State Board's FY04 Budget proposal.

Superintendent Schiller and staff commented on the proposed calendar, the list of potential issue papers, and the proposed schedule for budget hearings.

Round  
Lake  
Financial  
Oversight  
Panel

The Chairman called for Agenda Item, Round Lake Financial Oversight Panel.

Chairman Gidwitz reported that legislation passed during the spring Legislative Session permits the creation of school finance authorities when an existing financial oversight panel petitions the State Board to do so and when that petition meets certain criteria. He indicated that during the June State Board meeting, the Board heard such a petition from the Round Lake School District Financial Oversight Panel but took no action. He explained that at tomorrow's meeting, the Board will be asked to accept the petition.

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input. Staff members David Wood and Gary Ey assisted in responding to questions.

Finance,  
Audit &  
Agency  
Operations  
Status

The Chairman called for Agenda Item, Finance, Audit, and Agency Operations Status.

Chairman Gidwitz said that to assist the Board in fulfilling its financial oversight responsibility, the Superintendent and staff will be providing the Board with regular reports on various aspects of agency operation. He noted that the Board will be asked to formally approve each of these reports.

Superintendent Schiller indicated that the following reports are scheduled on an annual or quarterly basis:

Budget/Annual Report (annually in January)  
Comptroller SEA Report (annually in February)  
Board Goals (annually in November)  
Business Plans at the Director Level (quarterly)

The Superintendent reported that the following reports will be provided on a monthly basis:

Personnel Transactions  
Agency Headcount  
End-of-Month Staffing Detail  
Contract and Grants Detail  
Appropriations and Expenditures

Superintendent Schiller commented that the first set of monthly reports provides baseline data on which to gauge agency progress over time.

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input.

Rules,  
Part 155

The Chairman called for Agenda Item, Rules for Adoption, Part 155: Electronic Transfer of Funds.

Chairman Gidwitz reported that this set of rules received public comment and he asked staff member Sally Vogl to comment on the proposed rules and the recommended changes.

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input.

AFSCME  
Agreement

The Chairman called for Agenda Item, AFSCME Agreement.

Chairman Gidwitz reported that staff has completed its negotiations with the AFSCME bargaining unit and are presenting the agreement to the Board for final approval.

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input.

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 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.

Ms. Branch 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 public meeting recessed at 5:15 p.m., and the Board went into a closed meeting at 5:30 p.m. The closed meeting recessed at 6:30 p.m. and reconvened on Thursday, August 22 at 8:00 a.m. The closed meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m. and the open meeting reconvened at 9:30 a.m.

State  
Legislative  
Status  
Report &  
'02-'03  
Schedule

The Chairman called for Agenda Item, State Legislative Status Report and 2002-2003 Schedule.

The Chairman indicated that during yesterday's meeting the Board began its discussions about the development of the FY04 budget. He indicated that during today's meeting, the Board will begin a parallel discussion about the FY04 legislative agenda.

The Superintendent and staff reviewed the status of bills adopted during the spring General Assembly Session, discussed possible issues for the fall Veto Session, and reviewed the schedule for the spring Legislative Session.

Superintendent Schiller indicated that the Board's Governmental Affairs Committee will provide leadership for the development of legislative priorities and specific proposals.

Discussion followed for clarification purposes and Board members' input.

Federal  
Legislation  
Status  
Report

The Chairman called for Agenda Item, Federal Legislation Status Report.

The Superintendent and staff discussed the following federal legislative issues with the Board:

- The pending reauthorization of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is expected to create a major policy debate in Washington in the months ahead. The Board will need to establish its policy positions in regard to special education and work with the new Governor to establish state positions and priorities that can be communicated to the Illinois congressional delegation.
- The FY03 federal appropriations will have numerous implications for the agency's budget development. Of particular importance will be the appropriation levels for No Child Left Behind (including SEA administrative and leadership funds) and for IDEA.

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).

Adjournment The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Connie Rogers, Secretary

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Ronald J. Gidwitz, Chairman

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

State Board of Education Office  
100 North First Street  
Springfield, Illinois  
August 22, 2002

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

Marilyn McConachie  
Connie Rogers  
\*Richard Sandsmark

Janet Steiner  
Beverly Turkal

Robert E. Schiller, State Superintendent of Education

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Vincent Serritella

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Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 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 Mr. Serritella was unable to attend this meeting due to conflicting business meetings, and \*Mr. Sandsmark will participate by phone.

Approval of  
Minutes  
Motion

Dr. Steiner moved that the State Board of Education hereby approves the minutes of the following meetings:

State Board meeting held on June 20, 21, 22, and 30, 2002;  
Special State Board meeting on July 1, 2002; and  
Special State Board meeting held on July 25, 2002.

Mrs. Rogers seconded the motion, and it was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Public  
Participation

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

Donna Baiocchi, Executive Director of ED-RED, welcomed new State Superintendent Robert Schiller and thanked the Board members for hiring an experienced educator. She asked the Superintendent to keep his primary focus on improved teaching and learning, and she invited him to meet with the ED-RED school districts in the near future.

State Technology Plan The Chairman called for Agenda Item, Immediate Action Items, Authorize 2002-2007 State Technology Plan for Distribution.

Distribution Motion Mrs. McConachie moved that the State Board of Education hereby authorizes distribution of the draft 2002-2007 State Technology Plan for public comment. She further moved that final Board adoption of the plan, including any modifications necessary to respond to public comment, will take place in November 2002.

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	

Due Process Evaluation Report The Chairman called for Agenda Item, Immediate Actions Items, Accept and Authorize for Distribution the Due Process Evaluation Report.

Motion Mrs. Turkal moved that the State Board of Education hereby accepts the annual report on the Illinois Due Process System and authorizes its distribution to other parties designated in state law, including the general public.

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 – yes	Mr. Sandsmark – yes	



Chicago  
Dist. 299  
SGSA  
Plan  
Motion

Chairman Gidwitz called for Agenda Item, Immediate Action Items, Approve FY03 Chicago District 299 Supplemental General State Aid Plan.

Ms. Branch moved that the State Board of Education hereby approves the FY03 Chicago School District 299 Plan for expenditure of supplemental general state aid funds as presented, with the understanding that amendments to the plan and relevant data will be provided during the year as appropriate.

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	Dr. Steiner – yes
Mr. Gidwitz – yes	Mrs. Rogers – yes	Mrs. Turkal – yes
Ms. Gold – yes	Mr. Sandsmark – yes	

Rules,  
Part 375,  
Part 155, &  
Part 50  
Motion

The Chairman called for Agenda Item, Immediate Actions Items, Adoption of Rules, Part 375: Student Records; Part 155: Electronic Transfer of Funds; and Part 50: Evaluation of Certified School District Employees in Continued Contractual Service.

Dr. Steiner moved that the State Board of Education hereby adopts the proposed rulemaking, including any changes recommended in response to public comment, for:

Evaluation of Certified School District Employees in Contractual Continued Service (23 Illinois Administrative Code 50);

Electronic Transfer of Funds (23 Illinois Administrative Code 155); and

Student Records (23 Illinois Administrative Code 375).

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	Dr. Steiner – yes
Mr. Gidwitz – yes	Mrs. Rogers – yes	Mrs. Turkal – yes
Ms. Gold – yes	Mr. Sandsmark – yes	

Round Lake Petition Motion Chairman Gidwitz called for Agenda Item, Immediate Action Items, Approve the Petition for Round Lake School Finance Authority.

Mrs. Rogers moved that the State Board of Education hereby acknowledges receipt of the petition of the Round Lake School District #116 Financial Oversight Panel to establish a School Finance Authority for the school district and, upon review, determines that the petition is in the best educational and financial interests of the district and in so finding, approves the petition as submitted.

Mrs. McConachie seconded the motion.

(See Addendum II for a news release regarding the Superintendent Schiller's appointment of members to the School Finance Authority.)

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	

Mrs. McConachie indicated that the Board needed to take special action to thank the Round Lake Financial Oversight Panel. She noted that the chair of the Oversight Panel put in an enormous amount of time, and the Panel did an extraordinary service for the community and the State Board.

The Chairman asked staff to compose a resolution of appreciation for the Round Lake Financial Oversight Panel, and he indicated that he and the Superintendent would write a joint letter of appreciation to the Panel.

AFSCME Agreement Motion The Chairman called for Agenda Item, Immediate Action Items, AFSCME Agreement.

Mrs. Rogers moved that the State Board of Education approves and authorizes the execution of the AFSCME Agreement.

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 – yes	Mr. Sandsmark – yes	

Chairman Gidwitz commented that the economic issues of this agreement include the following items:

- Extension of the current step plan;
- A 1 ½ percent cost of living allowance (COLA) effective on July 1 of each year of the contract; and
- A one-time payment of \$200 upon ratification of the contract.

The Chairman also noted that the two-year cost of this agreement is approximately \$510,000. He stated that AFSCME ratified this contract on August 13, 2002. He also indicated his appreciation to staff members David Wood, Vivian Najim, Harry Blackburn, and the AFSCME negotiators for a good and expeditious settlement.

Resolution for Respicio Vazquez The Chairman indicated that he had one more agenda item to add to the immediate action items. He stated that this item was a resolution of appreciation to Respicio Vasquez, who served as State Superintendent of Education from February 2002 through June 2002. He read the following resolution.

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION  
FOR  
RESPICIO VAZQUEZ

Whereas Respicio Vazquez agreed to serve as State Superintendent of Education at a particularly difficult time in the State Board's history; and

Whereas during the six months he served in this position, Res repeatedly demonstrated the personal courage, commitment and character that led the Board to choose him for this responsibility and led him to accept it; and

Whereas during his tenure, Res earned widespread respect and appreciation through his willingness to listen, his fair handling of issues, his skill in asking critical questions, and his ability to be both flexible and decisive as the occasion warranted; and

Whereas Res used these leadership traits to strengthen key partnerships and move the education agenda forward; and

Whereas Res also used these leadership traits to guide the second phase of the Board's reorganization plan, bring cohesiveness of the internal leadership team and win the confidence and respect of a skeptical staff; and

Whereas Res made "Calm down..." a part of the state education agency lexicon and taught everyone that humor could be a valuable part of even the most difficult debates; and

Whereas he also taught everyone that lawyers know and care deeply about much more than just the law; and

Whereas, through these actions and personal characteristics, Res assured that the State Board remained focused on its goals and that the "alligators didn't swamp the boat;"

Now therefore be it resolved that the State Board of Education extends its deep appreciation to Respicio Vazquez for serving the State of Illinois and its children so very well. On their behalf, "Gracias."

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 – yes	Mr. Sandsmark – yes	

The Chairman also expressed the Board's appreciation to Harry Blackburn for assuming responsibility as chief legal adviser during the time Respicio Vazquez served as State Superintendent. He stated that Harry provided excellent leadership for the legal team and helped the Board successfully develop new bylaws.

Chairman

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

Chairman Gidwitz announced that he had appointed the following Board members to State Board Committees:

- Governmental Relations Committee  
Beverly Turkal, Chair  
Richard Sandsmark  
Judith Gold
- Finance and Audit Committee  
Richard Sandsmark, Chair  
Beverly Turkal  
Connie Rogers
- Board Operations Committee  
Connie Rogers, Chair  
Marjorie Branch  
Janet Steiner  
Vincent Serritella
- Education Policy Planning Committee  
Marilyn McConachie, Chair  
Judith Gold  
Vincent Serritella

The Chairman asked Mrs. McConachie to report about the NASBE Chairs Conference that she attended on his behalf. Mrs. McConachie indicated that she returned from this conference with the following issues that are confronting education boards all across the country:

- No Child Left Behind (NCLB);
- Vouchers
- eLearning Policy
- Governance
- Teacher Licensure
- Finance

She also reported that this conference had been highly beneficial to her -- especially to hear what is happening in other states.

Supt.

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

Superintendent Schiller reported that during his first two and one-half weeks as State Superintendent of Education he has met with state leaders, legislators, local educators, students, and agency employees. He indicated that it is his intent to meet with additional education leaders, advisory boards, and newspaper editorial boards in the near future.

Superintendent Schiller reported that the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Superintendents Conference will be held in Springfield on September 19 and 20. He noted that the primary theme of this year's conference is the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act and its implications for Illinois School Districts and students. He said that Dr. Jacqueline Jackson from the United State Department of Education would be the keynote speaker. He commented that the breakout sessions would address the "achievement gap," "educator gap," and the "funding gap" – within the context of NCLB. He thanked staff members Chris Koch, Gail Lieberman, Pat Ryan, and Leigh Ann Smith for providing planning leadership for this conference.

Superintendent Schiller reported that Illinois is one of 12 states selected to participate in the "Following the Leaders" initiative of the Education Leaders Council. He noted that the initiative is funded by the United States Department of Education and is intended to increase student achievement and the quality of public education in America.

He thanked Gail Lieberman and Sheryl Poggi for their work on the proposal and for going to Washington, DC for the interview.

The Superintendent reported that the agency state fair exhibit was very successful again this year. He thanked the many staff members who worked at the exhibit and specifically acknowledged Ann Keran for planning this huge undertaking and making it such a success. He also thanked Mrs. Rogers for attending this event.

Superintendent Schiller reported that the State Board recognizes its employees each year for their long service to the agency. He noted that this process includes an announcement to the entire agency, individualized recognition, activities within each unit, and the presentation of a small token of appreciation. He thanked these individuals for their dedicated efforts to education in Illinois (See Addendum III).

The Superintendent said that beginning this month, he will announce the retirements of agency staff who will be leaving in the month ahead. He commented that legal staff member Gary Anderson will retire at the end of September. He noted that Gary is the legal specialist on the waiver process and the "No Child Left Behind Act." He also reported that he asked the agency Core Team to help him develop a systematic way for identifying other individuals in the agency who deserve recognition. He indicated that he wanted to start this recognition process with congratulating Andy Metcalf, who recently successfully defended his dissertation.

Superintendent Schiller also offered thanks and farewell to staff member Tammy Rust, who has been the Internal Auditor for the State Board for almost eight years. He noted that Tammy has accepted a position with the Peoria Public School District.

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

Mrs. Rogers reported that the **Board Operations Committee** will be focusing on the policies, rules, and regulations that will coincide with the Board's Bylaws.

Mrs. McConachie reported that the **Joint Education Committee** will meet on August 23 to discuss the following items:

- Illinois School Code rewrite;
- Standards for professional development;
- Preparation of teachers in community colleges;
- Illinois Board of Higher Education report on program approval; and
- PSAE, ACT, and high school core curriculum.

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

Mrs. Rogers reported that she had attended the Illinois State Fair and visited the agency exhibit. She commended the staff for a well-organized effort.

Mrs. Rogers reported that the Board has concurred that she will be the voting delegate at the NASBE Annual Meeting in October. She said that Mrs. McConachie will be the alternate.

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,

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Connie Rogers, Secretary

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Ronald J. Gidwitz, Chairman