

April 30, 2003  
State Board Meeting

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

State Board Room  
100 North First Street  
Springfield, IL 62777

**April 30, 2003**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Ronald Gidwitz	Marjorie B. Branch	Dean Clark
Joyce Karon	Gregory Kazarian	
Richard Sandsmark	Janet Steiner	Beverly Turkal

State Superintendent: Robert E. Schiller

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Judith Gold

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Meeting  
Adjourned  
Roll call

The meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m. by the Acting Chair, Dr. Janet Steiner, who asked Kay Evans, assistant to the Executive for Board Services, to call the roll. Ms. Evans called the roll of members. A quorum was present.

The meeting was held in the video-conferencing room in Springfield and Chicago with the following board members in Springfield: Acting Chair Dr. Janet Steiner, Beverly Turkal, and Dick Sandsmark; and the following in Chicago: Ron Gidwitz, Greg Kazarian, Joyce Karon, Dean Clark, and Marjorie Branch.

It is noted that Ronald Gidwitz's term had expired as Chairman of the State Board, and he is succeeded by Dr. Janet Steiner.

Dr. Steiner indicated that this month's meeting would be one day only, and that the Board meeting would be on the internet for public viewing.

She also indicated that because Ron Gidwitz had to leave to attend another meeting the agenda would not follow the written sequence.

Minutes  
Approval

The Chair asked for a motion to approve the March 19-20, 2003 minutes.

April 30, 2003  
State Board Meeting

Motion Greg Kazarian said he moved that the State Board of Education hereby approve the minutes of the March 19-20, 2003 meeting as published.

Dick Sandsmark seconded the motion.

Vote on Motion Dr. Steiner called for a roll call vote on the motion. The motion passed with the following votes.

Marjorie Branch – yes    Dean Clark - yes    Ron Gidwitz – yes  
Joyce Karon - yes        Greg Kazarian – yes    Janet Steiner – yes  
Dick Sandsmark – yes    Beverly Turkal – yes

The Acting Chair called for Public Participation.

Public Participation Marie Cardozi, who works at the Iroquois/Kankakee Regional Office of Education, was at the meeting representing workers of the TAOEP Grant – Truancy Alternative and Optional Education Program grant. She stated that in the Governor’s address he wanted to eliminate the TAOEP, which addresses the educational and supportive needs of truant and dropout youth. She was at the meeting to recommend this not be eliminated.

Ron Gidwitz asked the Superintendent if at a subsequent meeting they could have a report on the TAOEP line item.

Joe Miller, Attorney for St. Anne Community High School District 302, and Dr. Fred Harris, School Superintendent spoke before the board. Mr. Miller said their school district filed a petition asking that the district be removed from the Academic Watch List and be placed on the Academic Early Warning List (AEWL.) The district felt this was more appropriate because being placed on the AWL would have a negative effect on the students of the school district. He said the district has shown academic improvement, and because of a new building more programs would be able to be offered. He said two things were not followed that are stated in the statute that must be done before a district is placed on the AWL. They are, that an on-site review team must come to the district before it is placed on the AWL to determine if there are extenuating circumstances in place; and second, that before a school district can be placed on the AWL, it must be on the AEWL for two consecutive school years, and it was only done for the 2001-2002 school year. He said they are asking for a chance to finish the school improvement plan by keeping the district on the AEWL.

April 30, 2003  
State Board Meeting

Dr. Steiner said since this was an agenda item we would be discussing it.

Jay Runner, FCAE (Facilitating Coordination in Agricultural Education) Coordinator, and Jim Craft, Executive Director, Illinois Association of Vocational Agriculture Instructors, and Executive Secretary for the FFA Association were present to talk on Agricultural education, and to present their Annual Report.

Mr. Gidwitz asked if they were on the Department of Agriculture's budget as a line item for next year, and if so he suggested they make their wants known that they wanted to remain on ISBE's budget.

Phyllis Pickett, Waiver Coordinator, IL Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (IAPERD/PE) outlined their organization's accomplishments, and said in January, 2003 a national database was launched with an assessment called the Fitness Gram. She said approximately 382 schools have received this packet from ISBE. In terms of waivers, they said they are happy with the change in the forms and reporting from ISBE, especially Shelley Helton and Winnie Tuthill. She continued by saying they have a better view of schools and how they are meeting the Standards and ISAT testing. She asked the Board to look at the report she handed out. Finally, she said they continue to oppose waivers and that Brad Hanson would speak on the subject further.

Mr. Hanson said they want the State Board to hold physical education to a high standard, because parents believe physical education helps children's grades.

Randy Taylor, Principal of an alternative school in Decatur, IL spoke next on the need for the budget to have a line item for alternative schools.

Mr. Gidwitz said they should all show up at the House on Tuesday, May 6 to rally for this line item.

Connie Frank, representing ROE, Peoria County, was present to rally for budget money.

The Acting Chair stated that Superintendent Schiller would be summarizing the agenda items, and called for agenda item: Waiver Report to the General Assembly.

April 30, 2003  
State Board Meeting

Waiver  
Report to the  
General  
Assembly

The Superintendent said the Spring 2003 Waiver Report is the sixteenth report to be submitted to the General Assembly pursuant to Section 1-3.25g of the School Code. He said they are recommending to the Board 85 requests to waive mandates that are contained in fourteen School Code provisions. He said that 3 of the 85 waiver requests be forwarded for legislative disapproval; and the remaining 82 be submitted without comment.

He said the 3 recommended for disapproval were:  
St. Anne Community High School District 302  
Madison Community Unit School District 12  
Norridge School District 80

St. Anne Community High School District 302 is asking that they remain on the Academic Warning List and not be moved to the Academic Watch List. He said disapproval is based on: 1) schools on AEWL for two consecutive years must be placed on the AWL, 2) approval would violate the *No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001*, and, 3) it would compromise equal opportunities for learning.

He asked Dr. Lynne Haeffele Curry, Director, Planning and Performance, to speak on the topic and answer questions. She gave an overview of the school's activities that are on target, and gave examples of activities behind schedule. She stated this school has been on the Academic Warning List since 1998.

Greg Kazarian asked if there was an on-sight evaluation to consider extenuating circumstances. She stated there was, and no extenuating circumstances were reported.

Beverly Turkal asked if it was a formal committee that visited the school and determined there were no extenuating circumstances, and what was their mission. Dr. Curry stated they are monitoring the activity related to the school improvement plan while meeting with administrators, teachers, educators in residence, etc. She deferred the question regarding extenuating circumstances to Respicio Vazquez, Legal Counsel for comment.

He said the statute says the school district would be subject to an on-sight visitation, it does not actually require one, and leaves it up to the State Superintendent's discretion. He said this was a new area in which the State Board is going to have to define what the extenuating circumstances are, cautioning not to violate the *NCLB* federal law.

Mr. Joe Miller, Attorney for St. Anne School District wanted to address some of the comments. He stated that the school had implemented the *NCLB* Act, but said this was separate than the AWL being discussed. He said they believed the Board had the authority to allow the district to remain on the AEWL. Regarding the comment on the statute about the on-sight visitation team, the statute says "shall" which they interpreted as the State Board was required to send a formal on-sight visitation team to discuss extenuating circumstances. That had not occurred, he stated, even though there had been an educator in residence, none of the people visiting had been there in regard to being placed on the AWL. He stated, on the comment regarding the percentage lower from 49% to 36%, he doesn't believe this is a true reflection of improvement in the students. He said in 2000-2001 the ninth graders rated a 7.2 in reading, but in 2001-2002 they rose to 8.8 – the same is true for language and math. He said they believed that by leaving the district on the AEWL (following state guidelines,) was implementing an assessment tool needed to address St. Anne's educational programs.

Superintendent Schiller said he would like the staff to explain the criteria used for placement on the AEWL and AWL.

Dr. Curry and Dr. Connie Wise, Interim Division Administrator of Student Assessment, gave an explanation of placement on these lists. Dr. Steiner asked Mr. Miller if he understood the explanation. Mr. Miller said he had misunderstood that it was only the eleventh grade not all grades. He said they had based their request on individual student achievement which showed an improvement.

Superintendent Schiller asked Dr. Curry to speak on a technical correction of the test scores. She said the highest was 36.3% but there were now 18.4% of the students meeting or exceeding the standards.

Dr. Harris, St. Anne School District, asked why they had two educator's in residence but now only had one. The Superintendent said that state funding is not adequate, but they were trying to put something together in conjunction with the ROEs to provide a system of support with federal money for next year.

Dr. Steiner asked for a motion.

Motion

Greg Kazarian made a motion that the State Board of Education accept the Superintendent's recommendations as outlined on page 66 of the April State Board packet, that the requests from St. Anne

April 30, 2003  
State Board Meeting

Community High School District 302, and Madison Community School District 2 be removed from the Academic Watch List and be returned to the Academic Early Warning List before the General Assembly with the recommendation for legislative disapproval. The request from Norridge School District 80 asking to employ teacher aides without being under the direct supervision of a certified teacher be forwarded to the General Assembly with the recommendation for disapproval, and that the remaining 82 requests summarized in the waiver report be forwarded to the General Assembly without comment.

Dick Sandsmark seconded the motion.

Amendment  
to Motion

Ronald Gidwitz made a motion (as an amendment), with respect to the physical education waivers. He said, the criteria we are using to agree to a physical education waiver included achieving IL Learning Standards in physical development and health, specifically Goals 19, 20 & 21. In order for them to maintain their qualifications for a waiver, those schools who are granted a waiver continue to qualify and meet the learning standards for physical development and health and report on an annual basis to the State Board; and in addition, we ask the ROEs to spot check on a periodic basis those schools who have received waivers to ensure compliance.

Dick accepted and seconded the amendment.

Lynne Haeffele Curry said in regard to Madison Community School District No. 12, they have 3 components to the school improvement plan. 1) Reading Improvement, 2) school climate, and 3) school-community relations. She said we have found evidence of reading improvement but have not found any in school client and school-community relations other than the beginning implementation of positive behavioral intervention support with assistance from the ROE.

Roll Call on  
Motion

Dr. Steiner asked for a roll call vote of the motion including the amendment. The motion passed with the following vote:

Marjorie Branch – yes      Dean Clark – yes      Ron Gidwitz – yes  
Joyce Karon – yes      Greg Kazarian – yes      Janet Steiner – yes  
Dick Sandsmark – yes

2002 Annual  
Report &  
Fiscal Year  
04 Budget

Acting Chair Steiner called for Agenda Item: 2002 Annual Report and Fiscal Year 2004 Budget

Extensive discussion followed regarding the budget. Board members,

April 30, 2003  
State Board Meeting

Superintendent Schiller, and David Wood discussed the rationale of the line items. The Superintendent went over the base comparisons of our recommendations and the Governors.

Lunch Break Dr. Steiner broke for lunch at 12:15 p.m. saying the discussion would be continued after this break.

Accountability Task Force Summary Acting Chair Steiner asked for agenda item: Accountability and Task Force Summary.

Superintendent Schiller, Board members, and Dr. Lynne Haeffele Curry discussed the recommendations submitted by the Assessment and Accountability Task Force. The three recommendations of the Task Force were:

- 1) Threshold for attendance rate. The recommendation was to set up a target for the attendance rate that would grow over the life of NCLB.
- 2) Threshold for High School Graduation Rates. The recommendation was that the graduation rate threshold be adopted with a beginning point of 65% and ending point of 85% in unequal increments. This is in alignment with the Illini Plan.
- 3) Untimed Tests be adopted. It was recommended that students have the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge, and as long as they are productively engaged in completing the state assessment without interruption, they could continue beyond the recommended time as long as the testing time is uninterrupted.

Each item was discussed separately with board member Greg Kazarian interjecting what was discussed during the Board's Education Policy Planning Committee meeting.

Motion Greg Kazarian gave the motion: I would move that the State Board of Education accept the report of the Assessment and Accountability Task Force to continue implementation of NCLB; I would move that the graduation rate at the high school level already approved as a component of the Adequate Yearly Progress criteria be set at a beginning threshold of 65% for 2003 increasing in unequal increments until 85% is reached in alignment with the Illini Plan as outlined in figure 1; that ISBE believes that students should have the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge of the Illinois Learning Standards, I would further move that five minutes be added to each

April 30, 2003  
State Board Meeting

of the tests as long as the total amount of time does not exceed the statutory allowable length of time for the tests. I would move that the attendance rate at the elementary middle school level be used as a component of the Adequate Yearly Progress criteria and should begin at 88% in 2003 and continue until 92% in 2014 as outlined in figure 2.

Dick Sandsmark seconded the motion.

Vote on Motion

Dr. Steiner said it should be clarified that they have accepted the report of the Task Force but have modified it.

Acting Chair Steiner called for a roll call vote on the motion. The motion passed with the following votes:

Greg Kazarian – yes Dick Sandsmark – yes Janet Steiner – yes  
Bev Turkal – yes Marjorie Branch – yes Dean Clark – yes  
Joyce Karon – yes

Rules for Adoption Part 228  
Transitional Bilingual Ed

Dr. Steiner called for agenda item: Rules for Adoption Part 228 (Transitional Bilingual Education)

Superintendent Schiller gave an overview of the item. He recommended this Rule be adopted by the Board.

Dr. Steiner called for the motion.

Motion

Joyce Karon said I move that the State Board of Education hereby adopts the proposed rulemaking for:

Transitional Bilingual Education (23 Illinois Administrative Code 228)

Further, the Board authorizes the State Superintendent of Education to make such technical or non-substantive changes as the State Superintendent may deem necessary in response to suggestions or objections of the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules.

Marjorie Branch seconded the motion.

Roll call on Motion

Acting Chair Steiner called for a roll call vote on the motion. The motion passed with the following votes:

Joyce Karon – yes Greg Kazarian – yes Dick Sandsmark – yes  
Janet Steiner – yes Bev Turkal – yes Marjorie Branch – yes  
Dean Clark – yes



FY01-02

Financial and  
Compliance  
Audit

Acting Chair Steiner called for agenda item: FY01-02 Financial and Compliance Audit.

Superintendent Schiller, Chairman of the Finance Committee, Dick Sandsmark, and Board members overviewed the agenda item.

Mr. Sandsmark pointed out that ISBE would be audited every year instead of every two years as a result of the State's procedures because we have such a significant part of the budget.

Motion

He made the motion: That the State Board receive the Auditor General's report for FY01 and FY02 covering the period from July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002; and the compliance segment which covers the period from July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2002.

Beverly Turkal seconded the motion.

Vote on  
Motion

Dr. Steiner called for a roll call on the motion. The motion passed with the following votes:

Dick Sandsmark – yes    Janet Steiner – yes    Beverly Turkal - yes  
Marjorie Branch – yes    Dean Clark – yes    Joyce Karon – yes  
Greg Kazarian – yes

Auditor  
General's  
Audit of  
TAMS

Acting Chair Steiner called for agenda item: Auditor General's Audit of the Teachers Academy for Mathematics and Science.

Superintendent Schiller turned the discussion over the Dick Sandsmark.

Motion

Dick Sandsmark made the motion: I move that the State Board of Education hereby receive the Auditor General's Audit Report of the Teachers Academy for Math and Science and request the legislature to fund additional costs related to the agency's increased administrative functions as they pertain to the Teachers Academy for Math and Science.

Greg Kazarian seconded the motion.

Mr. Sandsmark indicated that the recommendation at the Finance and Audit Committee which met that morning, was that this line item should not be funded further by our agency. And, if the legislature chooses to fund it, then they must give ISBE money to oversee it. Greg Kazarian said he would like the record to point out to the

April 30, 2003  
State Board Meeting

legislature that we will administer this but that there must be clarification to us and to TAMS, as well as funding to enable this oversight.

Vote on  
Motion

Dr. Steiner asked for roll call vote on the motion. The motion passed with the following votes:

Dick Sandsmark – yes     Janet Steiner – yes     Beverly Turkal – yes  
Marjorie Branch – yes     Dean Clark - yes     Joyce Karon - yes  
Greg Kazarian – yes

Hazel Crest  
School  
District 152 ½

Acting Chair Steiner called for agenda item: Hazel Crest School District 152 ½. – School Finance Authority's Proposed FY 04 Budget for the District

Superintendent Schiller, in giving background information said that the finance authority has informed us that they believe they can have a balanced budget and that the district could survive one more year, but it is virtually impossible for the district to continue as a separate district after school year 2003-2004. He said we are concerned that the district had not provided enough cushion for next year, and were concerned that the district, in negotiations for a successor agreement, had not adequately funded this obligation.

He announced that Hazel Crest had the capacity to operate one more year financially, but unless things change after receiving a report in September and/or December 2003, the district would not be able to continue operating. Secondly, he would like the State Board to consider the budget that had been presented in light of his expressed reservations.

Motion

Dick Sandsmark gave the motion that while the State Board of Education appreciates the hard work of Hazel Crest Finance Authority, the balance of the district's budget for the next school year, upon reviewing the approved budget submitted to it by the Hazel Crest SFA, and the interest of promoting financial integrity within the Hazel Crest School District 152 ½, ISBE moves that the Hazel Crest SFA reconsider amending the Hazel Crest School District 152 ½ budget to reflect the following changes. Increase available balance which acts as a cushion against unforeseen revenue or expenditure changes, and in particular, reduce administrative positions further being especially cognizant of the fiscal positions duplicated by the CFACEO and the positions that are not critical for the final year of the district.

Marjorie Branch seconded the motion.

At Greg Kazarian's and Superintendent Schiller's suggestion, a benchmark percentage of one month's operating expenses to cover salaries and operations would be included in a letter to the district.

See tape for further discussion.

Vote on  
Motion

Acting Chair Steiner called for a roll call vote on the motion. The motion passed with the following votes:

Dick Sandsmark – yes     Janet Steiner – yes     Beverly Turkal – yes  
Marjorie Branch – yes     Dean Clark – yes     Joyce Karon – yes  
Greg Kazarian - yes

Finance Audit  
and Agency  
Operations  
Report

Dr. Steiner called for agenda item: Standard Monthly Finance, Agency Operations, and Budget Reports

Motion

Since there was no discussion necessary, Beverly Turkal gave the motion: I move that the State Board of Education hereby accept the financial, agency operations, and budget status reports presented during the April 30, 2003 meeting.

Dick Sandsmark seconded the motion.

Roll Call on  
Motion

Dr. Steiner called for a roll call vote on the motion. The motion passed with the following votes:

Beverly Turkal – yes     Marjorie Branch – yes     Dean Clark - yes  
Joyce Karon – yes     Greg Kazarian – yes     Dick Sandsmark – yes  
Janet Steiner – yes

Board  
members &  
Supt's  
quarterly  
reports

Dr. Steiner called for agenda item: Board's and Superintendent's Quarterly Travel and Expenses Report for December 2002 to March 2003.

Motion

Dick Sandsmark gave the motion: I move that the State Board of Education hereby accept the State Board and State Superintendent's quarterly travel expense reports covering the period of December, 2002 to March, 2003.

Greg Kazarian seconded the motion.

April 30, 2003  
State Board Meeting

Vote on  
Motion

Dr. Steiner called for a roll call vote on the motion. The motion passed with the following votes.

Dick Sandsmark – yes    Janet Steiner – yes    Beverly Turkal – yes  
Marjorie Branch – yes    Dean Clark - yes    Joyce Karon – yes  
Greg Kazarian – yes

Budget  
continuation

Acting Chair Steiner called for a continuation of the Budget discussion.

More extensive discussions continued by the Board members, Superintendent, and staff on the budget with all trying to come to an equitable consensus for our budget presentation.

A few of the topics covered were: The visually impaired, school district consolidation, TAMS, Virtual High School, Technology for Success, alternative education, and agricultural education. The Board came to a consensus on programs that should be housed at ISBE.

Motion

Dick Sandsmark made the motion that the State Board of Education recommend to transfer back into the ISBE budget the following: Technology for Success, Career Technical Education, Illinois Scholars, the Phillip Rock Center, agricultural education, and the JILG. Those are funded at different levels and are funded in other people's budgets, they have all been in our budget at one time, and I would like to make a motion that we support legislature that we maintain and retain them.

Greg Kazarian seconded the motion.

Vote on  
Motion

Dr. Steiner asked for a roll call vote on the motion. The motion passed with the following votes.

Dick Sandsmark – yes    Janet Steiner – yes    Beverly Turkal – yes  
Marjorie Branch – yes    Dean Clark – yes    Joyce Karon – yes  
Greg Kazarian – yes

Amendment  
to motion

Dick Sandsmark said he would like to make an amendment to the motion to include that we authorize a letter be sent to the Bureau of the Budget, the Governor, and the Legislature affirming what was just voted on.

Greg Kazarian agreed with the motion and seconded it.

April 30, 2003  
State Board Meeting

Motion Dick Sandsmark said he would like to make a motion to amend our budget to transfer funding allocated to the targeted initiatives remaining in the proposed Governor's budget, and reallocate that money into the mandated categorical fund.

Joyce Karon seconded the motion.

Discussion followed with Mr. Sandsmark explaining specifically what the targeted initiative included. TAMS; Mentoring and Induction ; Metro East Consortium for Child Advocacy (MECCA); Minority Transition Program; the Parental Involvement Foundation; and the transportation reimbursement. These would be mandated categoricals.

Roll Call Vote Dr. Steiner called for a roll call vote on the motion. The motion passed with the following votes.

Dick Sandsmark – yes Joyce Karon – yes Dean Clark - yes  
Janet Steiner – yes Greg Kazarian – yes Marjorie Branch – yes  
Beverly Turkal – yes

Moving to the next one, Superintendent Schiller asked if the Board wanted to identify those specific categoricals that are eliminated in the Governor's budget but that we stridently want to advocate for additional new funding.

Motion Beverly Turkal said I would make the motion that we reaffirm the Illinois State Board of Education's recommendations for the following through funding from the State of Illinois. The Consolidation money, money for the Visually Impaired, Truant Alternative Education money, and monies for the Regional Offices of Education (ROEs).

Dick Sandsmark seconded the motion.

Vote on Motion Beverly Turkal – yes Marjorie Branch – yes Dean Clark – yes  
Joyce Karon – yes Greg Kazarian – yes Janet Steiner – yes  
Dick Sandsmark – yes

State and Federal Legislative Update

Dr. Steiner called for agenda item: State and Federal Legislative Updates

In Peter Leonis' absence, Beverly Turkal said she would defer to the Superintendent for this report. Superintendent Schiller said there were bills that they would like to discuss with the Board.

HB 430 The first one is HB 430 which changes the poverty count to the DHS formula rather than the census formula for the poverty portion of the General State Aid; and also would prorate the first year cost difference to an additional \$27.5 million. It had passed out of the Senate Appropriations Committee meeting. He believed the Board would want to advocate for this.

There was no motion on this.

HB 2790 The Superintendent spoke on HB 2790 and said we are trying to assure that the school districts receive a continuous flow of state funding through the fiscal year. We were able to get through executive order the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> month payment advance for this year, and they have indicated to him that during legislative session they will send out an executive order for these advancements in future years. He further explained our position on these payments, 23/24 vs. 22 payments.

Motion  
HB 2790 Beverly Turkal made the motion that the State Board support HB 2790 that it would go to 22 payments over 11 months and make permanent that payment schedule as opposed to waiting for the 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> payment.

Dick Sandsmark seconded the motion.

Vote on  
Motion Dr. Steiner called for a roll call vote on the motion. The motion passed with the following votes.

Joyce Karon – yes Greg Kazarian – yes Dick Sandsmark – yes  
Janet Steiner – yes Marjorie Branch – yes Dean Clark – yes  
Beverly Turkal – yes

Superintendent Schiller continued saying EFAB recommended the State Board endorse the fund consolidation of nine education funds to four. They further recommended moving 20 education levies to eight. He said we drew up legislation that would deal with only the fund consolidation and another piece of legislation that would do the tax levy and the fund consolidation. He spoke to the Budget Director and they are willing to support the fund and tax levy consolidation.

Motion Beverly Turkal made the motion that the State Board would support the consolidation of funding and levies as previously suggested which is an amendment to a Senate Bill.

Dick Sandsmark and Joyce Karon seconded the motion.

Vote on the Motion

Dr. Steiner asked for a roll call vote of the motion. The motion passed with the following votes.

Beverly Turkal – yes Marjorie Branch – yes Dean Clark – yes  
Joyce Karon – yes Greg Kazarian – yes Dick Sandsmark – yes  
Janet Steiner – yes

Assessment Task Force Bill

The Superintendent said the assessment bill was submitted by the Assessment Task Force Committee. He stated that IEA had raised an objection with regard to the amount of time that was being added to the testing, and an amendment was being worked on to have the number of hours reduced. An amendment was also introduced that would reduce the amount of local district testing once the assessment system is in place.

Motion

Beverly Turkal gave a motion that the State Board of Education support the Bill as it stands from the Assessment Task Force.

Joyce Karon seconded the motion.

Vote on Motion

Dr. Steiner called for a roll call vote of the motion. The motion passed with the following votes.

Beverly Turkal – yes Marjorie Branch – yes Dean Clark – yes  
Joyce Karon – yes Greg Kazarian – yes Dick Sandsmark – yes  
Janet Steiner – yes

Senate Bill 878

Dr. Schiler said Senate Bill 878 is on its way to the House. This is an amendment to our accountability standards legislation to bring the State into compliance with the NCLB with regard to accountability. This bill encompasses:

- rewards and acknowledgements for schools and districts that meet academic progress for 2 or more years;
- sets forth the sequence of when school do not meet the AYP criteria;
- how they work through the Annual Early Warning List, through the Watch List status, into corrective action;
- identifies those schools receiving federal funding are obligated under these requirements would apply;
- identifies the process of the school and district improvement panel; as well as the role of the ROE in reviewing the plans;
- it says you cannot seek a waiver from compliance with ESEA;
- and it puts into place an appeals process.

An appeals committee, appointed by the State Superintendent, would be comprised of nine members from each of the partner organizations and one at-large representative who would hear the appeal and make a recommendation to the State Superintendent who sends it to the Board for final determination prior to going to the Legislature for a waiver review.

Beverly Turkal said she made the motion and was seconded.

Vote

Dr. Steiner called for a roll call of the votes. The motion passed with the following votes.

Beverly Turkal – yes Marjorie Branch – yes Dean Clark – yes  
Joyce Karon – yes Greg Kazarian – yes Dick Sandsmark – yes  
Janet Steiner – yes

HB 2375

Superintendent Schiller brought before the Board HB 2375 which revisits the School Finance Authority, its construction, role, and the role of the State Board as well as a way to trigger earlier assistance to school districts in which problems are developing. ISBE would like this to include the level of the state grant and loan – the amount of money going to school districts; to structure the appointment of CEO – chief finance officer, and for us to be able to broaden the criteria so when school districts are in financial difficulty we are not reactive but proactive.

Motion

Beverly Turkal made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to forward this Bill.

Dick Sandsmark seconded the motion.

Vote on  
Motion

Dr. Steiner asked for a roll call vote of the motion. The motion passed with the following votes.

Beverly Turkal – yes Marjorie Branch – yes Dean Clark – yes  
Joyce Karon – yes Greg Kazarian – yes Dick Sandsmark – yes  
Janet Steiner – yes

Dr. Steiner said we would be meeting in May on Monday and Tuesday, the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, and for Monday and Tuesday, June 16-17, 2003 in Springfield.

Dr. Steiner said she must relinquish her chair to the Operations Committee and ask that Joyce Karon accept this chair. She said she would agree to do so.



Each committee said they had nothing more to report that everything had been covered in today's discussion.

Dr. Steiner said the standard monthly waiver report can be found at the end of the packet.

Closed  
Session

Acting Chair Steiner asked the motion be read to go into Closed Session.

Greg Kazarian said:

Motion

I move 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, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of an employee.
- Section 2 (c) (11) for the purpose of discussing litigation.

The Board is authorized to invite anyone into these meetings as needed.

Vote on  
Motion

Dr. Steiner called for a roll call vote on the motion. The motion passed with the following votes.

Dick Sandsmark – yes Joyce Karon – yes Dean Clark - yes  
Janet Steiner – yes Greg Kazarian – yes Marjorie Branch – yes  
Beverly Turkal – yes

The Board adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted:

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Richard Sandsmark  
Secretary

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Dr. Janet Steiner  
Acting Chair