



Illinois State Board of Education*

Chicago Board of Education
125 South Clark Street, 5th Floor Board Chambers
Chicago, Illinois 60603

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SCHEDULE AND AGENDA OF MEETING August 20, 2003

Agenda Items

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WEDNESDAY, August 20, 2003

9:00 a.m.

Education Policy Planning Committee Meeting
Superintendent's Office, James Thompson Center

- o Review of Presentation of 2003 State ACT Results
- o Review of Presentation of 2003 State Assessment Results

11:00 a.m.

Call Meeting to Order/Roll Call
5th Floor Board Chambers, Chicago Board of Education

A. **Presentations**

- Presentation of External Assurance Procedures
(pp. 1-2)
- Presentation of State of Illinois FY 02 Single Audit Report (pp. 3-4)
- Presentation of 2003 State ACT Results (p. 5)

12:15-1:15 p.m.

B. **LUNCH**

A. **Presentations (Continued)**

- Presentation of 2003 State Assessment Results
 - o ISAT, PSAE, IAA, and Image (pp. 6-27)

1:45 p.m.

PLENARY BUSINESS MEETING

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

5th Floor Board Chambers, Chicago Board of Education

B. **Public Participation**

C. **Approval of Minutes**

- June 16-17, 2003 (pp. 28-53)
- June 25, 2003 (pp. 54-55)
- July 15, 2003 (pp. 56-57)
- July 24, 2003 (pp. 58-59)

D. **Discussion/Action Items**

- Receipt of State of Illinois FY02 Single Audit Report
- Approval of Chicago Public School District 299 FY04

- Supplemental General State Aid Plan (pp. 60-61)
- Approval of 2003-2004 Fees for GED Testing (pp. 62-64)
- Approval of Illinois State Teacher Certification Board Accreditation Recommendations to the State Board of Education (pp. 65-86)
- Approval of Cancellation of the Contract for Evaluation of the Certificate Renewal System (p. 87-89)
- Approval of Teacher Education Accreditation Cycle (pp. 90-100)
- Approval of Mediation Contracts (pp. 101-103)
- Ratification of Due Process Hearing Officer Contracts (pp. 104-107)
- Rules for Adoption—Part 5000 (pp. 108-112)
 - Public Information, Rulemaking and Organization
- Approval of Support of Resolution to Eliminate the Reduced Price Meal Category (pp. 113-117)
- Acceptance of ISBE Monthly Reports (pp. 118-136)
 - July 2003 Fiscal/Agency Operations Reports
- Review of ISBE's Capacity to Provide Services as Mandated by the Illinois School Code (pp. 137-138)
- Approval of Superintendent's Quarterly Travel Analysis
 - (March 2003-June 2003)

E. Announcements and Reports

- Superintendent
- Chairman
- Committees
 - a. Board Operations - Joyce Karon, Chair
 - b. Finance & Audit - Richard Sandsmark, Chair
 - c. Joint Education - Ronald Gidwitz, Chair
 - d. Governmental Relations - Bev Turkal, Chair
 - e. Education Policy Planning - Greg Kazarian, Chair
- Members

F. Other Information

- Monthly Status Report on Rulemaking (pp. 139-140)

G. Closed Session (immediately following the Plenary Session)

*All State Board of Education meetings listed on this agenda will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Persons planning to attend who need special accommodations should contact the Board office no later than the date prior to the meeting.

Contact the Superintendent's office at the State Board of Education, 100 North First Street, Springfield, Illinois 62777-0001.

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Illinois State Board of Education
 100 North First Street
 Springfield, IL 62777

August 20, 2003
State Board Meeting

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION*
100 North First Street – 4th Floor Board Room—via Teleconference
Springfield, Illinois 62777
and
James Thompson Center
100 West Randolph, 14th Floor
Chicago, IL 62601

Dial up number: 1-877-865-7025
Pass code: 8286275#

Chicago Board of Education
125 South Clark Street, 6th Floor Board Chambers
Chicago, Illinois 60603

<p><u>Call Meeting to Order/ Roll Call</u></p>	<p>The Illinois State Board of Education August 20, 2003 was called to order at 11:10 a.m. by the Chair, Dr. Janet Steiner. Dr. Steiner thanked the Chicago Board of Education for their accommodations and for allowing the Illinois State Board of Education to hold the August Board meeting at their facility. Dr. Steiner stated that this will be a one day meeting, and then asked the roll to be called. A quorum was present.</p> <p>MEMBERS PRESENT: Janet Steiner Dean Clark Greg Kazarian Ronald Gidwitz Joyce Karon</p> <p>Beverly Turkal joined the meeting at 11:25 a.m. via telephone connection.</p> <p>Judith Gold joined the meeting at 2:52 p.m.</p> <p>MEMBERS ABSENT: Richard Sandsmark</p> <p>Dr. Steiner indicated that the technology staff would be making the audio portion of the meeting available via the Internet.</p>
<p><u>Presentation of External Assurance</u></p>	<p>Dr. Steiner then announced that we will begin with a series of presentations this morning. The first presentation being presented by David Wood and Robert Wolfe on External Assurance. (Please refer to the attached PowerPoint presentation slides.)</p>

Dr. Schiller proceeded to explain that the External Assurance division was established in March of 2002 as part of the agency's reorganization to consolidate all of the fiscal programmatic monitoring function into one division and focus the efforts of the program staff on technical assistance and evaluation of results.

Before Mr. Wolfe began the presentation, Mr. Wood explained that this process originated out of several internal audit reports. The process is an attempt to move to a risk-based approach of auditing on a cycle so that ISBE gets into every district on a three year cycle looking at their disbursement of state and federal funds.

This division has just recently been staffed within the last month or so to its minimum working capacity. There is now a regional-based system along with training manuals and procedures in place. Programs are now being also phased in.

Mr. Wolfe then proceeded to explain the External Assurance division's responsibility of conducting audits of the state categorical programs. The biggest responsibility that the division oversees is the General State Aid claim. Monitoring functions are provided for state and federal grants as well as No Child Left Behind grants, encompassing Title I, II, IV, and V.

In addition, in FY04 monitoring procedures will be put in place for the IDEA funds, Perkins Grant, and will continue with monitoring of the Regional Offices of Education (ROEs) and Intermediate Servicing Centers (ISCs).

Mr. Wolfe then presented the External Assurance Division staff organizational chart and proceeded to discuss their responsibilities and geographical locations. There are currently two vacancies.

Ron Gidwitz inquired as to how the staff that has filled vacancies will receive proper training before going out into the field. Mr. Wolfe stated that they received training and a manual as well as a mentor accompanies the new staff members on their visits to districts.

Mr. Wood also indicated that training is an ongoing process. There is initial staff training as well as specific training. Mr. Wolfe said that in less complex districts he would like to see the program going within six month.

	<p>Ron Gidwitz and Greg Kazarian inquired about the organizational chart and how the division developed the appropriateness for the staff number levels. Mr. Wood stated that as for last year, 35 staff had been the goal. However, the target was much higher when looked at during the review cycle. There is an ongoing review of staffing levels and appropriateness. FY04 will be the first year that we will be at this staffing level. Currently, the staffing level is 33.</p> <p>Greg Kazarian stated that he was struck by the magnitude of assignment this division has. However, he stated this report needs to be updated as soon as possible to be current and reflect the current vacancies.</p> <p>Dean Clark inquired as to where the vacancies are in the division. Mr. Wolfe stated that the vacancies are currently in Southwest Illinois in Madison/ St. Clair counties and in Northeast Illinois in the Lake, McHenry, Boone, and Winnebago counties.</p> <p>Dr. Schiller indicated that most of the positions are being funded federally and staff is currently looking for people who have skill levels to fill the two vacancies.</p>
<p><u>Presentation of State of Illinois FY02 Single Audit Report</u></p>	<p>Dr. Steiner then called for the second presentation of the State of Illinois Single Audit Report.</p> <p>Dr. Schiller stated that we are looking at the Fiscal Year 2002 audit for federal expenditures that occurred up until last June 2002. He then asked Karl Vogl to review for the Board the findings and the status of the protocols and processes as well as the remedies to date.</p> <p>Karl Vogl then proceeded to state that the Audit Report was just issued a month ago. The report includes financial information as well as other information related to compliance with federal requirements. There were a number of finding in the audit report related to various state agencies. Nine of the findings were directly related to the State Board itself. It was found that the agency has not been able to perform its on-site monitoring visits as required. Specifically cited were the Title I, Special Education, and the Vocational Educational programs. The Auditor General has qualified his overall state-wide compliance report because various state agencies have similar issues that the State Board has.</p>

Mr. Vogl stated that these findings must go back to the individuals who are responsible for the programs. There is a six-month window to remedy these findings. In general, it has been found that we do not have adequate on-sight monitoring or up-to-date accounting records.

Currently, the monitoring of the Title I program was shifted to the External Assurance division. With concerns to Special Education, a risk-based approach is being developed to monitor the Special Education program. This process should be in place later this fiscal year. As for the Vocational Educational program, the agency has caught up all the back-log from 2002 and 2003, and now this program is current.

Mr. Vogl asserted that overall ISBE staff members have at least partially implemented the Auditor General's recommendation concerning the on-site monitoring and currently are working on the rest of the findings.

In concerns to the required desk reviews of district audit reports, management has already implemented some of the recommendations and requirements. However, due to shortages, the agency has not been able to meet the six-month deadline in reviewing all of the audit reports.

Mr. Vogl concluded by stating that the agency has made considerable efforts in regards to the Auditor General's recommendations. As far as an impact on the agency, it will now be necessary to focus on the compliance aspect in regard to state and federal mandates. It is not speculated that these findings will affect our federal funding. However, the agency does not take the findings lightly, and staff is working on remedying them under the direction of the Superintendent. The agency considers five of the nine findings fully implemented. The other four are still being worked on, and will be implemented as well.

Dr. Schiller stated that the action the Board would take would be to accept this Auditor General Report for 2002 and asked that the Board continue to advocate adequate funding of the agency's critical functions to remedy many of the citations for our inability to maintain the cycles.

Ron Gidwitz asked Mr. Vogl if we expect to see at least four of these findings on the 2003 Report. Mr. Vogl stated that some of

	<p>these findings will go away with the current work that is being done. There are some timing issues for consideration. Some of the findings were received later in the fiscal year.</p> <p>Mr. Gidwitz asked how many finding were in 2001 that also repeated in 2002. Mr. Vogl stated that there were two repeated findings out of the nine. However, they are considered remedied at this point.</p> <p>Ron Gidwitz also asked if the department was adequately resourced to handle the remedy of these findings. Karl Vogl responded positively by stating the department currently has five staff members. Dr. Schiller stated that we originally looked at staffing it at eight but only had enough funds for five staff members. These staff members are paid out of GRF.</p>
<p><u>Presentation of 2003 State ACT Results</u></p>	<p>Dr. Steiner stated that the next presentation will be of the State ACT Results. (Please refer to the attached PowerPoint presentation slides.)</p> <p>Dr. Schiller stated that the embargo had been lifted as of midnight. Accordingly, there are some very interesting points for Illinois. There was an Educational Policy/Planning meeting in which the results were discussed.</p> <p>Mr. Pawlawski from ACT was called forward to give the presentation. He proceeded to go through the ACT packet that was provided for the Board members. The packet included Illinois as well as national data.</p> <p>Mr. Pawlawski stated that some great things happened in Illinois this year. The composite score rose .1 from 20.1 to 20.2. Mr. Pawlawski stated that out of 134, 505 students participating in taking this test, this a good increase. In addition, 68% of the 2003 graduating senior class scored in the 16-27 range.</p> <p>Ron Gidwitz asked about the data that shows how students taking this test would do in college. Mr. Pawlawski stated that the potential for passing a certain college course have been set by ACT. Of students that took core coursework, most of those students scored an 18 or above on the ACT. There is evidence that taking the core coursework yields a higher ACT score for students and a greater chance of achieving success in Freshman college courses.</p> <p>The core coursework includes four years or more of English,</p>

three years or more of Mathematics, three years or more of Social Science, and three years or more of Natural Sciences.

Dr. Steiner stated that she didn't have any questions but thanked Mr. Pawlawski for the wonderful presentation. She stated that the data shows the importance of taking the core coursework. Greg Kazarian stated that he applauds the members of the Board for requiring 100% participation. He then asked if it would be possible to get Colorado data to compare with Illinois as they are a 100% testing state as well.

Mr. Gidwitz stated that all of these tests results for Illinois will be made public, and he would imagine that Colorado does the same thing. Mr. Pawlawski stated that states must give permission for the data to be made public and he is not sure if Colorado has done that or not. Colorado has a choice as to what portions of their test data to release.

Mr. Kazarian and Mr. Gidwitz questioned the number of students taking the test who said that they would go to college. 65% of students in the 2003 graduating senior class reported the desire to pursue at least a bachelor's degree, graduate degree, or vocational certificate.

Dr. Schiller stated that in the committee meeting this morning, it was made clear that those students who are exposed to certain courses tend to have higher score. However, our state standards do not define what courses should be taken; only the number of course in the subject area that should be taken.

Ron Gidwitz asked would there be a way for colleges to communicate with schools about the coursework necessary to be granted admission into their institution. Mr. Gidwitz said that we have a large number of students that will fall out of the system if we do not raise the bar because they will not be able to go onto higher institutions and therefore get a job.

Mr. Pawlawski stated that the core course taking pattern is a key issue. Students are taking certain core course patterns that are not matching their stated career aspirations. The important piece in achieving well on the test is if students have had exposure to certain coursework and can master the skills. He also added that it is important at this point to compare the standards for transition with the Illinois Learning Standards to see where students have mastered the skills and where students need work on these skills.

	<p>Mr. Pawlawski stated that there are some really positive results in the Illinois data. Dr. Steiner then proceeded to thank him for his presentation and the materials given.</p>
<p><u>Closed Session Motion</u></p>	<p>Dr. Schiller stated that a Closed Session was necessary to discuss several litigation matters. Greg Kazarian made the motion that the Board go into closed session under the exceptions set forth in the Open Meetings Act of the State of Illinois as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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. ▪ <p>He also stated that the Board is authorized to invite anyone into these meetings as needed.</p> <p>The motion was seconded by Dean Clark.</p> <p>Dr. Steiner called for a vote on the motion. All members present voted yes. Thus, the Board recessed for a Closed Session over lunch.</p>
<p><u>Presentation of 2003 State Assessment Results</u></p>	<p>Dr. Steiner reconvened the meeting at 1:25 p.m. stating the fourth presentation would be on the 2003 State Assessment Results. (Please refer to the attached PowerPoint presentation slides.)</p> <p>Dr. Schiller stated that the staff wanted to share with the public and the Board the results released with regard to the ISAT, PSAE, IAA, and Image tests and to review these results in the context of policy implications.</p> <p>He continued on to say that earlier in the morning in the Education Policy/Planning committee meeting, the committee looked at what the data indicates for our state. Dr. Schiller turned then requested that the staff present the implications of this data in our state to the Board.</p> <p>Lynne Curry first presented the Mathematics data of the ISAT test. Since giving the test in 1999, Mrs. Curry stated that Illinois has had a steady increase overall. Our minority and low-income students are improving even faster than our state as a whole.</p>

Dr. Schiller pointed out the growth pattern can be seen over five years now. However, he stated it is important to be mindful that we do not have the same level of achievement in the upper grades as we do in the younger grades. It is also important to note that we must attend to the middle grades.

Ron Gidwitz suggested that this data be plotted on the NCLB chart given by the federal government. It would also be helpful to plot the data on the chart as compared to our 100% goal. He also suggested that this information be a part of our data packet at the release outlining how we are doing in comparison to the NCLB mandated goals.

Dr. Curry asserted that in reading, the scores are flat. In eight grade, the reading scores are even declining. Many of the subgroup gaps are still not closing in the area of reading. Dr. Schiller said that we must again be mindful that there is little or no development being seen in the upper grades.

Ron Gidwitz asked why there was such a decline in reading scores when there have been extensive federal and state funds put into reading. The return on the investment, according to Dr. Schiller has not been evident. Where we have put in many of the resources, for example, the Reading Block Grant, is where we are seeing the progress. Other states are also experiencing these same results, even though they are also putting the same amount of funds into their programs.

Dr. Curry then proceeded to discuss the science scores. She stated that overall, science is looking very flat. However, the achievement gaps are closing in science.

In social science there have been slight increases and some closing of achievement gaps.

In writing there always seems to be more fluctuations. ISBE will be looking in the future to some additional writing test items. In general, writing is slightly up but stable over time. Dr. Schiller stated that nation-wide writing scores have been unacceptable. There has been a de-emphasis on writing than in other areas.

Greg Kazarian stated that this was also discussed in the Education Policy/Planning meeting. The committee plans to spend some time together discussing what to do with the data. It

	<p>is the view of the committee that these are unacceptable scores. The committee will need to come up with policy objectives to focus on the middle school increase. There has been some discussion about project-based approaches.</p> <p>Dr. Curry also stated that at this point, it comes to looking at the Curriculum and Instruction piece as well as the reformatting of the test items.</p> <p>In the Alternative Assessment, there have been some dramatic increases. Dr. Curry stated that the staff feels good about this two-year trend. She also stated that this is one indicator we want to watch over a period of time.</p> <p>In regards to the Image test, there have been improvements across the board. Dr. Curry stated that a lot of attention has been paid to the learning of these Limited English Proficient students. If these trends continue, this would be a great indicator of educators' attention to this population and their success. This test can be taken for three years. On a case by case basis, by recent passage of HB2352, some students would be allowed to take the test for an additional year or two.</p> <p>As far as the Prairie State results, Dr.. Curry deferred to Dr. Schiller who stated although the trends are flat, when you look at the percentage of students exceeding standards that percentage is increasing over a five year trend. The number of students on academic warning is decreasing.</p> <p>Dr.. Curry concluded by stating that the staff will continue to analyze the state assessment data and provide the Board with updates.</p>
<p><u>Call Plenary Business Meeting to Order/Roll Call</u></p>	<p>Dr. Steiner then proceeded to call the Plenary Business Meeting to order and asked the roll to be called for the business portion of the meeting. A quorum was present.</p>
<p><u>Public Participation</u></p> <p><u>Gail Jones, parent</u></p>	<p>Dr. Steiner stated that the Board would now hold public participation.</p> <p>The first public participant speaker was Gail Jones, a parent attending the meeting to speak on special education enforcement of the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and providing a free, appropriate education by remedying the findings set forth by OSEP. She voiced her concern of non-compliance issues with her current school district. Ms. Jones stated that she is currently in the midst of due process hearings regarding services her child should be</p>

<p><u>Jeff Williams, parent</u></p>	<p>receiving as a special education child. She urged the Board to be more vigilant in the enforcement of compliance issues around the state.</p> <p>Ron Gidwitz asked for some comment on the statement as to whether the testimony statements regarding compliance issues were true or not.</p> <p>Dr. Schiller stated that staffing levels have been maximized a great deal. In the past, our agency has not had the staffing in this area. We are currently working with our districts to bring this issue to resolution. One of the major resolutions that we have had was to maximize all federal funding. All of the staff is currently funded out of federal funds. According to Dr. Schiller, we have a well-trained staff with high qualifications, and we are still hiring. The agency is doing all that can be done now to provide the appropriate services.</p>
<p><u>Kim Jachim, parent</u></p>	<p>Dr. Steiner then called Jeff Williams, a parent, who stated that he would like to discuss the increase of the parent participation in the OSEP process. He would like to see a parent signature line on the actual IEP form. Since coming to Illinois he stated that he has lost his consent to agree or disagree with his son's education program. Having a signature line on the form would help the parents to be more involved.</p>
<p><u>Mary Dickter, parent</u></p>	<p>Kim Jachim spoke as a concerned parent who would like to be allowed to be more actively involved her child's IEP process. She stated that according to law, the State of Illinois and local school district are depriving her of her civil right. According to Ms. Jachim, different schools have different visitation policies. She stated that parental access must be granted and all schools should have the same process in place to guarantee that students do not lose their civil rights.</p>
	<p>Mary Dickter stated that she has had to file for due process four times concerning her special education daughter. According to Ms. Dickter, the issues brought to ISBE are not trivial. The special education services in the Naperville districts tried to label her child mentally retarded. However, she stated that her child is not. Ms. Dickter said her daughter has been denied the correct and appropriate education. Before going on to a fifth due process, she is waiting to hear from Chris Koch. According to Ms. Dickter, this process is being repeated over and over in this state. Parents across the state are bearing the burdens of this system. She asked that ISBE not allow districts to be able</p>

<p><u>Susan Kidder, Exec. Director of Literacy Chicago</u></p>	<p>to neglect the most vulnerable students and that all schools comply with federal mandates.</p> <p>Dr. Steiner then called Susan Kidder, Executive Director of Literacy Chicago, who represents the Illinois Adult Education providers and learners. Ms. Kidder expressed concerns about the proposed GED fee increase. Ms. Kidder stated that those students that pursue a GED are among the least earning population. Adult learners currently struggle to pay the \$35.00, and usually often re-take this test. Increasing these fees will decrease the number of GED test takers and students who obtain a GED. This must be an affordable option. According to Ms. Kidder, increasing this GED fee to \$80.00 will not allow these students to obtain their GED.</p> <p>Ron Gidwitz pointed out that in our budget, we had the level kept at \$35.00. The legislator also believed that this fee would be the same amount. However, the Governor offered an amendatory veto. For the record, he would like the public to know that this fee increase did not originate within the Board but originated with the Governor.</p>
<p><u>Jenny Witner, Women Employed</u></p>	<p>Dr. Steiner then called Jenny Witner who requested to speak on the GED fee increase. Ms. Witner stated that she would like to suggest to the Board a delay in action on the GED fee increase to allow explorations of the impact and alternatives of such an increase. Ms. Witner stated that the GED testing must be attainable and affordable. She stated that this will make it harder for the state to reach its federal mandates as far as adult education.</p>
<p><u>Amanda Tumpack, Student Teacher Training</u></p>	<p>Bev Turkal said that she really appreciated those that came to express their feelings on this issue. She stated that if anything we should not be raising the fees but lowering the fees.</p> <p>Amanda Tumpack was then called by Dr. Steiner to express her concerns on teacher training for attention deficit disorder children. Ms. Tumpack stated that school has been hard for her. Teachers do not understand her, and refuse to make modification for her. One of her teachers said she could not have special accommodations because the class was already modified. In sixth grade she did have a teacher who understood her and made accommodations and she then received a 3.5 grade point average. She is asking ISBE to increase teacher training in special education.</p>

<p><u>Lori Fleming and Children, Parental Rights</u></p>	<p>Next, Lori Fleming and her children Natalie, Logan, and Steven were called to speak. Ms. Fleming spoke as a concerned parent on the issue of her sons’ school not allowing her to be participatory in her son’s education or communicate with his teacher and the school itself. According to Ms. Fleming, she can only communicate with the Special Educator. However, she can fully participate in her daughter’s education. Ms. Fleming stated that it was agreed with the Special Education department that her son would not be retained. However, when he went to register, he was placed in fourth grade again. Natalie Fleming spoke on behalf of the occurrence of this situation, and the affected student also gave comments about his disability.</p> <p>Dr. Steiner stated that this is a local issue, and that the local district must rule on this. Ms. Fleming stated that they have refused to.</p>
<p><u>Brad Bradley, PACE</u></p>	<p>Dr. Steiner called Brad Bradley who presented himself to the Board to recommend that ISBE adopt a considerable time frame as to when the State Board meetings are changed as well as print where parking is, especially for special needs students.</p>
<p><u>Greg Seaphus, parent</u></p>	<p>Greg Seaphus was then called who spoke on policy and operational recommendations that he had for the State Board to consider. He provided eight development stages he believed the Board should follow. Mr. Seaphus stated that we need to develop teams to support stakeholders to work with parents, teachers, and students to move teaching, learning, administration and management forward.</p>
<p><u>Michelle McFarland-McDaniels, parent of autistic child</u></p>	<p>Michelle McFarland-McDaniels of the Chicago Autism society was called to speak by Dr. Steiner. She stated that parents of students with special needs have the same wishes as other parents do—for their children to grow up to lead productive lives, and independently as much as possible. She asked ISBE to step in to mandate that CPS be in compliance, and should therefore receive no money until they are in total compliance.</p> <p>She stated that she believes those that are not in compliance with special education laws, should have suspended teacher certificates. She would like to see the Board take more of an active role.</p>
<p><u>Dr. Nicholas Wolsonovich,</u></p>	<p>Dr. Wolsonovich was called by Dr. Steiner to speak to the Board concerning non-public school recognition. He stated that he was present to address the decision of ISBE to eliminate the</p>

<p><u>Superintendent of Catholic School of the Archdiocese of Chicago</u></p>	<p>non-public schools recognition process. Dr. Wolsonovich also stated that he met with Dr. Schiller and Board members on this issue. In the past, Dr. Wolsonovich stated that he has worked with Don Full to streamline and improve the recognition progress. It is his hope and intention to work with legislators to get non-public school recognition into law. He pledged to do anything to help in this endeavor and is committed to its restoration.</p>
<p><u>Reed Sander, Education Executive for the Schools of the Lutheran Church Missouri Senate of Northern Illinois</u></p>	<p>Mr. Sander presented himself to speak on behalf of Gary Arnold, Executive Director for the Illinois Coalition of Non-Public Schools. According to Mr. Sander, non-public schools represent 14% of the Illinois school population. Their coalition has worked hard to advance the quality of education for all students. Thus, he stated the Illinois Coalition is unilaterally opposed to ISBE's decision. Mr. Sander said that he is asking to the Board to reconsider this decision. The recognition process is vital and invaluable for public schools and non-public schools alike.</p> <p>Greg Kazarian spoke on behalf of the Board by stating that the non-recognition program is not mandated in the school code but the Board does believe it is important and will help people work through the process toward compulsory non-public recognition.</p>
<p><u>Penny Richards, Flex Delivery System</u></p>	<p>Dr. Steiner then called Peggy Richards of the Flexible Delivery System. Ms. Richards proceeded to explain that Flexible Delivery is a program which delivers services to needed student regardless of special education time lines. She then posed several questions regarding the effectiveness and timeliness of the Flexible Delivery System. Ms. Richards suggested that a timeline be set in stone of no more than one grading period or six weeks from the date of implementation if requirements and/or goals of the system's programs are not met so that students can receive the services that they need.</p>
<p><u>Approval of Minutes</u></p>	<p>Joyce Karon moved that the Illinois State Board of Education approve the minutes from the June 16-17, June 25, July 15, and July 24 2003 meetings as published. Greg Kazarian seconded the motion.</p> <p>Dr. Steiner then called for a vote on the motion. The motion passed with all members present voting yes. Dr. Steiner stated that the minutes stand approved.</p>
<p><u>Receipt of State of Illinois FY02 Single Audit Report</u></p>	<p>Dr. Steiner stated that she would ask the Superintendent to summarize each item on the agenda and then ask for a motion and a second on the item to allow for Board discussion if</p>

	<p>necessary.</p> <p>The Superintendent then proceeded with discussion of the first action item. Dr. Schiller stated that earlier the results of the FY02 Single Audit Report findings were reviewed with the Board. He stated that there is a recommendation for the Board to receive the Auditor General’s report.</p> <p>Greg Kazarian moved that the Illinois State Board of Education accept the Auditor General’s State of Illinois FY 02 Single Audit Report and continue to advocate for adequate funding of the agency’s critical conditions.</p> <p>The motion was seconded by Dean Clark.</p> <p>Dr. Steiner called for a vote on the motion. The motion passed with all members present voting yes.</p>
<p><u>Approval of Chicago Public Schools FY04 Supplemental General State Aid Plan</u></p>	<p>Dr. Schiller stated the second item for the Board is the Approval of the Chicago Public Schools FY04 Supplemental General State Aid Plan. The staff has analyzed the plan as submitted and it requires that the State Board approve the plan before funds may be expended.</p> <p>Dr. Schiller also added that this sum of money presented in the proposal is subject to adjustment according to the budget implementation language as the General State Aid payment must be funded first followed by the Supplemental Poverty Payment. There is not adequate funding to fully fund the supplemental payment. According to the Superintendent, the agency is currently 8-9 million dollars short to fully fund the payment. ISBE staff will keep the Board and the legislators posted with regard to the status of these funds. The amount of money being approved today would be subject to a proration.</p> <p>Ron Gidwitz asked what bill was passed that did not also satisfy the Supplemental General State Aid requirement as well. Dr. Schiller stated that this is the new DHS count for the Supplemental Poverty Aid. We have notified school districts and sent a letter to the Governor’s office in regard to the proration that may take place in the last quarter.</p> <p>Greg Kazarian read the motion which stated: Whereas the FY04 Chicago Public Schools, District 299 plan for the distribution of Supplemental General State Aid, in compliance with Section 18-8.05(H) of the Illinois School Code, meets the criteria for approval, I move that the Illinois</p>

	<p>State Board of Education hereby approve the plan and authorize the distribution of \$261,000,000 to be used by the schools in Chicago Public School District 299 in accordance with the requirements of Section 18-8.05 (H). Of the \$261,000,000 to be distributed, the estimated \$235,432,303.66 amount shall be allocated from the Supplemental General State Aid Grant for FY04. The remaining estimated \$25,567,696.34 amount shall come from the General State Aid funds.</p> <p>He also moved that the Illinois State Board of Education direct a letter be sent to the Chicago School Reform Board of School Trustees noting approval of the Chicago Public Schools District 299 FY04 SGSA plan and indicating that no monies may be distributed to schools that do not have an approved SGSA plan.</p> <p>The motion was seconded by Ronald Gidwitz.</p> <p>Dr. Steiner then called for a vote on the motion. The motion passed with all members present voting yes.</p>
<p><u>Approval of 2003-2004 fees for GED testing</u></p>	<p>Dr. Schiller stated that the agency has been struggling with how to assure the continuation of the GED testing program given the fact that the entire subsidy that the state has provided as well as the funds that had been allocated for ISBE to serve as the ROE was completely eliminated by the budget cuts and vetoes. Dr. Schiller stated that in the school code the high school equivalency program must be provided for as well as a supervisory testing center.</p> <p>The fee was raised last year from \$30.00 to \$35.00. Due to fee collection, ISBE will be able to continue with the current fee until the beginning of 2004. Dr. Schiller stated that currently staff is trying to put together a plan as to how this program will be sustained after the first of the year if there should be no funding allocated. ROEs outside of the Chicago area have experienced a 75% loss. Some ROEs are currently running at a deficit. It would take a \$10.00 increase to balance the ROEs, with the exception of Chicago.</p> <p>Dr. Schiller stated that in order to maintain current services, one option presented to the Board to consider for January 1 is the fee increase structure, unless another funding source is found. Thus, the Superintendent asked the Board to consider holding off action on the GED testing fee increase.</p> <p>Superintendent Schiller asserted that the bottom line problem is ISBE has lost one million dollars. If another funding source is</p>

	<p>not found, the agency will have to increase the fees. It is a level of increase for a population that could not afford this increase. However, the increase in the current fee structure would be equal to or lower than other states in the mid-west region.</p> <p>Greg Kazarian stated that he was struck by comments in public participation as to those who desire solutions. It is an issue that we can defer, which he is inclined to do.</p> <p>Dean Clark asked what the time frame is in order to implement a fee increase for January 1, 2004. Dr. Schiller stated at the latest, the Board would have to take action at the December or November meeting.</p> <p>Therefore, the Board deferred action on the approval of 2003-2004 fees for GED testing.</p>
<p><u>Approval of Illinois State Teacher Certification Board Accreditation Recommendations to the State Board of Education</u></p>	<p>Dr. Schiller stated that two weeks ago in the meeting of the State Certification Board they recommended that six institutions be granted Continuing Accreditation and three institutions be granted Accreditation with Conditions.</p> <p>The Continuing Accreditation schools include: Governor’s State University, MacMurray College, Millikin University, North Park University, Principia College, and VanderCook College of Music.</p> <p>The institutions recommended for Accreditations with Conditions include: Judson College, Rockford College, and University of Illinois at Springfield.</p> <p>Dr. Schiller stated that Rockford College would not be addressed today as they had not officially filed a “notice of objection or had they sent a written statement accepting the recommendations. Therefore, the recommendations regarding the accreditation status of Rockford College will be considered at a future State Board meeting.</p> <p>Joyce Karon then moved that the Illinois State Board of Education hereby accept the recommendations of the State Teacher Certification Board for the accreditation of the selected Illinois professional preparation institutions and assign the specified designated accreditations. She further moved that the State Superintendent be authorized to notify each institution regarding the Board’s decisions and the next steps, as appropriate.</p>

	<p>The motion was seconded by Greg Kazarian.</p> <p>Dr. Steiner called for a vote on the motion. The motion passed with all members present voting yes.</p>
<p><u>Approval of Cancellation of the Contract for Evaluation of the Certificate Renewal System</u></p>	<p>Dr. Schiller stated that one of the requirements in the code is for the State Board to have an evaluation of its Certificate Renewal System and to provide the first report on January 1, 2005 and every third year thereafter. Thus, the State Certification Board and the State Board contracted with the MGT of America. Two of the reports have been received. The costs of the contracts have been in excess of \$100,000 each year.</p> <p>Superintendent Schiller stated that ISBE has seen a sizeable reduction in our appropriation from the revolving fund line item that has funded the Teacher Certification Department causing the lay-off of almost 20 people. ISBE simply does not have the funds or the people to continue our programs.</p> <p>According to Dr. Schiller, the information that has been provided by MGT America so far has been valuable, and has resulted in the identification of several very serious issues. In truth, the agency is not certain that the third year is needed to carry on the process from this point. However, it is a code requirement. There is a recommendation now to cancel the contract. If there is a reinstatement of money, the agency can reinstate the MGT contract to be in compliance with the school code.</p> <p>Ronald Gidwitz move that Illinois State Board of Education hereby authorize the State Superintendent to initiate procedures to cancel the contract with MGT of America, Inc. for a three-year evaluation of the Illinois teacher certificate renewal system, and to notify the Illinois General Assembly and the Governor that this cancellation of an evaluation required by law was necessary due to recent cuts to the State Board budget.</p> <p>He also moved the Board ask that in the coming months, the Superintendent provide the Board with recommendations for future actions with respect to the evaluation mandate and the teacher certificate renewal system.</p> <p>Joyce Karon then proceeded to second the motion.</p> <p>Dr. Steiner called for a vote on the motion. The motion passed with all members presented voting yes with the exception of Dr. Steiner who passed.</p>

	<p>Dr. Steiner inquired if the Board normally states that they cannot follow the code due to lack of money. Respicio Vazquez stated that this is the first time that we have had to incur this issue.</p>
<p><u>Approval of Teacher Accreditation Cycle</u></p>	<p>Dr. Steiner then called for the agenda item Approval of Teacher Accreditation Cycle.</p> <p>Dr. Schiller stated that the staff is coming to the Board after presenting and discussing with the State Teacher Certification Board a better alignment with our NCATE Accreditation Cycle and our review of the Teacher Education programs. The State Teacher Certification Board has endorsed alignment by extending our current cycle from five years to seven years so that the review cycle is consistent. However, the five year review cycle would be maintained for initially accredited institutions. This is an important change as well as a cost savings for the involved institutions. Partially, we currently just do not have the staff to conduct the 18 visits scheduled for FY04.</p> <p>Joyce Karon asked if these visits would coincide with the NCATE visits. Dr. Schiller responded affirmatively by stating the point of this new cycle is to avoid duplication and conflicting reviews and requirements.</p> <p>Greg Kazarian then moved that the Illinois State Board of Education hereby approve the following timelines for accreditation of institutions that prepare professional educators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutions that receive initial accreditation under the NCATE 2000 Standards shall be subject to a follow-up accreditation review within five years. Thereafter, the cycle of accreditation reviews shall be determined by the circumstances described below. • Institutions that receive “Continuing Accreditation” under the NCATE Standards shall be reviewed on a seven year cycle determined by the State Board of Education. This policy will be retroactive to include those institutions that have already been assigned “Continuing Accreditation” status under the NCATE Standards. • Institutions that receive “Continuing Accreditation with Conditions” or “Probation” shall be subject to reporting and visitation timelines as provided for in State Board rules and as determined by the State Board for each

	<p>institution.</p> <p>In addition, Mr. Kazarian moved that the State Superintendent be authorized to work with the institutions and NCATE to develop a schedule of reviews that will assure an appropriate transition to this new policy.</p> <p>Ronald Gidwitz seconded the motion of the Approval the Teacher Accreditation Cycle.</p> <p>Dr. Steiner called for a vote on the motion. The motion passed with all members present voting yes.</p> <p>Dr. Steiner left the meeting at 4:15 p.m. Ronald Gidwitz then resided as Chairman in her absence.</p>
<p><u>Approval of Mediation Contracts</u></p>	<p>Dr. Schiller stated the next item on the agenda is the Approval of Mediation Contracts with nine individuals being recommended for appointment for FY04 as well as ten individuals being recommended for reappointment in FY04. The Superintendent stated that the State Board of Education is charged by the Illinois Administrative Code with the selection, training and maintenance of the listed trained, experienced mediators. All newly selected mediators are required to participate in a training sequence prepared and administered by State Board staff.</p> <p>Mediations are an important service in that they reduce the number of due process hearings conducted, thus providing an important cost savings to district and parents.</p> <p>Joyce Karon then read the following motion:</p> <p>I hereby move that the Illinois State Board of Education approve contracts for nine mediators recommended for appointment in FY04 including:</p> <p>Candace T. Pydo Karyn Lynne Williams Paula Weinbaum Karen L. Shoshana Alan R. Post Alan G. Schuster Ratino-Vincent Epps Mike Ross Janet Harej</p>

and the ten mediators recommended for reappointment in FY04 including:

Andrea Becker
Brigitte Bell
Jennifer Bollero
Lynn Gaffigan
Lisa Landis Hannum
Lynn Carp Jacob
Mike Kotner
William London
Michael Nathanson
Christine Pistone

The motion was seconded by Greg Kazarian.

Mr. Gidwitz called for a vote on the motion. All members present voted yes.

Greg Kazarian inquired as to why this is not a position ISBE can refer public participant complaints to, or do they have to go through a due process hearing. Jimmy Gunnell affirmed that a due process hearing must take place.

Jimmy Gunnell also stated that ISBE has to offer mediation any time there is a due process hearing request as well as circumstances in which due process has not been filed. However, the mediators to date have not mediated between a parent and school district. The public mainly spoke of insensitivity incurred during due process hearings, not the actual due process procedures. When complaints are filed, there is a process by which there is an individual due process hearing filed for that complaint.

Greg Kazarian stated that he was unclear what the Board was being asked to do and why the Board is being asked to take action on this now. Mr. Vazquez explained that there is an annual evaluation process for the hearing officers alternating every two years. Some expire in one year and then some in the next. This is based on the evaluation process. The steering committee would like to have annual reviews.

The process is currently being cleaned out for a two year term with two year contracts.

Joyce Karon stated as a point of clarification: approving the contract allows the mediators to be paid.

<p><u>Ratification of Due Process Hearing Officer Contracts</u></p>	<p>Dr. Schiller stated that the purpose of this item for the Board to approve the ratification of the nine Impartial Hearing Officer Contracts with expiring terms on June 30, 2004.</p> <p>Dean Clark then moved that the Illinois State Board of Education ratify the nine Impartial Hearing Officer contracts for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Marie Bracki 2. Richard Brimer 3. Gail Friedman 4. Ann Breen-Greco 5. Marian McElroy 6. Carolyn Smaron 7. Jim Wolter 8. Kathleen Dillon Narko 9. Katherine Black <p>The motion was seconded by Joyce Karon.</p> <p>Mr. Gidwitz then called for a vote on the motion. The motion passed with all members present voting yes with the exception of Beverly Turkal who abstained.</p> <p>In response to questions of Mr. Kazarian and Mr. Gidwitz concerning the ratification process, Mr. Gunnell stated that after this process of approval, these individuals will be awarded a two-year contract based on a two-year evaluation cycle. He then asserted that it is up to the Board to renew the contracts based on the recommendations of the Hearing Officer evaluators.</p>
<p><u>Rules for Adoption—Part 5000</u></p>	<p>Dr. Schiller stated that there are federal rules for the Board to adopt in compliance with the Illinois Procedure Act which requires all agencies to maintain certain of their operational policies as rules.</p> <p>Joyce Karon then moved that the Illinois State Board of Education hereby adopt the proposed rulemaking for: Public Information, Rulemaking and Organization (2 Illinois Administrative Code 5000).</p> <p>The motion was seconded by Dean Clark.</p> <p>Mr. Gidwitz called for a vote on the motion. The motion passed with all members present voting yes.</p>

	<p>Beverly Turkal left the meeting at 4:37 p.m.</p>
<p><u>Approval of Support of resolution to eliminate the reduced price meal category</u></p>	<p>Ron Gidwitz then called for the Approval of Support of resolution to eliminate the reduced price meal category.</p> <p>Dr. Schiller explained that the presentation of this agenda item is to obtain the Illinois State Board of Education’s support of the American School Food Service Association’s resolution regarding the elimination of the reduced price meal category, resulting in all children from up to 185% of the poverty line to obtaining school meals at no charge. This level would encompass the free and reduced price meal category into to one category—free.</p> <p>Joyce Karon then moved that the Illinois State Board of Education approve the support of the resolution to eliminate the reduced price meal category as drafted by the American School Food Service Association.</p> <p>Judith Gold seconded the motion.</p> <p>Mr. Gidwitz called for a vote on the motion. The motion passed with all members present voting yes.</p>
<p><u>Acceptance of ISBE Monthly Reports</u></p>	<p>Dr. Schiller stated that the standard monthly reports are contained in the Board packet for review.</p> <p>Joyce Karon inquired about the current staffing level. Clay Slagle stated that currently the staffing level is at 492. Dr. Schiller stated that there were 61 positions that had to be eliminated. Mr. Slagle added that there were a total of 50 affected employees with 28 of them moving into other positions.</p> <p>Greg Kazarian then moved that the Illinois State Board of Education accept the financial, agency operations, and budget status reports presented during the August 2003 meeting.</p> <p>Judith Gold seconded the motion.</p> <p>Mr. Gidwitz called for a vote on the motion. The motion passed with all members present voting yes.</p>
<p><u>Review of ISBE capacity to provide services as mandated by the Illinois School Code</u></p>	<p>Dr. Schiller stated that the purpose of this item is to describe the agency’s capacity to perform various statutory functions in FY04 as a consequence of the vetoes including those associated with Private Business and Vocational Schools (PBVS) and as an ROE for the Chicago Public Schools (CPS).</p>

	<p>The Superintendent stated that we have identified programs that have been adversely affected due to the elimination of the FY04 appropriation for ISBE Regional Services:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The GED program. 2. The MGT contract on the Teacher Renewal system. 3. The Private Business and Vocational Schools (PBVS) role. <p>Dr. Schiller then asked David Wood to explain the GED fee base. Mr. Wood stated that the Illinois funds were actually very low, but these funds were actually eliminated during the vetoes.</p> <p>In addition, the agency's ability to move forward on the PBVS contract has been eliminated. Superintendent Schiller asked if Don Full had given any thought as to how we would handle the program. Don Full said short of changing the statute, he does not see any other way that PBVS can operate. The staffing has gone from 12 people to 9 professionals. This is a regulatory function that takes a lot of staffing. The law requires yearly visits. The initial approval keeps the school in business. Every approval has a fee. Joyce Karon asked if the regulations are based in code. Don Full stated that the regulations are mandated by 105 ILCS 425 and the Illinois Administrative Code 451.</p> <p>Dr. Schiller then proceeded to give a listing of the amounts of money the agency has lost. Concurrently he stated that the PBVS is a function the agency should provide but due to the budget cuts, there are not very many options to consider. Our priority is to maximize our support for schools that are not meeting AYP.</p> <p>Thus, intergovernmental agreements have been established between the Illinois State Board of Education, Suburban Cook County ROE, and Chicago Public Schools for the Suburban Cook County office to assume responsibility for the ROE program in FY04 for all of Cook County including the City of Chicago. In addition, an agreement has been established concerning the Teacher Certification function to have the Suburban Cook County ROE also operate this function at the expense of CPS.</p>
<p><u>Approval of Superintendent's Quarterly Travel Analysis (March 2003-June 2003)</u></p>	<p>Dr. Schiller stated due to the absence of the Finance Committee Chair, Richard Sandsmark, the Board will consider this agenda item in September since other Board members did not have prior review of the travel analysis.</p>
<p><u>Announcements and</u></p>	<p>The Superintendent stated that ISBE has looked to see where</p>

<p><u>Reports</u></p>	<p>the school code mandates services by ISBE. The agency is looking at those we have eliminated.</p> <p>Mr. Gidwitz stated that there have been ½ dozen services eliminated, and it is important for us to also inform the public as to what services have also been reduced so the public doesn't mistake lack of capacity and resources for lack of interest.</p> <p>Dr. Schiller stated that we are in the process of informing the public of what services are limited as well as those we no longer provide. In addition, Dr. Schiller stated that we are in the process of referencing our organizational chart to the code as well as stating how each position is funded.</p> <p>Mr. Gidwitz then called for the monthly committee reports.</p> <p>Board Operations—Joyce Karon stated that she would like to thank the ISBE staff for the timeliness in disseminating the Board packet.</p> <p>In addition she stated that in October the Board will be going to Rock Island as the Board would like to go to some other areas of the state. In September the meeting will be held in Springfield.</p> <p>Finance & Audit—There was no report as the Chair, Richard Sandsmark was absent.</p> <p>Joint Education—Ronald Gidwitz stated that the next JEC meeting will be held on August 26, 2003, the first meeting since January.</p> <p>Governmental Relations—There was no report as Beverly Turkal, the Chair was not present.</p> <p>Education Policy/Planning—Gregory Kazarian stated that the focus of the committee will be on studying the test results in greater depth and developing the policy recommendations concerning the test results.</p>
<p><u>Other Information</u></p>	<p>Mr. Gidwitz requested that the Board refer to the Monthly Status Report on Rulemaking that has been prepared for their review.</p>
<p><u>Adjournment</u></p>	<p>Greg Kazarian then moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Joyce Karon. The meeting officially adjourned at 5:06 p.m.</p>

Please contact the Illinois State Board of Education office in Springfield at 217/782-7497 for an audio tape of the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Sandsmark
Secretary

Dr. Janet Steiner
Chair