

January 8, 2004
State Board Meeting

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

100 North First Street
Springfield, Illinois 62777
4th Floor Board Conference Room
Via Conference Call

<p><u>Call Meeting to Order/ Roll Call</u></p>	<p>Dr. Janet Steiner called the January 8, 2004 special meeting of the Illinois State Board of Education to order at 3:07 p.m. She stated that the Board would convene the meeting for the purpose of adopting the FY 2005 Recommended State Education Budget. Chair Steiner then requested that the roll be called. A quorum was present.</p> <p>MEMBERS PRESENT:</p> <p>Beverly Turkal Dean Clark Ronald Gidwitz Joyce Karon Janet Steiner Gregory Kazarian</p> <p>MEMBERS ABSENT:</p> <p>Richard Sandsmark Judith Gold</p>
<p><u>Overview of Budget</u></p>	<p>Dr. Steiner asked Superintendent Schiller to provide an overview of the budget highlights that the Board would be adopting. The Superintendent stated that the Board and staff, over the last four months, have been looking at how to balance all of the competing needs of districts in a time of diminished resources. He stated that in the Condition of Education report, the current year budget has been laid out as well as the incremental changes and the total system needs in relationship to NCLB standards. Dr. Schiller then proceeded to highlight some areas in the proposed budget that the Board outlined as part of their priorities. The following are the areas that were highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Funding of the GSA Foundation level to \$250 per pupil as in FY 04 (65 % of the total increase of new money),• Fully funding of Mandated Categorical Programs (i.e. Special Education and Transportation) (23% of the total increase of new money),• Funding the ADA Block Grant at the FY 03 Level,• Funding Gifted Education at the FY 03 Level,• Funding an increase of \$30 million to Early Childhood Education, and• Funding an increase in the reimbursement level for Bilingual Education from a 63.9% level of funding

	<p>to a 75% level.</p> <p>Superintendent Schiller stated that in order to move and improve the system, there has also been a proposed increase of \$6 million in the area of System of Support to assist schools on the Academic Warning List who are not making adequate yearly progress (AYP). In addition, in an effort to improve student performance at grades 3, 5, and 8, a significant increase in funding to the Learning Extended Programs has been proposed.</p> <p>In summary, Dr. Schiller stated that 88% of new money will be used to help maintain services and fund required mandates in the School Code (i.e. GSA and Mandated Categorical Programs). Overall, there is a proposed \$609 million increase from FY 04 to FY 05 in an effort to move our education system forward.</p>
<p><u>Motion</u></p>	<p>Dr. Steiner then asked for a motion to approve the budget. Dean Clark then moved that the State Board of Education hereby approve a FY 2005 Budget recommendation for elementary and secondary education of \$7.2 billion in General Revenue Funds and \$9.4 billion in all funds. The specific program recommendations are shown in the budget document and budget chart (please see attached).</p> <p>The State Superintendent and staff are directed to present the 2003 Annual Report and Fiscal Year 2005 Budget document to the Governor and General Assembly for adoption during the spring 2004 session. In addition, the State Superintendent and staff are asked to provide appropriate information to the educational community and to Illinois citizens.</p> <p>As appropriate to circumstances that arise during budget deliberations or as information is received from the federal government, the State Superintendent is authorized to make necessary changes to federal and Non-General Revenue fund recommendations. Changes to the General Revenue Fund recommendation may be made at the State Superintendent's discretion, or in consultation with the Chairman or the Board, depending on the magnitude of the proposed changes.</p> <p>The motion was seconded by Joyce Karon.</p>
<p><u>Discussion</u></p>	<p>Chair Steiner then requested discussion from the Board on the motion to approve the budget.</p>

Chicago Teacher Retirement System

Mr. Gidwitz stated that he was still uncomfortable with the proposed appropriation of \$65 million to the Chicago Public Schools (CPS) Retirement System. He stated that the funding amount given to Chicago should be brought to the legislative intent which was to be 20-30% of the level provided for the Downstate Teacher Retirement System (TRS). Mr. Wood replied that CPS is concerned about falling below their 90% funding support level. Mr. Gidwitz stated that the state fell short of their commitment to fund the Chicago Teacher Retirement System last year as the Governor asserted that he would find money in other line items to fund Chicago. However, this did not happen. In addition, Mr. Wood stated that CPS has a long-term proposal for legislation in the spring session to establish a continuing appropriation for C-TRS similar to TRS and to substitute the state for CPS as the employer responsible for on-going contributions to the C-TRS system. Dean Clark stated that he was indeed comfortable with the \$65 million because of this legislation CPS will be bringing in the spring to the General Assembly.

Mr. Kazarian stated that he was comfortable with the \$65 million proposed appropriation as this issue has not been an oversight because ISBE has had discussions with CPS regarding this appropriation. Beverly Turkal then added that it is important to remember that there are other lines that have been mandated to be funded at a certain percent and that are not funded as they should. When working with the budget, however difficult, a balance in funding among appropriations must be maintained.

Summer Bridges Program

Joyce Karon then asked for clarification in how the increased funding for the Summer Bridges Program would be utilized. Dr. Schiller stated that the money would be used for extended day or year programs targeted for grades 3, 5, and 8 for students not meeting the standards in the area of reading. Ms. Karon as well as Ms. Turkal expressed concern with the monitoring of the distribution of the money as well as evaluating the effectiveness of the program. Dr. Schiller stated that there is going to be a more rigorous application process which will assure that the money goes directly to student learning. In addition, the Student Identification System (SIS) that is being planned for the future will help in the evaluation of the programs as now the reporting is mainly anecdotal.

Dr. Steiner questioned if all districts would be eligible for the Summer Bridges Program. Dr. Schiller stated positively by saying that there is an open application

	<p>process. All districts that have students that would qualify for the program are open to apply for funding.</p> <p>Dr. Steiner and Ms. Karon stated that they expressed their concerns as there is a substantial increase in the funding of the program. Mr. Kazarian stated that it is important to point out that funding Summer Bridges is a significant contribution to the cost of improving student performance. He also asserted that it is important to also remember that we cannot abandon the other students who need enrichment programs as well.</p> <p>Dr. Schiller offered to submit a draft application to the Board to review the expectations and regulations connected with the application process and receiving funding for the Summer Bridges Program. The Board agreed that the ability to review the application would be a good way to ensure that the program funds would be disbursed to schools needing the assistance to help improve student achievement in the most effective manner.</p>
<u>Vote on Motion</u>	<p>As there were no other items for discussion concerning the budget, Dr. Steiner requested a vote on the motion. The motion passed as all members present voted affirmatively.</p>
<u>Adjournment</u>	<p>The meeting adjourned at 3:43 p.m.</p>
	<p style="text-align: right;">Respectfully Submitted,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">_____ Richard Sandsmark Secretary</p> <p style="text-align: right;">_____ Dr. Janet Steiner Chair</p>