

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION



ISBE 4th Floor Board Room
100 N First Street, Springfield, IL

September 20-21, 2022

This meeting will be [audio cast](#).

SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

11:00 a.m. – Noon

Lunch available for Board Members
Board Conference Room

Noon – 4:00 p.m.

Board Retreat

***4:30 p.m.**

Reception Hosted by Illinois Association of Regional Superintendents of Schools

Arlington's, 210 Broadway St., Springfield

* The reception will begin at the conclusion of the previous session.

6:30 p.m.

Dinner
Maldaner's, 222 S. 6th St., Springfield

SEPTEMBER 21, 2022

8:00 a.m.

Breakfast available for Board Members
Board Conference Room

8:30 a.m.

Reconvene Plenary Session
Board Room

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION



ISBE 4th Floor Board Room
100 N First Street, Springfield, IL

September 20, 2022
Noon

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1. Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance

- A. Consideration of and Possible Actions on Any Requests for Participation in Meeting by Other Means

2. Swearing-In of Board Member/Roll Call

3. Public Participation

- A. Individuals who wish to sign up for public participation may complete 1) an [online form](#) that will be available from 10:30 a.m. until the start of the meeting on September 20, or 2) sign in on a public participation sign-in sheet that will be available at 100 N First St. from 10:30 a.m. until the start of the meeting. Participants will be able to review the guidelines and indicate if they wish to speak in person or via phone. Phone participants may dial 571-317-3112; access code is 919-127-637.

4. Team building

5. Presentations

- A. Annual planning
- B. Equity Portfolio
- C. Elevating Educators
 - i. Leadership
 - ii. Recruitment
 - iii. Hiring
 - iv. Retention

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION



ISBE 4th Floor Board Room
100 N First Street, Springfield, IL

September 21, 2022
8:30 a.m.

This meeting will be [audio cast](#).

1. Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance

- A. Consideration of and Possible Actions on Any Requests for Participation in Meeting by Other Means

2. Presentations

- A. Student Advisory Council Introductions

3. Public Participation

- A. Individuals who wish to sign up for public participation may complete 1) an [online form](#) that will be available from 7:00 a.m. until the start of the meeting on September 21, or 2) sign in on a public participation sign-in sheet that will be available at 100 N First St. from 7:00 a.m. until the start of the meeting. Participants will be able to review the guidelines and indicate if they wish to speak in person or via phone. Phone participants may dial 571-317-3112; access code is 919-127-637.

4. Discussion Items

- A. North Chicago Transition to an Elected Board Discussion

5. Closed Session

- A. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a volunteer of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with this Act. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)

- B. Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)
- C. Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21)
- D. Meetings between internal or external auditors and governmental audit committees, finance committees, and their equivalents, when the discussion involves internal control weaknesses, identification of potential fraud risk areas, known or suspected frauds, and fraud interviews conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards of the United States of America. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(29)

6. Public Participation (as needed)

7. Semiannual Review of Closed Session Minutes

8. Superintendent's Report – Consent Agenda

**All action consideration items listed with an asterisk (*) below are considered to be routine and will be enacted in one motion and vote. Any Board member who wishes separate discussion on any item listed on the consent agenda may remove that item from the consent agenda, in which event the item will be considered in its normal sequence.*

- A. *Approval of Minutes – Plenary Minutes: August 17, 2022
- B. *Approval for Adoption - Part 1 (Public Schools Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision)
Public Acts 101-643; 102-411; 102-584
- C. *Approval for Adoption – Part 24 (Culturally Responsive Teaching and Leading Standards for All Illinois Educators)
- D. *Contracts & Grants Over \$1 Million - Approval to Award a Sole Source Grant to the Simon Wiesenthal Center for Operation of the Mobile Museum of Tolerance
- E. *Contracts & Grants Over \$1 Million - Approval to Award a Sole Source Grant to the Peoria Public School District 150 for Fine Arts and Other Programs
- F. *Contracts & Grants Over \$1 Million - Approval to Release and Award an Invitation for Bid for ISBE to Enter into a Competitive Bid for Illinois Standards-aligned Assessment Content to Administer the Illinois Assessment of Readiness in Grades 3 through 8
- G. *Contracts & Grants Over \$1 Million - Approval of Sole Source Grant to After School Matters
- H. *Contracts & Grants Over \$1 Million - Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement with Eastern Illinois Area Special Education to Execute the Specific Learning Disability Support Project
- I. *Approval of the Fall 2022 Waiver Report

9. Discussion and Approval

- A. Approval of North Chicago Transition to an Elected Board
- B. Approval of the Revision to the Resolution in Further Support of In-Person Learning

10. Upcoming Board Action

- A. Approval for Publication – Part 25 (Educator Licensure) *Public Acts 102-702, 102-710, 102-713, 102-717, 102-852*
- B. Approval for Publication - Part 670 (Tutoring Services) *New Part*
- C. Contracts & Grants over \$1 Million - Approval of the Release and Award of the FY2023 Elementary and Secondary Relief Digital Equity Formula Grant
- D. Contracts & Grants Over \$1 Million –Approval of Sole Source Grant to Community Education Network – It Takes a Village Family of Schools

11. Discussion Item

- A. National Association of State Boards of Education Materials Review

12. Announcements & Reports

- A. Superintendent's/Senior Staff Announcements
- B. Chair of the Board's Report
- C. Member Reports

13. Information Items

- A. ISBE Fiscal & Administrative Monthly Reports
- B. FOIA Monthly Report
- C. ISBE Quarterly Staff Demographics Report

14. Adjourn

This meeting 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 by phone at (217) 782-2221; TTY/TDD is (217) 782-1900.

NOTE: The Chair of the Board may call for a break in the meeting as necessary in order for the Board to go into closed session.

**Approved
10/19/2022**

Illinois State Board of Education Meeting

September 20, 2022
100 N. First Street, Board Room
Springfield, IL
And via Webinar

ROLL CALL

Vice Chair of the Board Donna Leak called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.

Dr. Leak announced that the Board meeting was being audio-cast live over the internet and video recorded.

Board Secretary Jaime Guzman was absent. Dr. Leak appointed Dr. Benson to serve as secretary pro tempore.

Dr. Leak asked the clerk to call the roll. A quorum was present with six members attending and physically present in the Springfield office. State Superintendent Dr. Carmen I. Ayala was also in attendance.

Members Present (in person):

Dr. Steven Isoye, Chair of the Board (after Swearing-In)
Dr. Donna Leak, Vice Chair
Dr. Christine Benson
Roger Eddy
Dr. David Lett
Susie Morrison
Dr. Nike Vieille

Members Absent:

Jaime Guzman, Secretary

**SWEARING-IN OF
BOARD MEMBER**

Dr. Leak introduced the newly appointed State Board chairman, Dr. Steven Isoye.

Legal Officer Jeremy Duffy administered the ceremonial oath of office. Dr. Isoye swore to uphold the duties of a member of the Illinois State Board of Education.

Chair Isoye asked the clerk to call the roll. A quorum was present with seven members physically present in the Springfield office.

**PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION**

Chair Isoye reminded those in attendance of the Public Participation Policy and the sign-up procedures for today's meeting.

Kaitlyn Feriante, CEO of Redwood Literacy, spoke on dyslexia legislation. She shared stories of individuals with dyslexia facing difficulties in the public education system, and the successes they experienced with more direct intervention. She advocated for ISBE to assist in creating legislation that promotes access to literacy for students across Illinois schools.

Meredith Kroot, co-coordinator of Chicago Public Schools Family Dyslexia Collaborative, spoke on literacy. She believes that many Illinois students are graduating without proper reading preparation, and that ISBE can do more to intervene. She invited Board members to come to panels and discussions on literacy.

Michelle Trager, a parent, spoke on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Awareness Month. She shared that many organizations have recognized FASD awareness days, and that individuals with FASD are particularly prone to struggles in education. She advocated for ISBE to ensure increased FASD awareness and accommodation in schooling.

RETREAT OPENING ACTIVITY

Dr. Ayala led Board and staff members in a team building activity.

Board and staff members shared their reflections on the experience.

Dr. Ayala concluded the activity, appreciating the opportunity to engage with members and leaders in a different way.

PRESENTATIONS | ANNUAL PLANNING

Dr. Ayala shared current plans for discussions and presentations to the Board.

Mr. Eddy said that tracking updates in legislation and considering timing of legislative sessions could help the Board.

Dr. Leak noted that the Legislative Breakfast was a valuable opportunity. She also asked to provide an update on IL-EMPOWER after partners were approved and some time for implementation to take effect.

Mr. Eddy asked about planning a meeting further south in the state, and members discussed meeting locations and the potential for adjustments.

Mr. Eddy asked to clarify current virtual participation regulations for Board members. Dr. Ayala and Mr. Duffy said that there are exceptions that allow participation virtually, but that they are more limited. Dr. Lett asked if committee meetings were subject to the same virtual participation restrictions. Mr. Duffy confirmed that they were not.

Dr. Lett asked about ending of term dates as it relates to participation in the January meeting. Staff confirmed that members could potentially continue to serve after their end of term date until a replacement is appointed.

Ms. Morrison expressed an interest in reports on ISBE's accountability systems, and generally for updates on projects started over the past three years.

Mr. Eddy discussed including a legislative update as a presentation and discussion, and for the Board to consider developing recommendations around educational mandates. Ms. Morrison agreed. Mr. Eddy discussed an interest in finding ways to eliminate overlaps in legislation. Dr. Ayala noted that there had been some bills that addressed these concerns, and Mr. Eddy said that an ISBE report of these changes could be useful to the public.

Ms. Morrison expressed an interest in a report on post-high school student outcomes and more information on potential collaboration with community colleges and the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

PRESENTATIONS | EQUITY PORTFOLIO

Dr. Ayala and Project Lead for Equity Sergio Hernandez presented on the agency's work for the Equity Project Portfolio.

Mr. Hernandez discussed the role of the portfolio in tracking the impacts of equity work at ISBE. The portfolio contains information on agency efforts to implement Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Access work at ISBE and in community-facing projects. He shared that this project allowed for consideration of multiple questions about the implementation of equity efforts, including how to increase staff and community awareness of these efforts. He discussed the function of the Equity Impact Analysis Tool at various levels in the agency.

Dr. Ayala shared updates to the structure of the team working to address equity. She shared her hopes of preparing all ISBE staff to provide information on equity work and emphasized the urgency of inclusivity for the agency internally and in its work in the field.

Mr. Eddy asked about incorporating equity in grant processes. Dr. Ayala noted that outreach was done with rural and lower-income communities, and Dr. Matias noted prioritization of districts in these areas to ensure that they have access to grant opportunities. Mr. Eddy noted that limited professional experience with grants might limit districts' access and that making additional resources and training available could work toward equity. Dr. Ayala noted that work with formula-based funding was part of a shift toward a more widely accessible process. Dr. Matias said that competitive grants had been putting rural districts at a disadvantage, and Finance Officer Robert Wolfe discussed the implementation of formula-based grants more in depth.

Mr. Eddy discussed further incorporation of formula-based funding. Dr. Ayala noted that some grants are mandated to be competitive, and Mr. Wolfe discussed working with flexibility as a requirement for grant transparency to maximize equity efforts in this area. Dr. Leak asked about working with Regional Offices of Education (ROEs) to focus support efforts with grant opportunities.

Chair Isoye discussed the cultural shift needed for equity tools to be fully utilized in practice and expressed an interest in seeing progress with implementation. Dr. Ayala shared the orientation efforts for new members, and Operations Officer Melissa Oller shared more information about these efforts.

Mr. Hernandez expressed his appreciation for discussion on this topic.

PRESENTATIONS | ELEVATING EDUCATORS

Education Officer Dr. Ernesto Matias introduced a presentation on ISBE's Elevating Educators Program and the team members presenting on each topic. Dr. Jennifer Kirmes, executive director of Teaching and Learning, thanked the Board for the opportunity to share on this topic and emphasized that she was interested in Board discussion.

Leadership Preparation

Martin McGreal, director of District/School Leadership, discussed efforts in leadership recruitment in line with ISBE Strategic Plan Goal 3.2. Original research found that some had been through principal preparation but were not pursuing leadership positions, and that fewer people of color had pursued preparation programs.

He discussed the work of the Department of District/School Leadership over the past two years and the recruitment and structures for the principal preparation programs. He shared statistics of candidates in different principal preparation programs, as well as information about the cohort overall.

Catrice Johnson, a principal candidate currently working in East St. Louis SD 189, shared her experiences and achievements in education as a school social worker and in collaboration with community organizations. She expressed gratitude for the opportunity to pursue principal preparation as part of this program.

Ms. Morrison congratulated Ms. Johnson on her work and asked her about her experience with the program; Ms. Johnson shared information about the courses and program structure. Ms. Morrison asked about who was responsible for program structure in partnerships with the Illinois Principals Association (IPA). Mr. McGreal responded that the IPA helps coordinate between preparation programs, districts, and candidates and there is a third-party evaluation of programs set to occur to determine best practices.

Mr. Eddy asked about target metrics connected to Strategic Plan Goal 3.2. Mr. McGreal responded that at the end of 2020, 255 participants identified themselves as candidates of color. There is work being done to assess what impact recruitment programs have had, but Mr. McGreal believes that they are on track to meet fiscal year 2023 recruitment goals.

Educator Recruitment

Dr. Kirmes discussed the emphasis of equity in Elevating Educators, by ensuring that educators are comprehensively prepared for the role. She shared data on current unfilled positions aggregated by Evidence-Based Funding (EBF) tier assignments, noting that

significant gaps in districts not classified by EBF tier assignments largely contributed to vacancies for special education positions.

Dr. Leak asked if charter schools were included in the set of districts without tier assignments; Dr. Kirmes said that state-authorized schools did not have tier assignments, but district-authorized schools were included with their districts' tier assignments.

Dr. Kirmes noted that the project was focused more on simply filling those gaps – instead trying to create a workforce that can serve student needs by addressing equity gaps. She said that current teacher demographics differ from the student population and shared that current teacher preparation programs are more representative of students.

Dr. Kirmes detailed some of the grants and partner programs for targeting teacher recruitment.

Mr. Eddy asked about funding for materials with Educators Rising. Dr. Kirmes shared that ISBE has purchased statewide access to its materials, and that schools could make use of them to customize their own curriculum. She clarified that local chapters of Educators Rising were separate. Mr. Eddy asked about how these materials had been promoted. Dr. Kirmes noted that webinars had been done on this topic but plans for renewed communications were underway.

Ms. Morrison asked about the geographic elements behind teacher gaps. Dr. Kirmes confirmed that ISBE had more data in the full report, and that vacancy rates had been higher for rural districts in 2021. She noted that 2022 data suggests that rural and urban vacancy rates were similar, but that future data would be necessary to see if it was a trend. She said that ISBE was considering how to implement preparation programs in areas where partner organizations were not located.

Ms. Morrison asked about how recruitment for World Language educator vacancy numbers might be affected by new mandates. Dr. Kirmes noted that the implementation of relevant updates is delayed for multiple years. Ms. Morrison expressed interest in pro-active efforts to address potential impacts. Dr. Kirmes said that many schools have begun to prepare for the new requirements, but that ISBE is considering potential ways of providing support.

Ms. Morrison asked how shortages were being communicated with postsecondary teacher preparation programs. Dr. Kirmes said that part of the efforts involved having partner campuses look at their data and see where equity gaps were present. Ms. Morrison discussed the importance of gender equity in teaching positions at the elementary level.

Dr. Leak asked about the number of teachers coming from Teach for America and the possibility of expanding programs beyond the current two regions. Dr. Kirmes noted that the program's alumni work across the state in education and discussed the interest of ISBE in collaborating in the future with the organization to expand their coverage.

Dr. Leak suggested the inclusion of questions around consolidating positions in response to shortages, wondering if vacancies in this light could be underreported. Dr. Kirmes noted that ISBE has worked on including this issue in information collection as accurately as possible.

Mr. Eddy asked for more data on pathway programs and endorsements. Dr. Kirmes provided some information and said she could follow up with more in detail. Ms. Morrison asked if students in the programs graduated high school with associate degrees; Dr. Kirmes confirmed that some students did. Board members asked more about certifications through pathway programs, and Dr. Kirmes clarified the structure of the program. Chair Isoye asked if districts with pathways programs outside of the grant were in this data. Dr. Kirmes confirmed they were not, but that ISBE is working on identifying all programs in the state.

Educator Hiring

Emily Fox, director of Educator Effectiveness, presented on efforts targeting vacancies via hiring requirements. She discussed legislative changes to increase access for teaching and paraprofessional positions to a wider range of individuals. She shared opportunities for short-term approvals for current educators lacking the full range of requirements for long-term approval.

She highlighted resources on ISBE's website to help identify new requirements for various positions and for individuals to determine the positions for which they are qualified. She said that ISBE is investigating ways to further connect districts with potential candidates.

Dr. Lett complimented the agency on its efforts in creating these opportunities and urged the team to investigate more ways to market the opportunities to prospective candidates.

Ms. Morrison asked if data suggested that changes to licensure requirements had affected candidate availability. Ms. Fox said this could be researched, and Dr. Kirmes affirmed that upcoming data collection could inform this further.

Dr. Vieille asked to confirm that ROEs had centralized information about open positions, and Ms. Fox confirmed that they did.

Mr. Eddy asked about how effective flexibility in these areas would be in a long term, or if an easing of requirements for full approvals would be necessary. Ms. Fox said these flexibilities were targeting individuals with content expertise to meet current district needs, while also allowing an avenue to pursue full approval. Mr. Eddy asked about the expiration of flexibilities. Ms. Fox said that approvals are due by June 30, 2023, but that this window could likely be renewed for another three years.

Board members discussed balancing interests of ensuring teacher quality and filling positions. Dr. Lett commended the flexibilities as an entry point for younger professionals, and Mr. Eddy suggested the temporary approval may not provide enough security for interested individuals.

Dr. Vieille asked about data on outcomes for individuals receiving short-term approvals. Ms. Fox said that teacher evaluation data could be a source of information. Mr. Eddy asked for data on how many positions are filled by individuals with temporary approvals. Dr. Kirmes said these individuals are tracked, including how many then convert to full licensure, and that information can be shared.

Chair Isoye asked staff to assess which approvals were tied to the disaster proclamation and how they might be affected when it ends, and also to ensure that these programs are also working toward equity goals.

Educator Retention

Dr. Kirmes shared demographic data on teacher retention and highlighted a persistently lower retention rate for teachers in special education. She noted that previously discussed vacancy rates in this area might be driven by retention more than recruitment concerns. She shared information on the Bilingual Teacher Grant, which provides support for individuals currently working in schools to obtain full licensure while continuing to work.

Ms. Fox shared information on statewide affinity groups, which are meant to provide some community, particularly for teachers in schools where they may be one of few teachers of color. She also discussed PD+, an ISBE system that will host information about all available professional development opportunities and allow for ease in tracking certified experiences.

Mr. Eddy asked if information might be shared with principals' and superintendents' associations in their meetings. Ms. Fox said that she could reach out about participating. Mr. Eddy suggested highlighting development offerings that were grant-funded offerings, and Dr. Ayala suggested finding ways to connect interested individuals with open slots already sponsored by districts or ROEs.

Dr. Benson asked about potentially directing grants more directly toward special education cooperatives. Dr. Kirmes responded that special education grants included cooperatives and reported that those organizations appreciated their access to these opportunities. Ms. Morrison asked if the districts in the grant were organizations that were representative of the state overall, and Dr. Kirmes said they were.

Dr. Leak expressed an interest in ensuring PD+ providers were properly reviewed and asked about the structure of affinity groups. Ms. Fox responded that there would be multiple different

groups, and individuals would engage with the one most local to them. Dr. Kirmes discussed the intended content and structure of the program. Dr. Leak asked if feedback gathered here might inform future recommendations. Dr. Kirmes noted that the groups were meant to provide support to participants, but that changes to address issues could be informed by their discussions.

Ms. Fox introduced participants in the New Teacher Coaching and Mentoring program, coordinated through a partnership with the Illinois Education Association (IEA).

Dawn Frank, a coach in the program, shared her positive experiences assisting teachers and described the various means in which participants could receive support. William Moore, a social studies teacher and building mentor, shared his experience with the program and the opportunities to help guide teachers in establishing the classroom environment. Amber Sims, a pre-K teacher in Alton SD, shared her experiences as a new teacher in the program, noting the targeted suggestions for her classroom and the monthly meetings to hear lessons from perspectives from across the state.

Mary Jane Morris, the lead coordinator of the program, discussed the efforts to promote the program across districts, and relationships with universities to directly promote to teachers in training. She shared that it has grown significantly and looks forward to future implementation of the program in providing support.

Mr. Eddy congratulated them on the growth of the program. He asked about the continuity of funding for future years. Dr. Benson emphasized this, noting that student teachers who worked during periods of virtual learning restrictions could especially benefit from mentorship. Ms. Morrison asked if IEA looked at districts involved with IL-EMPOWER. Ms. Morris said that IEA did not target IL-EMPOWER, though its focus on districts in need of resources had some overlap.

Mr. Eddy asked about what funding would be needed for scaling up the program to increase access to mentors for any new teachers who might be interested. Ms. Morris said a formula could be used to determine this.

Dr. Leak shared that the program helped with the retention of new teachers in her district, and she advocated for it.

Chair Isoye thanked the panelists for sharing their perspectives.

National Approaches

Dr. Kirmes discussed educator support programs being implemented outside of Illinois.

Dr. Lett asked about flexibility associated with out-of-state licenses. Ms. Fox confirmed that there are reciprocity programs with other states written into law. Dr. Lett asked if these short-term approval programs had reduced cases of pursuing licensure out of state, and Ms. Fox said the approval programs did increase access. Dr. Kirmes provided information about shares of in-state and out-of-state licensure among new educators.

Dr. Leak asked for a synopsis of other states' programs to discuss at the National Association of State Boards of Education conference, and Dr. Kirmes said she would provide it.

Ms. Morrison asked about data for utilization rates for principal licenses. Dr. Kirmes confirmed it was available.

Chair Isoye thanked the team for the presentation.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Lett moved that the State Board of Education adjourn the September 20, 2022 Board meeting.

Mr. Eddy seconded the motion, and it passed with a unanimous roll call vote. The meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Christine Benson
Board Secretary pro tempore

Dr. Steven Isoye
Chair of the Board

Approved
10/19/2022

Illinois State Board of Education Meeting

September 21, 2022
100 N. First Street, Board Room
Springfield, IL

ROLL CALL

Chair of the Board Steven Isoye called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

Chair Isoye announced that the Board meeting was being audio-cast live over the internet and video recorded.

Chair Isoye asked the clerk to call the roll. A quorum was present with seven members attending physically in the Springfield Office. State Superintendent Dr. Carmen I. Ayala was also in attendance.

Members Present (in person):

Dr. Steven Isoye, Chair of the Board
Dr. Donna Leak, Vice Chair
Dr. Christine Benson
Roger Eddy
Dr. David Lett
Susie Morrison
Dr. Nike Vieille

Members Absent:

Jaime Guzman, Secretary

**PRESENTATIONS |
STUDENT ADVISORY
COUNCIL
INTRODUCTIONS**

Leslie Ward, principal consultant in Student Care, introduced the Student Advisory Council.

Members of the Student Advisory Council introduced themselves.

Chair Isoye thanked the students for their time and expressed the Board's anticipation for their insights in the coming year.

**PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION**

Chair Isoye reminded those in attendance of the Public Participation Policy and the sign-up procedures for today's meeting.

Dora King, chair of the North Chicago District 187 Independent Authority (IA), spoke on the North Chicago School Board transition. She thanked ISBE for engaging with local leadership in conversations on this topic and expressed hopes for a transition to begin no later than 2025.

North Chicago Mayor Leon Rockingham Jr. discussed the North Chicago transition. He noted the improvements in the financial operations and academic achievement under the IA. He believes that rushing the transition could present issues and that a gradual approach to the transition will allow potential candidates time to prepare for the duties of the school board.

Stephine Austine, a parent in North Chicago, spoke on the transition. She advocated for ensuring that students in the district have a good school year and that any decision on the transition not disrupt that.

Tameka Wilson, a parent in North Chicago, spoke on the transition to an elected school board. She thanked ISBE for its original intervention in the district to ensure the well-being of students. She advocated for a return to an elected school board with a carefully planned transition starting in 2025. She believes this will enable enough time to resolve current affairs and effectively transfer responsibilities from the Independent Authority.

Senator Adriane Johnson, who represents District 30, spoke and advocated for a transition back to an elected school board. She believes that 2023 is too early for a return and that it is

important to trust ISBE's process. She wishes to ensure that the community is prepared and represented on the elected board, and that it continues to work for the well-being of students.

Cynthia Jackson, a resident and parent in North Chicago, spoke on the transition. She advocated for finishing the district's five-year strategic plan, which involved community input, prior to a transition back to an elected board. She believes that changing leadership before its completion may jeopardize progress made in the district.

Michelle Trager, a parent, spoke on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) Month. She shared awareness efforts and FASD interventions in other states. She advocated for ISBE to give greater consideration to FASD in accommodations for education in the interest of student well-being and educational equity.

Chair Isoye thanked the participants for their comments.

PRESENTATIONS | NORTH CHICAGO TRANSITION TO AN ELECTED BOARD DISCUSSION

Dr. Ayala provided an update on the community listening sessions done in North Chicago. She thanked ISBE staff for providing support for the district over the past 10 years. She discussed the progress that has been made, but also noted the disruptions to progress caused by the pandemic as a source of concern when considering a transition timeline.

Deputy Operational Education Officer Krish Mohip discussed his engagement with the listening sessions and provided information on the student population, the progress the district has made in financial operations, and academic achievements. He shared a summary of collected feedback: 24 comments were made in support of a 2025 transition or gradual approach, 20 comments in support of a 2023 transition, and three comments in support of no elected school board at this time. Mr. Mohip said that after action was taken by the ISBE Board, a community advisory group would be formed to shape a roadmap for the transition to be completed in January 2023.

Dr. Ayala recommended that a transition for the North Chicago School Board begin in 2025 to ensure that pandemic recovery projects are successfully completed.

Dr. Lett asked if there were any cases where a timeline might be changed after the Board's vote. Dr. Ayala did not anticipate any circumstances in which that would occur. Legal Officer Jeremy Duffy said that the Board would have the ability to intervene but affirmed that it was not expected to be necessary. Financial Officer Robert Wolfe noted that the Financial Oversight Panel and administrative support would remain in place with the transition.

Mr. Eddy asked if community representation would remain a priority for the IA during the transition period, and Dr. Ayala confirmed that it was. He discussed current IA members, and Dr. Ayala affirmed that they would stay on until an election, but that they could run for the elected position as well. Mr. Eddy asked if disruptions to progress were a concern that might change the timeline. Mr. Duffy said that it was a possibility but emphasized that it was not expected.

Dr. Leak asked to confirm the duration of financial oversight. Mr. Wolfe said that it would be another 10 years, with a review in five years, and that ISBE would be receiving fiscal reports from the district annually through the transition.

Chair Isoye thanked the staff for the information and Board members for the discussion.

CLOSED SESSION

Dr. Benson moved that the State Board of Education go into closed session for the following exception items:

- A. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a volunteer of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with this Act. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)
- B. Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)
- C. Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21)
- D. Meetings between internal or external auditors and governmental audit committees, finance committees, and their equivalents, when the discussion involves internal control weaknesses, identification of potential fraud risk areas, known or suspected frauds, and fraud interviews conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards of the United States of America. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(29)

She further moved that Board members may invite anyone they wish to be included in this closed session.

Dr. Vieille seconded the motion, and it passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

The open meeting recessed at 9:18 a.m. to go into closed session. The open meeting reconvened at 11:38 a.m.

SEMIANNUAL REVIEW OF CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

Dr. Vieille said that pursuant to Section 2.06(d) of the Open Meetings Act, the State Board of Education has reviewed the minutes of its closed sessions for March 16, 2022; April 20, 2022; May 18, 2022; June 15, 2022; and August 17, 2022.

She moved that the State Board of Education certifies that the need for confidentiality still exists for all of the closed session minutes for March 16, 2022; April 20, 2022; May 18, 2022; June 15, 2022; and August 17, 2022, and these minutes should be approved and remain closed.

She further moved that the State Board of Education approves the destruction of all closed session verbatim recordings from March 17, 2021, and prior.

Dr. Lett seconded the motion, and it passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Isoye reviewed the items under the Consent Agenda.

Dr. Leak clarified that these items have been reviewed and discussed in previous Board and committee meetings.

Dr. Lett moved that the State Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda.

Dr. Benson seconded the motion, and it passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

The following motions were approved by action taken in the Consent Agenda motion:

Approval of Minutes

Plenary Minutes: August 17, 2022

The Illinois State Board of Education hereby approves the August 17, 2022 meeting minutes.

Rules for Adoption

*Approval for Adoption - Part 1 (Public Schools Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision)

Public Acts 101-643; 102-411; 102-584

The Illinois State Board of Education hereby authorizes the state superintendent to submit the proposed rulemakings for Part 1 to the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (JCAR) for second notice.

*Approval for Adoption – Part 24 (Culturally Responsive Teaching and Leading Standards for All Illinois Educators)

The Illinois State Board of Education hereby authorizes the state superintendent to submit the proposed rulemakings for Part 24 to JCAR for second notice.

Contracts & Grants Over \$1 Million

*Contracts & Grants Over \$1 Million - Approval to Award a Sole Source Grant to the Simon Wiesenthal Center for Operation of the Mobile Museum of Tolerance

The Illinois State Board of Education hereby authorizes the state superintendent to award a sole source grant for \$1 million to the Simon Wiesenthal Center to operate the Mobile Museum of Tolerance in fiscal year 2023.

*Contracts & Grants Over \$1 Million - Approval to Award a Sole Source Grant to the Peoria Public School District 150 for Fine Arts and Other Programs

The Illinois State Board of Education hereby authorizes the state superintendent to award a sole source grant to Peoria School District 150 to enhance fine arts programming, for a total award over one year not to exceed \$5.5 million.

*Contracts & Grants Over \$1 Million - Approval to Release and Award an Invitation for Bid for ISBE to Enter into a Competitive Bid for Illinois Standards-aligned Assessment Content to Administer the Illinois Assessment of Readiness in Grades 3 through 8

The Illinois State Board of Education hereby authorizes the state superintendent to release an Invitation for Bids for Illinois standards-aligned assessment content to meet all state and federal requirements for the Illinois operational summative accountability assessments in reading/language arts and mathematics for Grades 3 through 8, allowing ISBE to enter into a two-year contract with a five-year renewal option in an amount not to exceed \$42 million.

*Contracts & Grants Over \$1 Million - Approval of Sole Source Grant to After School Matters

The Illinois State Board of Education hereby authorizes the state superintendent to award an After School Matters Grant in the amount of \$4 million in fiscal year 2023.

*Contracts & Grants Over \$1 Million - Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement with Eastern Illinois Area Special Education to Execute the Specific Learning Disability Support Project

The Illinois State Board of Education hereby authorizes the state superintendent to enter into a new intergovernmental agreement with Eastern Illinois Area Special Education for a three-year contract to execute the Specific Learning Disability Support Project with a total cost not to exceed \$7.5 million and funded by Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Part B Discretionary Grant dollars.

Approvals

*Approval of the Fall 2022 Waiver Report

The Illinois State Board of Education hereby approves the Fall 2022 Waiver Report.

**DISCUSSION AND
APPROVAL |
APPROVAL OF NORTH
CHICAGO
TRANSITION TO AN
ELECTED SCHOOL
BOARD**

Ms. Morrison moved that the State Board of Education hereby authorizes the election of three members to the North Chicago School Board beginning with the local elections to be held in 2025 and for the remaining four members of the board to be elected in the subsequent elections in accordance with state law. She further moved that the state superintendent shall continue to appoint the chairperson of the Independent Authority and the remaining members of the Independent Authority until such time as seven members have been duly elected to serve on the board.

Dr. Leak seconded this motion, and it passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

**DISCUSSION AND
APPROVAL |
APPROVAL OF THE
REVISIONS TO THE
RESOLUTION IN
FURTHER SUPPORT OF
IN-PERSON LEARNING**

Mr. Duffy discussed the revisions to the resolution, focusing on permitting but no longer requiring remote learning opportunities for students excluded from attendance due to COVID.

Mr. Eddy asked if this required school districts to take any new actions, and Mr. Duffy said it did not.

Dr. Leak moved that the State Board of Education hereby approves the resolution supporting in-person learning.

Dr. Vieille seconded the motion, and it passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

**UPCOMING BOARD
ACTIONS**

Approval for Publication – Part 25 (Educator Licensure) *Public Acts 102-702; 102-710; 102-713, 102-717; 102-852*

Emily Fox, director of Educator Effectiveness, discussed this item.

There were no questions on this item.

Approval for Publication - Part 670 (Tutoring Services) *New Part*

Dr. Erica Thieman, director of Standards and Instruction, discussed this item.

There were no questions on this item.

Contracts & Grants over \$1 Million - Approval of the Release and Award of the FY2023 Elementary and Secondary Relief Digital Equity Formula Grant

Dr. Thieman discussed this item.

Mr. Eddy asked how many districts were expected to receive funding from this, and Dr. Thieman responded around 300, but would follow up with more detailed data. Mr. Eddy asked about records on which districts had met their technology needs; Dr. Thieman said that a recent survey on this topic had 92% of districts responding.

Dr. Leak expressed an interest in ensuring that professional development resources and infrastructure for support were available for educators to ensure that devices are properly utilized for learning in classrooms. Dr. Thieman agreed and said she could follow up with details about the current work on technology implementation with other state agencies.

Contracts & Grants Over \$1 Million – Approval of Sole Source Grant to Community Education Network – It Takes a Village Family of Schools

Carisa Hurley-Davis, director of Early Childhood, and Nakisha Hobbs, CEO of It Takes a Village (ITAV) Schools, discussed the organization and the proposed grant.

Mr. Eddy asked how many program sites were affected by funding changes that this grant is addressing; Ms. Hurley-Davis responded that six ITAV sites were affected.

Ms. Eddy asked about plans for sustainability of funding beyond the year of the grant; Ms. Hurley-Davis said she could follow up with updates on planning.

**DISCUSSION ITEM |
NATIONAL**

National Association of State Boards of Education Materials Review

Chair Isoye shared the notes for these materials.

**ASSOCIATION OF
STATE BOARDS OF
EDUCATION
MATERIALS REVIEW**

Dr. Leak shared her excitement for the National Association of State Boards of Education's upcoming conference, and the opportunities for various boards to come together and discuss approaches to their goals in education. Dr. Benson affirmed the value found in participation for Board members.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS
AND REPORTS**

Superintendent/Senior Staff Announcements

There were no announcements.

Chair of the Board's Report

Chair Isoye expressed his excitement to work with ISBE.

Member Reports

There were no announcements.

INFORMATION ITEMS

ISBE Fiscal & Administrative Monthly Reports
Freedom of Information Act Monthly Report
ISBE Quarterly Staff Demographics Report

**MOTION FOR
ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Eddy moved that the State Board of Education adjourn the September 21, 2022 Board meeting.

Ms. Morrison seconded the motion, and it passed with a unanimous roll call vote. The meeting adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Dr. Chris Benson
Board Secretary pro tempore**

**Dr. Steven Isoye
Chair of the Board**