

ILLINOIS STATE TEACHER CERTIFICATION BOARD

**Illinois State Board of Education
State Board Room, Fourth Floor**

Friday, April 13, 2007

Business Meeting

MINUTES

Call to Order / Roll Call:

Mr. Dennis Williams, Secretary, Illinois State Teacher Certification Board, called the Illinois State Teacher Certification Board meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. Mr. Williams proceeded to call the roll. A quorum was present.

Members Present:

Mr. Dennis Williams, Secretary

Denise Albrecht	Lindy Greenlee	Jo Ann Owens
Richard Ammentorp	Ascencion Juarez	Janet Pierce-Ritter
Deborah Curtis	Elliott Lessen	Tamara Smith
Lawer Dixon, Jr.	Linda Malone	Denise Williams
Nina Dorsch	Dave Marshall	
Allen Ellington	Sr. Colleen McNicholas	

Members Absent:

Dr. Christopher A. Koch, Chairman (Interim)

Muhammad Abdullah	Carol Auer	Linda Pellegrini
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Others Present:

Kevin Brucker	Mitch Hopper	Shelli Nafziger
Lydia Bullock	Pete Hughes	Brian Schwartz
Norm Durlfing	Erika Hunt	Lynn Steffen
Pat Grisham	Linda Jamali	Joy Taylor-Ankenbrandt
Tom Hannon	Phylliss Jones	Sally Vogl
Colleen Herald	Daryl Morrison	Marti Woelfle

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

The minutes of the February 2, 2007, Illinois State Teacher Certification Board meeting were presented for consideration. Lindy Greenlee moved the February 2, 2007 minutes be approved. Linda Malone seconded the motion. Dennis Williams called for discussion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Public Participation:

None.

Facilitation Committee's Report:

Deborah Curtis, Chair of the Facilitation Committee, reported the Facilitation Committee met at 8:00 a.m. There are no changes to the agenda.

Item(s) for Immediate Action:

Program Approval Update –

National-Louis University – Social Science Program

Marti Woelfle, Principal Consultant, Certification Division, shared that on April 19 and 20, 2006, the State Board of Education acted on the recommendation of the State Teacher Certification Board and granted “provisional approval” to National-Louis University’s Social Science – Economics, Social Science – Geography, Social Science – History, and Social Science – Political Science programs. National-Louis University was required to present the recommendations of the National Council for the Social Studies or a revised program report no later than 18 months after the State Board’s action.

On February 1, 2007, the National Council for the Social Studies notified National-Louis University that it had granted recognition to the University for its Social Studies secondary-level programs. The National Council for the Social Studies’ report was provided to Certification Board members for their consideration.

Deborah Curtis moved that the State Teacher Certification Board recommend program approval for the following National-Louis University Social Science programs: Social Science – Economics, Social Science – Geography, Social Science – History, and Social Science – Political Science, as required by the

Illinois Administrative Rules, Section 25.127 (j). Denise Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed with four abstentions.

Comparison of the Illinois Music Content Area Standards to the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) Standards

Phylliss Jones, Principal Consultant, Certification Division, indicated that a panel of music educators from around the state met to compare the Illinois Music Content Area Standards to the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) Standards for the purpose of determining if the NASM Standards are: (a) fully equivalent to the Illinois Music Content Area Standards, (b) partially equivalent to the Illinois Music Content Area Standards, or (c) are not equivalent to the Illinois Music Content Area Standards. After much discussion and examination of both sets of standards, the panel came to consensus that the NASM Standards are fully equivalent to the Illinois Music Content Area Standards.

Deborah Curtis moved that the State Teacher Certification Board approve the National Association of Schools of Music Standards as compared with the Illinois Music Content Area Standards for approval of programs. Linda Malone seconded the motion. Dennis Williams called for discussion.

Deborah Curtis referred to the following Illinois Music Content Standards: Page 18, 5F, “understands teaching methods for students with special educational needs”; and Page 23, 5V, “identifies and applies teaching methods for students with special educational needs”. The NASM Standards are rather light and vague regarding students with special educational needs. To meet the State requirements, institutions will be required to ensure special needs are addressed.

The State Teacher Certification Board recommended that, when working with institutions, the State Board of Education staff share this particular language and indicate schools must pay special attention to, and reinforce the issue of how the students with special needs are being addressed.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

New Program Proposal Recommendation(s) –

Eureka College – Learning Behavior Specialist I (LBS I)

Phylliss Jones introduced the following representatives from Eureka College: Dr. Pete Hughes, Professor Emeritus in Education, Co-Director of the Teacher Education Program; Dr. Shelli Nafziger, Associate Professor of Education, Co-

Director of the Teacher Education program; Dr. Pat Grisham, Special Education Consultant; and Mr. Kevin Brucker, Teacher Education Assessment Coordinator.

Nina Dorsch asked the Eureka College representatives what they were anticipating in the number of teacher candidates served in the program.

Elliott Lessen referred to pages 13, 14 and 15 of the program proposal as he pointed out that he could not locate any courses in the area of social studies for elementary education. Dr. Lessen also asked how Eureka College representatives anticipate educating the candidates with only one person (to be hired) who has a special education background.

Linda Malone referred to page 75 of the Appendix and asked that college representatives clarify the evaluation of lesson plans. Elliott Lessen indicated that there seems to be use of a small menu of assessment activities throughout the program. It would seem that candidates would want to have a broader menu of assessment activities whether they are different kinds of assignments in courses, or other types of assessments. What are the other activities in which candidates are engaged in class, homework assignments, assignments in clinical experiences, or other opportunities?

Elliott Lessen referred to the transition points (p. 23). Dr. Lessen then asked how a candidate, somewhere in the middle of the program, would be assessed and was a transition point used at that time?

Janet Pierce-Ritter asked that college representatives provide further information regarding field experiences, classes and the assessment process.

Elliott Lessen asked that given the nature of multiple disabilities covered in the LBS I program and the need for intensive and extensive clinical experiences, and given where Eureka College is positioned geographically, does Eureka College have the breadth of P-12 students to accommodate without over inundating classrooms with the same students over and over again? Dr. Lessen also asked that further information be provided regarding the Conceptual Framework and how it correlates with the coursework.

Janet Pierce-Ritter asked about the number of hours during summer and if this a hardship for students? Dr. Pierce-Ritter complimented Eureka College representatives on the clarity of their charts in the program proposal.

Linda Malone asked for clarification regarding the surveys that are conducted during October after graduation, specifically the percentage rate of responses.

Sr. Colleen McNicholas raised a concern regarding the small number of courses that were for severe disabilities. There are several for low incidence, but only two for mild to severe. Sr. Colleen asked for further clarification.

Denise Williams referred to page 21 of the program proposal under the topic “Reasons students would be denied to enter the teacher education program” and asked for clarification regarding the designations “recommendation with reservation”, and “granted omission with certain conditions.” She asked what a student would have to do to get the “conditions” removed since there are some conditions with reservations. Representatives clarified how this was accomplished.

Deborah Curtis moved that the State Teacher Certification Board recommend to the State Board of Education provisional approval of the Eureka College Learning Behavior Specialist I (LBS I) program, thereby authorizing the educational unit to conduct the program and to recommend candidates for certification by entitlement until the time of the institution’s next scheduled Accreditation Review [Section 25.145 (d) (1)]. Elliott Lessen seconded the motion. Dennis Williams called for discussion.

Elliott Lessen asked that Eureka College representatives work with State Board of Education staff with regard to the comments provided by State Teacher Certification Board members.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Proposals for Activities that Meet Requirements for Standard Certificate Eligibility

Richard Ammentorp moved that the revised list of “Proposals for Activities that Meet Requirements for Standard Certificate Eligibility” dated April 10, 2007, be approved. Sr. Colleen McNicholas seconded the motion. Dennis Williams called for discussion. The motion passed by unanimous vote. (See Attachment)

Rules Related to Certification (New Part 35, Mentoring Program for New Principals)

Sally Vogl, Rules Coordinator, Legal Department, stated that this rulemaking will implement the third of the four new certification-related initiatives that were established by Public Act 94-1039 in response to the efforts of the Illinois State Action for Education Leadership Project (IL-SAELP). New Section 2-3.53a of the School Code calls for first-year principals who meet requirements to be paired with experienced principals in a year-long mentoring relationship. Principals with at least three years’ experience are eligible to serve as mentors if they complete training offered by entities approved by the Illinois State Board of Education and if they have “demonstrated success as instructional leaders”.

Ms. Vogl explained that in the time that has elapsed since enactment of this law, the agency issued a Request for Sealed Proposals (RFSP) and subsequently executed a contract for the preparatory work that was necessary in order to identify the desired competencies and dispositions of mentors and, based on that information, to design the training they will be required to undergo. The Partnership for Illinois New Principal Mentoring (made up of the Illinois Principals' Association, the DuPage County Regional Office of Education, the Consortium for Educational Change, and Eastern Illinois University) was the recipient of this contract and also developed requirements for the structure of the mentoring program. Providers will be approved under these rules and will ensure the quality of the program.

Ms. Vogl further explained that since the statute makes the program and new principals' requirement for participation contingent upon appropriation, a decision will be made annually regarding whether the program will operate. If the appropriation for Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 is sufficient to require operation of the program, an adequate number of eligible mentors will have to be trained prior to the beginning of the school year; and providers of the training must already have been selected before training can occur. Therefore, rules will need to be in effect in early May, and this is the reason for emergency rulemaking.

Ascencion Juarez asked if Chicago Public Schools were part of these rules and if they were eligible for the funding. Sally Vogl indicated that Chicago Public Schools were not subject to this set of rules since the law exempts Chicago Public Schools and provides another set of requirements.

Dave Marshall raised a question if this initiative will be properly funded making the determination of "\$2,000 (provided to the mentor) for each first-year principal in the program plus the cost of delivering the required training, coordinating the mentors' assignments, and providing the other necessary structure and support of the program". Dennis Williams and Sally Vogl shared that they had heard roughly \$500 to \$750 additional per capita (per mentor and recipient) for support of the program.

Linda Malone asked Ms. Vogl to clarify the exemption of assistant principals.

Denise Williams shared her concern of the number of years (three) that a principal needs to have completed in order to serve as a mentor.

Ascencion Juarez inquired about the amount of time that a mentor is expected to spend mentoring a new principal. Sally Vogl stated the requirement was 50 contact hours.

Denise Albrecht raised a question regarding the determination of the \$2,000 per administrator versus the \$1,200 per teacher. Sally Vogl indicated that part of the

reasoning was the salary scale. Dennis Williams added that this determination was based on recent research – \$40 per hour x 50 hours.

Linda Malone shared a concern that there is no cap for full-time principals to serve as a mentor. Sally Vogl stated that the rules require the superintendent or other supervisor to approve the mentor's participation.

Ascencion Juarez indicated that with regard to the expectations of the mentors and the amount of time spent mentoring he feels that it will be difficult to receive quality mentoring for \$2,000 (for the mentor).

Ms. Vogl indicated that the emergency rules would go to the State Board at its April meeting with the State Teacher Certification Board's recommendation. Once adopted by the State Board, they would become effective immediately upon filing. At the same time, identical language would make up a set of proposed rules on which public comment would be taken.

Deborah Curtis moved that the State Teacher Certification Board recommend to the State Board of Education for consideration the emergency rulemaking for New Part 35 (Mentoring Program for New Principals). Elliott Lessen seconded the motion. Dennis Williams called for discussion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

State Teacher Certification Board 2008 Calendar

Janet Pierce-Ritter moved that the 2008 Calendar for the State Teacher Certification Board be approved as presented (see below). Tamara Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

2008 Calendar of Meetings

January 11, 2008
February 1, 2008
March 7, 2008
April 4, 2008
May 2, 2008
June 5 and 6, 2008

July 11, 2008
July 31 and August 1, 2008
September 5, 2008
October 3, 2008
November 7, 2008
December 4 and 5, 2008

Renewal of Standard / Master Certificates (Group B List)

Dennis Williams reported there are no non-renewals on the Group B List at this time.

Item(s) for Information:

Renewal of Standard / Master Certificates (Report – Group A List)

Dennis Williams reported that there were 7,996 recommendations for Standard / Master Certificates renewed in Group A for the period of January 31, 2007 through April 9, 2007.

(Note: Due to the size of the printout, the report is not attached to these minutes. If an individual would like to obtain a copy of the approved recommendations, please contact Dennis Williams, Secretary, Illinois State Teacher Certification Board.)

Illinois State Action for Education Leadership Project (IL-SAELP)

Dennis Williams introduced Dr. Norman Durflinger, Co-Director, Center for the Study of Education Policy, Illinois State University; and Dr. Erika Hunt, Project Director, IL-SAELP, Illinois State University. Dr. Durflinger and Dr. Hunt distributed a folder of material detailing the initiatives of IL-SAELP.

Dr. Durflinger provided a brief overview of the Teacher Leader Endorsement highlighting the concepts and strategies of this initiative.

The following were some of the questions raised and discussed:

- How did IL-SAELP envision the Teacher Leader Endorsement?
- Why would a person pursue a Teacher Leader Endorsement if they are not compensated?
- What will the Teacher Leader Endorsement do for the teacher?
- Will a Teacher Leader Endorsement hurt teachers who are already serving as a Teacher Leader (mentor) in the school district?
- How will the Teacher Leader Endorsement work with regard to “differentiated assignment” and the pay scale, bargaining unit issues, etc.?
- Who will develop the programs for this initiative?

Members of the Certification Board stated that they would like to be notified when any revised IL-SALEP legislation is introduced.

Procedure for Recognition of Hours-Based Rules Language for Endorsements

Deborah Curtis asked that Certification Board members discuss the approval process for subsequent endorsements to be added to certificates. Rules do allow for institutions to recommend individuals for endorsements without having approved programs. Dr. Curtis understood that there was a recent change in policy where courses in these kinds of endorsement pieces would not be approved (for additional endorsements) unless it was evident in the title of the course or the catalog description that all of the pieces were included.

Dennis Williams shared that it has become increasingly more difficult for evaluators (in the Certification Division) to determine whether or not a course will count based on what an evaluator is reading. While lists of courses (meeting specific requirements) have been compiled, this task is still very challenging. Mr. Williams suggested that perhaps there needs to be a method established for evaluators to follow so that they can verify a certain course meets the necessary requirements.

Linda Jamali, Division Administrator, Certification Division, will ask that an evaluator(s) be present at the May 4 Certification Board meeting so further discussion can occur with regard to this agenda topic.

Secretary's Report:

Dennis Williams provided a certification status report. At this point there is no backlog of applications.

With regard to the administrator certificate renewal audits, the State Board of Education sent out letters (Notice of Opportunity for Hearing) to six administrators indicating that the State Board will initiate suspension of their administrative certificates for one year. However, these administrators may request a hearing at the Regional Office of Education level. Suspensions may be appealed to the State Teacher Certification Board.

The Illinois Administrators' Academy Review Task Force met April 5, 2007, at the Professional Development Alliance in Joliet. Participants were asked to develop a recommendation for improving the Illinois Administrators' Academy. Recommendations will be reviewed and presented at the group's next meeting for discussion.

New policy has been established to utilize a trained designee in place of the State Board of Education staff member when conducting the NCATE/Institutional Reviews. State Board staff will focus their time in preparing the institution for the review. Sr. Colleen McNicholas stated that there was some concern expressed

at the Illinois Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (IACTE) meetings and was wondering if anyone was addressing these concerns. Linda Jamali indicated that a letter will be sent in the near future to the institutions of higher education regarding this new policy as well as addressing the concerns raised by the IACTE.

Mr. Williams announced that he has received notification of the following revocation of certificates:

- Mark Roller, Standard Special Certificate #2196683
- Justin C. Marlo, Initial Elementary Teaching Certificate #2257751

(Note: If a person voluntarily surrenders his/her certificate, the surrendered certificate must be treated as a revoked certificate.)

Adjournment:

With no further business, Elliott Lessen moved that the State Teacher Certification Board meeting adjourn. Denise Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote. The State Teacher Certification Board meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

APPROVED

Chairman

Secretary

ATTACHMENT

**Proposals for “Induction and Mentoring Programs”
to Meet Requirements for the Standard Certificate**

**Recommended for Approval by
State Board of Education Staff**

April 2007

School

Gardner Grade School, Gardner
Iroquois West CUSD #10, Gilman
Ottawa Elementary School District #141, Ottawa