

**School Success Task Force (SSTF)**

**Meeting of January 18, 2012**

**11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**Illinois State Board of Education  
100 N First Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor (V-Tel)  
Springfield, Illinois**

**Illinois State Board of Education  
James R Thompson Center  
100 West Randolph Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor (V-Tel)  
Chicago, Illinois**

**I. Welcome and Introductory remarks**

Representative William Davis, Co-Chair introduced himself and welcomed individuals to the School Success Task Force (SSTF). He spoke about the objectives of the task force.

Beth Hanselman, Assistant Superintendent of Special Education and Support Services of Illinois State Board of Education, introduced a group from the Georgia Department of Education who are piloting a program aimed at applying different strategies and approaches to help educators work effectively with the failing of children, promoting of professional development, and assisting with other learning opportunities for school personnel. This program is promising in helping reduce the factors that often cause suspensions and expulsions.

**Presentation**

Debbie Gay, Director of Special Education at the Georgia Department of Education, shared her presentation on Community Collaboration to the Task Force.

***Members present:***

Christine Boyd, Illinois Department of Corrections

Dr. Seymour Bryson, Illinois African American Family Commission

Representative William Davis, Co-Chair

Dr. Kye Gaffey, Superintendent of Department of Juvenile Justice School District

Twin Green, member

Leslie Juby, member

Denice Murray, Illinois Department of Children and Family Services

Dave Robisch, Illinois Department of Children and Family Services

V. Sue Taylor, Illinois State Board of Education

Jason Tyszko, Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity

***General Public Present:***

Michael Byrd, Illinois African American Family Commission

Kristin Knox, Illinois Department of Human Services

Rachel Sipes, Illinois Department of Human Services

Dr. Terry Solomon, Illinois African American Family Commission

Dr. Lynda Swan-McClendon, Illinois Department of Children and Family Services

***Illinois State Board of Education Staff Present:***

Beth Hanselman, Illinois State Board of Education

Cynthia Riseman, Illinois State Board of Education

Sally Veach, Illinois State Board of Education

## **II. Approval of Minutes from November 29, 2011 meeting**

Representative William Davis asked for a motion to adopt the minutes from November meetings.

Jason Tyszko, asked that the suggestion regarding the use of social security numbers to track data be corrected to include that this suggestion was given in respect to the Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS) and not directly to local data systems.

Christine Boyd, asked that the correction to the statement regarding the data the Department of Corrections was going to be able to provide to the task force be changed to state that they are only able to provide drop-out information. She stated that they have no information regarding truancy.

Dr. Seymour Bryson, moved to accept the minutes and Jason Tyszko seconded that motion and the minutes were approved as corrected. .

## **III. Review of Data and Resources**

Scott Beaver, Principal Consultant from Illinois State Board of Education Special Education Division shared reports on Expulsion and Suspensions by gender, grade cluster, and race/ethnicity from the Student Information System (SIS). These SIS reports are tentatively scheduled to be available to by districts later this month. A note was made regarding student counts, if less than 10 students are included in a cell, then the data has to be redacted due to privacy laws and FERPA. Scott explained how to read the data provided and gave examples of how the data will be presented when the report is pulled.

The Task Force discussed the data presented.

## **IV. Review Timelines & Set Future Meetings/Hearing Dates**

Discussion regarding future meetings and hearing dates ensued. The Task Force would like to have a morning meeting and an evening hearing possibly in Springfield. They would then like to conduct an additional three meetings/hearings regionally. Dr. Bryson would like one hearing to be held Carbondale.

A suggestion again was to review data to determine the greatest 'hot spots' when looking at suspension, expulsion, and truancy and determine locations based on the areas that have the highest numbers of expulsions and suspensions.

At this time, the Task Force is going to look at dates for the Springfield area meeting/hearing. After the data has been reviewed future dates will be determined.

A recommendation was made to complete hearings by the end of the summer since a report is due by the end of the year.

A resolution is being filed to add a member from Chicago Public Schools (CPS) and to extend the task force date through December 2012. Representative Davis and Senator Delgado will sponsor this since it will be a joint resolution.

**V. Public Comment**

None

**VI. Adjournment**

The Co-chairmen will be discussing a future meeting date for the Springfield Meeting and Hearing.

Leslie Juby motioned for adjournment, Denice Murray seconded that motion.