

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
100 N. First Street  
Springfield, Illinois

February 20-21, 2008

**NOTE: Staff presentations and detailed Board discussion typically take place during Committee meetings one month prior to State Board action in the plenary session.**

**Wednesday, February 20, 2008**

- 9:30 a.m. Education Policy Planning Committee of the Whole**  
Board Room, 4th Floor  
1-866-297-6391 (*listen only*); Confirmation # 2 0 7 0 5 9 4 2
- Noon - 2:00 p.m. The members of the State Board of Education may be attending the Governor's State of the State/Budget Address**
- 2:00 p.m. Finance & Audit Committee of the Whole**  
(*This meeting will begin following the Governor's Budget Address*)  
Board Room, 4th Floor  
1-866-297-6391 (*listen only*); Confirmation # 2 0 7 0 5 9 4 2
- \*3:50 p.m. Governmental Relations Committee of the Whole**  
Board Room, 4th Floor  
1-866-297-6391 (*listen only*); Confirmation # 2 0 7 0 5 9 4 2
- \*5:00 p.m. Board Operations Committee of the Whole**  
Board Room, 4th Floor  
1-866-297-6391 (*listen only*); Confirmation # 2 0 7 0 5 9 4 2

\* The meeting will begin at the conclusion of the previous session.

**Thursday, February 21, 2008**

- 8:30 a.m. Ad Hoc Rules Committee of the Whole**  
Board Room, 4th Floor  
1-866-297-6391 (*listen only*); Confirmation # 2 0 7 0 5 9 4 3
- 9:45 a.m. ISBE Plenary Session**  
Board Room, 4th Floor  
1-866-297-6391 (*listen only*); Confirmation # 2 0 7 0 5 9 4 3

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, Phone: 217-782-2221; TTY/TDD: 17-782-1900; Fax: 217-785-3972.

**NOTE:** Chairman Ruiz may call to order the Board's plenary session early for the sole purpose of hearing a motion to go into closed session. In such case, the plenary session will reconvene for action items at the time posted. Chairman Ruiz may also call for a break in the plenary session at which time the Board will go into closed session.

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Board Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
100 North First Street, Springfield, Illinois

Thursday, February 21, 2008  
9:45 a.m.

**Public Conference Call Number: 1-866-297-6391 (listen only); Confirmation #: 2 0 7 0 5 9 4 3**  
The Plenary Session will also be audio broadcast via the Internet.

**NOTE: Staff presentations and detailed Board discussion typically take place during Committee meetings one month prior to State Board action in the plenary session.**

- A. Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance**  
1. Consideration of and Possible Actions on Any Requests for Participation in Meeting by Other Means

- B. Resolutions & Recognition**  
1. Entrepreneurship Week Proclamation

**C. Public Participation**

**D. Superintendent's Report**  
**\* Consent Agenda**

All action consideration items listed with an asterisk (\*) 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.

**Action Considerations**

- \*1. Approval of Minutes: January 17, 2008 (*Plenary pp. 3-16*)
  - \*2. Rules for Initial Review
    - a. Part 252 (Driver Education) (*Rules Packet pp. 7-23*)
  - \*3. Rules for Adoption
    - a. Part 51 (Dismissal of Tenured Teachers Under Article 24 and (Dismissal of Tenured Teachers and Principals Under Article 34) (*Rules Packet pp. 24-27*)
    - b. Part 226 (Special Education) (*Rules Packet pp. 28-37*)
    - c. Part 350 (Secular Textbook Loan) (*Rules Packet pp. 38-44*)
  - \*4. Contracts and Grants over \$1 Million
    - a. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Grants (*Finance & Audit Packet pp. 23-26*)
    - b. Truants Alternative Optional Education Program (TAOEP) RFP (*Finance & Audit Packet pp. 16-19*)
    - c. Special Legislative Grants (*Linda Mitchell, Ronny Wickenhauser (Finance & Audit Packet pp. 20-22)*)
- (*end of consent agenda*)
- 5. Spring 2008 Waiver Report (*Governmental Relations Packet pp. 4-49*)
  - 6. Update List of Supplemental Education Service Providers (*Plenary pp. 17-19*)
  - 7. Closed Session Minutes (as needed, following closed session)

**E. New Business**

**F. Announcements and Reports**

- 1. IBHE Liaison Report (*Dr. Proshanta Nandi*)
- 2. Superintendent's Announcements
- 3. Chairman's Report
- 4. Committee Reports
- 5. Member Reports

**G. Information Items**

- 1. Rulemaking Monthly Status Report (*Plenary pp. 20-23*)
- 2. SBE Fiscal & Administrative Monthly Reports (*Plenary pp. 24-40*)

**H. Adjourn**

**NOTE:** Chairman Ruiz may call to order the Board's plenary session early for the sole purpose of hearing a motion to go into closed session. In such case, the plenary session will reconvene for action items at the time posted. Chairman Ruiz may also call for a break in the plenary session at which time the Board will go into closed session.

**Illinois State Board of Education Meeting  
February 21, 2008  
Illinois State Board of Education  
100 North First Street  
Springfield, Illinois**

**ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

On February 21, 2008 after adjourning the Ad Hoc Rules Committee of the Whole the State Board had the opportunity to go into closed session. At 9:15 a.m. Chairman Ruiz announced that he would call the plenary session to order for the sole purpose of hearing a motion to go into closed session

Chairman Ruiz asked Ms. Jean Ladage, Assistant to the Board, to call the roll. A quorum was present. Dr. Christopher Koch, State Superintendent of Education, was also in attendance.

**Members Present:**

Mr. Jesse Ruiz, Chairman  
Dr. Christopher Ward, Vice Chairman  
Dr. Vinni Hall, Secretary  
Dr. David Fields  
Mr. Dean Clark  
Ms. Brenda Holmes  
Ms. Joyce Karon

**Members Absent:**

Dr. Andrea Brown

Dr. Hall moved that the Board enter into closed session under the exceptions set forth in the Open Meetings Act of the State of Illinois as follows:

**Section c 1** for the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, compensation, performance or dismissal of an employee;

**Section c 11** for the purpose of considering pending or probable litigation against or affecting the Board.

**Section c 21** for the purpose of discussing minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meeting Act.

Dr. Hall further moved that the Board may invite anyone they wish to have included in this closed session.

Dr. Fields seconded the motion and it was passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

The open meeting recessed at 9:20 a.m. and the Board went into closed session at 9:25 a.m. The open meeting reconvened at 9:50 a.m.

Mr. Jesse Ruiz, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:50 a.m. Chairman Ruiz asked Ms. Jean Ladage, Assistant to the Board, to call the roll to confirm that a quorum was still present. Dr. Christopher Koch, State Superintendent of Education, was also in attendance. The Board members, Dr. Koch and anyone who wished to join them faced the American flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Ruiz announced that the Board meeting was being audio-cast live over the Internet.

**Members Present:**

Mr. Jesse Ruiz, Chairman  
Dr. Christopher Ward, Vice Chairman  
Dr. Vinni Hall, Secretary  
Dr. David Fields

**Members Absent:**

Dr. Andrea Brown

<p><b>Moment of Silence</b></p>	<p>Mr. Dean Clark Ms. Brenda Holmes Ms. Joyce Karon</p> <p>Chairman Ruiz asked that everyone please join him in observing a moment of silence in memory of the students who lost their lives in the tragic shooting at Northern Illinois University. He asked that we think of the community of DeKalb that has suffered such a tragic loss.</p>
<p><b>RESOLUTIONS &amp; RECOGNITION</b></p> <p><b>Proclamation for National Entrepreneurship Week</b></p>	<p>It was noted that Mark Williams and Debbie Hopper of Career and Technical Education presented the Governor's Proclamation for National Entrepreneurship Week on Wednesday morning during Education Policy Planning Committee. National Entrepreneurship Week is February 23 - March 1, 2008. The proclamation is available for viewing in the Board Services area.</p>
<p><b>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</b></p>	<p>Amanda White, a senior from Richwood High School in Peoria spoke on Project Lead The Way (PLTW) Work-Based Learning. Project Lead the Way is a Career and Technical Education Program at Illinois Central College. Ms. White stated that PLTW has helped her explore careers in the field of engineering. She has learned about digital electronics, principals of engineering, and mechanical energy. Ms. White stated that PLTW provides students the opportunity to apply what they have learned to peak interest and encourage them to stay in school. PLTW is helping Ms. White map her future and prepare for college. Ms. White thanked the Board and asked that they continue to fund Career &amp; Technical Education Programs. Ms. White was accompanied by Ms. Carol Leach, System Director, and Ms. Susan Sherwood, Special Projects Director, from PERFECT (Peoria Educational Region for Employment &amp; Career Training).</p> <p>Chairman Ruiz asked that the Board members please take a minute to read the materials left by Ms. Janet Milkovich from the Recording for the Blind &amp; Dyslexic. Ms. Milkovich was signed up for public participation but was unable to stay.</p>
<p><b>SUPERINTEDEENT'S REPORT</b></p> <p><b>CONSENT AGENDA</b></p>	<p>Chairman Ruiz commented that all items listed with an asterisk (*) on the agenda are considered to be routine and will be enacted in one motion and vote. Any board members who wishes separate discussion on any item listed on the consent agenda may remove that item from the consent agenda, in which the event the item will be considered in its normal sequence.</p> <p>Mr. Ruiz stated that consent agenda item D 4.c. Special Legislative Grants will be removed from the consent agenda and considered as separate item for discussion.</p> <p><b><u>Motion:</u></b> Ms. Hall moved that the State Board of Education approve the consent agenda items as presented, with the exception of agenda item D.4.c. Special Legislative Grants. Mr. Clark seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous roll call vote.</p> <p>The following motions were approved by action taken in the consent agenda motion:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Approval of Minutes</u></b></p> <p>The State Board of Education hereby approves the minutes for the meeting of February 21, 2008 Board meeting.</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Rules for Initial Review</u></b> <b>Part 252 (Drivers Education)</b></p> <p>The State Board of Education hereby authorizes the solicitation of public comment on the proposed rulemaking for: Drivers Education (23 Illinois Administrative Code 252), including publication of the proposed amendments in the <u>Illinois Register</u>.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Rules for Adoption</u></b> <b>Part 51 (Dismissal of Tenured Teachers Under Article 24 and Dismissal of Tenured Teachers and Principals Under Article 34)</b></p> <p>The State Board of Education hereby adopts the proposed rulemaking for: Dismissal of Tenured Teachers Under Article 24 and Dismissal of Tenured Teachers and Principals Under Article 34 (23 Illinois Administrative Code 51), Further, the Board authorizes the State Superintendent of Education to make such technical and nonsubstantive changes as the State Superintendent may deem necessary in response to suggestions or objections of the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Rules for Adoption</u></b> <b>Part 226 (Special Education)</b></p> <p>The State Board of Education hereby adopts the proposed rulemaking for: Special Education (23 Illinois Administrative Code 226), Further, the Board authorizes the State Superintendent of Education to make such technical and nonsubstantive changes as the State Superintendent may deem necessary in response to suggestions or objections of the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Rules for Adoption</u></b> <b>Part 350 (Secular Textbook Loan)</b></p> <p>The State Board of Education hereby adopts the proposed rulemaking for: Secular Textbook Loan (23 Administrative Code 226), Further, the Board authorizes the State Superintendent of Education to make such technical and nonsubstantive changes as the State Superintendent may deem necessary in response to suggestions or objections of the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Contracts and Grants over \$1 Million</u></b> <b>21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Grants</b></p> <p>The State Board of Education hereby approves the release of the FY 2009 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Grant Awards as well as funding of 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC grantees that exceed \$1M over the course of a five (5) year grant cycle.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Truants Alternative Optional Education Program (TAOEP) RFP</b></p> <p>The State Board hereby approves the release of the FY 2009 TAOEP RFP as well as funding the TAOEP grantees that exceed \$1M over the course of a three (3) year grant cycle.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>END OF THE CONSENT AGENDA</b></p>
<p><b>D.4c Contracts and Grants over \$1 Million</b> <b>Special Legislative Grants</b></p>	<p>Dr. Koch noted that agency staff have been working closely with the After School Task Force on the After School grants and the motion that he is recommending is supportive of the efforts of the work with the Task Force.</p> <p>Dr. Ward moved that the State Board of Education approves the funding of the legislative member initiatives reviewed by the Finance and Audit Committee</p>

	<p>yesterday as long as any grant agreements entered into with such entities include the Program Specific Terms developed by the Dr. Koch, which require all entities to submit program performance reports and certain entities to set aside grant funds for a CPA to engage in Agreed-Upon Procedures.</p> <p>Further, the State Board of Education directs the State Superintendent to work with the After School Task Force to expand upon the Program Specific Terms and develop a standard data collection process for outcome measures for the purpose of funding after school and other similar programs.</p> <p>Dr. Fields seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous roll call vote.</p>
<p><b>Spring 2008 Waiver Report</b></p>	<p>Ms. Holmes commented that the report contains a recommendation from staff that the Board forward the Report to the General Assembly with the recommendation that one of Rockford School District #205's waiver requests be denied.</p> <p>Ms. Holmes explained that the Rockford waiver request at issue was originally granted in 1999 and renewed in 2003 and allows the district to count the attendance of students enrolled full time in its middle and high schools in much the same way as the attendance of students enrolled part time is counted; that is, by claiming one-sixth of a day for each class period of at least 50 minutes attended by a student (up to a maximum of six classes per day). Ms. Holmes stated this waiver is particularly troublesome since allowing the Rockford school district to collect additional General State Aid payments reduces the balance available to other school districts in the state, hurting those school districts already in financial difficulty. For these reasons, staff recommends that the State Board recommend to the General Assembly that it deny Rockford's request.</p> <p>Ms. Holmes further commented that she would like the record to reflect that she has concerns with the waiver report not placing a specific limit on the fee a school district can charge for driver's education. Ms. Holmes argued that a district not stating what fee it will charge for driver's education is being fiscally irresponsible.</p> <p>Ms. Karon moved that the State Board of Education hereby forwards 108 of the 109 waiver requests summarized in the Report to the General Assembly without comment; the State Board hereby forwards Rockford School District 205's waiver request (WW100-4640-1) with a recommendation for denial.</p> <p>Mr. Clark seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous voice vote.</p>
<p><b>Update List of Supplemental Education Service Providers</b></p>	<p><i>Superintendent Koch removed this item from the agenda.</i></p>
<p><b>Closed Session Minutes</b></p>	<p>Ms. Karon moved 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 from October 2007 through January 2008; and</p> <p>Whereas Section 2.06(c) of the Open Meetings Act allows for the destruction of the verbatim recordings of closed sessions (no less than 18 months after the completion of the meeting recorded);</p> <p>Ms. Karon moved that the State Board of Education hereby certifies that the need for confidentiality still exists for the closed session minutes for the time period reviewed.</p> <p>Further, the State Board of Education approves the destruction of all closed</p>



Ms. Tomlinson indicated that the Task Force's primary concern was to improve student learning in Illinois schools and considered the main component missing to be the leadership component for improved student learning. It is believed that through preparation programs that will be redesigned and built upon strong standards, there will be a link from continual preparation to mentoring, to professional development and then on to what we currently have as the master principal. We know that not everyone who is currently in a preparation program, wants to become a principal, but there is a need to have the structure that meets the needs of those who want to become strong leaders within their schools and still remain teachers. At the same time, there is a need for redesigning standards for principals.

Ms. Tomlinson indicated that ISBE staff will work closely with staff from higher education and other entities to design a system. Ms. Tomlinson stated that work will be begun immediately to develop this structure.

Ms. Holmes commented that much work has already been done through SAELP in the area of Principalship, so she encouraged staff to not duplicate effort.

Dr. Koch commented that he wanted to take this opportunity to review the ELL assessment discussion that took place in committee on Wednesday. The three invited national experts; Dr. Charles Stansfield, Second Language Testing, Inc., Dr. Margo Gottlieb, Director of Assessment and Evaluation, Illinois Resource Center and Dr. Gary Cook, Wisconsin Center for Education Research, provided a view on what other states are doing with assessment of ELL (English Language Learners) students for accountability purposes. Dr. Koch said that he will bring to the Board next month a recommendation on how best to proceed with assessing ELLs.

Superintendent Koch reminded the Board that Dr. Cook spoke on technical adequacy and the complexity of working with this population of students. Some school superintendents have been asking what ISBE will do if they decide not to test their students. Dr. Koch stated it is state and federal law that all students are assessed. Further, teachers should be using their professional judgment in an assessment situation. If a student has no understanding of the English language after going over five or six questions, perhaps the answer is ending the testing situation, counting it for participation and moving on.

Dr. Koch commented that staff has worked very hard to implement accommodations this year. For the first time directions are being offered for both PSAE and ISAT in ten languages.

The Superintendent also cautioned that cost estimates are not definite until they are committed to on paper... There are issues with quality when translating materials. There is also the issue of technical adequacy with different tests as the national experts pointed out. Dr. Koch stated that he will have a proposal for the Board by next month and asked for input from the Board to assist him in doing so.

Dr. Hall commented that this is a very complex issue. One test as a mark of whether a school is accountable is not a good measure of school success. She understands the need for accountability, but also understands the need for children to learn and she is not certain if assessment contributes to that.

Ms. Holmes asked that Superintendent Koch include in his proposal the next steps – a framework of where we go from here. She also asked that the proposal be communicated in a context that everyone involved can understand.

<p><b>Chairman's Report</b></p>	<p>Dr. Fields concurred that a very basic explanation provides a much better opportunity for marketing the discussion to a diverse group of parents and communities across the state, so all have a better understanding of what is to be accomplished.</p> <p>Ms. Karon appreciated the letter being translated into ten languages and she encouraged districts to relay the information to parents and communities.</p> <p>Chairman Ruiz reported that the following Board Members will be attending out of state meetings:</p> <p>On March 13-15, 2008, Dr. Vinni Hall and Ms. Joyce Karon will be attending the NASBE Legislative Conference and Study Group Meetings in Washington D.C.</p> <p>On March 13-15, 2008, Dr. Chris Ward will attend his first meeting as a member of the NASBE Board of Directors in Alexandria, VA. Dr. Ward was appointed to fill a vacancy representing thirteen states in the Central Region.</p> <p>Chairman Ruiz reported that he had participated in many discussions about ELL assessment since the last Board meeting. He also attended a February 12 meeting with Josefina Vazquez Moto, Secretary of Public Education in Mexico and President of Mexico, Felipe Calderon and signed a Memorandum of Understanding. Superintendent Koch also took place in the signing.</p>
<p><b>NEW BUSINESS</b></p>	<p>Ms. Susie Morrison updated the Board on the Gates Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). She commented that staff is expecting the draft ACHIEVE recommendations before the end of February and the final draft is due before the end of April.</p> <p>Linda Riley Mitchell announced that Mr. Robert Wolfe will now be Division Administrator of Fiscal and Procurement and Ms. Ethelene Ferdinand will be Division Administrator of External Assurance. Ms. Mitchell also thanked Cathy Visintin for serving as Acting Division Administrator for the Fiscal and Procurement Division.</p> <p>Rene Valenciano introduced Ms. Gina Hopper who is now Division Administrator for Grants and Programs. Rene also thanked Mr. Myron Mason who has been serving as Acting Division Administrator the Grants and Programs Division for the last three years.</p> <p>Beth Hanselman commented that she attended the 7-Pak Meeting which consists of Special Education Directors from the states of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Florida, Texas, New York, California and Illinois. The Special Education Directors meet twice a year to discuss the various issues at both state and federal levels. Response to Intervention (RtI) was a large part of the discussion. Illinois, Florida and Texas are lead states with regard to RtI.</p>
<p><b>Committee Reports</b></p>	<p><b>Education Policy and Planning Committee</b></p> <p>Dr. Fields reported that the Education Policy and Planning Committee discussed the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deb Hopper presented the Board with the Proclamation for National Entrepreneurship Week</li> <li>• Dr. Koch invited national experts: Dr. Charles Stansfield, Dr. Margo Gottlieb and Dr. Gary Cook to discuss with the Committee the Future Assessments of ELL Students for Accountability Purposes.</li> <li>• The Committee was joined by members of the Illinois Latino Caucus who offered their comments on ELL. Members present were: Representative</li> </ul>

Paul Froehlich, Senator William Delgado, Representative Linda Chapa La Via, Representative Elizabeth Hernandez, Representative Cynthia Soto and Senator Iris Martinez

- Received Public Participation from nine individuals on their concerns on ELL.
- Approved the minutes of the January 2008 Education Policy & Planning Committee.
- Kay Henderson and Emily Harris gave a presentation to the Committee on the Illinois Early Childhood Assessment Map.
- The Committee discussed the agenda for the March 2008 Education Policy and Planning Committee Meeting.

#### **Governmental Relations Meeting of the Whole**

Ms. Holmes reported that the Governmental Relations Meeting of the Whole discussed the following topics:

- Received Public Participation from two individuals on Drivers Education.
- Shelley Helton and Winnie Tuthill discussed the 2008 Cumulative Waiver Report.
- Nicole Wills and Leigh Ann Vanausdoll updated the Committee on upcoming legislative proposals.

#### **Finance and Audit Committee of the Whole**

Mr. Clark reported that the Finance and Audit Committee of the Whole discussed the following topics:

- Received Public Participation from Mr. Paul Seymour on Hold Harmless.
- Lisa LaBonte reviewed with the Committee both the FY 2006 Financial & Compliance Audit and the FY 2006 A-133 Audit.
- Linda Mitchell and Ronny Wickenhauser updated the Committee on the FY 09 Budget. Mr. Clark also noted that the FY 2009 Budget Books are now available.
- The Committee acted on the Contracts and Grants over \$1 Million.
- Deb Vespa updated the Committee on the Schools Districts in Financial Difficulty.
- The Committee discussed the agenda for the March 2008 Finance & Audit Committee Meeting.

#### **Board Operations Committee of the Whole**

Dr. Ward reported that the Board Operations Committee of the Whole discussed the following topics:

- Reviewed new nomination for Resolution of Recognition. Put on hold until additional information is available.
- Will begin working on the agenda for the Annual Work Conference.
- The Committee discussed the agenda for the March 2008 Board Operations Committee Meeting.

#### **Ad Hoc Rules Committee of the Whole**

Chairman Ruiz reported that the Ad Hoc Rules Committee of the Whole discussed the following topics:

- The Committee reviewed Part 252 (Drivers Education) for initial review.
- The Committee approved for adoption Part 51 (Dismissal of Tenured

	<p>Teachers under Article 24 and Dismissal of Tenured Teachers and Principals Under Article 34), Part 226 (Special Education) and Part 350 (Secular Textbook Loan).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Committee discussed the agenda for the March 2008 Ad Hoc Rules Committee of the Whole Meeting.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Members' Reports</b></p>	<p>Mr. Clark commented that on February 11, 2008, he awarded Mr. Mark Metzger of Indian Prairie School District #204, Naperville with his Thomas Lay Burroughs Award. On February 19, 2008 he attended a reception hosted by the DuPage Regional Office of Education to recognize the thirty-seven new National Board Certified Teachers in DuPage.</p> <p>Ms. Holmes stated that she had the opportunity to attend the University of Illinois at Springfield Administrators Round Table.</p> <p>Dr. Hall reminded everyone that February is Black History Month and that we should celebrate the lives of great black Americans. Dr. Hall recommended highly the publication titled <i>The African American National Biography</i>; it is a joint project of the W.E.B. Du Bois Institute for African and African American Research at Harvard University and Oxford University Press. The eight volume print edition covers a broad range of African American lives. The books present history through a mosaic of the lives of 4,100 individuals, some known throughout the world and others all but forgotten</p> <p>Dr. Hall also noted that she looks forward to attending the Early Childhood Meeting this month and meeting with a delegation from Afghanistan. The Afghanistan representatives will tour Carter School. Dr. Hall will also be presenting at the Learning Disabilities Association on February 27, 2008 on Over Representation of African American Males in Special Education. Dr. Hall noted that ISBE staff is preparing her for the American Education Research Association conference in New York to talk on the impact of SES and balancing policy. She also commented that the AIDS Conference that had been cancelled has been rescheduled for May 2008 in Atlanta, GA.</p> <p>Chairman Ruiz stated that on February 14, 2008, he and Superintendent Koch met with the Mr. George Ranney, President of the Metropolitan Planning Council and Gary Johnson, President of the Chicago History Museum. Next year will mark the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Burnham Plan and the 200<sup>th</sup> Year of President Abraham Lincoln's birth. The Council and the Museum are hoping to work in partnership with ISBE to spread the word to the schools on urban planning curriculum and the exhibits at the museum to honor the Bicentennial celebration of Mr. Lincoln's birth.</p> <p>Dr. Ward visited Southern Will County where he had the opportunity to update the Wilmington School District board members on the work ISBE does and what some of the issues and challenges are relative to education.</p> <p>Ms. Karon stated that she was invited by Robert Ingrassia to visit the Regional Safe School in Des Plaines. The school has about 120 students in both middle school and high school and is housed in a corporate business office because there is no school with space available to meet the needs of these students. Ms. Karon also visited the Lincoln Magnet School in Springfield where she witnessed the Laptop Program being executed by a learning disabilities class. Ms. Karon shared with the Board some examples of the work they have published.</p>

<b>Information Items</b>	Chairman Ruiz asked that the Board members please read the Monthly Status Report on Rulemaking (Report starts on pages 20 of your Plenary packet) and the State Board of Education Fiscal and Administrative Monthly Reports (Report starts on pages 24 of your Plenary packet) printed in the Board meeting materials each month for information purposes. There were no inquires this month regarding these reports.
<b>Motion for Adjournment</b>	Ms. Karon moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Clark seconded the motion and it passed with unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 11:19 a.m.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

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**Dr. Vinni Hall**  
**Board Secretary**

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**Mr. Jesse Ruiz**  
**Chairman**

**Illinois State Board of Education  
Board Operations Committee of the Whole**

**Wednesday, February 20, 2008  
5:00 p.m.**

(This meeting will begin immediately following the previous session.)

**Board Room, 4th Floor**

**Public Conference Call Number: 1-866-297-6391 (listen only)  
Confirmation #: 2 0 7 0 5 9 4 2**

**AGENDA**

1. Roll Call
2. Board Member Participation by Other Means
3. Public Participation
4. Minutes of the December Board Operations Committee Meeting **(p. 2)**
5. Review New Nominations for Resolutions of Recognition **(pp. 3-15)**
6. Adjourn

**NOTE:** The Chairman may call for a break in the Board Operations Committee meeting at which time the Committee of the Whole will go into closed session.

\* Items listed with an asterisk (\*) will be discussed in committee and Board action may be taken in the plenary session.

**BOARD OPERATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**  
**February 20, 2008**  
**Springfield, Illinois**

**Members Physically Present**

Chris Ward, Committee Chair  
David Fields  
Vinni Hall  
Joyce Karon  
Jesse Ruiz  
Andrea Brown  
Dean Clark  
Brenda Holmes

**Members Absent**

None

**Staff Present**

Jean Ladage  
Marsha Moffett  
Christopher A. Koch  
Darren Reisberg

1. **ROLL CALL:** Dr. Chris Ward called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. and asked members to introduce themselves for purposes of roll call. (See above.)
2. **BOARD MEMBER PARTICIPATION BY OTHER MEANS:** There was no participation by Board members through any other means for this committee meeting.
3. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** There was no request for public participation.
4. **COMMITTEE MINUTES:** Ms. Karon moved that the minutes of the Board Operations Committee for the December 2007 committee meeting be approved. Dr. Fields seconded the motion.
5. **REVIEW NEW NOMINATIONS FOR RESOLUTIONS OF RECOGNITION:** The Board Operations Committee reviewed a recommendation submitted by the Association of Illinois Middle Level Schools (AIMS) for the Illinois Horizon School to Watch state program to be recognized for identifying high performing middle grades schools in Illinois. A list of twelve schools was included dating from 2003 to 2007.

Dr. Koch indicated that he did attend a celebration at Tri-Valley Middle School in his home district. He also sent congratulatory letters to schools that came off academic watch status and the schools appreciated that acknowledgement. Dr. Koch wanted the Board to know that these schools are getting recognition and agency staff have made an effort to properly celebrate their accomplishments

Dr. Ward will call the AIMS organization to get additional information

6. **ADDITIONAL ITEMS AND AGENDA PLANNING:** Ms. Karon asked Dr. Ward if there is a need to change the dates of our October Board meeting.

Dr. Brown would like to review the Lt. Governor's Survey and suggest to the Lt. Governor a few other items they might wish to add to the survey.

Dr. Ward indicated that the March Board Operations Committee would include a closed session. Dr. Ward will also add Retreat Planning to the March committee agenda.

Dr. Brown also asked that the Board Operations Committee serve as a venue for Board members to share professional development experiences, such as those serving on the NASBE Study Groups.

**ADJOURN:** Dr. Hall moved that the Board Operations Meeting of the Whole be adjourned. Dr. Fields seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous voice vote. The committee meeting adjourned at 5:22 p.m.

**ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Board Operations Committee Meeting**  
**March 19, 2008**

**TO:** Board Operations Committee  
Illinois State Board of Education

**FROM:** Chris Ward, Chair, Board Operations Committee  
Jean Ladage, Board Services Coordinator

**Materials:** Nomination(s)

**Agenda Topic:** Review Nominations for Board Recognition

**Purpose of Agenda Item**

To review incoming nominations received since the last Board meeting. Nomination materials that are received will be sent to Board members prior to the meeting.

**Relationship to/Implications for the State Board's Strategic Plan**

The State Board's Recognition Program was developed to show the Board's support for the outstanding work of educators, staff and school boards that are serving all children in this state.

**Expected Outcome(s) of Agenda Item**

Recommendation of Board action.

**Background Information**

In May, 2005, the Board initiated a Board Recognition Program to become more proactive in its efforts to recognize the exemplary achievements of students, teachers, school administrators, and local board members in Illinois. Upon review and acceptance, the State Board of Education will pass a resolution describing the particulars of the achievement. The signed resolutions will be presented in one of the following three ways:

- mailed to the recipient(s);
- personally awarded to the individual(s) at their respective school(s); or
- presented to recipient(s) during the State Board meeting at which their resolution is approved

**Superintendent's Recommendation**

No recommendation from the Superintendent.

**Next Steps**

Board Operations Committee will review the nominations received and make a recommendation based on that review.

Illinois State Board of Education  
Education Policy Planning Committee of the Whole

Wednesday, February 20, 2008  
9:30 a.m.

Board Room, 4th Floor

**Public Conference Call Number: 1-866-297-6391** (*listen only*)  
**Confirmation #: 2 0 7 0 5 9 4 2**

**AGENDA**

1. Roll Call
2. Board Member Participation by Other Means
3. **Future Assessments of ELL students for Accountability Purposes 9:30 – 10:15 (pp. 4-78)**  
*Invited national experts: Dr. Charles Stansfield, Second Language Testing, Inc.  
Dr. Margo Gottlieb, Director, Assessment and Evaluation, Illinois Resource Center  
Dr. Gary Cook, Wisconsin Center for Education Research*
4. **Public Participation 10:15 – 11:15**
5. **Minutes of the January Education Policy Planning Committee Meeting (pp. 2-3)**
6. **Illinois Early Childhood Asset Map (Kay Henderson) 11:15 – 11:35 (pp. 79-83)**
7. **Committee Agenda Planning**
8. **Adjourn**

\* Items listed with an asterisk (\*) will be discussed in committee and Board action may be taken in the plenary session.

**EDUCATION POLICY PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
MINUTES**

Wednesday, February 20, 2008

9:30 a.m.

Board Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor

Springfield, Illinois

**Committee Members Physically Present**

Andrea Brown  
Joyce Karon  
Vinni Hall  
Dr. David Fields, Chair

**Other Board Members Physically Present**

Dean Clark  
Jesse Ruiz  
Chris Ward  
Brenda Holmes

**Committee Members Participation Via Phone Conference**

None

**Board Members Absent**

**ISBE Staff**

Superintendent Chris Koch  
Darren Reisberg  
Rene Valenciano

The Education Policy Planning Committee (EPPC) meeting convened at 9:30 a.m.

1. **ROLL CALL:** Committee Chair, Dr. David Fields, requested a roll call. See above.
2. **BOARD MEMBER PARTICIPATION BY OTHER MEANS:** There was no participation from Board members by any other means.

**Special Presentation:** Mark Williams introduced Deb Hopper who was present to speak on a recent proclamation made for National Entrepreneurship Week. The week of February 23<sup>rd</sup> to March 1<sup>st</sup> has been declared National Entrepreneurship Week.

3. **FUTURE ASSESSMENTS OF ELL STUDENTS FOR ACCOUNTABILITY PURPOSES:** (Dr. Charles Stansfield, Second Language Testing, Inc.; Dr. Margo Gottlieb, Director, Assessment and Evaluation, Illinois Resource Center; Dr. Gary Cook, Wisconsin Center for Educational Research)

The following legislators joined the committee for this discussion:

Representative Paul Froehlich	Representative Cynthia Soto
Representative Linda Chapa LaVia	Senator William Delgado
Representative Elizabeth Hernandez	Senator Iris Martinez

Superintendent Koch provided the group with an overview and update of the issues revolving around ELL assessment. He also informed the Board of the response from the United States Department of Education (USDE) regarding flexibility in accountability issues for our ELL population. Superintendent Koch read an excerpt from USDE's letter, which cited their rationale for not approving any flexibility at this time. Superintendent Koch stressed that non-compliance with NCLB requirements could result in sanctions impacting students beyond this sub-group. Dr. Koch clarified the misperception that IMAGE was a native language test. However, this year Illinois will:

- Provide instructions translated into ten languages,
- Disseminate a letter for parents and to the field explaining the changes for ELL students. The letter was made available in ten languages
- Provide for the first time ever word to word glossaries also in ten languages

Dr. Charles Stansfield, Dr. Margot Gottlieb, and Dr. Gary Cook provided guidance and shared their expertise in the field of ELL assessment. The members of the panel discussed options and challenges faced in the development of an accurate assessment instrument for ELL students. Using the examples set by states faced with similar issues, the panel made recommendations toward achieving the goal of valid test results that are reflective of the student's abilities. They recommended options include the following:

- A modified English version of the state achievement tests with appropriate accommodations;
- A translated version of the state achievement tests in the ten languages of highest frequency in Illinois; and
- The development of a Spanish academic achievement test aligned to the Illinois Learning Standards and the Illinois Spanish Language Arts Standards.

- 4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** The Board heard testimony related to the assessment of ELL students from nine individuals, two of which were parents. Two individuals, Mariann Lemke, Director of Assessment, CPS and Diane Zendejas, Chief Officer of the office of Language and Culture at CPS, submitted written comments encouraging ISBE to consider appropriate accommodations for existing assessment of ELL students.

Peg Agnos, Executive Director for the Legislative Network of DuPage (LEND), shared her concerns about ELL assessment. Ms. Agnos stated that Illinois has an opportunity to establish new parameters for the assessment system. She stated that the new system should be designed to be computer-adaptive and provide educators with data to guide instructional decision making.

Phyllis Weaver, CUSD 200, was also present to discuss ELL assessment. Ms. Weaver applauded the State Board for considering research and best practices. She commented that developing an effective assessment instrument is a complex issue.

Josie Yanguas, Illinois Advisory Council for Bilingual Education, shared her thoughts on ELL assessment as well as the recommendations made by the advisory council, stressing the need for a comprehensive system of assessment. She indicated that this is an opportunity for Illinois to become a leader and set an example for other states to follow.

Diep Nguyen, representing the Illinois Advisory Council for Bilingual Education and School District 62, argued that ISAT is an invalid testing instrument that contains systemic problems and using current accommodations does not resolve these issues. She further stated that this is an opportunity for Illinois to set an example and to "do what's right."

Ricardo Meza of MALDEF urged the Board to listen to the Bilingual Advisory Council's recommendations and to commit to designing a new assessment instrument.

Roger Thornton, Superintendent, HSD 211, shared his belief that we must work within the law but urged Illinois to unite with other states opposed to the USDE's unyielding stance on NCLB requirements.

Carmen Acevedo, Assistant Superintendent for Plainfield Dist. # 202, argued that "one size does not fit all" in accommodations made for ELL students. Ms. Acevedo stated that it is important to take into consideration the students' many different levels of English proficiency. She concluded by stating that using the current system will not result in a true measure of ELL students' abilities.

**The EPPC Committee recessed at 12:10 p.m.** to allow members to attend the State of the State and Budget Address that was scheduled to begin at noon.

**The EPPC Committee resumed at 2:00 p.m.**

**Illinois State Board of Education  
Finance & Audit Committee of the Whole**

**Wednesday, February 20, 2008  
2:00 p.m.**

(This meeting will begin following the Governor's State of the State/Budget Address.)

**Board Room, 4th Floor**

**Public Conference Call Number: 1-866-297-6391 (listen only)  
Confirmation #: 2 0 7 0 5 9 4 2**

**AGENDA**

1. Roll Call
2. Board Member Participation by Other Means
3. Public Participation **2:00 – 2:15 pm**
4. Minutes of the January Finance & Audit Committee Meeting **(pp. 2-5)**
5. Audit Update
  - a. FY 2006 Financial & Compliance Audit *(Lisa LaBonte)* **2:15 – 2:22 pm (pp. 8-13)**
  - b. FY 2006 A-133 Audit *(Lisa LaBonte)* **2:22 – 2:35 pm (pp. 14-15)**
6. FY09 Budget Update (verbal update); *(Linda Mitchell & Ronny Wickenhauser)* **3:30 – 3:45 pm**
- \*7. Contracts & Grants Over \$1 Million **3:05 – 3:30 pm**
  - a. Truants Alternative Optional Education Program (TAOEP) Grant Awards **(pp. 16-19)**  
*(Randy Niles)*
  - b. Special Legislative Grants *(Linda Mitchell, Ronny Wickenhauser)* **(pp. 20-22)**
  - c. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Grants *(Myron Mason)* **(pp. 23-26)**
8. Update on School Districts in Financial Difficulty *(Deb Vespa)* **2:35 – 3:05 pm (pp. 27-44)**
9. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items
10. Adjourn

\* Items listed with an asterisk (\*) will be discussed in committee and Board action may be taken in the plenary session.

## FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Wednesday, February 20, 2008  
Springfield Illinois

### Committee Members Present

Dean Clark, Chairman  
Vinni Hall  
Jesse Ruiz  
Andrea Brown  
Chris Ward  
Joyce Karon  
David Fields  
Brenda Holmes

### Staff Present

Chris Koch  
Linda Riley Mitchell  
Susie Morrison  
Darren Reisberg  
Connie Wise  
Linda Tomlinson  
Ronny Wickenhauser  
Don Evans  
Rene Valenciano  
Matt Vanover  
Jean Ladage

Nicole Wills  
Beth Hanselman  
Deb Vespa  
Tim Imler  
Gina Hopper  
Myron Mason  
Marsha Moffitt  
Randy Niles  
Marica Cullen  
Gail Meisner  
Sally Veach

### 1. ROLL CALL

### 2. BOARD MEMBER PARTICIPATION BY OTHER MEANS

None

### 3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

#### *Paul Seymour, Galena School District*

- Spoke about General State Aid/Hold Harmless proration. School district revenues in Galena will be reduced by nearly \$100,000 due to the proration. This is a shortfall in the SD budget.
- Handouts were submitted to committee members.

### 4. MINUTES OF THE JANUARY FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING

Motion passed.

### 5. AUDIT UPDATE

Lisa LaBonte discussed the FY06 Financial and Compliance Audit Findings and the A-133 Statewide Single Audit Findings. The FY06 Finance and Compliance Audit contained two findings, including mandates that ISBE was not in compliance and non-compliance with the Internal Auditing Act.

### 6. FY09 BUDGET UPDATE

Linda Mitchell stated that ISBE was in the process of finalizing the ISL's and submitting them. Ms. Mitchell reported that the Governor's proposed increases were consistent with what the Board had proposed - \$300 million

Ronny Wickenhauser stated that he had attended the briefing the Governor's office had on the budget. The Governor purposed specific revenues sources for specific increases including Education. The \$300 million proposed for Education is going to be funded by an increase in taxes on gaming.

### 7. CONTRACTS & GRANTS OVER \$1 MILLION

#### A. *Truants Alternative Optional Education Program (TAOEP) Grant Awards*

Brenda Holmes requested to have previous year's awards on the next column. Ms. Holmes asked if Alton got \$196,354 in each of the last two years. Sally Veach stated that she has been the program person since 2004 and it has varied with the year. Ms. Holmes asked how it is determined. Ms. Veach said that it depends on the number of programs that had applied. Ms. Holmes asked how the programs know if they are going to get money the second or third year. Ms. Veach stated that in the request for proposal programs in years two and three are generally told to expect the same amount of money. Ms. Holmes asked how much more money did we request in this line item this year. Ms. Veach said \$2 million.

Vinni Hall asked about the type of programs and whether they were connected to any career and technical education programs. Mr. Niles described a variety of programs. Ms. Hall asked if there was an evaluation of how that money is being spent or the effectiveness of the programs. Ms. Veach stated that projects do have to report how they are progressing on their outcomes that they stated in their applications and that they have a student data statistical report that is compiled each year.

**B. *Special Legislative Grants***

Ronny Wickenhauser stated that as these projects come up they will be submitted to the board for review. Mr. Fields asked about the accountability for these grants. Mr. Wickenhauser stated that various procedures are performed in reviewing and processing the grants. Grantees are now required to have a Certified Public Accountant conduct a review and that there were some agreed upon procedures that ISBE laid out in the grant agreement packet. Grantees are also required to submit at least some data on outcomes and on who they are serving. All grantees are required to prepare a budget form in a format that is given to them by Budget and Financial Management. Grantees will now fall under this new system of having these procedures conducted. Mr. Wickenhauser stated that ISBE does not have anyone who physically goes out and reviews these programs, as ISBE does not have the staff available.

Mr. Wickenhauser stated that ISBE tries to provide as much guidance as possible as grantees submit materials to ISBE for review and that some budgets are rejected. Staff works with the grantees to help them prepare them correctly.

**C. *21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Grants***

Andrea Brown asked if there was any relationship to these grants in relation to the warning and watch schools and whether those schools are also SES schools. Gail Meisner stated that all of the grantees here had met the competitive priority of having all schools in improvement status on the RFP. Dr. Fields asked for a geographic location of the grantees and Ms. Brown asked which district they are partnering with. Ms. Meisner said that all the ones that are community based organizations are partnered in Chicago. Dr. Koch asked Rene to make sure this information was provided in a future board note.

**8. UPDATE ON SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN FINANCIAL DIFFICULTY**

Deb Vespa spoke about Cahokia School District being in deficit spending since prior to 2001 and has had negative fund balances for those years also. Ms. Vespa said that ISBE has been working close with them. Cahokia High School is also in need of repairs. Cahokia is now considering coming before the Board to ask for certification for financial difficulty status.

Deb Vespa spoke about Cairo School District, which has been under a financial oversight panel for several years. Ms. Vespa stated that ISBE has been able to improve the finances in this district.

Deb Vespa spoke about Harrisburg School District. Ms. Vespa stated that Harrisburg has been certified for a couple of years. This school district is hoping to have positive fund balances by the end of 2008 or beginning of 2009.

Deb Vespa stated that Proviso School District has an unbalanced budget and was supposed to be developing a deficit reduction plan. The district has not been certified and is seeking to improve their status. Deb Vespa and Linda Mitchell have met with the Board President, the Superintendent and the Business Manager to assist them in reviewing the budget and consider budget reductions.

Deb Vespa stated that Venice School District has positive fund balances and, except for 2008 and 2009, have surpluses in their budgets. The school continues not to make AYP.

**9. COMMITTEE AGENDA PLANNING/ADDITIONAL ITEMS**

Dean Clark stated that the Centralized Compliance Monitoring Database, Contracts and Grants over \$1 million and the Budget update will be discussed next month. Linda Mitchell stated that Deb Vespa will be presenting the financial profile information for the school districts. Ms. Mitchell also said that there will be a short presentation update on the U.S. Communities project the Illinois School Purchasing Network.

**10. ADJOURN**

**Illinois State Board of Education  
Governmental Relations Committee of the Whole**

**Wednesday, February 20, 2008  
3:50 p.m.**

(This meeting will begin immediately following the previous session.)

**Board Room, 4th Floor**

**Public Conference Call Number: 1-866-297-6391** *(listen only)*  
**Confirmation #: 2 0 7 0 5 9 4 2**

**AGENDA**

1. Roll Call
2. Board Member Participation by Other Means
3. Public Participation
4. Minutes of the January Governmental Relations Committee Meeting **(pp. 2-3)**
- \*5. Spring 2008 Waiver Report *(Winnie Tuthill)* **(pp. 4-49)**
6. Legislative Update *(Nicole Wills, Leigh Ann Vanausdoll)* **(pp. 50-101)**
7. Legislative Proposals *(Nicole Wills, Leigh Ann Vanausdoll)* **(pp. 101-120)**
8. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items
9. Adjourn

\* Items listed with an asterisk (\*) will be discussed in committee and Board action may be taken in the plenary session.

**GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Wednesday, February 20, 2008  
Springfield, Illinois

**Committee Members Present**

Brenda Holmes, Chair  
Jesse Ruiz,  
Chris Ward  
Dean Clark  
Joyce Karon  
Vinni Hall  
David Fields  
Andrea Brown

**Staff Present**

Chris Koch  
Linda Mitchell  
Leigh Ann Vanausdoll  
Nicole Wills  
Darren Reisberg  
Connie Wise  
Shelley Helton  
Matt Vanover  
Jean Ladage  
Winnie Tuthill  
Tim Imler

**1. ROLL CALL**

See above.

**2. BOARD MEMBER PARTICIPATION BY OTHER MEANS**

None

**3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**Peg Agnos for Glenbard High School Dist #87**

Ms. Agnos appeared on behalf of John Moss, Glenbard District coordinator for Grants and Legislation, to speak briefly to the committee about the district's waiver regarding behind-the-wheel driver's education and the request to continue the use of driving simulators. The intent of the waiver is to continue to promote increased teenage driver safety with a mix of the two types of training.

**Daniel Kleinfeldt for Oak Park/River Forrest High School**

Mr. Kleinfeldt is the district's Driver Education Department Chair and asked for support for their waiver to allow the use of a simulator along with behind-the -for driver education. The district believes this is the best means for teaching driver safety to their students. In the urban area in which they live, students are unable to experience a full range of driving situations without the use of the simulator.

**4. MINUTES OF JANUARY COMMITTEE MEETING**

Chairman Jesse Ruiz made a motion to approve the February Committee notes and the motion was seconded by Dr. Chris Ward. The minutes were approved with a unanimous voice vote.

**5. SPRING 2008 WAIVER REPORT**

Staff members Tim Imler, Winnie Tuthill and Shelley Helton updated the Committee on the Superintendent's recommendation for denial of the Rockford School District 205 waiver to allow the district to count the attendance of students enrolled full time in the middle and high schools in a similar way to how students are enrolled part-time.

Rockford's waiver was originally granted in 1999 and renewed in 2003. The waiver allows the district to claim one-sixth of a day for each class period of at least 50 minutes attended by a student (up to a maximum of six classes per day). This waiver is particularly troublesome since allowing the Rockford school district to collect additional General State Aid payments

reduces the balance available to other school districts in the state, hurting those school districts already in financial difficulty.

Regarding substitute teacher waivers, Ms. Holmes indicated that she is inclined to suggest the Board recommend denial, however she noted that there were no noted issues from IEA/IFT unions about the waivers. These waivers can be found on page 32 of the Government Relations packet. Ms. Tuthill indicated that Waukegan has been having problems for sometime now. Waukegan has recruited teachers from Spain and had applied for this waiver for many years in a row on a year-by-year basis. Dr. Hall commented that she understands that the district has trouble keeping full time teachers, but she is not sure substitute teachers are the best answer for the students of the district.

Committee Chair Holmes thanked staff for their efforts and appreciated the many emails and letters from superintendents regarding their districts' waivers.

## **6. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Nicole Wills and Leigh Ann Vanausdoll gave a brief summary of the following highlighted bills:

- HB 4180 and HB 4186: Makes changes with regards to the Silent Reflection and Student Prayer Act
- SB 2328: Requires the Pledge of Allegiance to be recited prior to the Moment of Silence.
- HB 4268: Requires school districts to allow expelled students to transfer into another school within the district during the term of the students expulsion
- HB 4534: Requires certificated personnel to undergo a background check during certificate renewal and requires ISBE to reimburse the Illinois State Police for the costs associated with the check
- SB 1953: This legislation makes language with requirements for Response-to-Intervention
- HB 4194: Contains the gaming expansion language
- HB 5769: Contains education accountability provisions, including the creation of an Education Inspector General, new requirements for board member training and financial accountability changes

## **7. LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS**

Ms. Wills and Ms. Vanausdoll provided an update on the following legislative proposals:

- Obsolete and Duplicative Repeals and Statutory Clean-up
- Educator Misconduct

## **8. ADJOURNMENT**

Dr. Ward moved to adjourn the committee and the motion was second by Mr. Ruiz. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Illinois State Board of Education  
Ad Hoc Rules Committee of the Whole

Thursday, February 21, 2008  
8:30 a.m.

Board Room, 4th Floor

**Public Conference Call Number: 1-866-297-6391** (*listen only*)  
**Confirmation #: 2 0 7 0 5 9 4 3**

**AGENDA**

1. Roll Call
2. Board Member Participation by Other Means
3. Public Participation
4. Minutes of the January Ad Hoc Rules Committee Meeting (**pp. 2-6**)
- \*5. Rules for Initial Review
  - a. Part 252 (Driver Education) (*Tim Imler*) (**pp. 7-23**)
- \*6. Rules for Adoption
  - a. Part 51 (Dismissal of Tenured Teachers Under Article 24 and Dismissal of Tenured Teachers and Principals Under Article 34) (**pp. 24-27**) (*Darren Reisberg*)
  - b. Part 226 (Special Education) (*Jodi Fleck*) (**pp. 28-37**)
  - c. Part 350 (Secular Textbook Loan) (*Robert Wolfe, Frank Hanselman*) (**pp. 38-44**)
8. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items
9. Adjourn

\* Items listed with an asterisk (\*) will be discussed in committee and action may be taken in the plenary session.

**Ad Hoc Rules Committee of the Whole**

**Thursday, February 21, 2008**

**8:30 a.m.**

State Board of Education Office  
100 North First Street  
Springfield, Illinois

**Committee Members Present**

Jesse Ruiz

Dean Clark  
David Fields  
Vinni Hall  
Brenda Holmes  
Joyce Karon  
Chris Ward

**Absent**

Andrea Brown

**Others**

Chris Koch  
Darren Reisberg  
Beth Hanselman  
Tim Imler  
Frank Hanselman  
Shelley Helton  
Sally Vogl

**Chairman Ruiz called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m. and noted that no members were participating by other means.**

**3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Chairman Ruiz indicated that just one individual had signed up for public participation. Paula Pergament, representing the Adler Planetarium in Chicago, thanked the Board for including the museum's programs in its budget request for Fiscal Year 2009. She expressed appreciation for the Board's ongoing support of the Planetarium's work and wished to provide an update on recent initiatives to expand programming to include children of preschool age. A group of 29 teachers from the Chicago Public Schools had participated in a workshop for teaching very young students about the moon and how to use hands-on instructional materials. Ms. Pergament also left for the Board lists of the groups that had visited the Adler Planetarium and all the workshops that had been held for teachers during the 2006-07 school year, as well as a map showing all the communities whose residents had downloaded materials from the museum's website.

Brenda Holmes thanked Ms. Pergament for the information she had provided and noted the usefulness of the museum's posted resources for teachers.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Vinni Hall moved approval of the minutes of the January 17, 2008, meeting and Dean Clark seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously and the minutes were approved as presented.

**5. RULES FOR INITIAL REVIEW:** Chairman Ruiz turned the meeting over to General Counsel Darren Reisberg for a discussion of the rules on the agenda.

**PART 252 (Driver Education)**

Mr. Reisberg indicated that there was just one set of rules being presented for initial review and noted that Division Administrator Tim Imler and Shelley Helton of the Rules and Waivers staff were present to answer any questions the Board members might have. He indicated that extensive preliminary review by interested parties had occurred, including in particular the Illinois High School Driver Education Association.

David Fields noted that the changes made by the recent legislation had been much discussed. Brenda Holmes asked Mr. Imler what kinds of comments and questions he had been hearing

from the field with regard to these changes. Mr. Imler responded by stating that he had been spending a considerable amount of time on driver education and indicated that he and staff member Lisa Willhoit had heard a lot about the impact of the legislative changes on school districts' efforts to help students receive their drivers' licenses on their sixteenth birthdays. The extension of the permit time from three months to nine months was quite significant and had meant that districts would need to start some students in the second semester of the freshman year.

Mr. Imler also noted that the portion of the law revising the requirements for behind-the-wheel instruction would not take effect until July 1, 2008. He went on to explain the definition of "enrollment" that had been developed coincide with that used by the Secretary of State. This would prevent the issuance of driving permits far in advance of the date when students were actually participating in driver education. He doubted that this had been the intent behind enactment of the statutory revisions. Accordingly, under the definition used by both agencies, a permit would not be issued more than 30 days before the student begins classroom instruction.

Mr. Imler went on to note that the now-inflexible six-hour requirement for behind-the-wheel instruction would present significant issues for districts and reminded the Board of the relevant waiver requests that had been reviewed the previous day. Districts were continuing to hope for the extra funding that Secretary of State White had indicated would be forthcoming in association with this strengthened requirement.

Darren Reisberg noted that some concerns had been expressed during the external review about the deletion of certain definitions (such as "driving simulators") from Part 252. He explained that, since the rules can no longer describe methods that can be used as alternatives to behind-the-wheel instruction, ISBE no longer has the authority to define those terms.

Dean Clark wished to clarify whether districts would be precluded from using simulators and other methods such as range driving. Rather, he assumed that they would be free to continue doing so in addition to behind-the-wheel instruction but that there could be no substitution for six hours of the required type of instruction. Tim Imler confirmed this understanding.

In connection with the availability of driving permits to freshmen, Joyce Karon voiced the hope that what is known about child development and adolescent brain function would not be overlooked. She advocated that information on how students learn be brought into discussions with the Secretary of State.

Tim Imler raised an additional challenge districts would be facing related to the future of their public programs. He noted that, if parents want their children to have their licenses at age 16 but districts cannot accommodate them, parents have the choice of sending their students to commercial driving schools instead. He concluded by thanking Ms. Helton for the assistance she had provided in developing this rulemaking.

## 6. **RULES FOR ADOPTION**

Mr. Reisberg introduced the three sets of amendments that were being presented for adoption.

### **PART 51 (Dismissal of Tenured Teachers Under Article 24 and Dismissal of Tenured Teachers and Principals Under Article 34 of the School Code)**

Mr. Reisberg reminded the Board that initial review of this amendment had occurred in November and indicated that there had been no public comment and thus no changes in the rules. No questions were raised.

### **PART 226 (Special Education)**

These amendments had also been presented in November. There had been a small number of comments, but no changes had been found to be warranted. Beth Hanselman was available to respond to any questions, but there were none on the part of the Board members.

**PART 350 (Secular Textbook Loan)**

This last item had also originated in November. In the absence of any public comment, the rules remained unchanged. There were no questions on Part 350.

7. **COMMITTEE AGENDA PLANNING/ADDITIONAL ITEMS:** Mr. Reisberg mentioned that several new rulemakings would be presented for initial review in March, including a set of assorted amendments to Part 25 (Certification), a technical change in Part 180 (Health/Life Safety Code for Public Schools) for the sake of alignment to a new statutory provision and other rules, and proposed revisions to Part 305 (School Food Service). In connection with Part 305, he noted that the Nutrition Programs Division had sent the draft rules out for preliminary external review after making use of the feedback received during the January discussions and that no major controversy was apparent. The rules ready for adoption in March would include Part 151 (School Construction Program) and Part 375 (Student Records). Finally, a brief update on lessredtape would be provided.
8. **ADJOURNMENT:** Vinni Hall moved that the meeting be adjourned. David Fields seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m.