

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

100 N. First Street
Springfield, Illinois

December 16-17, 2009

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

All open meetings will be audio cast on the Internet at: www.isbe.net

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2009

9:30 a.m. WORK STUDY: Violence in Schools
Board Room, 4th Floor

12:45 p.m. Break for Lunch

***1:15 p.m. Finance & Audit Committee of the Whole (following lunch)**
Board Room, 4th Floor

***4:00 p.m. Education Policy Planning Committee of the Whole**
Board Room, 4th Floor

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

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2009

8:15 a.m. Board Operations Committee of the Whole
Board Room, 4th Floor

***8:30 a.m. Ad Hoc Rules Committee of the Whole**
Board Room, 4th Floor

***9:15 a.m. Governmental Relations Committee of the Whole**
Board Room, 4th Floor

***10:00 a.m. ISBE Plenary Session**
Board Room, 4th Floor

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

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: 217-782-1900; 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 on Thursday at which time the Board will go into closed session.

**ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
PLENARY SESSION
100 North First Street, Springfield, Illinois
Board Room, 4th Floor
December 17, 2009
10:00 a.m.**

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

**NOTE: Staff presentations and detailed Board discussion typically take place during
Committee meetings prior to State Board action in the plenary session.
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I. Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance

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

II. Public Participation

10:00 – 10:30 a.m.

(Note: Fort Bowman Academy presenters are asked to hold comments until agenda item III)

III. Fort Bowman Academy Charter Hearing (1hr 15 min.)

10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

- A. ISBE Staff (15 minutes)
- B. Board Question/Answers (15 minutes)
- C. Fort Bowman Academy Presentation (15 minutes)
- D. Board Question/Answers (15 minutes)
- E. Public Participants Regarding Fort Bowman (15 minutes)

IV. Resolutions & Recognition

11:45 a.m. – 12:05 p.m.

- A. Fred G. Huddlestun, Recipient of 2009 Burroughs Outstanding School Board President Award (p. 21)
- B. Kevin Rutter, 2009 Illinois Teacher of the Year (p. 22)
- C. Arthur Wachholz, 2009 Illinois Recipient of Milken National Educator Award (p. 23)
- D. Resolutions Recognizing Bilingual Transition to Teaching Graduates (**Board Operations Committee Packet pp. 9-32**)

BREAK FOR LUNCH & CLOSED SESSION

12:05 – 12:30 p.m. Lunch with Award Recipients

12:30 – 1:00 p.m. Closed Session

V. 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

consent agenda items: **1:00 – 1:10 p.m.**

- A. *Approval of Minutes: October 30, 2009 (**Plenary Packet pp. 3-30**)
- B. *Rules for Initial Review
 - 1. Part 35 (Mentoring Program for New Principals) (**Rules Committee Packet pp. 7-20**)
 - 2. Part 145 (Temporary Relocation Expenses) (**Rules Committee Packet pp. 21-30**)
- C. *Contracts and Grants Over \$1m
 - 1. Illinois Violence Prevention Authority Grant for Social Emotional Professional Development (**FAC Packet pp. 3-5**)
 - 2. RFSP for General State Aid ARRA Audit
 - 3. Classroom Cubed Grant (as needed)
- D. *Financial Status of Lemont-Bromberek Community School District #113A (**FAC Packet pp. 8-10**)
- E. *Private Business and Vocational School Advisory Council Appointments (**EPPC Packet pp. 5-6**)
- F. *Charter Schools Annual Report (**EPPC Packet pp. 7-39**)

- G. *Draft State Board of Education Annual Report (*EPPC Packet pp. 40-102*)
- H. *Teacher Certification Board Recommendations (*EPPC Packet pp. 103-105*)
- I. *Illinois Certification Testing System Basic Skills Pass Rate (*EPPC Packet pp. 106-108*)
- J. *Cumulative Waiver Report (*Governmental Relations Packet pp. 5-15*)
- K. *Legislative Proposals (*Governmental Relations Packet pp. 16-*)
- L. *Approval of 2010 Board Calendar Revisions (*Board Operations Committee Packet pp. 65-66*)
- M. *Adoption of 403b Retirement Plan (*Board Operations Committee Packet pp. 33-64*)

End of Consent Agenda

- N. Fort Bowman Academy Charter (*pp. 4-20*) 1:10 – 1:20 p.m.
- O. Closed Session Minutes (*as needed*)

VI. New Business 1:20 – 1:30 p.m.

VII. Announcements and Reports 1:30 p.m. – 2:10 p.m.

- A. IBHE Liaison Report (*Dr. Proshanta Nandi*) 1:30 – 1:40 p.m.
- B. Superintendent's/Senior Staff Announcements 1:40 – 1:50 p.m.
- C. Chairman's Report 1:50 – 2:00 p.m.
- D. Member Reports 2:00 – 2:10 p.m.

VIII. Information Items

- A. ISBE Fiscal & Administrative Monthly Reports (*Plenary pp. 31-56*)

IX. Adjourn

**Illinois State Board of Education Meeting
December 17, 2009
Illinois State Board of Education
100 North First Street
Springfield, Illinois**

ROLL CALL

Dr. Chris Ward, Vice-Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Vice-Chairman Ward asked, Ms. Jean Ladage to call the roll. A quorum was present

Members Present:

Mr. Jesse Ruiz, Chairman
Dr. Christopher Ward, Vice Chairman
Dr. Vinni Hall, Secretary
Dr. Andrea Brown
Dr. David Fields
Ms. Joyce Karon
Ms. Lanita Koster

Members Absent:

(Mr. Ruiz arrived at 12:55 p.m.)

**PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION**

Vice-Chairman Ward indicated that anyone wishing to speak regarding the Fort Bowman Charter Appeal will be called upon during Agenda Item III.

Kristina Mallon, Donna Durbin and Nancy Blume from Community High School District #94 in West Chicago thanked the Board for their support of Math and Career and Technical Education (CTE). Their school is a one-school high school district that serves about 2,100 diverse students, 48% Caucasian; 44% Hispanic, a 25% low income rate and a 9% limited English proficiency rate. The Math and CTE Program follows the National Research Center for Technical Education-Seven Lesson Plan. The program pairs a CTE teacher with a math teacher and ten lesson plans. The purpose of the program is to increase student retention and achievement rate in math, both within the math classroom and beyond. The students were tested at the start and at the end of the ten-lesson plan. Ms. Mallon stated that students either improved or stayed the same; none of them went down on the post test. She commented that they will be sharing their CTE program with their colleagues in Chicago so it can be implemented in other schools.

Superintendent Koch suggested that Ms. Mallon and Ms. Durbin work with the Illinois Council for Economic Education. Dr. Koch commented that he would also be glad to share the link to the proposed international common core standards, and that he would be very interested in their feedback.

Laurene Heybach from the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless spoke in support of \$4 million dollars for FY2011 homeless education. Ms. Heybach pointed out that there has been a 77% increase in the number of homeless school children since last year at this time. The need for assistance to school districts serving students in homeless situations is critical. Ms. Heybach asked that the Board please look seriously at enforcing the federal and state laws of homeless children and to continue to allocate funding for homeless school children.

**FORT BOWMAN
ACADEMY
CHARTER
HEARING**

Dr. Ward asked Superintendent Koch to update the Board on the Appeal of the Fort Bowman Academy Charter School Renewal.

Dr. Koch stated that the Fort Bowman Academy Charter School submitted a request for a three-year charter renewal to Cahokia Unit School District (USD) #187 in December 2008. Cahokia USD #187 denied the renewal request on February 2, 2009. Fort Bowman Academy Charter School submitted a timely appeal of the denial to the Illinois State Board of Education (Agency). Superintendent Koch indicated that he upheld the Cahokia USD #187 decision to deny the proposal in accordance with the Illinois Administrative Review Law. Fort Bowman Academy Charter School (Ft. Bowman) filed for administrative review.

St. Clair County Court remanded the matter to the Illinois State Board of Education for further proceedings to make a full determination.

The Agency findings have been that Ft. Bowman committed material violations of its contract by not holding monthly board meetings and not filing its board members' Statements of Economic Interest with the St. Clair County Clerk's Office. Ft. Bowman has not made reasonable progress toward achievement of content standards nor pupil performance standards identified in the charter. It was also unclear if Ft. Bowman meets generally accepted standards of fiscal management. The Agency did find that Ft. Bowman failed to comply with the requirements of the Open Meetings Act, provisions to provide special education services to its students, and other laws to which charter schools are not exempt.

Mark Scoggins, Attorney for Ft. Bowman, stated that he has been submitting information to the Agency at the Agency's request but had not seen the Agency's recommendation to the State Board.

He pointed out that issues previously raised have been briefed by the counsel for the Cahokia CUSD #187 and himself. There are ample briefs on each point raised by the school district and both sides have had an opportunity to respond.

Mr. Scoggins introduced **Beth Peeples, Dean of Ft. Bowman, and teachers Randy Dirk and Karen Hunt**. The group shared a PowerPoint, discussed the school structure, daily routine and expectations of the students. (*PowerPoint attached.*)

Mr. Scoggins closed by stating that Ft. Bowman has been in existence for ten years, with three previous renewals. The original administrator and founders are still at the school. The local school board has provided glowing letters as late as 2007. Mr. Scoggins thanked the Board for their patience and time.

General Counsel for the State Board, Darren Reisberg responded that he will direct the State Board not to consider any of the information submitted by counsel for the district within the last week (given Mr. Scoggins' argument that he had no ability to respond); however, Mr. Reisberg emphasized that the State Superintendent's recommendation to the Board has not changed. Mr. Scoggins responded with appreciation to Mr. Reisberg's instruction to the Board.

Sean Cronin, Attorney for Cahokia Unit School District #187, who was accompanied by **Arnett Harvey, Chief Financial Officer for Cahokia School District**, asked if the Board had further questions. Mr. Cronin stated that they had previously submitted their evidence to the Board. They urged the Board to adopt the decision of State Superintendent Koch.

Mr. Harvey shared that Cahokia would receive an annual report following their audit. Mr. Harvey added that it has been difficult to adhere to state standards on reporting due to the need to retrieve and verify information from Ft. Bowman. Mr. Cronin added that he would like the Board to consider the new handout as well. Cahokia School District stands by the evidence they have previously submitted to the Board. The additional brief is merely supplemental. He asked that the Board adopt the decision of State Superintendent Koch.

Mr. Ed Geppert, President of the Illinois Federation of Teachers (IFT) spoke in support of the non-renewal of the Ft. Bowman charter. Mr. Geppert stated that the IFT believes that Ft. Bowman fails to live up to the principles of being in the best interest of the students of the community of Cahokia. Mr. Geppert shared with the Board a handout confirming IFT's list of reasons (*attached*). On behalf of IFT and Cahokia Federation of Teachers Local #1272, representing all professionals and support staff and employees, Mr. Geppert asked

the Board to deny the renewal of the Ft. Bowman Academy charter.

Beth Peoples spoke again, adding that Ft. Bowman was asked to turn in daily attendance by the fifth of every month and they have met that request. In response to the statements surrounding audits, they submitted basic average audits to Cahokia School District as well as the state. Cahokia School District wanted to bring in a team of auditors, but Ft. Bowman does not have the space to accommodate a full audit team. Ft. Bowman and their attorney asked the district in writing what records they would like to see, but no response was received.

Teacher Karen Hunt also spoke again and commented that The School of Choice is actually Fort Bowman Academy Charter School in a different location run by Cahokia Unit School District. The relationship with Cahokia School District was always good until a change of administration at the school district.

**RESOLUTIONS &
RECOGNITION**

Dr. Hall moved that the State Board of Education adopt the resolutions recognizing Fred Huddleston, the 2009 Burroughs Outstanding School Board President; Kevin Rutter, the 2009-2010 Illinois Teacher of the Year; Arthur Wachholz, the 2009 Illinois recipient of the Milken National Educator Award; and the resolutions for Cohorts 3, 4, & 5 graduates of the Bilingual Transition to Teaching Program. Dr. Ward seconded the motion and it passed unanimously with a voice vote.

Kevin Rutter, 2009-2010 Illinois Teacher of the Year, thanked the Board and Superintendent Koch for bestowing on him such an honor. Mr. Rutter also thanked the many kind, supportive and generous people in his life. He shared his educational experiences as a teacher and information on a program called the Carl Shurz Business and Finance Career Academy program in which he serves as coordinator and lead teacher.

Arthur Walchholz, 2009 Illinois recipient of the Milken National Educator Award, shared with the Board his journey to become a teacher. Mr. Walchholz thanked the Board and commented on the positive influence it has had on the students and his school.

**CLOSED SESSION
MOTION**

Ms. Karon 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; and

Section c 11 for the purpose of considering pending or probable litigation against or affecting the Board, and

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

She further moved that the Board may invite anyone they wish to have included in this closed session. Dr. Fields seconded the motion and it carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

The Board recessed at 11:35 a.m.

RECONVENE

Plenary session was reconvened at 12:55 p.m. Chairman Ruiz joined the Board for the remainder of the meeting.

**CONSENT
AGENDA**

Consent Agenda Motion:

Dr. Fields moved that the State Board of Education hereby approves the consent agenda items, with the exception of agenda item V.C.3. Classroom Cubed Grant which will not be acted upon at this time. Dr. Hall abstained from agenda item H. Teacher Certification Board Recommendations but wished to vote yes on the remainder of the consent agenda items.

Ms. Koster seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

The following motions were approved by action taken in the consent agenda motion.

Approval of Minutes

The State Board of Education hereby approves the minutes for the October 29, 2009 meeting.

Rules for Initial Review

Part 35 (Mentoring Program for New Principals)

The State Board of Education hereby authorizes solicitation of public comment on the proposed rulemaking Mentoring Program for New Principals (23 Illinois Administrative Code 35) including publication of the proposed amendments in the Illinois Register.

Part 145 (Temporary Relocation Expenses)

The State Board of Education hereby authorizes solicitation of public comment on the proposed rulemaking for Temporary Relocation Expenses (23 Illinois Administrative Code 145) including publication of the proposed amendments in the Illinois Register.

Contracts & Grants Over \$1 Million

**Illinois Violence Prevention Authority Grant for
Social Emotional Professional Development**

The State Board of Education hereby authorizes Agency staff to enter into a continuation grant agreement with the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority through December 31, 2010 for the purpose of providing social and emotional learning professional development to schools throughout the state.

RFSP for General State Aid ARRA Audit

The State Board hereby authorizes the Agency staff to release a Request for Sealed Proposals to find one or more certified public accounting firms to perform services and to enter into a contract with the successful bidders through September 30, 2010 not to exceed \$2,500,000 in total. The resulting contract will have two possible renewal terms.

Financial Status of Lemont-Bromberek Community School #113A

The State Board of Education accepts the State Superintendent's Findings of Fact and recommendation, that the denial of the Ft. Bowman Academy Charter School renewal proposal by Cahokia Unit School District 197 be upheld by the Illinois State Board of Education and authorizes the Chairman of the State Board of Education to execute the Determination attached to the State Superintendent's Findings of Fact and Recommendation.

Private Business and Vocational Schools Advisory Council

The State Board of Education hereby approves the following appointments to the Private Business and Vocational Schools Advisory Council:

Chairperson selected by the membership of the council: To Be Determined

Owner or chief managing employee from a home study school: Grace Jenkins,
President and CEO, National Able Network

Attorney from the Office of the Attorney General: Gil Fergus, Deputy Chief of the
Consumer Protection Division

Charter School Annual Report

The State Board approves the Charter School Annual Report as presented at the December Board Meeting.

Draft State Board of Education Annual Report

The Illinois State of Education hereby approves the Draft 2009 Annual Report.

Teacher Certification Board Recommendations

The State Board of Education hereby adopts the following motions

Motion 1

In accordance with Section 25.127(j)(1)(A) of the State Board's administrative rules on review of individual programs, the State Board awards **continuing approval** for **Bradley University** for the specific professional education preparation programs listed above, as they meet the applicable Illinois content area standards.

Motion 2

In accordance with Section 25.145 of the State Board's administrative rules on review of new programs, the State Board of Education **provisionally approves Benedictine University's Music Education** program thereby authorizing the university to conduct the program and to recommend candidates for certification by entitlement until the time of the institution's next accreditation review.

Motion 3

In accordance with Section 25.145 of the State Board's administrative rules on review of new programs, the State Board of Education provisionally approves the University of Illinois Elementary Education program awards **provisionally approves the University of Illinois Elementary Education** program, thereby authorizing the university to conduct the program and to recommend candidates for certification by entitlement until the time of the institutions next accreditation review.

Illinois Certification Testing System Basic Skills Pass Rate

The State Board of Education hereby sets the passing scores for the sub tests of the Basic Skills test as follows:

Basic Skills Writing sub test passing score is set at a scaled score of 8; Reading passing score 30; Language Arts passing score 27; and Mathematics passing score 21.

Cumulative Waiver Report

The State Board authorizes transmittal to the General Assembly before February 1, 2010, of the 2010 Cumulative Waiver Report, which includes a recommendation that the General Assembly introduce legislation to eliminate the fee limit of \$50 in Section 27-24.2 of the School Code, thus allowing districts to set the fee in response to local conditions, with the stipulation that the district set a fee only after providing appropriate advance notices and holding a public hearing in order to take comments from parents, other community members, and affected teachers and staff members.

Legislative Proposals

The State Board of Education hereby authorizes Agency staff to continue working with stakeholders and then move forward with the following legislative proposals in the spring 2010 legislative session:

- Performance Evaluation Act/Human Capital Reform;
- Underperforming Schools Incentive;
- Alternative Certification; and,
- Anti-Bullying Legislation

Approval of 2010 Board Calendar Revisions

The State Board of Education hereby approves the following changes to the 2010 Calendar of Board meetings:

- The January 2010 meeting shall be changed to January 13-14 to coincide with the Governor's State of the State address.
- The March 2010 meeting shall be changed to March 24-25 to avoid a conflict with NASBE meetings.
- The October 2010 meeting shall be changed to October 28-29 to coincide with the Annual Superintendent's Conference dates.

Adoption of 403b Retirement Plan

The State Board of Education adopts the following resolutions:

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT WRITTEN § 403(b) PLAN

Upon motion duly made, the following resolution is adopted by the Illinois State Board of Education:

WHEREAS, Internal Revenue Code ("Code") Section 403(b) and the accompanying Internal Revenue Service Final Regulations ("Regulations") require employers that maintain a 403(b) program to establish a written plan;

WHEREAS, in Internal Revenue Service Notice 2009-3, the IRS extended the deadline to establish a written plan to December 31, 2009; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois State Board of Education desires to adopt a written Section 403(b) Plan for the benefit of eligible employees in order to comply with the Code and Regulations, and the requirements of IRS Notice 2009-3.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, effective January 1, 2009, the Illinois State Board of Education hereby adopts the attached Illinois State Board of Education 403(b) Plan and Adoption Agreement for eligible employees;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Illinois State Board of Education 403(b) Plan and Adoption Agreement shall supersede and replace prior Code Section 403(b) plans and programs previously established by the Illinois State Board of Education, if any.

RESOLUTION TO FREEZE § 403(b) PLAN

Upon motion duly made, the following resolution is adopted by the Illinois State Board of Education:

WHEREAS, the Illinois State Board of Education adopted a written Section 403(b) Plan for the benefit of eligible employees in order to comply with the Internal Revenue Code and Regulations, and the requirements of IRS Notice 2009-3;

WHEREAS, to comply with the requirements of IRS Notice 2009-3, the Illinois State Board of Education 403(b) Plan was made effective as of January 1, 2009, and the written Plan governs 403(b) contributions, distributions, and other applicable rules for participants;

WHEREAS, the Illinois State Board of Education desires to freeze the Plan to future contributions as of the conclusion of the 2009 Plan Year, so that no new contributions may be made to the Plan on or after January 1, 2010;

WHEREAS, the Illinois State Board of Education further desires to freeze the Plan to new participants as of the conclusion of the 2009 Plan Year, so that no employee may become a new participant in the Plan on or after January 1, 2010;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Illinois State Board of Education freezes the 403(b) Plan to prohibit any new contributions or new participants on or after January 1, 2010;

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Article III and Article VII, as well as any other corresponding sections of the Plan or Adoption Agreement, are hereby amended so that no new salary deferral contributions, rollover contributions, or any other type of contributions shall be permitted on or after January 1, 2010, and no employees shall become eligible to participate in the Plan on or after January

1, 2010. Notwithstanding this freeze in future contributions and participation, the Plan shall continue to be administered for current participants to permit their investment elections and distributions, according to the terms of the written Plan, the Internal Revenue Code, and the IRS Regulations.

END OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

FORT BOWMAN ACADEMY CHARTER

Ms. Koster moved that The State Board of Education accept the State Superintendent's Findings of Fact and Recommendation, that the denial of the Fort Bowman Academy Charter School renewal proposal by Cahokia Unit School District 187 be upheld by the Illinois State Board of Education and authorizes the Chairman of the State Board of Education to execute the determination attached to the State Superintendent's Findings of Fact and Recommendation. Dr. Hall seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous voice vote.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

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 June 2009 through October 2009; and pursuant to Section 2.06(c) of the Open Meetings Act which allows for the destruction of verbatim recordings of closed sessions (no less than 18 months after the completion of the meeting recorded) the State Board of Education certifies that the need for confidentiality still exists for the closed session minutes for the time period reviewed. Further, the State Board of Education approves the destruction of all closed session verbatim recordings prior to June 17, 2008. Dr. Fields seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REPORTS

Superintendent Koch commented that 94 of 102 Illinois counties participated in the Illinois Heroes Program. The program asks that school children write letter to soldiers in hospitals in Germany. Governor Quinn will soon be delivering the letters. Dr. Koch also noted that he had been appointed to the board for the Council of Chief State School Officers and has also been nominated to the Steering Committee for the Education Commission of the States.

Dr. Koch asked for clarification from the Board on their preference for the January Board meeting regarding the budget. Do members wish to receive a single recommendation based on the comments heard? Mr. Ruiz suggested creating some kind of competitive grant program to help those districts in need of violence prevention - even if it means shifting funds from organizations traditionally funded. He stated that we need to do what is in the best interest of the children of Illinois with the very scarce tax dollars we have. Ms. Koster suggested a future agenda item to follow-up on next steps concerning school violence.

Mr. Ruiz suggested a three-budget scenario, but that the materials include a single recommendation from the Superintendent. Board Members concurred.

IBHE REPORT

Dr. Ward introduced Dr. Proshanta Nandi from the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE). The IBHE held its meeting on Wednesday, December 8, 2009 at University of Chicago, Assembly Hall in Chicago. Dr. Nandi shared the following highlights of that meeting:

Dr. Nandi noted that December 9th marked the first anniversary of the IBHE's endorsement of the Illinois Public Agenda for College and Career Success.

Chairwoman Carrie Hightman expressed appreciation to the Executive Director and the staff of four sister state agencies of education, Illinois State Board of Education, Illinois Student Assistance Commission, Illinois Community College Board and the Illinois Board

of Higher Education for their efforts to implement many of the recommendations and action steps in the Illinois Public Agenda.

IBHE Executive Director Judy Erwin, Andy Davis from ISAC, Elaine Johnson and Karen Hunter Anderson from ICCB presented a progress report on what has been accomplished on the Illinois Public Agenda for College and Career Success and future action steps.

The state budget situation and the lack of state reimbursement to public colleges and universities for FY2010 operating cost were discussed. The discussion included the following:

The next IBHE meeting will be January 26, 2010 at Chicago State University in Chicago.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Out of State Travel Announcements:

- Andrea Brown will be attending the Education Commission of the States Meeting in New Orleans, LA from January 6-8, 2010.
- Vinni Hall, Jesse Ruiz and Chris Ward will be traveling to Washington, DC on January 22-23, 2010 to attend a NASBE Study Groups.

MEMBER REPORTS

Ms. Koster shared information from the Commission on Extreme Poverty, of which she is a member.

Dr. Brown stated that she attended several local meetings in the Marion area and that the state budget crisis continues to be on all agendas. The IASA meeting she recently attended included an informative bargaining program by IEA.

Dr. Hall represented ISBE at Career Technical Day in Springfield. She also attended the Triple I Conference.

Dr. Fields noted that several board members attended the Triple I Conference and that they always enjoy seeing stakeholders and talking with them during the meet and greet sessions.

Dr. Ward had the honor of attending the awarding of the Milken Award to Arthur Walchholz.

Chairman Ruiz stated that he traveled to Houston on behalf the National Association of Latino Elected Officials and attended the National Latino Leadership Initiative which focused on the Elementary and Secondary Education Act Reauthorization. He also met with Linda Darling Hammond and heard her speak at the Bilingual Conference.

Dr. Ward acknowledged and thanked Joyce Karon for all of her work on the budget hearings. Ms. Karon recognized and thanked Linda Mitchell and Scott Taylor and the budget staff for all their help and assistance.

Chairman Ruiz stated that that in closed session the Board just completed Superintendent Koch's annual performance evaluation and that he has successfully exceeded every criterion set forward. The evaluation is not only the Superintendents evaluation but an evaluation of all of his senior staff and colleagues. He commented that staff should be very proud of the fact that they have a part in those achievements.

Mr. Ruiz noted that despite the fact that such an evaluation would merit a bonus and a base pay raise, given the economic climate in our state, Superintendent Koch has asked us not consider any of those actions. Hence, we did not; there was no vote, there will not be any financial reward associated with the hard work and performance that Chris has put forward over the past year. Hopefully, the service Chris provides for our students of Illinois gives

him some reward as he impacts many lives - and that is very important.

Chairman Ruiz noted the Board appreciation of Superintendent Koch's leadership at this time. Mr. Ruiz publicly acknowledged the fact that the team that Chris leads here at ISBE will exceed any expectations the Board will have.

**INFORMATION
ITEMS**

Vice Chairman Ward asked that the Board members read the Fiscal and Administrative Monthly Reports printed in the Board meeting materials.

**MOTION FOR
ADJOURNMENT**

Dr. Fields moved that the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Koster seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Vinni Hall
Board Secretary

Mr. Jesse Ruiz
Chairman



Testimony of IFT President Ed Geppert, Jr.
Illinois State Board of Education – Plenary Session
Fort Bowman Academy Charter Hearing
December 17, 2009

Good morning. My name is Ed Geppert, Jr., president of the Illinois Federation of Teachers. I am here today to speak in support of the non-renewal of the Ft. Bowman Academy charter in Cahokia, Illinois. The IFT is always willing to come to the table with a strong voice to advocate for research-based, effective education for all students in Illinois. Today we believe it is clear that the Fort Bowman Academy Charter School fails to live up to the principles of being in the best interests of the students of the community of Cahokia for the following reasons:

- 1 For the last two years, overall state assessment data show that academic progress at the charter school is declining, even as overall district assessment scores for the traditional public schools of Cahokia have shown progress
- 2 The union remains concerned that all staff at the Fort Bowman Charter School has not been fully certificated. Since 2007 the charter school has employed a certificated administrator on staff but did ^{not} assign that professional to an administrative post. The charter employed four non-certified administrators.
- 3 It is also clear that the community has spoken. Community support for the Fort Bowman Academy has decreased significantly in recent years.
 - There is demand in the community to enroll students in Cahokia's traditional public school of choice over the Fort Bowman Academy Charter School. The Cahokia School of Choice, a K-12 school operated by the district, opened two years ago and is showing strong academic results. In response

to community demand, the district this year opened a second school of choice. During this same time, Fort Bowman has experienced a significant drop in community interest. A lottery has not been required since the 2006-2007 school year, and in the last few years, the school's student retention data show an increasing loss of students each year due to transfers out of the school.

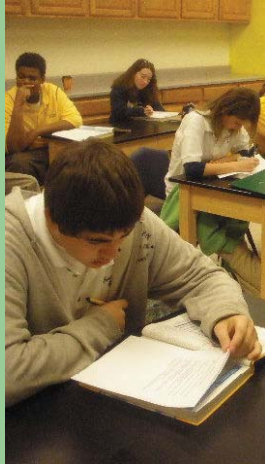
- Furthermore, in the Spring 2009 school board election, when provided with the opportunity, the community did not elect the three strongly pro-charter school candidates. In fact, two of three candidates received fewer votes than all but one other candidate.
- Our local union has been approached numerous times by different community members, who express concern that some of the charter school's governing body members are not from Cahokia, and that some students enrolled at Fort Bowman are not from Cahokia.
- Finally, the student population served by the charter school continues to not reflect the community with following comparison to the district schools:

% Low Income	10.6/82.7
% Black	46.0/86.8

Given all of these reasons, as well as the strong case presented here today by Cahokia School District representatives and by ISBE staff, I urge you on behalf of the IFT and our affiliate the Cahokia Federation of Teachers Local 1272 representing all professional and support staff employees, to confirm the decision of the Cahokia School Board and administration to not renew the Fort Bowman Academy charter.

Thank you.

Fort Bowman Academy Charter School



“Educating for the
Future”

Mission Statement

- The mission of Fort Bowman Academy Charter School is to prepare all of its students for college or career placement regardless of ethnic, cultural, language, or socioeconomic status by providing an education which will allow them to develop their talents, fulfill their potential, and excel in their select areas of academic and/or economic life.

We Believe:

- Education is a product of cooperation among parent, teacher, and student.
- The school cannot accomplish its mission alone; a strong supportive partnership with parents is essential.
- Setting high expectations appropriate to each student is the best way to accomplish our mission.

We Believe:

- Communication among students, staff, administration, parents and community should be open and consistent.
- A student's uniqueness is the basis for his or her self worth.
- Students have different learning styles and rates and should be taught accordingly.

We Believe:

- All students can learn to their own unique potential.
- Students are responsible for their own actions and behaviors.
- All people deserve respect.
- It is not only the students' aptitude, but also their attitude that will determine their altitude.

School Day

- A student's day starts at 8:00 a.m. and ends at 3:00 p.m.
- Grades K-5 are in self-contained classrooms
- Grades 6-12 change classrooms with each subject
- Grades K-12 receive Physical Education classes every day
- Grades K-8 receive an average of 23% more class time devoted to core curriculum subjects than state average ¹

¹ 2008 Illinois School Report Card



Behavior

- Each class is required to have a behavior plan to address inappropriate behavior
- Diverse student body leads to acceptance of differences among students



Staff

- Every teacher has a Bachelors Degree ¹
- 5 teachers with a Masters Degree ²
- 3 teachers with Special Education Endorsement
- Teachers are required to participate in continuing education classes
- Experienced teachers work closely on a daily basis with new instructors as mentors

^{1, 2} 2008 Illinois School Report Card

Student Achievement

- In 2007-2008, 95% of our students graduated, considerably higher than the state average of 86.5% ¹
- After graduation, nearly all of our students continue on to college
- Most students continue to keep in touch with the faculty and staff at Fort Bowman

¹ 2008 Illinois School Report Card

Selected Accomplishments of Fort Bowman Academy Graduates

Tiara Canada- Certified Substitute Teacher for Cahokia Unit School District #187

Marcus McNeal- University of Illinois-Springfield

Justin Gamblin- Student McKendree College Sociology Major

Kara Crum- Student at Southwestern Illinois College Psychology Major

Kia Ward- Student at Southwestern Illinois College Psychology Major

Lucas Peebles- Student Criminal Justice Program

Thomas Hunter- Student at Danville College also on their basketball team

Scott Maguirk- Student at SIUE

Cecilia Mann- Student at SIUE Education

Jamel Washington- Student Blackburn College and also on their basketball team

Jamul Washington- Student Culinary Program at Southwestern Illinois College

Chelsea Radford- Student Gateway Bible College

Phillip Weeden- Student studying Construction Management at Southwestern Illinois College

Cory Jones- Student at Paul Mitchell Cosmetology School

Lauren Weatherford- Student Southwestern Illinois College Criminal Justice Program

Kenneth Gray- Student Southwestern Illinois College

Accomplishments - continued

Cecilia Mann- Student at SIUE Education

Alyssa Rhoten – Studying History locally

Nicky Louvier- Stay at home mother

Derek Crockett – Manager/Mechanic at PG Racing and works for his families business

Samantha Brown – Village of Cahokia employee and a new mother

Devin Cornwell- Student Southwestern Illinois College

Bobby Rhyne- Student Southwestern Illinois College

Jeff Lansing- Student Southwestern Illinois College

Preston Jeter- Student South western Illinois College

Gene Young- U.S Army, Served in Iraq for 18 months

Steven Greer- Pharmacy Technician

Accomplishments - continued

Victoria Null- Certified Cosmetologist

Jerrel Thomas-Working for UPS

Mark Fierstein – US Navy

Dawn Czapl- Mother of three, and Customer Service and Sales Associate for Wal-Mart

Robbie Miller- Firefighter for Camp Jackson fire department

Andy Jackson- Newspaper pressman

Lindsay Kenner- Childcare provider at Lighthouse Daycare

Chase Kenner – Student Southwestern Illinois College studying Performance Arts



Funding

- We maintain educational needs for our students using state funds allotted per child
- Our years always end in the black ¹
- School fees for each student help to defray the cost of items not covered by the state funding
- Financial assistance offered to parents experiencing difficulties

¹ Annual Audits by CPA firm of Fick, Eggemeyer and Williamson

Communication

- Open communication between teachers and students
- Open communication between teachers and parents
- Open communication between office staff and families
- Monthly newsletters and calendars are shared
- Grades are sent home at 3 weeks and 6 weeks, as well as quarterly
- Open Door policy with administrators

Community Impact

- Uniform policy promotes unity and equality
- A smaller student-to-teacher ratio allows students to engage more deeply with their subject matter and each other
- Toy and Food Drives for Dorris Davis Helping Hands Shelter
- Many students seek careers that will allow them to give back to their community, contributing to the economic growth and strengthen their ties with the surrounding area

Impact of Parental Involvement

- Parent volunteers assist faculty and staff and provide direct input into the educational process of their children
- Parental involvement in transporting students to school increases the number of students in attendance and allows for immediate communication between parents and teachers
- Strong parental involvement discourages truancy and delinquency
- Parental involvement shows students the value in education, leading to students' desires to increase individual performance in school and to become lifelong learners

Fort Bowman is Achieving Goals and Objectives ¹

- Integrated reading begins in Kindergarten
- Extensive analysis of student performance at the classroom, building, and school levels
- Multiple assessment tools used, including semiannual administration of the Iowa Test
- Both in-class and after-school remediation are addressed
- Compliant with the Illinois State Board of Education Teaching Standards
- All new teachers participate in a mentoring program

¹ 2008-2009 Accountability Plan

Fort Bowman Charter Academy is

- An expanding family of educators and scholars
- Eager to help students achieve their goals
- A home for both traditional and non-traditional students
- A trusting atmosphere where children are comfortable to express themselves fully
- Committed to success!



Work-Study Session: Violence in Schools
December 16, 2009
9:30 a.m.

AGENDA

- I. Roll Call
- II. Board Member Participation by Other Means
- III. Violence in Schools
 - A. Introductions and Overview of ISBE Efforts **9:30 – 9:40 a.m.**

Listing of ISBE Efforts

Report (Handout): Nat'l Center for Education Statistics' *Indicators of School Crime & Safety 2009*
 - B. Illinois Dropout Prevention Summit Video **9:40 – 10:05 a.m.**
 - C. Chicago Public Schools Safety & Security Initiative (*pp 2-10*) **10:05 - 10:35**
 - Mr. Michael Shields, Safety and Security Officer
 - Christian Plummer, Project Manager
 - Mr. Chika Okafur, Project Manager
 - D. State Perspective
 1. State of Illinois Safety Net Works **10:45 – 11:15 a.m.**
 - Adam Alonso, Coordinator, Cicero (Adam is with Corazon Community Services)
 - Aana Macario, Youth Council Representative, Cicero
 - Rogers Jones, Coordinator, Roseland (Roger is with Community Assistance Programs)
 - Aisha Latiker, Youth Council Representative, Roseland
 2. IL Safe Schools Alliance Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance Survey (*pp 16-30*) **11:15 – 11:45**
 - Shannon Sullivan Executive Director, Illinois Safe Schools Alliance
 3. Challenge Day Program **11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.**
 - Marc Kiehna, Monroe-Randolph Regional Superintendent and
 - Cheryl Lodge, Physical Education & Health Teacher, Trico C.U.S.D. #176
 - E. Board Wrap-Up Discussion **12:15 – 12:45 p.m.**
- IV. Adjourn

**ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
WORK STUDY: VIOLENCE IN SCHOOLS
DECEMBER 16, 2009
Springfield, Illinois**

Board Members Present

Jesse Ruiz, Chairman
Chris Ward, Vice Chairman
Vinni Hall, Board Secretary
Andrea Brown, Board Member
David Fields, Board Member
Joyce Karon, Board Member
Lanita Koster, Board Member

Staff Present

Superintendent Christopher A. Koch
Susie Morrison
Darren Reisberg
Matt Vanover
Linda Tomlinson
Connie Wise
Beth Hanselman
Linda Mitchell
Don Evans

Others Present

Mr. Michael Shields, Safety and Security Officer, Chicago Public Schools
Christian Plummer, Project Manager, Chicago Public Schools
Mr. Chika Okafur, Project Manager, Chicago Public Schools
Adam Alonso, Safety Net Works Coordinator, Cicero
Aana Macario, Safety Net Works Youth Council Representative, Cicero
Rogers Jones, Safety Net Works Coordinator, Roseland
Aisha Latiker, Safety Net Works Youth Council Representative, Roseland
Shannon Sullivan Executive Director, Illinois Safe Schools Alliance
Marc Kiehna, Monroe-Randolph Regional Superintendent
Cheryl Lodge, Challenge Day Coordinator and Physical Education & Health Teacher, Trico C.U.S.D. #176

The Violence in Schools Work Study was called to order at 9:30 a.m. Superintendent Koch began with a review of partnerships which continue to build and enhance safe and drug-free school coalitions with the agency. There are a number of examples of the initiatives that staff across the agency are involved with either through grants, task forces, committees, some in collaborative with other agencies:

- Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG)
- Illinois Youth Survey (IYS)
- Drug Alcohol Substance Abuse (DASA) Advisory Committee
- Illinois Task Force for The Condition of African American Male
- Illinois Safe School Alliance (ISSA)
- Restorative Justice in Illinois Schools
- Maintaining District bullying policies
- Access to public health issues
- School Incident Reporting System (SIS)
- School Safety Web Link
- Illinois Emergency Operations Plan (IEOP)
- State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) Team
- Illinois Taskforce's Pandemic Flu Workgroup
- Campus Security Taskforce
- Student Behavioral Threat Assessment – An education leadership opportunity sponsored by the Illinois Terrorism Task Force and Illinois State Board of Education
- Ensuring Success in Schools Task Force
- Committee of Cooperative Services
- Persistently Dangerous Schools
- Homeless Education
- Title IV Safe and Drug Free Schools Grants
- Prevention First Grant
- SEA Title IV activities for Safe and Drug Free schools.

Illinois Dropout Prevention Summit Video – Superintendent Koch shared a video highlighting students who participated in the State Farm/America's Promise Alliance Illinois Dropout Prevention Summit.

The Board also heard from the following experts and had the opportunity to brainstorm what can be done at the state level to help local districts protect their students from peer bullying and violent acts in and

around the school. The Board will bring this topic back to the Education Policy Planning Committee to discuss next steps following this month's discussion.

Chicago Public Schools (CPS) Safety & Security Initiative (*Michael Shields, Christian Plummer and Chika Okafur*) Mr. Shields indicated that after 28 years with the Chicago Police Department, he joined Chicago Public Schools in May 2009 as Director of Safety and Security. Chicago Public Schools has developed a strategy for safety and security and the strategy is outlined by three key areas. (See materials in December Work Study packet for more information.)

- 1) Identify Students at Risk of Becoming Victims of Violence.
 - 80+% of shootings occur during times outside of CPS' control
 - All shootings occurred outside of school
 - BUT, there is a very predictable pattern of victims; most had a common set of risk factors
 - These risk factors are identifiable using basic CPS data
 - It is possible to identify students that have a high probability of falling victim

- 2) Creating a School Culture of Calm; and
 - About 70% of schools' variation in safety performance is outside principal's control - based on environmental risk factors
 - 30% is within a principal's control
 - A different safety philosophy exists for schools that are performing well
 - Outperforming schools tend to favor mental health and prevention whereas underperforming schools favor policing and punishment/discipline

- 3) Creating a Safe Passage to and from School.
 - School by school review using gang boundaries and student survey information to plan community based safe passage strategies
 - Bus service in areas where students feel "unsafe"
 - Boosting parental, community and police involvement in focus areas

CPS staff discussed how this strategy evolved and shared data compiled as a result of an analysis of incidents. CPS security/safety staff are working with principals on a school-by-school basis to ensure principals are aware of gang boundaries and are trained in prevention strategies.

Chairman Ruiz thanked the CPS for sharing their information and the Board looks forward to supporting their efforts in any way possible.

State of Illinois Safety Net Works (*Adam Alonso, Coordinator, Cicero, Aana Macario, Youth Council Representative, Cicero, Rogers Jones, Coordinator, Roseland, Aisha Latiker, Youth Council Representative, Roseland*)

Mr. Adam Alonso indicated that The Safety Net Works is an initiative comprised of state agencies and community-based organizations, formed to help address violence and killing in communities in Illinois. It combines public and community resources to help young people avoid acts of crime and violence.

Safety Net Works coalitions are located in five cities (Chicago, Cicero, Decatur, East St. Louis and Rockford), and serve youth and young adults, between the ages of 10 to 24 years old.

The Safety Net Works coordinates existing state service providers in Safety Net Works communities, while leveraging resources to youth and community coalitions in these targeted areas. Coalition resources are used to improve public education, promote economic independence, provide academic enrichment and recreational opportunities, and address inequalities in the juvenile and criminal justice systems.

The Safety Net Works is based on seven core values:

- Coalition Building
- Community Specific Program Design
- Youth Leadership Development
- Establishing Networks
- School-Based Violence Prevention
- Public Education
- Social Enterprise

Mr. Alonso and the other panelists shared how The Safety Net Works assists students in their communities. The Safety Net Works brings individuals, groups, and agencies together through the common objective of violence prevention.

Further information about this program can be found at <http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=40350>

Illinois Safe Schools Alliance Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance (YRBS) Survey (*Shannon Sullivan*)
The Illinois Safe Schools Alliance (www.illinoissafeschools.org/) is a non-profit agency based out of Chicago. Ms. Sullivan shared that her participation in the work study will focus on identification and prevention of bullying in schools. (See materials in December Work Study packet for more details regarding the following information.)

Types of bullying/peer harassment:

- Physical– pushing, hitting, biting, scratching, physically restraining, damaging property.
- Verbal– teasing, threatening, intimidating, name-calling.
- Social– excluding from social groups, ostracizing, spreading rumors, isolating, getting other to dislike person.
- Sexual– any of the above that includes a sexual undertone or connotation.(Craig, et al. 2001)
- Electronic—use of internet for comments or posting pictures

School personnel don't intervene upon hearing biased remarks at school

- 48% rarely or never intervene on homophobic remarks
- 30% rarely or never intervene on racist remarks
- 29% rarely or never intervene on sexist remarks

Students hear biased language from school personnel:

- 19% have heard sexist remarks; 12% racist remarks; 11% homophobic remarks; 7% negative religious remarks

The three most common reasons high school students in Illinois are bullied in school are:

- 1) Physical appearance (looks or body size) 40% report being frequently bullied
- 2) Perceived sexual orientation 35% report being frequently bullied
- 3) Gender expression 34% report being frequently bullied

According to the U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services, bullying prevention programs that work include:

- Establishing & enforcing clear school policies that define the problem, define the consequences, establish avenues to collect data, and outline adult intervention
- Posting and discussing the school policies with all students, parents and guardians
- Providing professional development to all school personnel on the problem of bullying, its effects and how to intervene
- Devoting class time to talking with students about bullying and how to prevent it

Challenge Day Program (*Marc Kiehna, Monroe-Randolph Regional Superintendent and Cheryl Lodge, Physical Education & Health Teacher, Trico C.U.S.D. #176*)

Superintendent Kiehna introduced Ms. Lodge, who encouraged Trico administration to bring the Challenge Day Program to the high school. Ms. Lodge explained that the Challenge Day program a

501(c)(3) non-profit organization based out of California that provides a powerful service to students in grades 7-12. The organization sends two facilitators to the school for a 6½ hour one-day session. Trico sent 100 students each day over a 3-day period, allowing all 300 high school students to go through the program. District administrators, faculty and non-certified staff also participated and gained from participation in the program.

Ms. Lodge shared the Challenge Day video which is available on the organization's website at: <http://www.challengeday.org/videos.php>. The video, *Teen Files: Surviving High School*, is a 15 minute excerpt highlighting a typical Challenge Day Program. This Emmy Award winning documentary was produced by Arnold Shapiro Productions, hosted by Leeza Gibbons, and features Challenge Day's founders Rich and Yvonne St. John-Dutra. Ms. Lodge indicated that the participants featured in the video could very well have been the students and participants at Trico. The program provides preliminary activities to prepare for the seminar as well as follow-up activities to assist schools in sustaining the inspiration of the program.

Ms. Lodge indicated that the cost was approximately \$3400 per day for a minimum of three days, so the district was looking at a \$10,000 expense; however, outside donations were received for the total cost of the program. Mr. Ruiz commented that \$34 per student per day is a small price to pay for the outcomes revealed in the video.

For more information on the Challenge Day program, go to: www.challengeday.org/how-challenge-day-works.php

Chairman Ruiz thanked the participants for sharing the enlightening information and thanked Dr. Vinni Hall for working with staff to bring this long-awaited discussion to fruition.

The Work Study session adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Vinni Hall
Board Secretary

Mr. Jesse Ruiz
Chairman

Approved January 14, 2010

Illinois State Board of Education

Finance & Audit Committee of the Whole

December 16, 2009

1:15 p.m.

(This meeting will begin immediately following lunch.)

All open meetings will be audio cast on the Internet at: www.isbe.net

AGENDA (timeframes are estimated for planning purposes)

- I. Roll Call
- II. Board Member Participation by Other Means
- III. Public Participation 1:15 - 1:30 p.m.
NOTE: Speakers should bring 20 copies of written testimony as speaking time will be limited. We ask Classroom Cubed speakers to wait to speak at the time the agenda item is called.
- IV. Minutes of the October Finance & Audit Committee of the Whole Meeting (p. 2)
- V. Contracts & Grants Over \$1 Million 1:30 – 2:00 p.m.
 - A. * Illinois Violence Prevention Authority Grant for Social Emotional Professional Development (pp. 3-5)
(Beth Hanselman)
 - B. * RFSP for General State Aid ARRA Audit (Linda Mitchell) (p. 6)
 - C. * Classroom Cubed Grant (Connie Wise) (as needed – see handout)
- VI. * Financial Status of Lemont-Bromberek Community School District #113A 2:00 – 2:20 p.m. (pp. 8-10)
(Linda Mitchell; Deb Vespa; Dr. Tim Ricker, Superintendent, District #113A)
- VII. Discussion of FY2011 Budget Recommendations (Linda Mitchell) 2:20 – 4:00 p.m. (pp.)
- VIII. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items
- IX. Committee Wrap-up – as needed (Superintendent Koch)
- X. Adjourn

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

FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Illinois State Board of Education
100 North First Street
Springfield, Illinois
October 29, 2009

1. **ROLL CALL:** Chairman Karon called the meeting to order.

Members Present

Ms. Joyce Karon, Chairman
Dr. Andrea Brown
Dr. David Fields
Ms. Lanita Koster
Mr. Jesse Ruiz
Dr. Chris Ward

Members Absent

Vinni Hall

Staff Present

Superintendent Koch
Scott Taylor
Darren Reisberg
Toni Waggoner
Jason Hall
Connie Wise

2. **BOARD MEMBER PARTICIPATION BY OTHER MEANS:** None

3. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** Jack Wuest from the Alternative Schools Network spoke about Race to the Top.

4. **MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING:** Ms. Lanita Koster moved that the minutes of the June Finance and Audit Committee be accepted. Dr. David Fields seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

5. **CONTRACTS & GRANTS OVER \$1 MILLION:**

- a. University of Illinois Contract Extension (Illinois New Teacher Collaborative) (Linda Tomlinson, Patrick Murphy) Dr. Fields abstained from this contract.
- b. Amendment to IBM contract for Student Information System (SIS) (Connie Wise, Terry Chamberlain)

The Board will take action on the above in the plenary session.

6. **FY11 BUDGET HEARINGS:** Ms. Joyce Karon stated that the Board has held six of the eight budget hearings, attendance has been good and people have understood that we are not in control of financial condition of the State.

7. **FY11 BUDGET PREPARATION:** The Board received an update regarding financial condition of the State and about ISBE's operating budget. The Board discussed suggested priorities for the FY 2011 Budget., including thoughts about the phase-out of Hold Harmless. Ms. Karon directed staff to proceed with two versions of a proposed budget, using the same priorities as last year. One version would reflect a robust needs budget and the other, a lean budget. Ms. Karon asked for the staff to keep the Board up to date on the cash management situation.

8. **COMMITTEE AGENDA PLANNING AND ADDITIONAL ITEMS:** Contracts & Grants and the Budget

9. **COMMITTEE WRAP-UP:** Dr. Koch said that staff plan to bring forth additional data on Special Education funding at the December meeting and present a couple of versions of the FY11 budget. He reviewed that the Board anticipates keeping the same terms for Hold Harmless that were laid out last year. The proposed scenarios will take into consideration the Chicago Block Grant and fast growth areas of the budget.

10. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
December 16-17, 2009

TO: Illinois State Board of Education

FROM: Christopher A. Koch, Ed.D., State Superintendent of Education 
Elizabeth Hanselman, Assistant Superintendent 

Agenda Topic: Approval of Grant Exceeding \$1 Million with Illinois Violence Prevention Authority for Social and Emotional Professional Development Project

Materials: Social and Emotional Learning Brochures

Staff Contact(s): Kelly Rauscher, Principal Consultant

Purpose of Agenda Item

To obtain approval for the continuation of a grant not to exceed \$1,295,000 with the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority (IVPA) for the provision of the Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Professional Development Project.

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

The SEL Professional Development Project addresses all three Board Goals.

GOAL 1: Every student will demonstrate academic achievement and be prepared for success after high school.

GOAL 2: Every student will be supported by highly prepared and effective teachers and school leaders.

GOAL 3: Every school will offer a safe and healthy learning environment for all students.

Expected Outcome(s) of Agenda Item

This agenda item will be discussed in the Finance and Audit Committee meeting and then called for a vote at the December plenary session.

Background Information

The Children's Mental Health Act of 2003 (P.A. 93-0495) authorized the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) to develop and implement Social and Emotional Learning Standards for the purpose of enhancing and measuring children's school readiness and ability to achieve academic success. This act also mandated schools to develop policies to incorporate the SEL Standards into their educational programs.

After the SEL Standards were developed, ISBE worked in collaboration with the Illinois Children's Mental Health Partnership (ICMHP) and developed the SEL Professional Development Project to build the capacity of schools to meet the social and emotional learning needs of all students. The SEL Professional Development Project provides schools with a coordinating framework for school improvement in which explicit SEL skills instruction is provided to all students, kindergarten through grade twelve, in a safe, caring, learning environment. The SEL Professional Development Project also focuses on changing adult behavior by promoting the use of more effective instructional strategies and the development of meaningful relationships with students, parents, colleagues, and community members.

The benefits of SEL include, but are not limited to, improved academic achievement, improved social and emotional skill development of all students, safer schools, improved teacher/staff performance and professional satisfaction, and increased staff retention rates. Additional information about the Project is available on the attached brochure and can be accessed online at: <http://www.icmhp.org/icmhproducts/files/SEL-SchoolLeaderLaserPrintF-11-03-09-1.pdf>.

Research has shown that the combination of SEL interventions has increased student academic performance and produced better grades and higher graduation rates (Durlak and Weissberg, 2005). SEL also affects teacher retention, relational trust, and improved instruction (CASEL, 2006).

In October 2006, ISBE entered into an intergovernmental agreement with IVPA, a collaborative partner of ICMHP, to provide fiscal administrative support for the project. ISBE has continued to enter into annual agreements with IVPA related to this project. In 2007, The SEL Professional Development Project began as a pilot program providing training and coaching to 39 school districts (grant sites) across the state. IVPA selected the districts through a competitive process and administered grants in FY07. Once administrative rules were adopted, authorizing ISBE to release funds under this program, the Agency assumed administration of the FY08 grants to school districts. These grantees are finishing their third year with the Project.

In FY10, the SEL Professional Development Project will continue to support select grant sites in their final year of the pilot program while infrastructure to support *all* Illinois schools' SEL implementation is developed.

Effectiveness

Program evaluation to date has focused on the Project's process in order to improve program implementation. A case study was completed by the Center for Research Prevention and Development following the first year of training, planning, and initial implementation. Findings from this study indicate that grant recipients had an enhanced awareness of the SEL Standards and the potential benefits of SEL-related programming. A number of perceived impacts were already being reported by the participating sites. Impacts described include positive changes in teachers and other school staff, changes in students, and changes in the broader school environment or climate.

ISBE has contracted with Loyola University since August 2008 to provide a comprehensive evaluation framework for this project that integrates with other ISBE initiatives. Loyola has worked with ISBE and collaborative partners, including the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS), in developing an evaluation plan and tools to measure program effectiveness. The tools are now integrated into the on-line VIMEO system that is used by other Illinois Statewide Technical Assistance Center (ISTAC) projects. As a result of collaborating with the IDHS, fifteen school climate items are now imbedded into the Illinois Youth Survey to assist the project with determining how SEL implementation impacts school climate over time. A more comprehensive report on the effectiveness of the program will be available in November 2010.

Analysis and Implications for Policy, Budget, Legislative Action and Communications

Policy Implications: Approval of a Continuation Agreement for the SEL Professional Development Project will allow the agency to meet the requirements set forth in the Children's Mental Health Act of 2003. Approval will also allow state-level, interagency collaboration to continue with IVPA and the ICMHP.

Budget Implications: Funds are available in ISBE's fiscal year 2010 budget in the amount of \$2.7 million for the Children's Mental Health Partnership.

Legislative Action: None Required

Communication: None Required

Pros and Cons of Various Actions

Approval of this discretionary grant to IVPA will allow for the continuation of the SEL Professional Development Project as it transitions from pilot to statewide implementation.

Superintendent's Recommendation

I recommend that the following motion be adopted:

The State Board hereby authorizes Agency staff to enter into a continuation grant agreement with the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority through December 31, 2010 for the purpose of providing social and emotional learning professional development to schools throughout the state.

Next Steps

Agency staff will work with the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority to effectuate a continuation agreement in accordance with the Board's approved motion.

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
December 16 - 17, 2009

TO: Illinois State Board of Education

FROM: Christopher A. Koch, Ed.D., State Superintendent of Education 
Linda Riley Mitchell, Chief Fiscal Officer 

Agenda Topic: Approval to Issue a Request for Sealed Proposal for ARRA General State Aid Audit and Attestation Services Exceeding \$1 million

Materials: None

Staff Contact(s): Ethelene Ferdinand, Division Administrator—External Assurance

Purpose of Agenda Item

To obtain approval to issue a Request for Sealed Proposal (RFSP) and enter into a contract with one or more certified public accounting firms to review local education agencies ensure compliance with 105 ILCS 5/18-8.05 and the American Reinvestment Recovery Act (ARRA), and other federal and state requirements. The firms will perform agreed upon procedures to verify Average Daily Attendance figures used in calculating the amount of General State Aid payments. They will analyze and review expenditure, employment and other ARRA reporting.

Expected Outcome(s) of Agenda Item

It is expected that this agenda item will be discussed in the Financial & Audit Committee and then called for a vote during the December Plenary Session to authorize Agency staff to release a Request for Sealed Proposal.

Background Information

During Fiscal Year 2009, approximately \$1.038 billion from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), State Fiscal Stabilization Funds (SFSF) Educational Services grant was utilized to fund General State Aid (GSA) payments to local educational agencies and state funded laboratory schools. The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR), 34 C.F.R Part 80 contains provisions requiring States to monitor subrecipients to ensure compliance with applicable Federal requirements. In addition audits of GSA claims are required by 105 ILCS 5/2-3.32 of the Illinois School Code. External Assurance does not have sufficient staffing levels at this time to audit these claims within the needed timeframe to ensure compliance with the applicable monitoring and auditing requirements

Financial Background

The funding for the project is anticipated to be up to \$1,350,000 in FY10 and \$1,150,000 in FY11. Funding will be from the General Revenue Fund (GRF).

Project Monitoring

There will be bi-weekly status calls to determine the progress of the project.

Effectiveness

The completed reviews will go through an internal review process to validate accuracy.

Analysis and Implications for Policy, Budget, Legislative Action and Communications

Policy Implications: Approval of the contract will allow ISBE to ensure compliance with ARRA requirements and other applicable federal/state requirements.

Budget Implications: Funding from ISBE General Revenue Funds Administrative budget

Communication: None required.

Superintendent's Recommendation

I recommend that the following motion be adopted:

The State Board hereby authorizes the Agency staff to release a Request for Sealed Proposals to find one or more certified public accounting firms to perform services and to enter into a contract with the successful bidders through September 30, 2010 not to exceed \$2,500,000 in total. The resulting contract will have two possible renewals terms.

Next Steps

Agency staff will issue a Request for Sealed Proposal.

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
December 16-17, 2009

TO: Illinois State Board of Education

FROM: Christopher A. Koch, Ed.D., State Superintendent of Education 
Linda Riley Mitchell, Chief Financial Officer 

Agenda Topic: Financial Status of Lemont-Bromberek Community School District (CSD) 113A

Materials: Lemont-Bromberek CSD 113A FACTS Report

Staff Contact(s): Deb Vespa

Purpose of Agenda Item

Under section 105 ILCS 5/1A-8 Powers of the Board in Assisting Districts Deemed in Financial Difficulties, it is being recommended that Lemont-Bromberek CSD 113A be certified in financial difficulty.

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

The financial stability of a school district directly impacts the ability of the district to successfully obtain all three goals of the State Board's Strategic Plan.

Certification enables districts in financial difficulty to receive technical assistance from the Illinois State Board of Education in accordance with Article 1A-8 of the Illinois School Code. Districts in financial difficulty are assisted in developing a financial plan.

Expected Outcome(s) of Agenda Item

In accordance with 105 ILCS 5/1A-8, certify Lemont-Bromberek CSD 113A as being in financial difficulty.

Background Information

The FY 2010 Budget for **Lemont-Bromberek Community School District 113A** reflected negative beginning cash of \$6.6 million and negative ending cash of \$3.4 million. The budget was returned to the district to document any interfund loans and transfers they expected to realize to pay the reported expenditures and to alleviate the negative cash. ISBE also received phone calls from constituents of the school district reporting that a cash balance of only \$250,000 in all funds. This cash balance was insufficient to meet the district's upcoming \$700,000 payroll and bond payments that were due December 1st. Three banks had denied the district's request to issue Tax Anticipation Warrants (TAWs), a form of short-term borrowing where expected future uncollected taxes are used as collateral to meet current needs.

The district secured \$5.8 million in TAWs to meet current cash flow needs. They have also secured \$3.5 million in second year TAWs that are scheduled to close on December 15, 2009. The issuance of the second year TAWs qualifies the district to be certified as in financial distress. Depending upon the amount of budgetary reductions and future cash flow of the

districts, it is estimated the district will need to secure additional TAWs during the next six months.

Because of these concerns, it is recommended that Lemont CSD 113A be certified as in financial difficulty.

Analysis and Implications for Policy, Budget, Legislative Action and Communications

Policy Implications: If the Illinois State Board of Education certifies the district in financial distress, the district will be required to develop a financial plan within 45 days after certification. The plan will be reviewed by the State Board for approval. Once the plan is approved, the district must follow the plan in the development of their budget. If the plan is not followed, the State Board can place them under a Financial Oversight Panel.

Budget Implications: Additional staff time will be required to assist the district in the development of their financial plan and monitor the district.

Legislative Action: No legislative action is required at this time.

Communication: Within 14 days of certification, staff is required to communicate guidelines for developing a financial plan to the district. Staff will continue to work with the district following certification.

Pros and Cons of Various Actions

Pros: Certification of a district lends to the assistance from ISBE staff to district administration in the development of their financial plan. Staff also assists the administration in presenting the financial condition of the district and the plan to their school board and community; thus, assisting local school boards with making difficult decisions.

Superintendent's Recommendation

I recommend that the following motion be adopted:

The State Board of Education hereby certifies the Lemont-Bromberek Community School District 113A in financial difficulty pursuant to the provisions of Section 1A-8 of the School Code.

Next Steps

ISBE staff will submit the Financial Plan Guideline to Lemont-Bromberek Community School District 113A within the next 14 days. The school district will have 45 days after the date of certification to submit their Financial Plan to the Illinois State Board of Education for approval. State Board staff will continue to provide technical assistance to the district to assist them with the development of their financial plan. The district should submit a financial plan to the State Board by February 1, 2010 to be presented before the Board at their February 2010 Board meeting.

**FACTS Report
12/10/09**

Lemont-Bromberek CSD

14-016-113A-02

Superintendent:	Dr. Timothy Ricker	Number of Students:	2,625
School Type:	Elementary	Number of Teachers:	145
County:	Cook	Average Teacher Salary:	\$50,985 (State \$61,402)
Tax Cap School District:	YES	Average Administrator Salary:	\$104,057 (State \$106,217)
		Low Income Rate:	6.2% (State 42.9%)

Overall Performance - All State Tests:

2008 - 2009	86.3%	(State 75.5%)
2007 - 2008	87.0%	(State 74.8%)
# of Schools in Improvement Status	0	

Ave. Class Size

Kindergarten	26.3	(State 20.5)
First	22.5	(State 20.9)
Third	25.8	(State 21.8)
Sixth	29.5	(State 22.0)
Eighth	30.1	(State 21.4)
High School	n/a	

Revenue Sources

Local	85.0%	(State 65.0%)
State	12.0%	(State 27.6%)
Federal	3.0%	(State 7.4%)

2007 EAV \$1,125,545,789

2006-07 OEPP \$9,125 (State 10,417)

2007 Tax Rates: Extended Rates

Education Fund	\$1.454
Operation & Maint. Fund	\$0.137
Transportation Fund	\$0.027
Working Cash Fund	\$0.000

SUMMARY OF OPERATING FUNDS

	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	Budget 2009	FY 2009	Budget FY 2010
Beginning Fund Balance	9,082,639	9,445,850	10,074,284	10,199,094	8,575,088	7,462,020	6,866,951	3,882,756	2,480,332	
Revenues	13,249,852	14,586,752	15,363,932	15,837,476	17,180,449	18,836,089	18,944,113	20,437,345	20,694,595	
Expenditures	13,113,691	14,148,768	16,331,940	17,461,482	18,293,517	19,431,158	21,928,308	21,839,769	22,591,364	
Results of Operation	136,161	437,984	(968,008)	(1,624,006)	(1,113,068)	(595,069)	(2,984,195)	(1,402,424)	(1,896,769)	
Other Sources/Uses	227,050	190,450	1,145,500	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Other Changes to Fund Bal.	0	0	(52,682)	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Fund Balances	9,445,850	10,074,284	10,199,094	8,575,088	7,462,020	6,866,951	3,882,756	2,480,332	583,563	

Tax Year	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
EAV	\$504,843,369	\$574,803,179	\$592,288,595	\$735,488,965	\$808,193,028	\$995,904,884	\$1,031,004,033	\$1,125,545,789

School Year	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Enrollment	2,456	2,532	2,575	2,591	2,616	2,625	2,625	Not Available

Outstanding Debt	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Short-Term Debt							
Long-Term Debt	15,637,387	25,966,332	24,592,137	23,319,338	22,146,797	20,971,051	19,852,119

Short-Term Debt Limit	7,298,842		9,246,373	10,587,211	13,168,742		15,482,235
Long-Term Debt Limit	32,516,235	40,867,913	50,748,739	55,765,319	68,717,437	71,139,278	77,662,659

Profile Score	3.60	3.55	3.45	3.45	3.45	2.75
Profile Designation	RECOGNITION	RECOGNITION	REVIEW	REVIEW	REVIEW	WARNING

PLACEHOLDER

PLACEHOLDER

**Finance & Audit Committee
FY 11 Budget Preparation**

FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Illinois State Board of Education
100 North First Street
Springfield, Illinois
December 16, 2009

I. ROLL CALL: Chairman Karon called the meeting to order.

Members Present

Ms. Joyce Karon, Chairman
Dr. Andrea Brown
Dr. David Fields
Ms. Lanita Koster
Mr. Jesse Ruiz
Dr. Chris Ward
Dr. Vinni Hall

Members Absent

Staff Present

Superintendent Koch
Linda Mitchell
Scott Taylor
Deb Vespa
Marica Cullen
Connie Wise
Beth Hanselman

II. BOARD MEMBER PARTICIPATION BY OTHER MEANS: None

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Jack Wuest from the Alternative Schools Network; Joanne Dempsey from Econ Illinois; Kevin Frank, Sue Hokkanen, Bryan Wunar and Nicole Kowrazit from the Museum of Science and Industry; Janet Hughes, Laura Reigle, Tracy Dalton and Duane Bradley from School District 113A; Patrick Thompson, Brett Grant and LaTasha Nesbetta from VEYA all spoke about funding.

IV. MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING: Dr. David Fields moved that the minutes of the October Finance and Audit Committee be accepted. Dr. Christopher Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

V. CONTRACTS & GRANTS OVER \$1 MILLION: The Board will take action on A and B below in the plenary session. The committee chose not to forward C to the Board for action in the plenary session.

- A. Illinois Violence Prevention Authority Grant for Social Emotional Professional Development (Beth Hanselman)
- B. RFSP for General State Aid ARRA Audit (Linda Mitchell)
- C. Classroom Cubed Grant (Connie Wise/Marica Cullen)

VI. FINANCIAL STATUS OF LEMONT-BROMBEREK COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT #113A:

Ms. Deb Vespa summarized the financial situation of the Lemont-Bromberek school district and indicated that the staff recommendation was that Lemont Bromberek CSD 113A be certified as in financial difficulty. The committee also heard statements from the local superintendent and local board president, as well as statements from residents of the community.

VII. DISCUSSION OF FY2011 BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS: Committee Chair Joyce Karon summarized the testimony heard at the eight budget hearings held across the state over the past four months. Superintendent Koch, Ms. Linda Mitchell and Mr. Scott Taylor provided the Board with analyses to assist in preparation of the budget. The Board will finalize a budget recommendation at its January meeting, and that recommendation is forwarded to the Governor and General Assembly for their consideration. During the spring, the Superintendent and staff participate in General Assembly appropriation committee hearings to advocate for the Board's recommendations.

VIII. COMMITTEE AGENDA PLANNING AND ADDITIONAL ITEMS: None was given.

IX. COMMITTEE WRAP-UP: None was given.

X. ADJOURNMENT:

Illinois State Board of Education

Education Policy Planning Committee of the Whole

December 16, 2009

4:00 p.m.

(This meeting will begin immediately the previous session.)

All open meetings will be audio cast on the Internet at: www.isbe.net

AGENDA (timeframes are estimated for planning purposes)

- I. Roll Call
- II. Board Member Participation by Other Means
- III. Public Participation 4:00 - 4:15 p.m.
- IV. Minutes of the October Education Policy Planning Committee of the Whole Meeting (pp. 2-4)
- V.*Appointments to Private Business & Vocational Schools Advisory Council 4:15 – 4:20 p.m. (pp. 5-6)
(Linda Tomlinson, Patrick Murphy)
- VI.*Charter Schools Annual Report and Update on Prairie Crossing Charter School 4:20 – 4:35 p.m. (pp. 7-39)
(Linda Tomlinson, Patrick Murphy)
- VII.*Draft Annual Report (Matt Vanover, Susan Morrison) 4:35 – 4:45 p.m. (pp. 40-102)
- VIII.*Teacher Preparation Agenda Items 4:45 – 5:15 p.m.
 - A. Teacher Certification Board Recommendations (Linda Tomlinson, Patrick Murphy) (pp. 103-105)
 - B. Illinois Certification Testing System Basic Skills Pass Rate (Linda Tomlinson, Linda Jamali) (pp. 106-108)
- IX. Update on ARRA & Race to the Top (Superintendent Koch) 5:15 – 5:30 p.m.
- X. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items
- XI. Committee Wrap-up – as needed (Superintendent Koch)
- XII. Adjourn

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

Wednesday December 16, 2009
4:45 p.m.
Springfield, Illinois

Committee Members Present

Dr. David Fields, Chair
Ms. Andrea Brown
Dr. Vinni Hall
Ms. Joyce Karon
Ms. Lanita Koster
Mr. Jesse Ruiz
Dr. Chris Ward

Committee Members Absent

None

Staff Present

Superintendent Chris Koch
Dr. Connie Wise
Ms. Susie Morrison
Ms. Beth Hanselman
Dr. Linda Tomlinson
Mr. Matt Vanover
Mr. Darren Reisberg
Ms. Linda Riley Mitchell

- I. **Roll Call:** The Education Policy Planning Committee meeting convened at 4:45 p.m. Dr. Fields requested roll call. (See above.)
- II. **Board Member Participation Via Phone Conference:** None
- III. **Public Participation:** There was no public participation.
- IV. **Minutes of the October 2009 EPPC Meeting:** Dr. Hall moved to approve the minutes of the October 2009 EPPC meeting and Joyce Karon seconded the motion. The Committee, by voice vote, approved the minutes of the October 2009 meeting.
- V. **Appointments to Private Business & Vocational Schools Advisory Council:** There were no comments on this agenda item.
- VI. **Charter Schools Annual Report and Update on Prairie Crossing Charter School:**
Discussion was held regarding the data given to the board regarding charter schools. Board members noted there is a significant number of charters schools that have a student body comprised of one race. Dr. Hall raised questions regarding the impact of public school dollars with the growing number of charter schools and requested the information be presented to the board at a later date. Dr. Tomlinson discussed the report and explained the report will be given to the general assembly. Dr. Koch will provide a write-up to the board regarding the recommendations from the Independent Authorizer for Charter Schools Task Force. Board members discussed possibly looking into developing a scatter graph to review reading and science testing scores of Charter School Students and will then look at the results in relation to where the students were attending school beforehand. The Committee agreed to forward the Charter School Annual Report onto the General Assembly.
- VII. **Draft Annual Report:** Discussion was held regarding the Draft Annual Report. Board members requested that any school districts noncompliant with state or federal law be listed in the annual report. Discussion was held regarding schools having fewer than 300 students. Board members would like to know how many schools there are with fewer than 300 students, their locations, and what those districts are doing to maximize resources. Dr. Brown stated we are going to have to look a whether these schools are making AYP,

whether they are on the financial watch list. Chairman Fields commented on how well the report was done.

VIII. Teacher Preparation Agenda Items:

- A.** Teacher Certification Board Recommendations: Dr. Hall stated she will need to abstain on the item relative to the University of Illinois. The committee agreed to move forward with Item 8a, Teacher Certification Board Recommendations.
- B.** Discussion was held regarding item 8b, the Illinois Certification Testing System Basic Skills pass rate. Dr. Tomlinson stated the certification board recommended that the State Board raise the score for the Illinois Certification Testing Basic Skills Pass Rate. The current passing score is 50% for reading and language arts and 35% for math. Raising the basic skills test scores is the first step in raising the requirements across the board for all teachers in terms of the content area and other programs. The proposal is to raise Reading pass rate scores to 78.9% and Language Arts to 79% and Math would be 75%. Individuals would be able to take the test in separate sections or take the test as a whole, and will have five opportunities to pass the test. The committee agreed to move forward with the Illinois Certification Testing Systems Basic Skills recommendation.

IX. Update on ARRA & Race to the Top (RTTT): Superintendent Koch reminded the Board that school districts will have to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in order to access award money that Illinois may receive.. Dr. Koch and ISBE staff have been working with stakeholders regarding the process. The money will be distributed through the Title I formula but districts need to sign assurances that it will be used in the reform areas. Responses to the MOU will be due on January 11, 2010. Illinois will make the RTTT application deadline of January 19th. Ms. Karon commented that she was present for the meeting with stakeholders and she praised Superintendent Koch and senior staff for their responsiveness to the many questions directed to them.

X. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items: Dr. Tomlinson stated she will be back at the March meeting to address some of the questions and concerns the Board had regarding charter schools. Dr. Tomlinson also shared that the Illinois Professional Teaching Standards are finished and are going straight to rulemaking and will be presented to the Board soon.

XI. COMMITTEE Wrap-up: none

XII. ADJOURNMENT: Dr. Hall moved to adjourn the EPPC meeting and Mr. Ruiz seconded the motion. The EPPC meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Illinois State Board of Education

Board Operations Committee of the Whole

December 17, 2009

8:15 a.m.

All open meetings will be audio cast on the Internet at: www.isbe.net

AGENDA (*timeframes are estimated for planning purposes*)

- I. Roll Call
- II. Board Member Participation by Other Means
- III. Public Participation
- IV. Minutes of the October Board Operations Committee of the Whole Meeting (**pp. 2-4**)
- V.*Review Nominations for Recognition 8:15 – 8:17 a.m.
 - A. Fred G. Huddleston, Recipient of 2009 Burroughs Outstanding School Board President Award (**p. 6**)
 - B. Kevin Rutter, 2009 Illinois Teacher of the Year (**p. 7**)
 - C. Arthur Wachholz, 2009 Illinois Recipient of Milken National Educator Award (**p. 8**)
 - D. Resolutions Recognizing Bilingual Transition to Teaching Graduates (**pp. 9-32**)
- VI.*Recommendation for Adoption of 403b Plan (Don Evans) 8:17 – 8:27 a.m. (**pp. 33-64**)
- VII.*2010 Board Calendar Proposed Revisions (Jean Ladage) 8:27 – 8:30 a.m. (**pp. 65-66**)
- VIII. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items
- IX. Committee Wrap-up – as needed (*Superintendent Koch*)
- X. Adjourn

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

BOARD OPERATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
December 17, 2009
Springfield, Illinois

Members Present

Christopher Ward
Andrea Brown
David Fields
Vinni Hall
Joyce Karon
Lanita Koster

Members Absent

Jesse Ruiz

Staff Present

Superintendent Koch
Jean Ladage
Marsha Moffett
Darren Reisberg
Matt Vanover

- I. **ROLL CALL:** Dr. Ward called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m. and asked for a Roll Call. (See roll call above.)
- II. **BOARD MEMBER PARTICIPATION BY OTHER MEANS:** None.
- III. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None.
- IV. **COMMITTEE MINUTES:** Dr. Fields moved that the minutes of the October 2009 Board Operations Committee be approved. Ms. Koster seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes passed on a unanimous voice vote.
- V. **REVIEW NEW NOMINATIONS FOR RESOLUTIONS OF RECOGNITION:** Dr. Hall moved that the recommended resolutions be forwarded to plenary session for adoption. The proposed resolutions recognize Fred Huddleston, the 2009 Burroughs Outstanding School Board President; Kevin Rutter, the 2009-2010 Illinois Teacher of the Year; Arthur Wachholz, the 2009 Illinois recipient of the Milken National Educator Award; and the graduates of Cohorts 3, 4, & 5 of the Bilingual Transition to Teaching Program. Dr. Fields seconded the motion and it carried with a unanimous voice vote. Ms. Ladage indicated that Mr. Rutter and Mr. Wachholz are planning to attend the plenary session on Thursday.
- VI. **RECOMMENDED ADOPTION OF 403b PLAN:** In July, 2007, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) issued final regulations governing 403(b) tax-sheltered annuity plans which became effective on January 1, 2009. The regulations require employers to make extensive changes to their Section 403(b) plan design and operations, including adopting a written plan document. Originally required to be in place by December 31, 2008, in late 2008 the IRS extended the deadline by which employers were required to have a written plan document to December 31, 2009. As such, by December 31, 2009, ISBE must have a written plan document in place that satisfies the Section 403(b) final regulations. The Board agreed to move this item forward to the plenary session.
- VII. **2010 BOARD CALENDAR PROPOSED REVISIONS:** The Board discussed proposed changes to the 2010 Calendar of Board meetings.

Ms. Karon suggested that the Board consider the financial situation of the state and the cost of taking Board meetings outside of the Springfield ISBE office. Since the primary expense of meetings outside of Springfield is that of human capital, she suggested that the Board use opportunities for various hearings (common core standards, etc.) in other areas of the state.

It was also noted that most Board members attend the IASB/IASB/IASBO (Triple I) Conference in Chicago in November. Although there isn't a meeting scheduled in November, perhaps that month (as opposed to December) should be designated for a Chicago meeting.

The Board agreed to move the following changes for consideration during the December plenary session, but will bring the 2010 calendar back at the next Board Operations Committee meeting for further discussion.

- The January 2010 meeting shall be changed to January 13-14 to coincide with the Governor's State of the State address.
- The March 2010 meeting shall be changed to March 24-25 to avoid a conflict with NASBE meetings.
- The October 2010 meeting shall be changed to October 28-29 to coincide with the Annual Superintendent's Conference dates.

VIII. ADDITIONAL ITEMS AND COMMITTEE AGENDA PLANNING: None.

IX. COMMITTEE WRAP-UP: None.

X. 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 8:39 a.m.

Illinois State Board of Education

Ad Hoc Rules Committee of the Whole

December 17, 2009

8:30 a.m.

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

All open meetings will be audio cast on the Internet at: www.isbe.net

AGENDA *(timeframes are estimated for planning purposes)*

- I. Roll Call
- II. Board Member Participation by Other Means
- III. Public Participation **8:30 – 8:45 a.m.**
- IV. Minutes of the October Ad Hoc Rules Committee of the Whole Meeting **(pp. 2-6)**
- V. *Rules for Initial Review **8:45 – 9:15 a.m.**
 - A. Part 35 (Mentoring Program for New Principals) **(pp. 7-20)**
 - B. Part 145 (Temporary Relocation Expenses) **(pp. 21-30)**
- VI. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items
- VII. Committee Wrap-up – as needed *(Superintendent Koch)*
- VIII. 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, December 17, 2009

8:30 a.m.

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

Committee Members Present

Andrea Brown
David Fields
Vinni Hall
Joyce Karon
Lanita Koster
Chris Ward

Absent

Jesse Ruiz

Others

Chris Koch
Don Evans
Beth Hanselman
Connie Wise

Vice Chairman Chris Ward called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. He noted that all but Chairman Jesse Ruiz were present. There was no need for Board member participation by other means.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Board member Joyce Karon moved the approval of the minutes of the Committee's meeting of October 29, 2009, and Board member David Fields seconded the motion. It was adopted unanimously, and the minutes were approved as presented.

2. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public participation.

3. **RULES FOR INITIAL REVIEW**

State Superintendent Chris Koch indicated that there were two rulemakings for the Board's initial review, and that staff were available to answer Board members' questions.

- **Part 35 (Mentoring Program for New Principals):** The proposed amendments result from the enactment of P.A. 96-373, effective August 13, 2009, which allows principals in their second year of employment to participate in the mentoring program if sufficient funds are available for the program. The proposed amendments set forth the cost factor that will be used to determine whether a second year of mentoring will be provided. All principals in their first year of employment are required to participate in mentoring program each year when the appropriation is sufficient to implement a program. Second-year principals are given the option of participating in a second year of mentoring.

Board member Andrea Brown used the discussion about the proposed amendments to remind the Board that several initiatives relative to principals, including National Board certification for principals and changes in principal preparation programs, are going forward. She asked that mechanisms for measuring program performance use an evidence-based approach. Superintendent Koch also noted that these initiatives are part of the state's Race to the Top application, which, in part, addresses teacher and principal performance.

- **Part 145 (Temporary Relocation Expenses):** The proposed amendments make numerous changes to the temporary relocation program that respond to various circumstances that school districts have encountered over the last several years. In particular, the proposal would require districts to take into consideration additional resources – whether financial or in-kind – when determining both the amount of money that will be needed for the relocation and identifying the expenditures that the district will incur.

The proposed amendments also make changes in response to two public acts. P.A. 96-102 adds mine subsidence to the list of incidents that could trigger relocation and make a district eligible for a loan or grant under the program; this necessitated a change in Section 145.10. P.A. 93-690 added Section 17-2.2d to the School Code to enable certain school districts to levy a tax for relocation without benefit of a referendum. Although only one school district was eligible to take advantage of the law at the time of its enactment in 2004, several more districts now qualify under the statutory criteria and a reference is needed in the rules to the use of proceeds received from that tax.

4. COMMITTEE AGENDA PLANNING/ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Rules Coordinator Shelley Helton reported that three sets of rules will be brought to the Board for adoption in January, each of which was considered at the October meeting (Part 1 (Public Schools Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision); Part 151 (School Construction); and Part 252 (Driver Education). In addition, Part 180 (School Construction) will be presented for initial review.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Fields moved that the meeting be adjourned. Board member Lanita Koster seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 8:40 a.m.

Illinois State Board of Education

Governmental Relations Committee of the Whole

December 17, 2009

9:15 a.m.

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

All open meetings will be audio cast on the Internet at: www.isbe.net

AGENDA (*timeframes are estimated for planning purposes*)

- I. Roll Call
- II. Board Member Participation by Other Means
- III. Public Participation
- IV. Minutes of the October Governmental Relations Committee of the Whole Meeting (**pp. 2-4**)
- V.*Cumulative Waiver Report (*Winnie Tuthill, Shelley Helton*) **9:15 – 9:30 a.m. (pp. 5-15)**
- VI.*Legislative Proposals (*Nicole Wills, Cynthia Riseman, Darren Reisberg*) **9:30 – 10:00 a.m. (pp. 16-)**
- VII. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items
- VIII. Committee Wrap-up – as needed (*Superintendent Koch*)
- IX. 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

Thursday, December 17th, 2009
Springfield, Illinois

Committee Members Present

Ms. Lanita Koster, Chair
Ms. Andrea Brown
Dr. David Fields
Dr. Vinni Hall
Ms. Joyce Karon
Ms. Lanita Koster
Dr. Chris Ward

Committee Members Absent

Mr. Jesse Ruiz

Staff Present

Superintendent Chris Koch
Cynthia Riseman
Nicole Wills
Connie Wise
Beth Hanselman
Linda Tomlinson
Jean Ladage
Marsha Moffett

- I. **Roll Call:** See above.
- II. **Board Member Participation by Other Means:** None.
- III. **Public Participation:** None
- IV. **Minutes of the October Committee Meeting**
Board member David Fields made a motion to approve the October Committee meeting minutes and Chris Ward seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with a unanimous voice vote.
- V. **Cumulative Waiver Report**
ISBE staff member Winnie Tuthill presented the 30th Waiver Report that must be submitted to the General Assembly by February 1. The report contains a summary of applications for modifications of ISBE rules that the State Board acted upon, as well as waiver applications that are subject to the review of the General Assembly.

Committee members discussed the proposed staff recommendations for statutory change to the driver's education fee. Board member David Fields made a motion and Vinnie Hall seconded to approve, in Plenary Session, the Superintendent's Recommendation of transmitting to the General Assembly the recommendation to eliminate the fee limit of \$50 in Section 27-24.2 of the School Code, thus allowing districts to establish the fee in response to local conditions.

The motion was unanimously approved in plenary session and the February Cumulative Waiver Report will include a recommendation to the General Assembly to address the driver's education fee issue.
- VI. **ISBE Legislative Agenda Update**
Government relations staff updated the Committee on upcoming General Assembly Session schedule including a session on January 12-14, and the Governor's State of the State address on January 12.

Staff also provided an update on the potential legislative proposals that were discussed during the August Board retreat and in subsequent Board meetings, specifically:

Nicole Wills discussed the urgency to move forward with the following three initiatives as a means to strengthen the State's application for Race to the Top:

- Performance Evaluation Act
 - Currently, looking at changes within Article 24A specifically tying teacher and principal evaluations to student performance.
 - Legislative change includes state support for implementing district evaluation changes.
- Underperforming School Incentives
 - Currently examining the idea of teacher relocation, fast track tenure, and pension/retirement changes as incentives.
 - Looking at ways to provide flexibility while noting the fiscal condition of the state.
- Alternative Certification
 - Utilizing not-for-profits, acting independently of institutions of higher education, to offer and expand alternative teacher certification programs.
 - Programs must adhere to standards and requirements currently required by the State Board of Education.

The Board discussed the implications of moving these reform initiatives in a fast track fashion, the implications on schools, teachers, and other stakeholders, as well as the need to carefully implement reforms.

Superintendent Koch reported that should the State receive Race to the Top funding, allocations from the state portion will be made to assist districts in the implementation of reform measures.

Government Relations staff reported on Anti-Bullying legislative proposal, specifically the importance of the legislation in response to the information received by the Board in the Work Study during the previous day. According to the Youth Risk Behavior Survey results, bullying has been shown to be on the rise and the impact has been shown to be widespread. The Illinois Safe Schools Alliance has been assisting us with legislation to better address bullying.

Specifically, the components of the legislation include:

- An expansion of the mandate currently on schools to submit a policy to the State Board, however, with careful consideration of impact on local districts;
- Greater structure to provide relief to school entities that need help;
- Examination of the legislative work of Florida, Massachusetts and other states;
- A definition of bullying that builds upon previous General Assembly action with careful consideration of student utilization of technology, school district reporting, student consequences, as well as district action.

Board members recommended that ISBE involve relevant state agency and community partners to stem the issue of bullying.

The Committee agreed that staff would bring the following proposals back to the committee in January with further information:

- Certification/Reorganization of Article 21
 - Goal is to clean-up and restructure the Code;
 - Create a “one license” system with varying endorsements;
 - Discussions of restructured Teacher Certification Board and creation of a new Professional Practice Board;
 - Careful examination of implementation timelines.
- Financial Oversight Panel/School Finance Authority (FOP/SFA) Legislation
 - Provides an alternative avenue for ISBE staff to work in coordination with districts facing financial difficulty;
 - Stakeholder groups have been engaged in discussions of draft proposal.
- Pending budget action in January, staff will work on related budget legislation (e.g. Hold Harmless, Chicago Block Grant, etc.)

IX. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items: Not discussed

X. Committee Wrap-up: Not needed

XI. Adjourn

The Governmental Relations Committee adjourned at 9:50 a.m. A motion was made by Dave Fields and was seconded by Vinni Hall.