

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

State Board of Education Meeting via video conference

Thursday, February 18, 2010
2:00 p.m.

Chicago Location: ISBE Video Conference Room, James R. Thompson Center
14th Floor, 100 W. Randolph, Chicago, IL

Springfield Location: ISBE Video Conference Room, 3rd Floor
100 N. First Street, Springfield, IL

This meeting will also be audio cast on the Internet at: www.isbe.net

AGENDA

- I. Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance *(Times are estimated and are for planning purposes only)*
 - A. Consideration of and Possible Actions on Any Requests for Participation in Meeting by Other Means

- II. Public Participation 2:00 – 2:15 p.m.

- III. Resolutions & Recognition *(p. 2)*
 - A. Arts Education Week Poster Contest Winner Victoria Tu, Wood Oaks Jr. High, Northbrook S.D. #27

- IV. Superintendent's Report - Action Considerations 2:15 – 3:00 p.m.
 - A. Approval of Minutes: January 14, 2010 *(pp. 3-7)*
 - B. Adjustment to the January 14, 2010 Budget Recommendation for FY11 *(pp. 8)*
(Superintendent Koch, Linda Mitchell)
 - C. Contract Amendment: Shefsky & Froelich, LTD *(pp. 9-11)*
 - D. RFSP for School Meals Initiative (Nutritional Content of Menus) *(pp. 12-13)*

- V. Discussion Items 3:00 – 3:30 p.m.
 - A. Update on Race to the Top Application *(Superintendent Koch)*
 - B. Legislative Update *(Darren Reisberg) (pp. 14-)*
 - C. Other Items for Discussion

- VI. Announcements

- VII. Adjourn

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 for a break in the meeting as necessary in order for the Board to go into closed session.

**Illinois State Board of Education Meeting
February 18, 2010**

(via teleconference)

**100 North First Street
Springfield, Illinois
and
100 West Randolph, Suite 14-300
Chicago, Illinois**

ROLL CALL

Jesse Ruiz, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Chairman Ruiz asked, Ms. Jean Ladage to call the roll. A quorum was present

Members Present in Chicago:

Mr. Jesse Ruiz, Chairman
Dr. Christopher Ward, Vice Chairman
Dr. Vinni Hall, Secretary
Mr. Steven Gilford

Members Present in Springfield

Dr. Andrea Brown
Dr. David Fields
Ms. Lanita Koster
Ms. Melinda LaBarrer

Members Participating by Phone

Mr. James Baumann – not voting

**REQUEST FOR
PARTICIPATION BY
PHONE**

Chairman Ruiz announced that Board Member Jim Baumann is participating by phone today in our deliberations, but will not be voting.

Chairman Ruiz also announced that Mr. Baumann has agreed to become Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee, filling the vacancy created by Joyce Karon's move to the P-20 Council. Chairman Ruiz thanked Jim for serving our Board in this important role, and for all the hard work he will do in helping craft our budget proposal each year—not to mention coordinating the budget hearings, which provide our constituents a great democratic forum to participate in that process.

**PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION**

Representative Elaine Nekritz of the 57th District summarized HB5450, which she is sponsoring with the goal of ensuring that the duties of the Suburban Cook County Regional Office of Education (ROE) are carried out. HB 5450 proposes to eliminate the Suburban Cook ROE as an elected office and would transfer the duties to the existing Intermediate Services Centers. Representative Nekritz added that this bill is a result of a collaborative process involving several superintendents, business managers and others from across Suburban Cook.

Superintendent Koch thanked Representative Nekritz for her leadership and acknowledged that this issue has been a difficult one for the State Board, as well as Suburban Cook school districts and the surrounding Regional Offices of Education that have picked up the extra work.

Dr. Jose M. Torres, Superintendent of School District U-46 (U-46) was accompanied by Board President, Ken Kaczynski. U-46, for purposes of the State's General State Aid (GSA) calculation, would like its "home county" to be changed from Kane County to Cook County. Dr. Torres is concerned that his district's current home county designation has had a negative impact on its GSA.

Dr. Torres indicated that he and his staff have worked with Superintendent Koch and Agency staff to come up with a \$7.1 million dollar administrative fix for FY10; however, he does not believe the administrative fix has made U-46 whole and that a further, long-term solution is necessary. U-46 believes that appropriate long-term solution is to classify U-46

as a Cook County district.

Superintendent Koch noted that Agency staff have, in addition to working with U-46 on the administrative fix referenced by Dr. Torres, assisted U-46 in drafting Senate Bill 2499 which would require the State Board to recalculate the GSA for all school districts in multi-county districts where one county estimates the limiting rate (in U-46's situation, Cook County estimates the limiting rate).

Dr. Torres noted that there is no policy, statute, or administrative rule to correct this and his purpose today is to be provided a process by which a change in county designation may be made. Dr. Torres thanked the Board for their time and shared a handout with further detailed information.

Jason Leahy, Executive Director of the Illinois Principals Association (IPA), thanked the Board for the opportunity to provide testimony with regard to a legislative proposal to rewrite Article 21 of the Illinois School Code. The recommendation being made to improve Article 21 is a result of nearly a decade of work by ISBE and numerous stakeholders to enhance the preparation and development of our schools' education leaders. It has been the pleasure of the IPA to be associated with this effort, and although the IPA is encouraged and supportive of the majority of changes being offered, the IPA is concerned with the proposed requirement for current principals or assistant principals with at least one year of leadership experience to take an assessment in order to obtain the proposed "Principal Endorsement". (See IPA's handout for alternative language.)

**ADJUSTMENT TO
FY11 BUDGET
RECOMMENDATION**

Ms. Koster moved that the State Board of Education hereby revises its FY11 Budget Recommendation approved at the January meeting, increasing the sum of Mandated Categoricals by \$51.3 million, thereby increasing the General Funds appropriation from \$7.31 billion in FY10 to \$7.36 billion in FY11. The full recommendation is shown as Appendix A (attached). Dr. Fields seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous roll call vote as follows:

Koster – Yes	Baumann (not voting)	Gilford – Yes
LaBarre – Yes	Brown – Yes	Hall - Yes
Ward – Yes	Fields – Yes	Ruiz – Yes

**RESOLUTIONS &
RECOGNITION**

Ms. LaBarre moved that the State Board of Education adopt the resolution recognizing Victoria Tu, the winner of the 2010 Arts Education Week Poster Contest. Dr. Fields seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous voice vote.

Ms. LaBarre announced that Arts Education Week will be celebrated March 15-21, 2010 and the resolution will be presented to Victoria Tu during the March 18, 2010 awards ceremony to be held at the Governor's Executive Mansion in Springfield. Ms. LaBarre looks forward to presenting the resolution at that time.

Superintendent Koch stated that he would like to recognize that Governor Quinn has issued a proclamation identifying February 20-26, 2010 as Entrepreneurship Week in Illinois. This recognition provides an opportunity to focus on the innovative ways in which entrepreneurship education can bring together core academic, technical and problem solving skills, which are essential for future entrepreneurs and successful workers.

**APPROVAL OF THE
JANUARY
MINUTES**

Dr. Hall moved that the State Board of Education minutes for January 14, 2010 are hereby approved. Dr. Ward seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous voice vote of eligible voting members.

**CONTRACT
AMENDMENT:
SHEFSKY &**

Mr. Reisberg noted that the Board entered into a contract with Shefsky & Froelich, the law firm that handles the investigation and prosecution of matters related to educator misconduct. Mr. Reisberg indicated that staff are pleased with the services provided and

FROELICH, LTD

confirmed that a state appropriation line item is available to cover the fee. The line item was in ISBE’s FY10 budget and has again been requested for FY11. The amount requested today does not exceed the line item; it only increases the dollar amount in the contract. With the Board’s approval, there will be an increase of \$100,000.00 which means the total maximum amount of the contract from inception would not exceed \$460,000.

The Board requested misconduct data collected on substitute teachers and regular teachers and a comparison to other states. Mr. Reisberg stated he would look into getting that information for the Board.

Dr. Ward moved that the State Board of Education hereby authorize Agency staff to increase the maximum amount if its contract with Shesky & Froelich by \$100,000 to cover services for FY10 with the total maximum amount of the contract not to exceed \$460,000. Dr. Fields seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous roll call vote as follows:

Ward – Yes	Fields – Yes	Koster – Yes
Baumann (not voting)	Gilford – Yes	LaBarre – Yes
Brown – Yes	Hall – Yes	Ruiz – Yes

RFSP: SCHOOL MEALS INITIATIVE (Nutritional Content of Menus)

Dr. Hall moved that the State Board of Education hereby authorizes agency staff to proceed with an RFSP in FY10 to contract for and conduct School Meal Initiative Reviews. The total contract, when awarded, will not exceed \$1,250,000. Dr. Fields seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous roll call vote of eligible voting members.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Update on Race to the Top Application

Superintendent Koch stated that the Race to the Top Application has been submitted, and we will find out in March whether we are a finalist. At that time, we will be ready with our panel of five people to go to Washington for a presentation.

Dr. Koch commented that we have received several calls from the U.S. Department of Education regarding our Phase II application which was submitted a month prior to the requested deadline. Phase II money could be released this week and would be used to make the last three GSA payments. Superintendent Koch noted that this influx of money has been a tremendous help to the State, but the funds will not be available next year. Dr. Koch acknowledged the work of Jon Furr, ISBE staff and education stakeholders who helped turn around the Phase II application quickly.

Superintendent Koch acknowledged the budgetary concerns he hears from districts during his travel around the State. These districts are willing to go through these reforms, but if reductions in personnel do occur, as we anticipate, they will have difficulty in maintaining the quality of programs and the student-teacher ratios. Dr. Koch stated that staff continue to work with districts to make them apprised of what they can and should do.

Legislative Update

Darren Reisberg summarized the legislative update. Mr. Reisberg stated that Linda Tomlinson was present in the room if anyone had any questions on Article 21 which has evolved over the last month.

Dr. Tomlinson addressed Jason Leahy’s concerns regarding the principal endorsement. She stated that when the principal preparation portion of the proposal was reworked, the focus was on school improvement and instruction—a different focus than the training for a general administrator. Per the proposal, revised programs will train principals specifically with the focus on instruction. Other changes include a stronger focus on Special Education and English Language Learning. The new certification will be a Pre-K-12

rather than a K-12, including a focus on Early Childhood.

Dr. Tomlinson stated that if a current principal has a general administrative certificate, that person may continue to serve as a principal or an assistant principal. Those candidates exiting the new program will have the new principal endorsement. Mr. Reisberg noted that it is a shell bill at this time and there is plenty of time to work on the language in an effort to address outstanding concerns.

Mr. Reisberg indicated that the Agency has had several discussions with Representative Eddy, who is sponsoring the unfunded mandates bill (HB 4711). HB 4711 states that to the extent there is a mandate that is unfunded, a district would have the ability to opt out of providing that mandate. To the extent that the mandate is underfunded that district would have the ability to only fulfill that mandate to the extent that funding exists. Mr. Reisberg noted that as an agency we do agree that there are many mandates in the School Code in need of repeal. Mr. Reisberg commented, though, that the Agency believes a better approach to this problem would be a repeal of specific mandates. Staff will continue to work with Representative Eddy to reach agreeable language.

Superintendent Koch stated that Representative Smith, Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education, will be conducting a hearing on the State of Education. The hearing will be held on Wednesday, February 24 2010.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Koster informed the new members that she is the Board representative on the Commission on the Elimination of Extreme Poverty. The Commission's goal is to reduce extreme poverty by fifty percent by the year 2015. She said she will continue to share information and reports with the Board as they become available.

Chairman Ruiz announced that as of tomorrow anyone wishing to review the Board's expenditures for the past year will be able to do so on the ISBE website.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Hall moved that the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Koster seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Vinni Hall
Board Secretary

Mr. Jesse Ruiz
Chairman