

Illinois State Board of Education

Education Policy Planning Committee of the Whole

January 14, 2010

8:30 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 (*15 minutes maximum*)
- IV. Minutes of the December Education Policy Planning Committee of the Whole Meeting (**pp. 2-3**)
- V. Student Advisory Council Feedback on the Student Summit on Dropout Prevention 8:45 – 9:00 a.m.
(Kojo Fletcher, Hannah Rhoades, Shelby Wills)
- VI.*Teacher Certification Board Recommendation: McKendree University 9:00 – 9:05 a.m. (**pp. 4-5**)
(*Linda Mitchell, Patrick Murphy*)
- VII.*Discussion of Draft Race To The Top Application (Superintendent Koch) 9:35 – 10:15 a.m. (**p. 6**)
- VIII. Information Item: Independent Charter School Authorizer (*Darren Reisberg*) 9:05 – 9:35 a.m.
- IX. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items
- X. Committee Wrap-up – as needed (Superintendent Koch)
- XI. Adjourn

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

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

Wednesday 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.


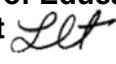
X. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items: Dr. Tomlinson stated she will be back at the March meeting to address some of the questions and concerns the Board had regarding charter schools. Dr. Tomlinson also shared that the Illinois Professional Teaching Standards are finished and are going straight 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 MEETING
January 13 – 14, 2010

TO: Illinois State Board of Education

FROM: Christopher A. Koch, Ed.D., State Superintendent of Education 
Linda Tomlinson, Ph.D., Assistant Superintendent 

Agenda Topic: Action Item: Institutional Accreditation

Materials: State Teacher Certification Unit Accreditation

Staff Contact: Patrick Murphy and Dennis Williams

Purpose of Agenda Item

The purpose of this agenda item is to consider the State Teacher Certification Board recommendation for the unit accreditation of McKendree University.

Expected Outcome(s) of Agenda Item

The State Teacher Certification Board voted to recommend unit accreditation of McKendree University in accordance with the State Board's administrative rules, Section 25.125(j)(2)(E). The State Board's unit accreditation decision will authorize the institution to conduct its programs and recommend candidates for certification by entitlement.

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

The approval of the professional preparation institutions has a direct linkage to Goal 2, Improving Educator Quality for All Children. Accreditation of Illinois teacher preparation institutions based on recognized and established standards, policies, and procedures ensures that the institutions prepare teachers with expertise in the discipline-specific content areas and that these teachers will demonstrate "best practices" and help all students learn.

McKendree University Background Information

McKendree University is an established Illinois teacher preparation institution that offers undergraduate and graduate programs in elementary education, secondary education, LBSI, and school administration.

The State Board of Education, in September 2007, found that McKendree University should be assigned accreditation with conditions following the November 11-15, 2006 initial NCATE visit and have a focused visit within two years.

In accordance with Section 25.125(j)(2)(B), NCATE conducted a focused review of McKendree University April 19 - 21, 2009. The NCATE team was accompanied by a state designee who served as a consultant and ex officio member to ensure that the applicable Illinois standards, procedures, rules, and statutes were addressed [Section 25.125(d)(2)].

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

As defined by Section 25.125(j)(3)(A) of the State Board's administrative rules, an NCATE review team reviewed the institution's report (self-study) of how McKendree University addressed the cited areas for improvement that were based on the *NCATE Unit Standards Edition 2002*. As part of the on-site review, the team also reviewed extensive exhibits related to the citations and interviewed administrators, faculty, support personnel, undergraduate program candidates, and members of the K-12 community who participate in the preparation of candidates and decision-making processes of the educational unit. The team forwarded to the State Teacher Certification Board a report indicating that the conditions cited in fall 2006 have been satisfied (Section 25.125(j)(3)(B) and all standards met.

As defined by Section 25.125(j)(3)(B) of the State Board's administrative rules, the State Teacher Certification Board conducted its review of the team's report and institution's supporting documentation on Friday, December 4, 2009. The Certification Board determined that McKendree University met Standard 2 of the *NCATE Unit Standards Edition 2002* with no new areas for improvement. The State Teacher Certification Board recommends "continuing accreditation" for McKendree's educational unit to the State Board of Education.

Policy Implications: None
Budget Implications: None
Legislative Action: None
Communication: See next steps below.

Pros and Cons of Various Actions

Accreditation and approval of McKendree University's educational unit will allow the college to entitle program completers for certification in their approved program areas.

Superintendent's Recommendations

The State Board of Education hereby assigns the status of "continuing accreditation" to McKendree University. This action is in accordance with Section 25.125(j)(2)(E) of the State Board's administrative rules and authorizes the institution to conduct its programs and recommend candidates for certification by entitlement until the time of the institution's next scheduled review.

Next Steps

McKendree University will be notified regarding the State Board's decision. The State Teacher Certification Board will also be notified, and the State Board's Directory of Approved Institutions and Programs will be updated to reflect the accreditation status.

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
January 13-14, 2010

TO: Illinois State Board of Education

FROM: Christopher A. Koch, Ed.D., State Superintendent of Education
Susan C. Morrison, Deputy Superintendent and Chief of Staff
Darren Reisberg, Deputy Superintendent and General Counsel



Agenda Topic: Illinois Application for Race to the Top (RTTT) Funds

Materials: Application (copy for Board Members)

Purpose of Agenda Item

The Board will review and approve the Illinois Race to the Top application.

Relationship to Implications for the State Board's Strategic Plan

This agenda item supports the mission and all three goals of the Strategic Plan.

Mission Statement

The Illinois State Board of Education will provide leadership, assistance, resources and advocacy so that every student is prepared to succeed in careers and postsecondary education, and share accountability for doing so with districts and schools.

Strategic Goals:

1. Every student will demonstrate academic achievement and be prepared for success after high school.
2. Every student will be supported by highly prepared and effective teachers and school leaders.
3. Every school will offer a safe and healthy learning environment for all students.

Expected Outcome(s) of Agenda Item:

The Illinois State Board of Education will better understand the scope of the application for Race to the Top funds and potential next steps.

Superintendent's Recommendations:

The Superintendent recommends the following motion be adopted:

The State Board of Education authorizes the Chairman of the State Board of Education and the State Superintendent to sign Illinois' application for Race to the Top funds and ensure that such application is timely submitted to the United States Department of Education.