

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Education Policy Planning Committee of the Whole

March 25, 2010

8:45 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 January Education Policy Planning Committee of the Whole Meeting (**pp.2-3**)
- V. *Teacher Certification Board Recommendations (**pp. 4-6**) 8:45 – 8:55 a.m.
(*Linda Tomlinson, Patrick Murphy*)
- VI. Strategic Agenda Update – verbal update (Superintendent Koch) 8:55 – 9:15 a.m.
- VII. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items
- VIII. Adjourn

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

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

Thursday, January 14, 2010
8:30 A.M.
Springfield, Illinois

Committee Members Present

Dr. David Fields, Chair
Mr. Jim Bauman
Ms. Andrea Brown
Mr. Steven Gilford
Dr. Vinni Hall
Ms. Lanita Koster
Ms. Melinda LaBarre
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 (EPPC) meeting convened at 8:29 a.m. Dr. Fields requested a roll call. (See above.)

- II. **Board Member Participation Via Phone Conference:** None

- III. **Public Participation:** Mr. Stephen Andrews informed the Board that the Grow Your Own Teacher Program sets Illinois apart from other states as the program demands its teacher candidates to meet the highest standards for certification through the existing schools of education. The program addresses critical issues such as teacher retention and teacher diversity/cultural competence. Mr. Andrews requested that the Board consider including a statement in the Race to the Top application to stipulate that the Grow Your Own Teachers program is a significant and valued component of Illinois' strategy on teacher quality.

- IV. **Minutes of the December 2009 EPPC Meeting:** Ms. Koster moved to approve the minutes of the December 2009 EPPC meeting and Dr. Hall seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

- V. **Student Advisory Council Feedback on the Student Summit on Dropout Prevention:** Kojo Fletcher and Hannah Rhoades represented the Student Advisory Council (SAC). Kojo Fletcher, co-chair of the SAC, shared the council's work in planning and coordinating the Illinois Youth Dropout Summit in October. The goal of the Summit was to inform adults about various reasons students drop out of high school. Kojo indicated that he understood that the Board viewed a video that State Farm provided, however that video did not include the student open mic session. Kojo shared the story of one young lady who was on the brink of dropping out, but after attending the summit she made a pledge to everyone present that she would continue her education. It was apparent that a majority of students that drop out do so not because they want to, but because they have to.

The Student Advisory Council came out of the summit determined to motivate students to stay in school. Their proposal will be presented to the Board later in the year.

Deputy Superintendent Susie Morrison added that as a result of the Dropout Prevention Summit, regional summits are to be held across the state. She praised the work of the Student Advisory Council for their work in conducting the student summit. (Post script – no tape of the mic session is available from State Farm.)

For the benefit of the new members, Ms. Ladage indicated that the Student Advisory Council was reinstated in 2004. The Agency utilizes the Superintendent's Weekly Message and the Agency website to post the application process. There are normally 15 members on the council, with underclassmen (incumbents) continuing to serve through their senior year. Applicants must submit two letters of recommendation with their application, along with parental signature. This year's advisors to the council are Sally Veach (Innovation & Improvement), Sarah McCusker and Gil Downey (Curriculum & Instruction).

- VI. Teacher Certification Board Recommendation:** McKendree University. Dr. Koch summarized the process for recommendations for accreditation of teacher education programs. Following discussion Dr. Fields indicated that this recommendation would move to the plenary agenda for Board action.

- VII. Discussion of Draft Race To The Top Application:** Superintendent Koch indicated that the deadline for Race to the Top applications is January 19, 2010. ISBE will be asking for approximately \$500 million in grant funds. A draft application has been provided to Board Members and stakeholders. If the application is not successful in April, ISBE will pursue round two, which begins in June. Three hundred-sixty-six (366) districts, which represent over 70% of our student population in the state (80% of students in poverty) have signed on to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and have preliminarily agreed to the reform areas. Dr. Koch further explained that if and when funds are awarded to Illinois half would come to the state for state reform and the other half would go to the participating local education agencies (LEAs), although the state has set aside an additional 10% of funds for use by "Super LEAs" – districts that have both union and management agreeing to bolder and faster reforms. Funds will be distributed through the Title I formula, with Chicago receiving 54-56%. Mr. Reisberg added that LEA's will have 90 days to opt out according to the MOU. Ms. Koster recommended an article in *Education Week* regarding turn-around schools.

- VIII. Information Item: Independent Charter School Authorizer:** Dr. Koch explained the Independent Charter School Authorizer process to the Board. He also reviewed the monitoring that the Board and Agency is currently conducting with Prairie Crossing Charter School. Dr. Koch asked if Diane Rutledge would like to speak regarding the details of the Task Force which has been charged with studying the appropriateness for an Independent Charter School Authorizer in Illinois. Ms. Rutledge discussed the pros and cons for a potential Independent Charter School Authorizer. Mr. Reisberg indicated that this independent entity would authorize charter schools in Illinois, but that ISBE would continue to review reports on the progress of individual charter schools and will have the ability to revoke the charter even if approved by the Independent Authorizer. Dr. Fields suggested making some more time in the future to discuss charter schools.



- IX. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items:** Andrea Brown would like to add an update of the Reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education (ESEA) Act.

- X. Committee Wrap-up – as needed:** None

- XI. Adjournment:** Dr. Hall moved to adjourn the EPPC meeting and Ms. Koster seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
March 24 – 25, 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: Program Approvals

Materials: State Teacher Certification Unit Accreditation and Program Approval

Staff Contact: Patrick Murphy, Phyliss Jones, Diane Lacopo, Dennis Williams

Purpose of Agenda Item

The purpose of this agenda item is to consider the State Teacher Certification Board's (STCB) recommendation for approval of McKendree University's physical education program recommended by the respective specialized professional associations (SPAs) and the approval of a new program from University of Chicago.

Expected Outcome(s) of Agenda Item

The State Board will vote to accept the recommendation of the STCB for approval of McKendree University's physical education program [Section 25.127 (j) (2) (A)] and the approval of a new program from the University of Chicago [Section 25.145 (d) (2)] authorizing the institutions to conduct the programs and recommend candidates for certification by entitlement.

Backgrounds

McKendree University

McKendree University is an established Illinois teacher preparation institution that offers undergraduate and graduate programs in elementary education, secondary education, LBSI, and school administration. An initial NCATE visit was held in November 2006 followed by a focused review in April 2009. The State Board accredited the university in January of this year. During an accreditation cycle, NCATE institutions must submit programs to the respective Specialized Professional Associations (SPA) showing how the program meets the SPA standards. A SPA is a national organization that represents teachers, professional education faculty, and other school professionals who teach a specific subject matter and review programs from institutions located in states other than their own. These associations are member organizations of NCATE and have program standards that must be met. During the SPA review for McKendree University, physical education was not nationally recognized. Subsequently, the State Board placed the program on probation until such time that the SPA recognized the program or 18 months, whichever came first. The SPA has now nationally recognized McKendree University's physical education program with conditions. As such, the State Teacher Certification Board recommends to the State Board the approval of this program [Section 25.127 (j) (2) (A)].

University of Chicago

The University of Chicago is an established Illinois-approved teacher preparation institution that offers graduate programs in elementary education, secondary mathematics, biology, and school social work. The new program proposal for **General Administrative – Principal** was presented in the format requested by the State Teacher Certification Board and provides an overview of the knowledge base and how the outcomes relate to the conceptual framework; a description of the

course of study, including the field experiences and clinical practice components; assurances that the current Illinois standards for administrators (23 IAC 29) will be met; a description of the program assessment system; the program faculty and their expertise in this field; and the resources that will be available to support the program and candidates in the program. The university is aware that changes to the Principal Preparation program are coming in 2010 and programs must be redesigned by 2013 at the latest and are aware that this program will have a limited time it can be offered (they will not be able to admit candidates after 2011). The State Teacher Certification Board recommends to the State Board the approval of this program [Section 25.145 (d) (1)]. The program presented was designed to meet the current requirements for principal preparation along with a shift towards the new requirements. The University of Chicago is aware that they will need to bring another program forward once the new rules have been developed (these rules will come to the Board for initial review in May). New requirements will add rigor and the university will be using this time period to build in additional requirements and transition to the new program.

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

The approval of the professional preparation programs has linkage to Goal 2: To ensure that every student will be supported by highly prepared and effective teachers and school leaders, policies and processes have been implemented that support preparation programs with a focus on instruction and student learning. These standards-based programs will prepare educators with expertise in discipline-specific content areas and ensure that teachers and administrators demonstrate best practices to help all students learn.

Implications for Policy, Budget, Legislative Action and Communications

Policy: See above

Budget: None

Legislation Action: None

Communication: Please see "Next Steps" below.

Pros and Cons of Various Actions

Approval of the programs will authorize the universities to entitle graduates for the programs as listed.

Superintendent's Recommendations

I recommend that the following motions be adopted:

Motion 1

In accordance with Section 25.127 (j) (2) (A) of the State Board's administrative rules on review of individual programs, the State Board awards ***continuing approval*** for **McKendree University's** physical education program, Type 10, as it meets the applicable SPA standards. This will authorize 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 2

In accordance with Section 25.145 (d) (1) of the State Board's administrative rules on review of new programs, the State Board of Education provisionally approves the **University of Chicago's General Administrative - Principal** program, Type 75, 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.

Next Steps

McKendree University and the University of Chicago 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.