

**APPROVED**

**Illinois State Board of Education  
MINUTES**

**Annual Board Strategic Planning Session  
September 27-28, 2011**

Holiday Inn and Suites  
3202 E. Empire Street, Bloomington, IL 61704

**September 27, 2011**

Chairman Chico called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m., followed by roll call and the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Board Members Present**

Chairman Gery Chico  
Christopher Ward, Vice Chairman  
Vinni Hall, Secretary  
Jim Baumann  
Andrea Brown  
David Fields  
Steven Gilford  
Melinda LaBarre  
Lanita Koster

**Senior Staff Present**

Superintendent Koch  
Susie Morrison  
Darren Reisberg  
Jean Ladage

**Others Present**

Gene Wilhoit, CCSSO

**Closed Session Motion**

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

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

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

and

Section c 16 for the purpose of self evaluation, practices and procedures or professional ethics while meeting with the Executive Director of the Council of Chief State School Officers.

She further moved that the Board may invite anyone they wish to have included in this closed session. Ms. Koster seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous roll call vote. The Board entered into closed session at 9:10 a.m.

**The Board reconvened in open session at 3:30 p.m. on September 27, 2011.**

**Board Members Present**

Chairman Gery Chico  
Christopher Ward, Vice Chairman  
Vinni Hall, Secretary  
Jim Baumann  
Andrea Brown  
David Fields  
Steven Gilford  
Melinda LaBarre  
Lanita Koster

**ISBE Staff Present**

Superintendent Koch  
Susie Morrison  
Darren Reisberg  
Jean Ladage  
Don Evans  
Beth Hanselman  
Reyna Hernandez  
Linda Mitchell  
Melissa Oller  
Linda Tomlinson  
Matt Vanover  
Marsha Moffett

**Others Present**

Gene Wilhoit, CCSSO

## **Strategic Plan Review**

Superintendent Koch and Deputy Superintendent Susie Morrison welcomed the Board and staff provided the Board with a progress update on the Board's goals and the implementation of the strategies identified to assist in achieving the goals. Superintendent Koch also thanked Gene Wilhoit, Executive Director of the Council of Chief State School Officers, for being present to add the national perspective to Tuesday's discussion.

## **Update on the Board's Strategic Plan and Implementation of the Common Core Standards**

Superintendent Koch and Susie Morrison led the staff presentation on the progress toward the Board's goals. (See presentation at [http://isbe.net/board/meetings/2011/sept\\_strat\\_plan/strategic\\_plan.pdf](http://isbe.net/board/meetings/2011/sept_strat_plan/strategic_plan.pdf).) Superintendent Koch indicated each year he and his senior review the Board's Mission and Goals, and after some Board feedback, this year we've cut down on the data and information. Staff will update the Board on accomplishments around each of the goals and provide some implications for future policies.

Ms. Morrison reviewed the Board-adopted mission and three specific goals on which to focus their energy and resources.

### **Mission**

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.

### **Goals**

1. 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.
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.

Ms. Morrison added that as the Board and Agency has evolved since the goals were adopted in June 2008, we have developed strategies behind each of these goals, but what has happened as a nation and across our state; we have embraced the four reform areas from the federal government and have owned them as our own. The four key reform areas that bind our move toward improving student achievement are:

### **Focus Areas**

- Support for Lowest Performing Schools
- Longitudinal Data System
- Effective Teachers and Leaders
- Standards and Assessment

Staff highlighted accomplishments and future action for each of the four (4) areas. A link to the complete presentation is at [http://isbe.net/board/meetings/2011/sept\\_strat\\_plan/strategic\\_plan.pdf](http://isbe.net/board/meetings/2011/sept_strat_plan/strategic_plan.pdf)

In closing, the Illinois State Board of Education will continue to 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.

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**September 28, 2011**

**RECONVENE/ROLL CALL**

Mr. Gery Chico, Chairman, reconvened the Board for the plenary session at 8:50 a.m. All members were present as recorded at the 9:07 a.m. roll call on Tuesday, September 27, 2011. Dr. Christopher Koch, State Superintendent of Education, was also in attendance.

**Board Members Present**

Chairman, Gery Chico  
Christopher Ward, Vice Chairman  
Vinni Hall, Secretary  
Jim Baumann  
Andrea Brown  
David Fields  
Steven Gilford  
Melinda LaBarre  
Lanita Koster

**Senior Staff Present**

Superintendent Koch  
Susie Morrison  
Darren Reisberg  
Jean Ladage  
Linda Tomlinson  
Matt Vanover  
Don Evans  
Reyna Hernandez  
Beth Hanselman  
Melissa Oller

**LEGISLATIVE  
UPDATE &  
PRELIMINARY  
DISCUSSION OF  
2012  
LEGISLATIVE  
PROPOSALS**

Nicole Wills and Cynthia Riseman provided the Board with a summary of items that may be addressed in the Fall Veto Session and a discussion of potential ISBE legislative proposals for Spring 2012.

The General Assembly will return to Springfield for the Fall Veto Session October 25-27 and November 8-10.

In addition to action on bills the Governor vetoed or amendatorily vetoed over the summer, there are three potential issues ISBE staff will be monitoring for potential action during the Veto Session:

- HB 3022 (Chapa LaVia/Lightford) - This bill contains repeals and modifications of obsolete and duplicative statutes. Included in this bill is an amendment to a provision in Article 2 of the School Code which requires the State Board of Education to intervene in schools and districts that have not made Adequate Yearly Progress in seven years and to take significant action against those schools. The agency does not have the resources to do this to the magnitude that is required by the current law. One of the changes in this obsolete duplicative bill would be to make that intervention discretionary as opposed to mandatory. This would allow the agency to be more targeted in terms of where we use our resources to intervene and would avoid any further audit findings. We do not want to be put in a situation where we are set up to fail because we do not have the resources to do what is mandated.
- HB 327 (Madigan/Kotowski) - HB 327 contains line-item appropriations for ISBE operations and grants to school districts (and other eligible entities) funded from the General Revenue Fund. The Governor used his authority to line-item reduce the appropriations for regular/vocational transportation (from approximately \$295M to \$205M) and eliminated both the ROE Salary (\$9.1M) and ROE School Services (\$2.225M) line items. At this time, no legislative language has been filed.
- SB 1795 moves Private Business and Vocational Schools to the Illinois Board of Higher Education. Last legislative session, a bill was proposed to move the approval and monitoring of Private Business and Vocational School from ISBE to IBHE. Because of ongoing discussion at the Federal level regarding proprietary schools, the bill was held.

- Mr. Reisberg discussed the School Report Card changes stating that the initial version of the Education Reform legislation that was recently enacted (SB7) contained language modifying the content of the school district and school report cards produced by the State. Education stakeholders agreed to remove the report card changes from SB7 discussions and instead ask the P-20 Council to consider the matter and potentially bring forth a legislative proposal during the 2011 Veto Session. The P-20 Council hopes to make the School Report Card a more user friendly tool for parents, community and school personnel.

### **2012 Spring Session**

Over the past few years, ISBE has initiated or been a partner in numerous major education initiatives, including the Performance Evaluation Reform Act, Senate Bill 7 (education reform), a rewrite of the certification system, establishment of a longitudinal data system, and an overhaul of principal preparation program requirements. While ISBE's Governmental Relations staff has highlighted potential issues that ISBE may want to see addressed during Spring 2012 (see below), staff believe it is important to spend this coming year focused less on additional legislative actions and more on assisting the education field with implementation of recent legislative successes.

Here are a few issues that the State Board may wish to see addressed:

- Trailer Bill to SB 7/Education Reform – ISBE staff and members of other education groups have been working on the implementation of SB 7. As part of this process, we have identified areas that would benefit from statutory clean-up.
- Mr. Reisberg and Chairman Chico explained the creation of an ISBE foundation. Chairman Chico said the Illinois Department of Natural Resources established by statute the Illinois Conservation Foundation as a vehicle to accept and expend private donations outside of standard procurement and other processes. Because of the significant support private entities have been offering ISBE to support education reform initiatives, ISBE may wish to pursue the establishment by legislation of a similar vehicle.
- Alignment of School Construction and Modernization with the State's and ISBE's Priorities: There is merit to considering how the school construction law can be modified to provide incentives that align with the priorities of the State and ISBE.
- "Clean Up" Bill – For the past several years, ISBE has initiated a bill to "clean up," among other things, obsolete and duplicative provisions in education-related statutes as well as to streamline and reduce bureaucratic requirements on ISBE and school districts. Governmental Relations has begun gathering suggestions from ISBE staff and the education field.

Mr. Reisberg indicated that if the Board is ready to move ahead with discussions regarding longer school days and longer school year, staff will share information regarding how it is working in other states. He noted there is time between September and January to develop legislative proposals aligned with the Board's and State's interest.

Superintendent Koch stated that he is looking for direction from the Board on the

reduction to the transportation formula. Dr. Koch stated that these reductions are severely affecting rural districts that have to transport children long distances, and if Board members have suggestions for ways to improve the transportation issue, we could draft a legislative proposal.

Linda Mitchell suggested that we consider the relative size of the school district in terms of geographic area and have that figured into whether or not the district would receive a reduction in funding. Right now all districts are receiving the same reduction in funding, and in some districts transportation is a far more significant line item in their budget. Dr. Koch added that a proposal to help districts with the transportation formula could incent efficiencies and consolidation.

Superintendent Koch stated that stakeholders have been surveyed about the PTEL adjustment and some very thoughtful and mixed responses were received. Dr. Koch added that we need to educate the public about the growth of PTEL from its onset and of the initial intent. It has become a very large portion of the budget starting at \$40 million and now exceeding over \$700 million.

Dr. Koch also pointed out the more recent issue of dealing with oversight in North Chicago and a potential charter school. The Navy base in North Chicago has a building they would like to offer as a charter school location, but they would like to have a percent of children enrolled at the school be allocated for children of Navy families. State statute currently allows only a lottery system for placement of students in charter schools.

Chairman Chico commented briefly on the powerful motivation in the experiences of Dr. Jerry Weast, the recently retired Superintendent of the Montgomery County Public Schools (in Maryland). Dr. Weast talks about how we need to fill the void. This Board needs to speak up on issues like the veto of the Regional Superintendent salaries. The Governor did not veto the ROE's to do away with them he recommended that they be paid from a different fund (PPRT). Chairman Chico feels that we should work with Governor Quinn's office to provide a strategy be employed on the issue. We need to get ourselves on the record that says we believe in the Regional Offices of Education and they should be funded from a different place in the budget. He also stated that the Board should take a stand in regard to a third reduction in transportation. We should speak up about construction. Chairman Chico asked Linda Mitchell about the release of construction dollars. Ms. Mitchell responded that we are now working with GOMB on distributing construction dollars and staff are looking to tie construction dollars for consolidation incentives. Chairman Chico stated that as far as the legislative session is concerned we have an able staff we need to put a plan together, execute it and play a more active role.

Mr. Reisberg invited all of the Board members to attend the Veto Session, October 25-27, and November 8-10, 2011 if they are in Springfield.

**RETREAT  
DEBRIEFING**

Chairman Chico announced that Superintendent Koch would appreciate Board members taking the time to complete their Retreat Feedback form and return them to Jean Ladage.

**PUBLIC  
PARTICIPATION**

Ellen Gallagher, Regional Project Director from LearningAlly (formerly Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic) shared a proposal & agreement of implementation for the State of Illinois and shared Learning Ally's end of year report with the Illinois State Board of Education.

John Moss from Glenbard School District in DuPage County commended Superintendent Koch and the Board on the development of a No Child Left Behind waiver process and the possibility that Illinois might be one of the five states

eligible to take advantage of the waiver if it emerges.

Chairman Chico recognized and welcomed Jane Quinlan from ROE #9, Champaign-Ford Counties.

**CONSENT  
AGENDA**

**Motion:**

Dr. Fields moved that the State Board of Education hereby approves the consent agenda items as presented. Ms. Koster seconded the motion and it passed with 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 August 18, 2011 Board meeting.

**Rules for Initial Review**  
**Part 25 (Certification)**

The State Board of Education hereby authorizes solicitation of public comment on the proposed rulemaking for Certification (23 Illinois Administrative Code 25), including publication of the proposed amendments in the Illinois Register.

**Part 375 (Student Records)**

The State Board of Education hereby authorizes the solicitation of public comment on the proposed rulemaking for Student Records (23 Illinois Administrative Code 375), including publication of the proposed amendments in the Illinois Register.

**Part 425**

**(Voluntary Registration and Recognition of Nonpublic Schools)**

The State Board of Education hereby authorizes the solicitation of public comment on the proposed rulemaking for Voluntary Registration and Recognition of Nonpublic Schools (23 Illinois Administrative Code 425), including publication of the proposed amendments in the Illinois Register.

**Contracts & Grants Over \$1 Million**

**Federal Perkins State Leadership Grant:**

**Curriculum Revitalization Project Grant Development of Data Warehouse**

The State Board hereby authorizes the State Superintendent to enter into a grant agreement with a grantee to be named through the competitive bid process for the provision of the Curriculum Revitalization Project in an amount not to exceed \$3,420,000 over a five and a half year grant term (i.e., FY 2012-2017).

**Fall 2011 Waiver Report**

The State Board hereby forwards the following waiver requests to the General Assembly with a recommendation that it approved for the school year 2011-2012 only, and disapproved for school year 2012-2013 through 2015-2016:

- The request from Keeneyville Unit School District 20 (WM100-5520) to rate teacher performance as "Professional Growth Track – no rating" or "Professional Support Track – satisfactory or unsatisfactory."

The State Board of Education hereby forwards the remaining 46 waiver requests summarized in the Fall 2011 Waiver Report to the General Assembly without comment.

**Appointments to the Charter School Commission**

The State Board hereby approves the following recommended appointments to the State Charter School Commission:

Glen Barton	First Appointment
Sean Denney	First Appointment
Jaime Guzmán	First Appointment
Mike Jacoby	First Appointment
Greg Richmond	First Appointment
Angela Renee Rudolph	First Appointment
Paul Swanstrom	First Appointment
Patricia Van Pelt-Watkins	First Appointment
Rudy Valdez	First Appointment

## **END OF THE CONSENT AGENDA**

- Board Calendar 2012** Ms. LaBarre moved that the Illinois State Board of Education adopt Option 1 for the calendar year 2012 with the recommendation for efficient scheduling. Dr. Brown seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous roll call vote.
- District Oversight** John Perkins, Superintendent Koch's Liaison to District Administration, updated the Board on the work being done in North Chicago and East St. Louis School Districts. (For the entire report see pages 111-116 of the plenary packet.)
- ANNOUNCEMENTS & REPORTS** Dr. Proshanta Nandi from the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) was unable to attend the meeting today but Dr. Vinni Hall reported that the IBHE continues to work on a report card for Early Childhood Programs Performance. The next Illinois Board of Higher Education meeting will be October 4, 2011 at Harper College in Palatine.
- IBHE Liaison Report**
- Superintendents Announcements** Dr. Koch said that staff are diligently studying the ESEA wavier package and that he and Susie Morrison will be going to Washington, D.C. with staff for a briefing on the application process. The next step will be to have the discussions on framing the package and to make sure the Board is comfortable with the anticipated timeline.
- Superintendent Koch mentioned that the Early Learning Challenge is in high gear and competition responses are due in October. He, Julie Smith (Governor's Deputy Chief for Education) and Michele Sadler (Director of DHS) have partnered with Department of Child and Family Services on a regular basis to join in conversations to ensure a cohesive state approach to Early Childhood services to students. Plans are to adopt joint definitions, joint standards, joint budget planning, etc. and to require groups to meet quality assurance indicators if they will be receiving funds. An advisory group has been formed to develop the Kindergarten Readiness Survey.
- Dr. Koch commented that Linda Mitchell is working on potential dates and locations for upcoming budget hearings across the state. Dr. Fields asked that east central Illinois be represented by the hearings coming to Champaign.
- Chairman's Report** Chairman Chico reported that he visited Glenside Middle School in Glendale Heights after meeting with local superintendents in DuPage County to discuss reform efforts. He also spoke at Elmhurst College and met with Governor Quinn a few weeks ago to discuss a number of topics.
- Members Reports**
- Ms. LaBarre attended the PARCC Conference as a member of the Illinois team.
- Dr. Vinni Hall stated that she attended the Childhood Obesity Summit in Washington, D.C. and the UIC World Class Colloquium with Superintendent Koch and Reyna Hernandez.
- Dr. Fields had the opportunity to represent the Board at the Summit on Aging

Education and Service sponsored by the Illinois Policy Academy on Civic Engagement of Older Adults on September 26, 2011 in Bloomington. Chairman Chico indicated he would like to hear more about this initiative.

Linda Tomlinson invited all Board members to attend one or two of the seven Performance Evaluation Meetings they will be having statewide. She will get the details to members, but one will be on October 5, 2011 at Waukegan High School and another is on October 6, 2011 at Elgin High School.

**INFORMATION  
ITEMS**

Chairman Chico announced that the Monthly Fiscal and Administrative Reports are now available on line at [www.isbe.net/board/fiscal\\_admin\\_rep](http://www.isbe.net/board/fiscal_admin_rep).

**MOTION FOR  
ADJOURNMENT**

Dr. Brown moved that the meeting be adjourned. Dr. Fields seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

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

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**Mr. Gery J. Chico**  
**Chairman**