

**ILLINOIS STATE TEACHER CERTIFICATION BOARD**

**Illinois State Board of Education  
State Board Room, Fourth Floor**

**Friday, May 1, 2009**

**Business Meeting**

**MINUTES**

**Call to Order / Roll Call:**

Mr. Dennis Williams, Chair Designee, called the Illinois State Teacher Certification Board meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. Mr. Patrick Murphy, Secretary, Illinois State Teacher Certification Board, was asked to call the roll. A quorum was present.

**Members Present:**

Mr. Dennis Williams, Chair Designee (Representing Chairman Koch)  
Mr. Patrick Murphy, Secretary

Denise Albrecht  
Richard Ammentorp  
Carol Auer  
Sheila Bowens  
Douglas Bower

Stephen Breese  
Deborah Curtis  
Allen Ellington  
Ascencion Juarez  
Vickie Mahrt

Linda Pellegrini  
Janet Pierce-Ritter  
Cynthia Shanahan  
Tamara Smith

**Members Absent:**

Caryn Block  
Eric Brown

Lawer Dixon, Jr.  
Sr. Colleen McNicholas

**Others Present:**

Andrew Brulle  
Lydia Bullock  
Rori Carson  
Michael Costello  
Louis Ferroli  
John Gambro  
Hoyet Hemphill  
Leaunda Hemphill  
Mitch Hopper

Linda Jamali  
Phyliss Jones  
Diane Lacopo  
Susan Leahy  
Jillian Lederhouse  
Daryl Morrison  
Barbara Nourie  
Sally Bulkley Pancrazio  
Melissa Phillips

Nancy Slattery  
Lynn Steffen  
Barbara Swanson  
Joy Taylor-Ankenbrandt  
Winnie Tuthill  
Renee Vilatte  
Sally Vogl

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

The minutes of the April 3, 2009, Illinois State Teacher Certification Board business meeting were presented for consideration. Richard Ammentorp moved that the State Teacher Certification Board accept the minutes of the April 3, 2009, business meeting as written. Carol Auer seconded the motion. Dennis Williams called for discussion, but none followed. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

### **Public Participation:**

#### **Andrew Brulle and Jillian Lederhouse; Wheaton College; Topic: Proposed Regulations**

Andrew Brulle and Jillian Lederhouse presented testimony regarding the proposed course requirements and mandated grades. They suggested the proposed regulations be altered. Mandating minimum grades will do nothing to ensure performance; only rigorously enforced standards have a chance at doing that. Members of the State Teacher Certification Board were urged to not only address preparation programs, but also to consider the vital aspect of continued professional development. It was explained that the profession cannot rely on only new teachers to turn around student performance; the concerted efforts of all education professionals are needed. Board members were asked to reject the proposed regulations as presented today.

#### **Barbara Nourie; Topic: Program Review**

Barbara Nourie offered testimony regarding program review. Several key points included: Timeliness of response from the professional association; In-depth review by more than one subject matter specialist; Reduction of paperwork; Efficiency; and Consistency. Members of the State Teacher Certification Board were asked to (1) Table the "Program Report Formats", or vote the proposal down until more input from the higher education community is sought; (2) Institute a process of program review for non-NCATE schools that is exactly like that of the Specialty Professional Association (SPA); (3) Eliminate redundancy and increase efficiency in program review as well as data collection; and (4) Continue and also further enhance Illinois' status as a national leader in teacher preparation and education.

#### **Sally Bulkley Pancrazio; Topic: Program Review**

Sally Bulkley Pancrazio provided testimony regarding the program report formats which call for the collection of individual program data from each of the institutions of higher education preparing professional education personnel. Members of the State Teacher Certification Board received in-depth information regarding the data collection and individual program review by the Illinois State Teacher Certification Board. The Board was asked that when collecting and analyzing information about the quality of individual preparation programs in Illinois that there be a process that includes a clear statement of the problem, identification of policy-relevant questions and issues, and an analysis of already-existing data and instruments that aid in answering those questions. State and national data instruments already available should be used. National accreditation of institutions and individual preparation programs are worthy goals and should be promoted. If the Illinois State Teacher Certification Board opts to pursue the review of individual programs, the results of the NCATE/SPA review should suffice for the review. The State Teacher Certification Board was asked to table this agenda item or vote it down until a time when the issues are clarified and made clearer.

### **Facilitation Committee's Report:**

In the absence of Sr. Colleen McNicholas, Chair, Facilitation Committee, Richard Ammentorp reported the Facilitation Committee met today at 8:00 a.m. The agenda was modified by moving Item E3, "Rules Related to Certification", to the first item for immediate action.

### **Item(s) for Immediate Action:**

#### **Rules Related to Certification (Various)**

Dennis Williams introduced Linda Jamali, Division Administrator, Educator Certification Division; and Sally Vogl, Rules, Legal Department. Ms. Vogl began discussion by sharing with members of the State Teacher Certification Board the procedures for the rulemaking process.

Ms. Vogl explained that the amendments to Part 25 encompass numerous aspects of the rules and include many changes that are intended to strengthen the requirements for various credentials, streamline processes, or achieve greater consistency.

The sections of the rules that received much discussion include:

In Sections 25.25 and 25.37, requirements for discrete courses are being introduced with regard to methods of teaching reading and the identification of students with disabilities.

In Section 25.100, the requirements for the issuance of endorsements are being made more stringent. Beginning in 2011, coursework passed with a grade of "D" will no longer be accepted. In addition, the option for presenting either an earned major or a "constructed" major and receiving an endorsement without passing the content-area test will be eliminated. With regard to adding designations in the sciences and social sciences, a requirement for the completion of coursework is being added. New requirements for endorsements in safety and driver education and in bilingual education and English as a Second Language are being added. Several provisions whose implementation is now complete are being deleted, and other technical updates are being made.

Section 25.127 is being changed to eliminate the current reliance on reviews by specialized professional associations (SPAs) and specialized accrediting organizations (SAOs) in the context of program approval. The State Teacher Certification Board will review individual program reports and evaluate the programs' conformance with applicable standards.

Doug Bower, Deborah Curtis and Janet Pierce-Ritter stated that they strongly believe that Section 25.127 is not ready to be considered for rules as there is ongoing discussion regarding this item.

With regard to Subpart I: Illinois Certification Testing System (Sections 25.705 – 25.780), provisions are being added that will restrict each individual to five attempts to pass the same test and make individuals ineligible to retake tests or receive certificates if they are found to have cheated. These amendments are intended to avoid certifying individuals whose testing performance is very marginal and to convey a clear message that ethical behavior is expected of Illinois educators.

Certification Board members recommended that a mechanism be in place for an appeal process.

Richard Ammentorp moved that the State Teacher Certification Board recommend the proposed amendments to Parts 1, 24 and 25, excluding Section 25.127 and any Sections related to discrete courses – Sections 25.25 and 25.37, for consideration by the State Board of Education. Denise Albrecht seconded the motion. Dennis Williams called for discussion. The motion passed; eleven aye votes; three nay votes.

#### New Program Proposal Recommendation(s)

##### *Rockford College – Reading Specialist*

The following representatives from Rockford College were introduced: Dr. Louis Ferroli, Reading Professor; Dr. Susan Leahy, Unit Accreditation Specialist; and Barbara Swanson, Professor and Unit Head.

College representatives were asked to expand on how to ensure (1) candidates have experience with diverse learners; and (2) the K-12 continuum (experiences). There was also a brief discussion regarding the clinical supervision and cooperating teachers.

Richard Ammentorp moved that the State Teacher Certification Board recommend to the State Board of Education provisional approval of the Reading Specialist program at Rockford College, authorizing the educational unit to conduct programs and to recommend candidates for certification by entitlement until the time of the institution's next scheduled Accreditation Review [Section 25.145 (d) (1)]. Tamara Smith seconded the motion. Dennis Williams called for discussion, but none followed. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

##### *University of St. Francis – Visual Arts*

The following representatives from the University of St. Francis were introduced: Michael Costello, Associate Professor, Department of Visual Arts; and Dr. John Gambro, Dean, College of Education.

There was a brief discussion regarding field experiences and the range of continuum through middle grades.

Richard Ammentorp moved that the State Teacher Certification Board recommend to the State Board of Education provisional approval of the Visual Arts program at the University of St. Francis, authorizing the educational unit to conduct programs and to recommend candidates for certification by entitlement until the time of the institution's next scheduled Accreditation Review [Section 25.145 (d) (1)]. Janet Pierce-Ritter seconded the motion. Dennis Williams called for discussion, but none followed. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

##### *Western Illinois University – Technology Specialist*

The following representatives from Western Illinois University were introduced: Dr. Rori Carson, Assistant Dean for Undergraduate and Teacher Education, College of Education and Human

Services; Dr. Hoyet Hemphill, Chair, Instructional Design and Technology Department; and Dr. Leaunda Hemphill, Professor, Instructional Design and Technology Department.

Discussion points included adult learning methods, self-evaluation, demographics of the school districts (infrastructure) – students in diverse settings, and research correlating the use of technology in classrooms with instruction (effect on student achievement).

Richard Ammentorp moved that the State Teacher Certification Board recommend to the State Board of Education provisional approval of the Technology Specialist program at Western Illinois University, authorizing the educational unit to conduct programs and to recommend candidates for certification by entitlement until the time of the institution's next scheduled Accreditation Review [Section 25.145 (d) (1)]. Doug Bower seconded the motion. Dennis Williams called for discussion, but none followed. The motion passed by unanimous vote; one abstention.

National-Louis University Program Proposal –  
Learning Behavior Specialist I (LBS I) – Alternative Certification

Dennis Williams explained that National-Louis University did not request this item be placed on today's agenda. This item was placed on the agenda because the statute and rules information regarding alternative certification had not been provided to Certification Board members prior to the previous meeting. The decision made at the April 3, 2009, Certification Board meeting was not recommending for approval the LBS I – Alternative Certification program. Some members of the Certification Board may have based their decisions on the alternative route to certification as opposed to alternative certification. An opportunity is being given to review the April 3, 2009, recommendation before it moves forward to members of the State Board of Education for action.

Renee Vilatte, Legal Department, was asked to provide additional information. Ms. Vilatte indicated the Certification Board has several choices: (1) decline to reconsider the agenda item; or (2) reconsider agenda item, rescind the previous motion, and make a new recommendation.

Rescind Motion

Based on a review of the statute (105 School Code ILCS 5/21-5b) and Administrative Rules (Section 25.65) governing Illinois alternative programs, Richard Ammentorp moved that the State Teacher Certification Board rescind the motion made at the April 3, 2009, State Teacher Certification Board meeting to recommend to the State Board of Education the results of the vote for approval of the Learning Behavior Specialist I (LBS I) – Alternative Certification program at National-Louis University, that motion having failed to receive a positive vote. Linda Pellegrini seconded the motion. Dennis Williams called for further discussion, but none followed. The motion passed; eleven aye votes; two nay votes; one abstention.

Program Approval

Richard Ammentorp moved that the State Teacher Certification Board recommend to the State Board of Education provisional approval of the Learning Behavior Specialist I (LBS I) – Alternative Certification program at National-Louis University, authorizing the educational unit to conduct programs and to recommend candidates for certification by entitlement until the time of the institution's next scheduled Accreditation Review [Section 25.145 (d) (1)]. Stephen Breese seconded the motion. Dennis Williams called for discussion.

Denise Albrecht asked for clarification that regardless of the vote by the Certification Board members the recommendation will move forward to the State Superintendent of Education for approval because of the statute. Dennis Williams indicated the Certification Board will forward either a recommendation for approval or not; and the State Superintendent may or may not accept that recommendation based on the statute.

The motion failed; seven nay votes; six aye votes; one abstention.

#### Recommendation

On behalf of the State Teacher Certification Board, Richard Ammentorp recommended that Illinois State Board of Education staff review the current Administrative Rules (Section 25.65) governing Illinois alternative programs, and draft new rules for this section. This Board finds that the current Section 25.65 Administrative Rules do not establish adequate requirements for Alternative Certification.

#### Program Report Formats – Tabled March 6, 2009

Richard Ammentorp moved that the State Teacher Certification Board remove from the table “Program Report Formats” which were tabled at the March 6, 2009, meeting of the State Teacher Certification Board. Janet Pierce-Ritter seconded the motion. Dennis Williams called for discussion, but none followed. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Dennis Williams provided an overview of the revised document, “Annual Program Report Content”. The document is a summary of data that will be collected in an Excel spreadsheet or electronic format. Phyliss Jones shared a chart detailing the comparison of the State Institutional Data Report, State Annual Report, NCATE Part C and the New Annual Program Report.

Richard Ammentorp moved that the State Teacher Certification Board accept the Annual Program Report Content as written. Carol Auer seconded the motion. Dennis Williams called for discussion, but none followed. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

#### Proposals for Activities that Meet Requirements for Standard Certificate Eligibility

Richard Ammentorp moved that the State Teacher Certification Board accept the list of “Proposals for Activities that Meet Requirements for Standard Certificate Eligibility” dated April 30, 2009. Janet Pierce-Ritter seconded the motion. Dennis Williams called for discussion, but none followed. The motion passed by unanimous vote. (See Attachment)

#### Renewal of Standard / Master Certificates (Group B List)

Patrick Murphy reported there are no non-renewals on the Group B List at this time.

## **Item(s) for Information:**

### **Renewal of Standard / Master Certificates (Report – Group A List)**

Patrick Murphy reported that there were 255 recommendations for Standard / Master Certificates renewed in Group A for the period of April 1, 2009 through April 29, 2009.

### **Moving from Initial to Standard Certificate**

Patrick Murphy reported that there were 250 recommendations for Initial Certificates moving to Standard Certificates for the period of April 1, 2009 through April 29, 2009.

## **Secretary's Report:**

### **Educator Certification Division**

Linda Jamali reported the following:

#### **General**

- The division remains within a 30 day processing window for 90 percent of all certificates and endorsements.
- There are currently 1,401 certificates/endorsements to be processed.
- Training was offered on April 28 for certification officers. 15 staff from 6 institutions attended this refresher training. More training will follow in the fall.

#### **During the period of April 3, 2009 through May 1, 2009**

- 548 certificates were issued through transcript evaluation. 892 deficiency letters were sent out regarding certificates evaluated through transcript evaluation.
- There were 513 new certificates issued through entitlement. 42 deficiency letters were sent out regarding entitlement certificates.
- In addition, 592 substitute certificates were processed and 449 duplication certificates were printed.
- 330 endorsement applications were processed and issued; deficiency letters were sent out for over 683 additional endorsement applications.
- 405 approvals/disapprovals were sent out.

#### **Educator Testing**

- Currently, there are 349 applications registered for the May testing window.
- There will be a supplemental test date on July 11, 2009, for all multiple choice tests. This test is paper/pencil. State Teacher Certification Board members were encouraged to circulate this information. So far, 257 candidates have registered for tests on this date.

#### **Grow Your Own Teacher Initiative**

- Staff is reviewing continuation proposals from the 16 consortia.

**Educator and School Development Division**

Patrick Murphy reported the following:

Suspensions by the State Superintendent of Education

**Douglas R. Jones** – Substitute Certificate #2262038

**Gerald R. Simonsen** – Standard Secondary Certificate #2036360; Standard Early Childhood Certificate #2036361; Paraprofessional Approval (Note: No hearing requested – Suspension for five years effective March 23, 2009)

Revocations by the State Superintendent of Education

**Scott W. Southerland** – Standard Elementary Certificate #1743190

Patrick Murphy shared the following information regarding the 2008 Educator Audits:

As of May 1, 2009:

Number of **administrators** audited (90) – September 2008

Number of **administrators** unable to document professional development (5) –

Scheduled to receive a Notice of Opportunity for a Hearing letter

Number of **teachers** audited (94) – September 2008

Number of **teachers** unable to document professional development (1) –

Scheduled to receive a Notice of Opportunity for a Hearing letter

The document titled, “FY 09 Educators Employed Per Teacher Service Record (TSR) Data” was disseminated to Certification Board members. Letters were sent May 1, 2009 to Regional Offices of Education.

**Adjournment:**

With no further business, Richard Ammentorp moved that the State Teacher Certification Board meeting adjourn. Deborah Curtis seconded the motion. Dennis Williams called for discussion, but none followed. The motion passed by unanimous vote. The State Teacher Certification Board meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

APPROVED

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Chairman

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Secretary

**ATTACHMENT**

**Proposals for “Induction and Mentoring Programs”  
to Meet Requirements for the Standard Certificate**

**Recommended for Approval by  
State Board of Education Staff**

**May 2009**

**School / County**

Aledo Community Unit School District 201, Mercer County  
DeKalb School District, DeKalb County  
Forrestville Valley School District 221, Ogle County  
West 40 Intermediate Service Center 2, Cook County