

ILERT

Minutes from August 13, 2007 at Regional Office in Normal

Present:

ISBE	Chris Koch
IARSS	Larry Daghe
IAASE	Judy Hackett
IASA	Randy Tinder & Diane Hendren
IPA	Robert Walter
IFT	Ed Geppert
IASBO	Mike Jacoby & Cal Jackson
LEND	Peg Agnos
ICPEA	John Murphy
SCOPE	Jimmy Steyskal
IASB	Cynthia Woods
IEA	Jo Anderson
LUDA	Diane Rutledge
ED-RED	Erika Lindley
IASPA	Atilla Weninger

Treasurer's Report

- All members have paid membership fees with the exception of IASPA and IHSDO.
- Balance of \$15,750
- Up to \$1,000 approved to be spent on website development. (Moved by Weninger - IASPA and seconded by Woods - IASB)

State Legislative Report

- Current budget recommendations are positive for education, but still no long-term solution.
- Budget Implementation Bill (BIMP) is still necessary.
- Illinois Financing Authority is available. Fifty districts have applied to date.
- Federal grants are being affected by our lack of state budget.
- Accountability issues will likely surface in the veto session.
- Any long-term funding solution will likely have accountability measures included.
- New staff members at ISBE.
- It is anticipated that new special education plan for districts will be allowed to be blended into school or district improvement plans.
- ILERT Position to be communicated week of August 20th:
 1. Increase Foundation Level
 2. Increase Special Education Personnel
 3. Fully Fund Categoricals

4. No new mandates until all mandates are funded
 5. Fund those on current Construction List first
 6. Long term, continuing mechanism for funding
 7. We have not taken a position regarding pension. A position could fit under our Guiding Principle regarding “Adequate Education”.
 8. We are not prepared to specifically ask for an income tax increase, but do want to make the point of the need for new revenue sources.
 9. Note will be taken of the positive movement taken thus far.
- (Moved by Tinder - IASA and Seconded by Agnos - LEND)

Federal Legislative Report

- Growth Model is being explored by ISBE. It is a three-year process and part of the reauthorization of NCLB. One third of CCSSO support national standards. Federal assessment is not likely. Federal discussion about Highly Effective Teachers and performance pay based on test scores. Illinois does not yet have a federally approved assessment system. (Koch)
- IEA supports enhanced pay for performance based on local assessments, but not standardized tests. (Anderson)
- IFT supports enhanced pay with the use of multiple assessment indicators.
- Several member organizations have already expressed support for Growth Model over Cohort Model. (LEND, SCOPE, HSDO, IEA, IFT)
- ILERT will communicate support of Growth Model at the state level and with federal legislators.

Next Steps

- ILERT will sponsor a forum on the Growth Model for our board, our memberships, key legislators, and policy makers.
- Weninger, Agnos, Swanstrom, Hackett, and representatives from ISBE will form a sub-committee to plan the forum. They will identify a date in relation to the federal congressional schedule. Agnos volunteered to chair.
- Use our November 5th meeting to find alignment of accountability measures with our guiding principles and that are revenue neutral.
- Officers will plan the meeting along with input from ISBE staff, Charlie Rose, and Ed Schock.
- ***Next meeting will be November 5th in Normal at location to be announced.***

Adjournment

- Hackett – IAASE moved
- Agnos – LEND seconded

Minutes submitted by Diane Rutledge, LUDA.