

**Illinois Education Roundtable
Minutes of August 11, 2008
ROE – Normal, IL**

In Attendance

Cynthia Woods	IASB
Ava Harston	IFT
Chris Slowik	SCOPE
Jim Steyskal	SCOPE
Peg Agnos	LEND & SCOPE
Calvin Jackson	IASBO
Judy Hackett	IAASE
Erika Lindley	ED-RED
Jen Sophie	IASPA
Diane Hendren	IASA
Dan Joyce	VOICE
Susie Morrison	ISBE
Jeff Endres	IASBO
Mike Jacoby	IASBO
Mark Jontry	ROE
Paul Swanstrom	HSDO
Julianne Fuchs	NSPRA
Diane Rutledge	LUDA

Opening

Mike Jacoby, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

There were no new member requests.

Members are encouraged to check their contact information and to provide contact information for any new representatives for their organization.

Officer Reports

Secretary: Minutes approved by a motion & second by Judy Hackett and Dan Joyce.

Treasurer: Balance of \$21,054.19 approved by motion and second by Jeff Endres and Cynthia Woods

Legislative Update

Erika Lindley, Diane Hendren, Cal Jackson, Peg Agnos, Mike Jacoby, & Diane Rutledge

Discussion topics included:

- Sen. Meeks first day of school protest
- Highlights of SB2288 and the thought that it would be called in January, not November
- Potential sales and service taxes
- Potential special sessions
- Potential sunset of property tax relief
- Governor re-writes
- ILERT positions re-affirmed: Foundation, Categoricals, Special Ed, Capital

- The need to have community/family conversation, not just education
- Inequity issues are throughout the state and are economic, not racial
- Potential letter regarding Meeks action was discussed
- IL ranks 49th in nation with approximately 30% state support for education
- Encouraged to support SB2293 which will raise the bid limit to \$25,000

Legislative Forum

- Cocktails and Dialogue around Data
- Seek foundation funding in addition to Roundtable
- Contacts to be made with Advance IL, Education Caucus, Elliot Regenstein, and Jonathon Furr, among others
- Officers, Susie, and Erika will meet in September for planning

ILERT @ Joint Conference

- IASB, Officers, ED-RED, SCOPE, IFT will present who we are and our guiding principles on November 21 from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.

Accountability Proposals

- Language has been agreed upon around non-tenure teacher evaluation
- Mayors and Managers are now opposed to SB2288 except one. Mike and Jo will make contact.

Federal Legislative

- Susie shared the Differentiated Accountability status with the following highlights: Choice and SES are reversed, relief from some notification criteria, low performing schools will have a planning year, new strata =
- Focused – Not meeting in one subgroup
- Comprehensive – Not meeting as a whole school
- Assessment system needs federal approval
- Communication coming from ISBE
- Senator Durbin has hired staff to focus on education
- Changes are not expected until at least 2010

ISBE Update

- Adopted the American Diploma Project
- There will be alignment institute teams made up from high school and higher ed. “Fewer, Clearer, Higher” will be the motto. The effort will begin in October and take 18 months followed by the elementary effort.
- As standards changed, assessment will change. There will be opportunity for stakeholder input. Support from CCSSO
- The Special Ed Cost Study – HB1030 was a comparison between revenue and expenses. \$3.2 billion being spent with a \$900 million shortfall. IAASE has developed a position paper for revising special education funding.

New Business

- New Teacher Project – Cynthia, Jo, and Ava
- Mike has concluded a study regarding property tax and per pupil expenditures. Property tax is concluded to be the most stable. Special Ed mandates are causing our shortfalls.

- ILERT Objectives and Priorities for 2009 were agreed upon:
 1. Statement on Equity and Adequacy
 2. Legislative Forum
 3. EFAB, Special Ed, Categoricals, and Construction
 4. RtI, Assessment, Pre-K, ISBE staffing
 5. Comprehensive support for schools in restructuring
 6. Support for preparation programs for teachers and leaders
(We should review policy statements in October)

Next meeting will be October 20th at 10:00 a.m. at ROE in Normal.