

## **Protocol of School Leader Task Force**

### Role and Purpose

The purpose of the Task Force is to prepare for the General Assembly, the Office of the Governor, the State Board of Education, and the Board of Higher Education a report that details an action plan for strategically improving school leadership preparation in Illinois, based on, but not limited to, the measures detailed in “Commission on School Leader Preparation: Blueprint for Change.”

### Outcomes

An action plan for strategic steps for improvements in school leadership preparation, based on, but not limited to, the measures detailed in “Blueprint for Change” in a final report. The task force report is due on or before February 1, 2008 to the General Assembly, the Office of the Governor, the State Board of Education, and the Board of Higher Education.

### Structure

- The Task Force will be led by chair, Dr. Steve Tozer (University of Illinois at Chicago), with staff assistance from IBHE (Dr. Michele Seelbach), ISBE (Mr. Dennis Williams), and the Illinois State University Center for Education Policy (Dr. Erika Hunt and Ms. Lisa Hood).
- IBHE and ISBE staff will provide direction for the work, review and approve all materials and communications, and assist with analyses and edits. ISU Center staff will make arrangements for all meetings, provide technical and clerical support for mailings and copying, when necessary. All agencies will be responsible for the drafting of the final report.
- The Task Force will convene from October 2007 to January 2008 to:
  - Examine related reports and review alternative program models and trends,
  - Hear various presenters on issues in school leader preparation,
  - Discuss preliminary action plans and final report format,
  - Submit final report to the General Assembly, Governor’s Office, IBHE, and ISBE in February 2008.

### Membership

The composition of the Task Force reflects shared accountability for helping Illinois meet its goal of assuring that all Illinois schools have leadership that improves teaching and learning and increases the academic achievement and development of all students. The composition includes a cross-section of leaders from the Illinois Board of Higher Education, Illinois State Board of Education, K-12 school districts, public and private colleges and universities, civic organizations and special interest groups.

### Responsibilities of Members

Distinct responsibilities come with being a member of the School Leader Task Force. Members of this Task Force accept the responsibility to act in the best interests of preparing highly effective school administrators for our Illinois schools. While individual commitments, initiatives and activities of separate associations and institutions are an essential part of our total educational

environment, representative participation of these constituencies in the Task Force will ensure that the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. Task Force members are asked to:

- Think broadly and objectively. Enter the work of the Task Force without preformed opinions, and objectively review, analyze and discuss school leadership issues from a comprehensive perspective.
- Place goals of the Task Force before individual goals. Put the goals of improving school leader training programs, and preparing administrators with the skills and behaviors to move student achievement before personal/institutional/agency agendas.
- Continuously consider our common goal. What is in the best interest of the students, schools, teachers and communities that we serve? How can we assure that school leaders that come out of all preparation programs in the state are equipped with the skills and behaviors to lead student achievement gains for all students?

#### Initial Resources

- *Blueprint for Change* by Commission on School Leader Preparation
  - *Balanced Leadership* by McREL
  - *How leadership influences student learning* by Leithwood, et. al.
  - *Public Act 94-1039*
  - *Draft legislation for reauthorization of NCLB*
- Other resources may be added as the Task Force work unfolds.*