

**APPROVE ENTERING INTO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RELATING TO THE EXCHANGE VISITOR PROGRAM WITH MEXICO**

**THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:**

Approve entering into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Illinois State Board of Education ("ISBE") to participate in the U.S. Department of State Exchange Visitor Program which brings teachers from Mexico to work in Illinois public schools due to the shortage of bilingual teachers in the State of Illinois. A written agreement is currently being negotiated. The authority granted herein shall automatically rescind in the event a written agreement is not executed within 120 days of the date of this Board Report. Information pertinent to this agreement is stated below.

**AGENCY:** Illinois State Board of Education  
Division of English Language Learning  
100 W. Randolph Street, Suite 14-300  
Chicago, IL 60601  
Contact: Robin Lisboa  
(312) 814-3850

**USER:** Office of Language & Cultural Education  
125 S. Clark Street, Floor  
Chicago, IL 60603  
Contact: Diane Zendejas  
(773) 553-1934

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:** ISBE entered into an agreement with the Secretariat of Public Education of Mexico to improve and expand the teaching of Spanish language and culture in Illinois. Pursuant to that agreement, the U.S. Department of State Exchange Visitor Program ("EVP") was established to bring teachers from Mexico to work in Illinois public schools. The Board would like to the right to participate in the EVP, if the Board so chooses, and to employ teachers from Mexico to teach bilingual education or Spanish as a Second Language in the Chicago Public Schools.

**TERM:** The term of this agreement shall commence on the date the agreement is signed and shall end June 30, 2009. This agreement shall have 2 options to renew for periods of one year each.

**EARLY TERMINATION RIGHTS:** This agreement may be terminated for any reason whatsoever by either party with thirty (30) days prior written notice.

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARTIES:** ISBE shall pre-select candidates by verifying certification of exchange teachers, administering ISBE-approved exams to determine who is eligible for recruitment, issue the Visiting International Teacher Certificate (valid for up to 3 years) qualification to teach in Illinois, issue the Form DS-2019 (utilized by teachers to obtain a J-1 nonimmigrant visa) to selected candidates recruited for Illinois school district. The Board shall recruit pre-selected candidates that meet CPS requirements for Transitional Bilingual Education (TBE) and Spanish World Language Programs for Elementary and High Schools. Qualified exchange teachers will teach same subjects/grade level as those in home country. The Board shall provide an orientation upon arrival and professional development during the academic year.

**CONTRIBUTION:** ISBE shall not receive any compensation from the Board. In the event teachers from Mexico are hired by the Board, the Board shall be responsible for the salaries, benefits and professional development training for teachers in the Program.

**AUTHORIZATION:** Authorize the General Counsel to include relevant terms and conditions, including any indemnities to be provided to ISBE, in the written agreement. Authorize the President and Secretary to execute the agreement. Authorize the Chief Human Resource Officer to execute all ancillary documents required to administer or effectuate this agreement.

**AFFIRMATIVE ACTION:** Exempt

**LSC REVIEW:** Local School Council approval is not applicable to this report.

**FINANCIAL:** ISBE shall not receive any compensation from the Board. If the Board chooses to hire such teachers from Mexico, the Board shall be responsible for the salaries, benefits and professional development training for the teachers in the Program.

**GENERAL CONDITIONS:**

Inspector General – Each party to the agreement shall acknowledge that, in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/34-13.1, the Inspector General of the Chicago Board of Education has the authority to conduct certain investigations and that the Inspector General shall have access to all information and personnel necessary to conduct those investigations.

Conflicts – The agreement shall not be legally binding on the Board if entered into in violation of the provisions of 105 ILCS 5/34-21.3 which restricts the employment of, or the letting of contracts to, former Board members during the one year period following expiration or other termination of their terms of office.

Indebtedness – The Board’s Indebtedness Policy adopted June 26, 1996 (96-0626-PO3), as amended from time to time, shall be incorporated into and made a part of the agreement.

Ethics – The Board’s Ethics Code adopted June 23, 2004 (04-0623-PO4), as amended from time to time, shall be incorporated into and made a part of the agreement.

Contingent Liability – The agreement shall contain the clause that any expenditure beyond the current fiscal year is deemed a contingent liability, subject to appropriation in the subsequent fiscal year budget(s).

Approved for Consideration:

*Barbara Eason-Watkins* <sup>OLW</sup>

**Barbara Eason-Watkins**  
Chief Education Officer

Approved:

*Ron Huberman*

**Ron Huberman**  
Chief Executive Officer

Within Appropriation:

*Pedro Martinez*

**Pedro Martinez**  
Chief Financial Officer

Approved as to legal form: *PK*

*Patrick J. Rocks*

**Patrick J. Rocks**  
General Counsel