House Joint Resolution 24
Special Education Funding Task Force Meeting
March 17, 2009
9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
ISBE VTEL Rooms

Objective: To study current special education funding needs and to make recommendations as to how the State can increase special education funding and ease the financial burden on school districts.

Draft Agenda

I. Clarification of objectives – deriving working definitions of
   a. Recommendations as to how to increase SE funding
   b. How to increase the financial burden on school districts

II. Illinois SE program goals for discussion
   a. Promoting comparable services for students with comparable needs across the state
   b. Attempting to foster high level measurable student outcomes for students in special education programs
   c. Serving students in the Least Restrictive Environment
   d. Promoting pre-referral services to serve students outside special education when appropriate
   e. An example of program goals from Alberta Province

III. Current Formula for Special Education
   a. What is working well
   b. What needs to be changed, if anything
   c. What degree of change is required?
IV. Considering possible change – possible attributes of a modified funding system
   a. Consolidate the varying categories,
   b. Provide maximum flexibility at the local level coupled with accountability
   c. Separate provisions for high cost students.

V. Other issues that need to be discussed
   a. History of why IDEA Allocations changed from child count of 85/15 split

VI. Wrap Up/ Next Steps
   a. Agenda Planning
   b. April 23, 2009, 1:30p.m. - 3:00p.m.

(An audio recording of this meeting will be maintained by ISBE.)