House Joint Resolution 24
Special Education Funding Task Force Meeting
April 23, 2009
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.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.

I. Share analyses to date from Illinois and examples of data analyses conducted in California. Discuss extent to which similar analyses or Illinois would be useful/informative to the work of the task force.

II. Illinois special education program goals for discussion. (Goal: Leave meeting with a draft list from the task force – see examples below.)
   a. Promoting comparable services for students with comparable needs across the state.
   b. Fostering high-level, measurable outcomes for students in special education.
   c. Serving students in the Least Restrictive Environment.
   d. Promoting pre-referral services to serve students outside special education when appropriate.

III. Current formula for special education (Goal: Leave meeting with a draft list of responses from the task force re the questions below.)
   a. What is working well?
   b. What needs to be changed, if anything?
   c. What degree of change is required?

IV. Considering possible change –attributes of a modified funding system (Goal: Leave meeting with a draft list from the task force – see examples below.)
   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
   b. Do states with more and smaller districts place more students in special education?

VI. Wrap Up/Next Steps
   a. Agenda planning – suggested items for next meeting
   b. Date: May 11, 2009, 1:00p.m. – 4:00p.m.

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