

IMTE Annual Business Meeting 2024

Minutes

Meeting Date: November 16, 2024, 10:00 a.m. on Zoom

Attendees: Astrida Cirulis, Mary Goetting (Concordia), Cathy Kaduk (North Central College), Catherine Moushon (Elgin Community College), Todd Oberg (Illinois College), Adam Poetzal (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign), Kelly Remigan (ROE 40), Scott Zinzer (College of DuPage)

I. Welcome and Introductions

The president, Scott Zinzer, welcomed the group, noting that everyone at today's meeting knew each other

II. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved by Astrida Cirulis and seconded by Kelly Remigan.

III. Approval of Minutes: 2023 Annual Meeting (October 7, 2023)

Todd Oberg made the motion to approve the 2023 Annual Business meeting minutes, and they were approved.

Minutes are available at <https://mste.illinois.edu/imte/default.php>

IV. Reports and Discussion

A. Treasurer's Report

As of November 11, 2024, the checking account balance was \$3,301.59 and the savings account balance was \$20. The report included paying dues to AMTE as an affiliate. After a review of the Treasurer's Report, Cathy Kaduk moved to approve the report, Astrida Cirulis seconded, and it was approved.

B. Membership Report

There are 26 paid members with 19 members in arrears and another 10 retired members at the time of the meeting. The Treasurer will continue to register new members and handle membership as part of the Treasurer duties. A renewal notice is sent to members close to the time of renewal. The membership form is available at: https://mste.illinois.edu/imte/IMTE_Application.php Discussion regarding the Membership Report included how to find the membership form on the IMTE website, and continued discussion about having an electronic payment option for dues. Presently membership dues can only be paid by check or cash. Barbara has pursued ways to pay by credit card, but none of the ways meet IMTE needs. After review, the motion to approve the Membership report was made by Astrida Cirulis, Mary Goetting seconded it, and the motion was approved.

V. IMTE Board and Elections

A. [Recognizing Current Officers \(2023 – 2024\)](#)

President	Scott Zinzer	(College of DuPage)
Past President	Todd Oberg	(Illinois College)
Treasurer	Barbara O'Donnell	(SIU Edwardsville)
Secretary	Cathy Kaduk	(North Central College)
2-Year College	Catherine Moushon	(Elgin Community College)
4-Year College	Mary Goetting	(Concordia University Chicago)
4-Year College	Mary McMahon	(North Central College)
PD Specialist		
ISBE/Govt.	Denice Love	(Millikan University)
K-12 Representative	Kelly Wamser Remijan	(IMSA)

B. [Nominations and Election of Officers for 2024 – 2025](#)

The open positions are President-Elect (1 year term, 2 years as President, 1 year as Past President), Treasurer, 4-Year College/University Representative (2 year term), 2-year College/University (2 year term), ISBE/Government Representative (2 year term). and K-12 Representative (fill 1 year vacancy).

1. The nominees for these positions were approved by unanimous voice vote:
President-Elect Todd Oberg
4-Year College Astrida Cirulis
2-Year College Catherine Moushon (1 year)
PD Specialist Kelly Remijan
ISBE/Govt. Adam Poetzal
2. K-12 Representative. During the discussion about the K-12 Representative, Jackie Murawska was nominated for the position during the meeting to fill the one-year vacancy. Because no one had contacted her about being the K-12 Representative, Scott agreed to contact her about the nomination. The group agreed that if Jackie accepted the nomination, she would be elected to the position. [Jackie Murawska did agree to be the K-12 Representative.]
3. Treasurer. Barb O'Donnell has maintained the treasurer's position for many years. She does not want to continue in her role as treasurer, creating the need to nominate a new treasurer. There were no nominations for a new treasurer at the time of the meeting. The IMTE financial account is at a local institution in Edwardsville. In the discussion for the position, the desire to have participation from the Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE) in IMTE and the location of the financial institution led to a suggestion that Barb talk to colleagues about joining the organization and learning the treasurer's role in part to keep representation from SIUE and so the funds do not have to move to a new institution. Catherine Moushon noted there are steps to follow when transferring funds and reminded the group to learn what steps are needed prior to making any monetary transfers. Scott will check with Barbara about colleagues in the area who might be interested in being Treasurer and ask if she would be willing to be Treasurer for another year so the new person can shadow her to learn the treasurer's role. If a future treasurer is not from the Edwardsville area, the financial resources will need to be relocated. [Barbara agreed to continue as Treasurer for one more year. She will ask colleagues in the area about being Treasurer, so that they might be nominated for the position.]
4. Catherine Moushon also asked to have a one-year term. She asked all to inquire with colleagues about taking on this position a year from now.

VI. Updates from Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) from Todd Oberg

A. [Summary of bills of interest to higher education signed into law.](#)

1. The following three items replace language that mandated ISBE to create content area tests for any K-8 teacher with additional specialty content area tests for math, music, or science endorsements.
 - a. ISBE will be allowed to score content area test sections independently. [ISBE is still discussing internally what this might look like and exploring options with the testing vendor.]
 - b. Starting September 1, 2025, candidates will be required to pass teacher performance assessments. [This could be the edTPA, which is currently specified in Rules, or an alternative assessment. The determination will be made after the Teacher Performance Assessment task force submits its recommendations to ISBE and the General Assembly on October 31, 2024 (or sooner).]
 - c. The provision requiring candidates to pass the content area test prior to student teaching has been removed. [They still need to pass the content area test to be licensed. This provision is effective immediately upon becoming law, which occurred in August 2024.]This item elicited discussion about how people are encouraging students to pass the Content Area Test as soon as possible. At least one college includes content test preparation in their assessment course. Some

higher education institutions require students to sign a written acknowledgement form noting that although the student can begin student teaching, the student will not receive the licensure go-ahead until the Content Test is passed.

2. Public universities will be required to waive admissions application fees for community college transferring students. Public universities and community colleges are required to pay or reimburse refugees for transcript analysis fees.

3. Travel, lodging, and meals are now exempt from gift bans for guidance counselors by higher education institutions. This is related to the guidance counselors' expenses to visit higher education institutions on business.

B. Bills of Note that were not Passed during the Legislative Session

Requirement that a common course numbering system be developed for the state.

Creation of a direct admission program for public universities for eligible Illinois students.

Creation of a student teaching stipend program for students teaching in public schools only, allowing students to receive \$10,000 per semester and cooperating teachers to receive \$2,000. The total fiscal impact is estimated at \$68 million. The bill is dependent upon receiving funding in the budget. IMTE members' discussion included acknowledgment that students who can't work because they are student teaching have hardships. Also, the college/university could consider not asking students in student teaching to pay the student fees, as the student teachers are mainly off-campus.

Requirement that a Dual Credit Instructor Endorsement Framework be created did not pass.

Provision to allow community colleges to offer programs for educator preparation bachelor's degrees to students who already have a bachelor's degree did not pass.

C. Summary of education funding in the new state budget

K-12 education spending is to increase by \$350 million. Another \$200 million is allocated for Smart Start Illinois (universal preschool).

There is \$14 million designated to create the new Department of Early Childhood agency. [This Department was created on July 1, 2024, when the Governor signed the bill creating it into law.]

There is \$500 million designated to boost quantum computing by building a quantum campus with the University of Illinois and University of Chicago, a cryogenic facility for computers, and infrastructure for the technology hub.

Three million dollars are allocated to ISBE to implement the recently adopted Illinois Comprehensive Literacy Plan.

Public higher education institutions will receive a \$30 million increase in operations.

Also, \$711 million is allocated for Monetary Award Program grants, an increase of \$10 million (146,000 students)

D. Comprehensive Literacy Plan

The State of Illinois posted the Comprehensive Literacy Plan (<https://www.isbe.net/literacyplan>). The site includes the plan and access to training for implementing the plan. The Plan is pertinent to mathematics educators as

there is a focus on academic language and how to read in content areas such as mathematics. The Center 4 Success led by Jan Fitzsimmons has a Literacy Task Force studying aspects of the plan.

E. [Illinois State Test Scores for Math not rising as fast as Literacy Scores](#)

Students' test scores for state mathematics assessments are not rising as fast as the language arts scores, which is a concern for Illinois Superintendent of Education Tony Sanders.

F. [Culturally Responsive Teaching and Learning Documents](#)

Documents from higher education institutions for culturally responsive teaching and learning are due June 30, 2025. IMTE members shared some examples of local initiatives. These include a new related assessment in the mathematics methods class, using a survey to get information to build relationships, activities to make people aware of their own biases, changing the essay for admissions to the teacher education program to use a more culturally responsive lens.

VII. Additional Discussion

A. Honoring Edna Bazik

The group reiterated that having a scholarship for pre-service teachers who want to attend the ICTM conference is of interest. The Jerry Becker ICTM scholarship can be considered as a model for such scholarships. The ICTM website can be considered as a way to get donations that are not cash or a check. This possibility will be explored by the committee. More details about how to elicit donations, develop a process to promote the scholarship or determine a recipient were not developed. There is a request for people interested in these efforts to contact Cathy Kaduk or Scott Zinzer.

B. Honoring Mary McMahon

Scott Zinzer, as president, informed the IMTE community about Mary McMahon's passing in November 2024, noting "she was an active member and leader of IMTE, serving on the IMTE Board of Directors and as President just a few years ago. Mary had been a member of the Mathematics Department at North Central College since 1986. She was a tireless leader and advocate for mathematics education, and was admired and respected by students, colleagues, and teachers."

In the IMTE meeting discussion, some shared how Mary mentored and supported many teachers and teacher-candidates. Honoring Mary by developing a mentorship award for teachers who are mentors to acknowledge their contributions was well-received. Adam suggested, "Mary McMahon Mentoring Award" to honor her many years of mentoring teachers and faculty. Further discussion on what might the criteria is scheduled for the next meeting. Cathy offered to follow up with the idea of soliciting ideas from Mary's former students. A motion to send a flower/plan arrangement for Mary's funeral for up to \$250 was approved. Cathy Kaduk agreed to purchase the arrangement and deliver it to the funeral home.

C. Teacher Shortage

Scott will follow-up with the materials to submit to ICTM to post on the website that are designed to help mitigate teacher shortages, especially math teacher shortages, submitted to ICTM.

VIII. Announcements

Another meeting will be scheduled for January to plan future events, with the goal of meeting quarterly. Job descriptions for board members may be updated this year.