Message from State Superintendent Randy J. Dunn

Good afternoon.

I want to spend some additional time this week updating you on various items relating to Hurricane Katrina and our continued response here in Illinois.

Given that this project has taken on a life of its own, and there has been a growing need for coordination at ISBE because of this, I have asked Darren Reisberg to serve as our ISBE “intake” person or point-of-contact on all matters relating to Katrina. He can be contacted at dreisber@isbe.net or in the Chicago office at 312-814-2223. Darren serves as Deputy General Counsel for us, and he is a good resource as many of the questions now coming in have a legal basis to them. In addition, Darren has been working on our programmatic response as well and knows our efforts in that regard to date; if Darren can’t provide an answer to your questions, he will figure out who in the Agency can. Specific program questions for Rich Dehart, our State Homeless Coordinator, can still be directed to him at rdehart@isbe.net or 217-782-2948. Rich will coordinate with Darren accordingly.

Education Secretary Margaret Spellings sent a letter to the states last Wednesday on potential federal assistance which was posted to ISBE’s Katrina webpage and can be accessed at [http://www.ed.gov/news/hurricane/index.html](http://www.ed.gov/news/hurricane/index.html). We will continue to follow these developments with the United States Department of Education.

As Louisiana had earlier forwarded guidance on accessing records for their children enrolling in other states’ schools, the State of Mississippi has also sent information on the acquisition of records to aid in the enrollment of students displaced by Katrina. Again, that was posted to our site upon receipt, and can be accessed at [http://www.isbe.net/katrina/mississippi_letter.pdf](http://www.isbe.net/katrina/mississippi_letter.pdf) with the Mississippi Student Information Request Form at [http://www.isbe.net/katrina/ms_student_info_request_form.xls](http://www.isbe.net/katrina/ms_student_info_request_form.xls).

The State Board of Education will meet in a special conference call meeting at 2 p.m. tomorrow to consider a rule to allow the issuance of an emergency temporary substitute teaching permit for individuals displaced by Katrina. If the Board approves this emergency rule, we will outline the details on that in a separate communication.

You will note elsewhere in this Weekly information from our Division of Data Analysis and Progress Reporting on reporting Katrina student enrollments on IWAS. It would be helpful to share that information with your Regional Office of Education/Intermediate Service Center as well.

On September 6, the Illinois High School Association set out its transfer policy for victims of Katrina who enroll at Illinois high schools and that information can be viewed at [http://www.ihsa.org/announce/050906.htm](http://www.ihsa.org/announce/050906.htm).

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For those schools that may be putting together the supply kits as referenced in last week’s message, the Council of Chief State School Officers is to be getting information to us soon on how and where those items can be shipped. As soon as we know that, it will be passed on to all of you.

As a last item for this week, those in attendance at the Superintendents’ Conference recall my mentioning that Carol McCue, who works for ISBE in the Division of Federal Grants and Programs, had family members in Louisiana that she had not yet heard from. We were all heartened to hear of good news on that front as Carol was able to make contact with her family—and she was able to go down and assist with recovery efforts on their behalf.

We continue to monitor the status in individual districts as we know students arrive; at present, we’re looking at 414 students across 46 districts. As always, we’ll do our best to share more information as it becomes available.

Have a great week.

Randy Dunn

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**Federal Requirements**

**U.S. Department of Education sets requirement for Constitution Day and Citizenship Day**

The United States Department of Education has announced that educational institutions receiving Federal funding are statutorily required to hold an educational program about the United States Constitution on September 17 of each year, which is now designated nationally as Constitution Day and Citizenship Day.

**Constitution Day** commemorates the September 17, 1787 signing of the United States Constitution. However, when September 17 falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, Constitution Day education activities should be held during the preceding or the following week.

Some informational resources pertaining to the Constitution are:
- [http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/bdsds/bbsdhome.html](http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/bdsds/bbsdhome.html)

In addition to the links above, the web site [http://www.constitutionday.com](http://www.constitutionday.com) invites schools to join in a nationwide recitation of the Preamble to the Constitution this Friday, September 16.

For more information contact Alex Stein, U.S. Department of Education, by phone at 202-205-9085 or by email at constitutionday@ed.gov.

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**Early Childhood**

**Kindergarten day**

Citing the importance of kindergarten attendance as a vital part of the education continuum, Governor Blagojevich has proclaimed the second Tuesday in September as Kindergarten Day. School districts are encouraged to sponsor special kindergarten events that highlight the gains in math, reading and social skills that children achieve in Kindergarten.

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**Curriculum and Instruction**

**Math and science partnerships**

Once again, ISBE is coordinating opportunities for K-12 teachers of mathematics and science to expand their own content expertise in mathematics, sciences and engineering the NCLB Title II, Part B program. The new Request for Proposals (RFP) is available at [http://www.isbe.net/curriculum/math_science/rfp.htm](http://www.isbe.net/curriculum/math_science/rfp.htm)

To identify the needs of Illinois K-12 teachers of mathematics and science more effectively, ISBE asks that you suggest the completion (approximately 10 minutes) of our on-line survey [http://www.isbe.net/curriculum/Default.htm](http://www.isbe.net/curriculum/Default.htm). ISBE strongly encourages the completion of this survey by career and technical education faculty members, as we move toward better opportunities for all students and teachers. The insight into the professional development needs of our teachers will be most helpful in the designs of the Illinois Mathematics and Science Partnerships that will be funded in
Illinois, as well as assisting you in making the choices for district opportunities. You will also be able to access the tallies identified needs by concept, grade, discipline and county (since they are submitted anonymously). A special section (an additional ten minutes) will be randomly added for some middle and high school respondents, which further probes their current knowledge and classroom applications associated with critical technologies and their connections in the sciences and mathematics of the 21st century.

FY 2005 final project report

The final report for FY 2003 – FY 2005 Title IID formula grants is now available at http://www.isbe.net/curriculum/elearning/html/nclb_titleIID_tech.htm. The report should be completed and returned to ISBE (the address is listed on page 11 of the report) by September 30, 2005. If you have any questions, please contact Jamey Baiter at 217/557-7323 or jbaiter@isbe.net.

FY 2006 Title IID allocations are now available

The final FY 2006 Title IID allocations for all eligible local education agencies (LEAs) are complete and can be found on the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Consolidated Grant Application allotment page (part of the IWAS system.).

Title IID grants should be applied for as an amendment to the NCLB Consolidated Grant Application. Title IID recipients are required to submit the most current copy of their district’s technology plan, the technology plan peer review comments and feedback form, acceptable use policy and document of board approval of the district’s acceptable use policy. Title IID budgets can not be approved until these documents are received.

Please submit these documents to:
Curriculum and Instruction Division
Jamey Baiter (C-215)
Illinois State Board of Education
100 North First Street
Springfield, IL 62777-0001

If you have any questions about the Title IID formula grant, please contact Jamey Baiter at 217/557-7323 or jbaiter@isbe.net.

Kudos

In last week’s kudos Edward Bates was recognized as recipient of the Crystal Star Award of Excellence in Dropout Recovery, Intervention and Prevention. It was noted The Honorable Rosella Wamser was a past recipient of the award. Other past recipients from Illinois include Cynthia Fischer, Marie Cardosi and Pat Dal Santo.

Nutrition

Hurricane Katrina and eligibility in the nutrition programs

The United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) recently issued a policy for the feeding of school children who have relocated from areas devastated by Hurricane Katrina. The USDA will continually monitor the situation and provide updates as appropriate and as necessary, ISBE will pass those updates on to the sponsors of our programs.

The policy states that in cases where a household from a designated disaster area moves in with another household, the displaced individuals may be considered homeless and consequently automatically eligible for free meals. Please work with your homeless education liaison to obtain the necessary documentation. Such documentation is in lieu of a household eligibility application and should include the list of the impacted child(ren)'s name(s), signature of the homeless education liaison for the district and date. This is the only documentation needed to provide free meal benefits to the homeless children. However, the host family would have to provide a revised application to increase household benefits for the host family members. The revised application can include those displaced by the disaster as household members as long as any income provided to the host family is also included on the application in order to be eligible for free or reduced price meal benefits. If there are any questions concerning this policy, please contact the Nutrition Programs Division at 800-545-7892 or 217-782-2491.
Professional Development

Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum announces fall teacher workshops

The Education Department of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum (ALPLM) announces its fall lineup of free workshops for educators. Under its Teaching Teachers initiative, the ALPLM is committed to providing educators with strong content-based programs on a variety of topics relevant to the legacy of Abraham Lincoln and Illinois history. These intense history lessons will provide teaching methods to generate interest and excitement for history lessons in the classroom. In addition, the ALPLM Education Department’s hands-on classroom application programs will provide ideas and methods for teaching historical content across the curriculum using digital resources, primary documents and material culture.

Educators are invited to attend a Teacher Orientation Workshop on Saturday, September 17, from 9 to 11 a.m. This two-hour workshop will introduce educational resources available at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. Teachers will learn how to schedule school tours, prepare their students for museum visits, access digital resources from the library collections and utilize the library for research for professional development and classroom activities.

On Wednesday, October 12, from 3 to 5 p.m. the ALPLM will offer a workshop on the Lincoln family in the White House. This Damned Old House—Abraham Lincoln in the White House will cover the adjustments the Lincolns had to make in moving from Illinois to the White House and the impact of Washington’s social scene on the family. The workshop examines President Lincoln’s daily routine from the burdens of the Civil War to dealing with office seekers, his lack of privacy and the responsibilities of the presidency.

On Tuesday, November 8, from 1 to 3 p.m. and, Wednesday, November 9, from 6 to 8 p.m., the ALPLM Education Department will offer Political Cartoons in the Classroom. This two-hour workshop will show educators how to incorporate political cartoons in their curricula.

All workshops are free and will be held in the first floor classroom of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library at 112 North Sixth Street in Springfield. Two continuing professional development units (CPDUs) will be offered for each workshop.

To register, contact ALPLM Education Coordinator Carol Manning by phone at 217-558-8929 or via email at Carol_Manning@IHPA.state.il.us. For additional information visit the museum website at www.alplm.org.

NAMI Illinois Conference

The Illinois Chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI Illinois) will hold its annual conference October 14 through 16 in Springfield. This year’s conference, Hope in a Changing World, offers continuing education unit credits (CEUs) for social workers. NAMI Illinois is a non-profit, self-help organization with a goal to improve the quality of life for persons with mental illness and their families. The conference agenda is available at: http://il.nami.org/Conference%20Agenda.doc.

As a statewide organization, NAMI Illinois encompasses 34 affiliates located throughout Illinois. Each affiliate is comprised of family members, friends, professionals and individuals who are recovering from mental illness. NAMI Illinois is affiliated with NAMI National.

Data Analysis

Count of students Displaced by Hurricane Katrina enrolling in Illinois schools

We have had several inquiries from USDE and others on the number of students who have been displaced by Hurricane Katrina and are enrolling in Illinois Schools. As a result, ISBE will be collecting enrollment data on these students from each public school district and each nonpublic school via IWAS. A broadcast message will be disseminated once the data collection is available online. Since there is a potential for these data to be used for such purposes as supplemental funds/resources we are requesting that you provide the actual count of students. Please do not provide estimates. If you have questions about the data collection effort contact Dr. Connie Wise, Data Analysis and Progress Reporting at 217-782-3950.
Update: Fall Data Collections

Teacher Salary Study
Open: September 16
Due Date: October 17

This form must be submitted by all districts (including special education cooperatives and area vocational centers) that hire teachers for the current school year. If you do not have a contract for the current school year at this time (still in negotiations), click on the "No Contract" button and log off. You will have another opportunity to submit your data in January, 2006. The law also requires that you provide a copy of your district’s salary schedule and negotiation agreement. Please send them to: Illinois State Board of Education, Data Analysis and Progress Reporting, 100 North First Street, S-284, Springfield, Illinois 62777.

Reduction in Force Survey (86-28)
Mail Out: September 15
Due Date: October 31

The Reduction in Force Survey for 2005 will be mailed out in September to all public school districts. The survey is to collect the 2005 spring dismissal and 2005 fall rehiring data on certified staff. The district level Reduction in Force Survey should be completed and returned to ISBE in the fall of 2005. Please contact ISBE Data Analysis & Progress Reporting Division at 217-782-3950 if you have questions on the Reduction in Force Survey.

Fall Housing/Enrollment Report (87-03)
Opens: September 30
Due Date: October 31

The 2004-05 Fall Housing/Enrollment Report (87-03) will be available via IWAS on September 30 at http://isbes1.isbe.net/iwas and must be received by ISBE by October 31, 2005. All public schools, including special education, regional and the department of corrections are to report students housed as of September 30 by gender, ethnicity and grade level.

District administrators should approve new users prior to this date and, like last year, have the option of entering data for some, or all, of their schools. A printable version of the data collection form will be available on the ISBE website the last week in September. As there are no substantial changes to the form this year, the 2004-05 form can be used until the new form is posted.

New this year:
ROE programs are to report multiple program sites under one RCDTS number. Regional Alternative Schools should be reported under school number 9201, Regional Safe Schools under 9301 and where applicable, Regional ALOP programs under 9501. Include students displaced by Hurricane Katrina in your fall housing counts if they are housed in your facilities on September 30.

Unfilled Positions Survey (87-07)
Opens: October 1
Due Date: November 15

The Unfilled Positions Survey (87-07), which has been on IWAS the past four years, will be available October 1 and is to be submitted to ISBE by November 15. As in years past, Districts are to report the number of budgeted positions they were unable to fill as of October 1, 2005. To avoid duplicating unfilled positions reported by public districts, Special Education and Vocational Centers should only report unfilled special education cooperative employee positions or vocational center employee positions.

Non-Public Registration (87-01)
Open: October 1
Due Date: October 31

Non Public Registration Packets will be mailed the week of September 26, 2005. Please note that enrollment is based on the number of students in your schools on the last day of September (30th). This includes those students that are have been displaced by Hurricane Katrina.

Please read the directions carefully and follow the instructions as indicated. If you fail to complete the form as indicated or if the form is not legible it will be sent back to your for clarification. DO NOT FAX the form to our office. It will not be accepted.

New this year:
We are attempting to place the registration for electronic submission through our IWAS system. If you would like to submit electronically, please log on to IWAS at http://isbes1.isbe.net/iwas. If you have problems with the electronic submission, please contact our Helpdesk at 217/588-3600.
Immunization Survey (70-01)
Opens: October 15
Due Date: November 15

The Immunization School Survey (70-01), which has been on IWAS the past two years, will be available October 15 and is to be submitted to ISBE by November 15, as stipulated by state law (105 ILCS 5/27-8.1 of the School Code. The deadline will not be extended and no paper copies will be accepted. Please make sure your IWAS information is current. You can locate the Immunization School Survey at http://isbes1.isbe.net/iwas. If you have questions about your IWAS information or account, please call the Helpdesk at 217/558-3600.

Note: In accordance with the Governor and the State Superintendent’s directive due to Hurricane Katrina, ISBE and the Illinois Department of Public Health are temporarily waiving immunization requirements for children displaced by this tragedy. Students still in your schools as of October 15 should be reported by disease category as “unprotected and in non-compliance”. If this reporting causes your school to be over the allowable 10 percent compliance, please contact Sharon Neely at 217/782-3950 or sneely@isbe.net. Schools will not be penalized for being over the allowable 10% percent compliance if those students displaced by Hurricane Katrina are now attending school in your district. Please note that the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and IDPH are recommending Interim Immunization Requirements. The following link is now available from the CDC for the most current information: www.bt.cdc.gov/disasters/hurricanes/katrina/vaccrecdisplaced.asp.

New this year:
Grade levels for Varicella/Chicken Pox now includes grade 4.

Student Assessment

Registering IAA student counts for 2005-06 – early binder shipment

Coordinators should submit the IAA student count information, even if the district has no students participating this year. The deadline to register student count information online is: Friday, September 16, 2005.

Binders will be shipped to coordinators by October 14 based on the student count information submitted to Measured Progress by September 16th.

We hope the early binder shipment will assist teachers in assembling the portfolios and will allow the portfolio to follow a student who moves to another school or district in Illinois.

The on-line student count registration site address is http://iservices.measuredprogress.org. Student counts can be entered online August 1st through September 16th.

Follow these steps to register your students:
- On the Measured Progress registration home page, choose Illinois Alternate Assessment Student Registration from the pull down menu and click Enter.
- On the online services page, click Student Registration.
- On the Student Registration page, click Illinois Alternate Assessment.
- On the Illinois Alternate Assessment page, select your district from the pull down menu and type your CD code for your password and click Login. (Note: Your District Name is Payson Comm Unit School Dist 1 and your CD code is 0010010.)
- Enter all of your contact information, including your first and last name, your position, your phone number and your email address and then click Next.
- Verify the contact information you entered and click Confirm. (Note: If you do not have any students taking IAA for 2005-2006, don’t forget to check the box stating “Check this box if you have no students taking Illinois Alternate Assessment for 2005-2006. Then click the Next button below”.)
- Enter the number of students per grade taking the IAA and click Next.
- Verify the number of students you entered and click Confirm.
- A box will pop up that says “Registration was Successful. A confirmation email has been sent to (your email).”
- Click Cancel to Exit. DO NOT click OK and enter another registration.

If you have any questions regarding this process, please contact Amanda Breitmaier at 877-732-5306 or abreitmaier@measuredprogress.org.

For students who are placed out-of-district, the Home District coordinator and Receiving
District/School coordinator should be in contact to confirm where the student is included in the student counts for purposes of receiving assessment materials. In addition, please share these counts and corresponding student names with your General Assessment coordinator and superintendent.

**NCLB**

**Supplemental Education Services Provider cost reports**

At its June 2005 meeting, the Illinois State Board of Education adopted rules requiring Supplemental Educational Services providers to report and establish their actual cost of services. Federal law limits the per-child amount an SES provider can charge to the lesser of: (a) the district’s per-child allocation under Part A of Title I; or (b) the actual cost of the services. The actual cost information should be used by districts when entering into contracts for the 2005-06 school year, and when providing information to parents about a provider's services.

Under the rules adopted by ISBE, costs must be reported in the following categories:
1. direct program expenses;
2. occupancy expenses;
3. curriculum and training expenses; and
4. administrative and general expenses.

Providers were required to report their actual cost of services for the 2004-05 school year, and estimate their actual cost of services for inclusion in SES agreements with districts for the 2005-06 school year.

The information submitted by providers is set forth on the graphs and data tables available at [http://www.isbe.net/nclb/htmls/sesp_isbe_resources.htm](http://www.isbe.net/nclb/htmls/sesp_isbe_resources.htm). The link entitled "SES Provider Log, District by District" allows you to find which providers have submitted the necessary financial information to ISBE for your school district. Please note that the providers listed under the "All Districts" tab can serve any school district required to offer SES. The district's per-pupil contract amount will be the lesser of (i) the total amount reported by the provider under Section II, 2005-06 Actual Cost Estimates; or (ii) the district’s per-child allocation under Part A of Title I.

Please refer to ISBE's SES Toolkit for a sample contract that addresses the actual cost reporting requirement [http://www.isbe.net/nclb/htmls/sesp.htm](http://www.isbe.net/nclb/htmls/sesp.htm).

ISBE has prepared graphic information for each provider detailing the provider's cost of services according to the four categories listed above, and providing a comparison of the provider’s per-pupil costs to that of other providers. ISBE recommends that districts provide this graphic information to parents as part of the district's process of notification of SES opportunities. Many of the program descriptions offered by providers look similar on paper. Distributing financial information to parents gives them an accurate sense of the amount of resources dedicated to the classroom, and the amount used for administrative expenses not directly related to tutoring.

Questions about ISBE's SES cost reporting requirements should be directed to Gary Greene, ISBE External Assurance Division, at 217-782-7970 or ggreene@isbe.net.

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**Grant and Scholarship opportunities**

**OSDFS Carol M. White Physical Education Program (PEP) grant awards FY05**

The Carol M. White Physical Education Program (PEP) supports local education agencies and community-based organizations in their efforts to initiate, expand, or enhance physical education programs for students in kindergarten through the 12th grade.

Through this program, grantees are expected to help students make progress towards meeting state standards for physical education, and are encouraged to propose research-based projects that reflect integrated, comprehensive approaches to lifelong physical fitness and healthy eating habits. Grantees use program funds to provide teacher training, develop and implement physical education and nutrition education curricula, conduct fitness assessments, and purchase equipment.

During the FY 2004 grant competition PEP received over 1500 proposals, and there was not enough
funding to support every highly-qualified program. The following is a list of Illinois applicants scheduled to receive a 2005 PEP grant.

- West 40 ISC #2, La Grange Park - $378,523
- Naperville County Unit SD #203, Naperville - $442,020
- Springfield School District 186, Springfield - $230,355
- Martinsville Community Unit C-3, Martinsville - $203,532
- Rochelle Township, Rochelle - $130,448

**Deadline approaching for US Senate youth program**

In mid-August a brochure and application to each private and public high school principal announcing the 44th Annual United States Senate Youth Program sponsored each year by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation. The two student winners of the competition representing Illinois will spend an "all-expenses-paid" week-long educational experience in Washington, D.C., this spring. Each will also receive a $5,000 college scholarship. The deadline for receiving student applications in this office is the close of business October 4, 2005. For immediate details, please visit our web page at the link below or call Dr. Richard Walker at 217/524-4832.

[www.isbe.net/sos/htmls/hearst.htm](http://www.isbe.net/sos/htmls/hearst.htm)

**Legal**

**Guidance document online for new High School Graduation requirements**

ISBE has developed a guidance document for implementation of the new High School Graduation Requirements. The guidance document is available on the Resources for Administrators page on the ISBE web site or directly at:


**External Vacancy List**

Please visit [http://www.isbe.net/hr/pdf/VL05-21.pdf](http://www.isbe.net/hr/pdf/VL05-21.pdf) to view a list of vacancies at the Illinois State Board of Education. Please note that at the end of this list there is also a link to our ongoing vacancy list.

**In the News**

**Weekly news clips**

Last week’s education news clips are posted at