We have submitted our Phase II application for the federal Race to the Top grant program. I want to thank all of you who took time to work with us to strengthen our application.

We have made some significant improvements to the application itself, but I believe the biggest improvement comes from you and your willingness to sign on as partners with us. Our final application includes 521 districts that have signed on as partners, with 242 of these districts having signatures of support from the superintendent, local board and union leadership. That’s an increase of more than 150 districts from Phase I and includes nearly 60 percent of all of our state’s districts.

Thank you for your support.

The General Assembly adjourned last week after passing an operating budget for FY 2011. However, it may return to Springfield later this year for future legislative action that could have additional fiscal impacts. The budget passed does have some holes in it, but it is not the type of cutting that some had feared from early on in the legislative session. The FY 2011 budget as passed now would maintain the General State Aid Foundation level at $6,119. In addition, Mandated Categoricals are reduced under this budget plan by approximately $330 million.

The legislature did not pass a line item budget for grants and programs, instead providing a lump sum for all grants and programs, which is reduced by approximately $150 million from FY 2010, which is about $440 million less than in FY 2009. The Board will vote on how to fund these grants and programs from the lump sum later this month.

This is not the budget any of us wants. If you have a position on the $23 billion Keep Our Educators Working Act, which is currently before Congress, I would encourage you to reach out to our federal delegation. It could mean an additional $950 million for Illinois.

Members of the General Assembly also passed legislation that would remove the “sunset” language that put a two-year limit on Preschool for All programs. This is not a new initiative and remains subject to funds being appropriated. It is our hope that this legislation will increase the state’s ability to access additional federal dollars for education in the future.

Have a great week.

Chris

**Upcoming Dates and Deadlines**

- **FY 2011 School Improvement Grant 1003(g) application deadline** – June 14
• Coalition for Illinois High Schools’ High School Challenge Conference – June 14-15
• Proposed 2010-2011 Public School Calendar deadline – June 15
• 2009-10 Eye Examination Data Collection deadline – June 30
• Budget increases for state-funded grant projects – June 30
• Let’s Move: Apps for Healthy Kids Competition deadline – June 30
• Dental Data Collection system – Open through June 30
• Migrant Education Program application deadline – July 15
• Special Education Directors’ Conference in Peoria – July 28-30
• 2010 Bilingual Education Program Delivery Report deadline – July 30
• Amendments for grants with a Project End Date of August 31, 2010 Aug. 1, 2010
• Postmark deadline for waiver applications to be considered by the General Assembly in Fall 2010 – Aug. 13
• 2009-10 Teacher Service Record spring data collection period deadline – Aug. 15

Student Assessment

Update on Assessment Data Results and Important Deadlines

It’s that critical time of year when assessment results are being processed. ISAT reading, math and science and all content areas for IAA have been posted early. ISAT writing is scheduled to be posted by June 3, 2010. Please keep in mind that the portion of the Assessment Correction window during which both demographic and score data are available is shorter this year. The deadline to correct all demographic and score data for ISAT (grades 3-8) and IAA (grades 3-8 AND 11) is 4 p.m. June 16, 2010. After June 16, the demographic and score data for ISAT and IAA will be considered final. Failure to make corrections during this window will not be grounds for appeals at a later time. The only exceptions are score data changes resulting from rescore requests. Rescore request forms are available at http://www.isbe.net/assessment. Please note all rescores from non-Chicago Public Schools (non-CPS) must be received in the Assessment division by 4 p.m. June 16, 2010. CPS must submit their requests through the CPS central office by 8 a.m. June 14, 2010.

PSAE score data are currently scheduled to be released on July 13, 2010. The deadline to correct the demographic and score data for PSAE is 4 p.m. July 19, 2010. Although scores won’t be posted until then, you currently have access to the assessment correction file. If it is possible, please verify the accuracy of the demographic information and address any error codes that may exist.

The 2010 School/District AYP status reports for those elementary/middle schools that have completed their E-Report Card data are currently scheduled to be posted in IWAS on June 3, 2010. As for high schools, the AYP status reports are currently scheduled to be released on July 13, 2010. The AYP status report should be considered final unless schools request rescoring or make further corrections related to AYP data elements. Schools choosing to check their AYP reports early are encouraged to recheck at the end of the correction window. In addition, testing irregularity investigations may result in changes even after the closing of the correction window. The status report will be generated on a daily basis as schools complete their E-Report Card data. The deadline for E-report card submission is June 25, 2010.

NCLB and ARRA

FY 2011 NCLB Consolidated and ARRA Applications Webinar and Updates

Staff from the Illinois State Board of Education will provide a webinar on the FY 2011 NCLB Consolidated Application and updates on the ARRA applications at 2 p.m. Thursday, June 17. The webinar will focus on the application process, specifics of completing each page of the application, fiscal guidance and program assistance. Staff from the Divisions of Innovation and Improvement and Funding and Disbursements will be leading the discussions.

Districts that are planning to apply for FY 11 NCLB Consolidated funds are strongly encouraged to register for the webinar. Space is limited. Reserve a webinar seat at https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/127417696.

The FY 2011 regular NCLB Consolidated and American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) applications should be available to all districts in the near future via the electronic Grants Management System. Districts will receive an e-mail notice through IWAS when it is available. We appreciate your patience.
If you have questions regarding the webinar, please contact your principal consultant at 217-524-4832 in the Innovation and Improvement Division.

Funding and Disbursements

Alternate PTELL Adjustment to EAV Used in GSA Calculations

Pursuant to Public Act 96-0152, an alternate calculation is made to produce the Extension Limitation Equalized Assessed Value (ELEAV) for school districts subject to the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL) and whose voters have approved an increase in the district’s limiting rate. For such districts, the ELEAV used in the General State Aid (GSA) calculation is now the EAV (used for the prior year GSA) increased by the Consumer Price Index, plus the EAV of new property, annexed property and recovered TIF districts minus the EAV of disconnected property.

ISBE staff has collected data from the State Board of Elections and county clerks and a list of eligible districts for FY 2011 GSA may be found under the Reports section of the GSA page which can be accessed at http://www.isbe.net/funding/html/gsa.htm.

If you have any questions about the data provided in this report, contact either Jason Hall (jhall@isbe.net) or Toni Waggoner (twaggone@isbe.net) at 217-782-0249.

2009-10 General State Aid Claim Deadlines

Please be advised that per Section 18-12 of the School Code, the 2009-10 General State Aid Claim must be transmitted via IWAS to each respective Regional Office of Education by June 21 for districts with an official school calendar end date before June 15 or within two weeks following the official school calendar end date for districts with a school year end date of June 15 or later.

The regional superintendent shall certify and file with the State Superintendent of Education district state aid claims by July 1 for districts with an official school calendar end date before June 15 or no later than July 15 for districts with an official school calendar end date of June 15 or later. Failure to file by these deadlines constitutes a forfeiture of the right to receive payment by the state until such claim is filed and vouchered for payment.

A final school calendar must be transmitted and approved before the General State Aid claim can be transmitted. If you need technical assistance with completing the final school calendar, you may contact your Regional Office of Education or Marj Beck, Funding and Disbursements, at mbeck@isbe.net. Questions related to completing the General State Aid Claim can be directed to Jim Mathes, Funding & Disbursements, at jmathes@isbe.net. Marj and Jim can also be reached in the Division of Funding and Disbursement Services at 217-782-5256.

Data Analysis and Progress Reporting

Administrator and Teacher Salary and Benefits – 2010 Report on IWAS

Public Act 096-0266 added Sections 10-20.46 and 34-18.37 to the School Code [105 ILCS 5/10-20.46 and 5/34-18.37]. The two new Sections contain identical language requiring school districts to report administrator and teacher salary and benefits to the State Board of Education, effective Jan. 1, 2010:

“Each school board shall report to the State Board of Education, on or before July 1 of each year, the base salary and benefits of the district superintendent [or the general superintendent of schools or chief executive officer] and all administrators and teachers employed by the school district. For the purposes of this Section, “benefits” includes without limitation vacation days, sick days, bonuses, annuities, and retirement enhancements.”

To comply with this law, school districts are required to submit to the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) the following data for each individual employed as an administrator and/or teacher during school year 2010:

- **Name**: Legal last name, first name, and middle name
- **Position**: Main position, i.e., District Administrator, Other Administrator, or Teacher
- **Title**: Title for main position (optional)
- **Base Salary**: Dollar amount of base salary for all positions combined
- **FTE (Full-Time Equivalency)**: FTE for all positions combined, counted in hundredths
- **Vacation Days**: Number of vacation days awarded this school year
- **Sick Days**: Number of sick days awarded this school year
- **Bonuses**: Dollar value of bonuses
- **Annuities**: Dollar value of employer-provided qualified and nonqualified annuities
**Retirement Enhancements**: Dollar value of employer-provided retirement enhancements  
**Other Benefits**: Dollar value of other benefits provided by employer

ISBE has created a new system in IWAS, the “Administrator and Teacher Salary and Benefits” system. District administrators can access the system by logging on to IWAS; go to System Listing, then look under Reporting (Annual). Others must sign up in IWAS to use the new system. Authorized users can access the system now through June 15 to visit a “Coming Soon” page that provides more information about the data to be submitted and the required file upload process.

The system will be open for actual data entry starting June 16, and the deadline to submit is midnight, July 1, 2010. The salary and benefits data you report are to include known payments through June 30, 2010, on all forms of compensation received by an individual. Because the information is public and would be provided if requested under the Freedom of Information Act, ISBE has decided that reported data will be posted on its Web site.

Questions may be directed to Mark Hobneck in the ISBE Data Analysis and Progress Reporting Division at 217-782-3950.

---

**Illinois Department of Labor**

**Agency Issues Reminder on Illinois Child Labor Law**

The Illinois Department of Labor would like to remind employers and teen job seekers about protections under the state’s child labor law.

“We want to make sure that these young job seekers in Illinois stay healthy and safe in the workplace,” stated IDOL Director Catherine Shannon in a recent news release. “The law includes restrictions on the number of hours a child can work and details the type of work that may and may not be performed. Employers, parents, caregivers and children should be aware of the law’s requirements and protections.”

To read the entire press release, which includes many details about the Illinois Child Labor Law, visit [http://www.state.il.us/agency/idol/Forms/PDFS/CLLRelease5-7-10.PDF](http://www.state.il.us/agency/idol/Forms/PDFS/CLLRelease5-7-10.PDF). More information is available at 312-793-2804. To file a child labor complaint, call the Child Labor Hotline at 800-645-5784 or print out a complaint form at [http://www.state.il.us/agency/idol](http://www.state.il.us/agency/idol).

For teenagers in search of work, the state of Illinois has launched a Summer Job Central website, [http://www.ILWorkInfo.com/icrn](http://www.ILWorkInfo.com/icrn), which is run by the Illinois Department of Employment Security.

---

**Nutrition**

**Household Eligibility Applications for School-Based Child Nutrition Programs**

The release of the Household Eligibility Applications for School-Based Child Nutrition Programs for school year
2010-11 is postponed due to federal delays. Our office (the Illinois State Board of Education) has just received correspondence from the U.S. Department of Agriculture that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has not yet released the federal poverty guidelines. We expected that the Illinois prototype Household Eligibility Application, which utilizes these income eligibility guidelines, would be available no later than the end of May 2010. At this time, we are unable to provide an anticipated release date.

It is important to remember that the Household Eligibility Applications for school year 2010-11 may not be distributed until after July 1 and no earlier than four calendar weeks prior to the time students start school. As well, we highly encourage local educational agencies to complete the electronic direct certification process prior to the distribution of the Household Eligibility Application to ease the burden of processing duplicate applications.

As more information becomes available, we will keep you updated. Thank you for your patience.

**Healthy Kids Competition Deadline Set for June 30**

As part of the first lady’s Let’s Move campaign, the Apps for Healthy Kids Competition invites software developers, game designers, students and others to develop applications helping children and their families eat healthier and engage in physical activity, with a focus on targeting 9-12 year olds.


**Professional Development**

**NIU College of Education Summer Literacy Conference Coming Up**

The 37th annual Northern Illinois University College of Education’s Summer Literacy Conference is set for June 11, 14-17. The conference, titled “Enhancing Teaching and Learning through Literacy Coaching,” will be held at Waubonsee Community College in Sugar Grove.

This year’s featured speakers include Rita M. Bean, a professor at the University of Pittsburgh and author of “The Reading Specialist: Leadership for the Classroom, School, and Community”; Michael F. Opitz, a professor and reading program coordinator at the University of Northern Colorado and the author of “Good-Bye Round Robin” and “Do-able Differentiation”; Doug Fisher, a professor at San Diego State University and author of “Better Learning Through Structured Teaching” and “Word Wise and Content Rich”; and Jerry L. Johns, NIU’s Distinguished Teaching Professor Emeritus and the author of “Improving Reading: Strategies and Assessment,” and the “Basic Reading Inventory.”

To register and for more information, visit [http://www.cedu.niu.edu/oep/conferences](http://www.cedu.niu.edu/oep/conferences).

**Coalition for Illinois High Schools Conference Slated for June 14-15**

The Coalition for Illinois High Schools will hold the fifth annual High School Challenge Conference for educators June 14-15 in Bloomington. Registration for this year’s conference, titled “Promoting Student Success: A Variety of Approaches,” costs $180 or $100 for a single day.

To register and for the conference schedule, visit [http://www.cfihs.net/](http://www.cfihs.net/). The Coalition for Illinois High Schools can be reached via e-mail at info@cfihs.net.

**Save the Date: RtI Summit for Middle and High School Teams**

Illinois ASPIRE recently announced that a two-day Response to Intervention (RtI) Summit for middle school and high school teams will be held in three locations during the week of Sept. 27, 2010. Two nationally known speakers – Dr. Kevin Feldman and Dr. George Batsche – will be presenting.

Further details about dates, locations and content are available in the Save-the-Date flyer on the I-ASPIRE website at [http://www.illinoisaspire.org](http://www.illinoisaspire.org). Because we recognize the budget challenges districts are facing, the registration fee will be nominal for this professional development opportunity. Registration information will be forthcoming. In the interim, questions may be directed to Rhonda Mooberry at rmooberry@peoria48.net.

**Student Opportunities**

**Latino Art Beat Extends Deadline for High School Art Competition**

Latino Art Beat is extending its deadline for its annual high school arts competition to Friday, June 4. The competition is available to all high school juniors and
seniors currently enrolled in an Illinois high school. To date, Latino Art Beat has awarded more than $3 million in scholarships to students on a national basis.

This year’s contest theme is “What Hispanic Heritage and Culture Means to Me!” Visit http://www.latinoartbeat.com/how.html for details or call 773-291-6901.

**Employment Opportunities**

**ISBE External Vacancy List**

An External Vacancy List for the Illinois State Board of Education is available at http://www.isbe.net/hr/Default.htm.

**In the News**

**Weekly News Clips**