Message From State Superintendent Christopher A. Koch

Jesse Ruiz, Chairman of the Illinois State Board of Education since September 2004, has announced that he will be stepping down from that post following this week’s board meeting. He will continue his service to the Illinois education community by serving as vice president of the Chicago Board of Education.

The news is bittersweet for fellow board members and agency employees. Jesse is a tireless advocate for improving the educational opportunities for all students in Illinois. He is always willing to volunteer his time, going to countless conferences, meetings, recognition banquets, graduation ceremonies and anywhere else he is asked to attend on behalf of the Board. He is the last to leave a meeting or other gathering, staying until business has been completed and everyone has had their say.

During the time that Jesse guided this Board, our education community has changed in ways no one thought possible just a few short years ago. Quietly, several years ago, our Board began charting a vision for reform in our schools that was truly the start of many of the advances that we’re seeing today. It wasn’t meant to be flashy or to grab headlines, but rather it was meant to improve the lives of every student in Illinois. Under Jesse’s leadership, the Board developed its mission and goals, including, “Every student will demonstrate academic achievement and be prepared for success after high school.”

Illinois has become a national leader in the development of common, internationally benchmarked learning standards and the new assessments that will support these standards. We are creating a longitudinal data system that will better allow the use of data to improve educational outcomes for all students and eventually support new performance evaluation systems tying student performance to teachers. In addition, we’ve seen enhanced access to high quality preschool and an increased focus on ensuring that homeless, migrant and other students have access to public education.

The accomplishments of the Board under Jesse’s leadership are too numerous to list. Please join me in wishing Jesse good luck in his new position. CPS students couldn’t be getting anyone better.

Chris

Upcoming Dates and Deadlines

- ISBE Teacher of the Year/Those Who Excel nomination deadline – June 3
- Registration deadline for the Coalition for Illinois High Schools’ annual High School Challenge Conference – June 4
- Application deadline for Regional Safe Schools Program – June 13
- Illinois New Teacher Collaborative Beginning Teacher Conference – June 28
• 2010-11 Eye Examination Data Collection deadline – June 30
• Dental Data Collection system – Open for data entry through June 30
• 2011 Bilingual Education Program Delivery Report deadline – June 30
• Prekindergarten At-Risk Program Record and the Preschool For All Program Record deadline – June 30
• 2010-11 Early Childhood – Parent Evaluations/Demographics survey deadline – July 15
• Postmark deadline for waiver applications to be considered by General Assembly in Fall ’11 – Aug. 12
• 2010-11 Teacher Service Record submission deadline – Aug. 15
• 2010-11 High School Students Taking Community College Courses system district-level data submission deadline – Sept. 15
• ISBE’s Transition Institute in Bloomington – Sept. 19-21

Career and Technical Education

‘Using Data for Student Success’ Summit Scheduled for June 24

The Illinois State Board of Education, the Illinois Community College Board and the Illinois Board of Higher Education are working together to host the summit “Using Data for Student Success: Understanding the High School-to-College Success Report.” It is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, June 24, 2011, at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield.

What is the High School-to-College Success Report? It is a report that can facilitate dialogue and partnerships between secondary and postsecondary institutions by providing a snapshot of data and information about first-time, full-time freshmen students attending public universities and colleges in Illinois.

The summit is designed for superintendents, principals, regional superintendents, guidance counselors, CTE regional staff, curriculum directors and more in K-12; and presidents, chief academic officers, deans and enrollment and admissions management in higher education.

Registration and additional details are forthcoming. Watch for announcements on ISBE’s website, http://www.isbe.net, and in the Weekly Message.

• ARRA budgeting requirements – Emergency Rules Part 100
• Dates to Remember
• Links to current rules and school code requirements.
• FY2012 School District/Joint Agreement Budget, ISBE Form 50-36/50-39
• Additional Help Guides and other useful Links

FY2012 School District Budget Forms must be submitted to Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) no later than Monday, Oct. 31, 2011. The School Code, Section 17-1 (105 ILCS 5/17-1)) requires school districts to electronically submit the adopted annual budget to ISBE; and also requires school districts who adopt an unbalanced budget in the operating funds to complete a Deficit Reduction Plan to balance the budget within three years. Additional deadlines are included on the webpage.

Note: The Joint Agreement Budget Form 50-39 is excluded from this state filing requirement and should be filed locally as determined by the provisions of the joint agreement.

Amended FY2011 Budgets must be completed and adopted no later than June 30, 2011. Please submit the amended budgets to ISBE through the Attachment Manager, https://sec1.isbe.net/attachmgr/default.aspx.

School Business Services

School District/Joint Agreement Budget Forms Available Online

Now available at the School Business Services Division website are FY2012 School District/Joint Agreement Budget forms (ISBE Form 50-36/50-39) with related additional information and instructions.

Data Analysis and Progress Reporting

Dental Data Collection System Now Open on IWAS

The Dental Data Collection system is open for data entry May 16 through June 30, 2011. The data must be
submitted online using IWAS. Once logged into IWAS, the dental link (Student Health Data – Dental) will appear on the System Listing page under ‘Annual.’ If you do not see the “Student Health Data – Dental” link, please call the ISBE Helpdesk at (217) 558-3600.

URLs for important documentation are listed below:

- IDPH Dental Examination Waiver Form, http://www.idph.state.il.us/forms/ohpm/Dental%20Exam%20Waiver.pdf
- Dental Information-Data Entry Worksheet, http://www.isbe.net/research/xls/dental_worksheet.xls

In the event of problems opening these links, copy the URL to the address bar of a browser window (Internet Explorer or Netscape) and hit the “Enter” button.

As mandated by Section 5/27-8.1 of the School Code, dental data must be submitted for all Illinois schools serving any combination of kindergarten, grade 2, and/or grade 6 students. Public school districts may enter the data for each of their schools or approve school IWAS users to enter the data. Regardless of who enters data, it is the responsibility of the nonpublic school administrator/public school district administrator to review the accuracy of entered data and submit the data to ISBE.

Please share this information with your school nurses, health technicians, and individuals responsible for entering your dental data on IWAS. Questions about the information to be provided may be addressed to Md. Shafiqul Azam in the Data Analysis and Progress Reporting Division at (217) 782-3950 or mazam@isbe.net.

Special Education

ISBE’s Second Annual Transition Institute Scheduled for Sept. 19-21

The Illinois State Board of Education will host the second annual Transition Institute from Sept. 19-21, 2011, at the Doubletree Hotel in Bloomington. The Transition Institute is sponsored by ISBE in collaboration with Illinois State University’s Department of Special Education and the National Secondary Transition Technical Assistance Center (NSTTAC).

Monday, Sept. 19, will be a one-day activity for teams who participated in the 2010 institute and will include content sessions and team planning time to review and update action plans. Tuesday, Sept. 20, and Wednesday, Sept. 21, will be a two-day event for district teams new to the institute and will include content sessions, team planning time and opportunities to talk to content experts and presenters. The focus of the institute is to assist selected school teams in reviewing their district’s transition-related data, learning from content experts and engaging in a facilitated action planning process in order to improve and/or scale-up implementation of transition-focused planning and education. Priority will be given to those districts who have been working with ISBE staff on the IND 13 Determination or Data Verification Audit.

Please “save the date” for this opportunity to hear from state and national transition experts and to engage in focused conversation and planning time with colleagues. There is no registration fee and food will be provided. Information about the agenda and the registration process will be coming soon.

For further information, contact Sue Walter at swalter@isbe.net or (618) 651-9028, Melanie Fleenor at mfleenor@isbe.net or Todd Williams at todwilli@isbe.net or (217) 782-5589.

Professional Development

Nominations Sought for Award That Honors Educators in Life Sciences

The iBIO Institute EDUCATE Center is accepting nominations for the 2011 iCON Knowledge Builder Award. Educators from grades 6-12 are eligible to receive the award. The deadline for nominations is July 8, 2011.

The iCON awards are given annually to celebrate the achievements of the most inspired academic, research and business leaders responsible for nurturing education, training and scholarship in the life sciences in Illinois. The award will be presented at the iCON Awards gala on Oct. 6, 2011, at the Field Museum in Chicago.

Selection criteria include demonstrating creativity in teaching and igniting the curiosity for learning and
passion for discovery of former students, as measured by their accomplishments. For more information about the awards and to nominate an educator, go to [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=r869vnOv1qfEN7ow_2fFz1Fw_3d_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=r869vnOv1qfEN7ow_2fFz1Fw_3d_3d).

### Principals Sought to Participate in Pilot Certification Program

Experienced Illinois principals are encouraged to participate in a free professional growth opportunity offered by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS). As part of the development of National Board Certification for Principals, NBPTS is conducting a second round of national field testing. This field test will be on program components of NBPTS over an 18-month period beginning September 2011. A representative sample of Illinois principals will be part of this round of the field test. Participants may attain NBPTS certification following completion of the pilot.

Principals that participate will benefit from learning and reflection that research suggests can lead to improved practice throughout their schools. Any current Illinois principal with a minimum of three years experience as a principal is eligible to participate. Principals who applied during the last pilot but were not selected are encouraged to again apply for this pilot.

Interested principals should visit [http://www.nbptsprincipals.org](http://www.nbptsprincipals.org) and read the information contained in links on the home page. After reviewing this information, interested principals can click on “Apply Now” to complete the application. The recruitment period will end on May 31, and principals will be notified as to whether they were selected to participate from June 1-15.

Selection of pilot participants will be done by Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) and NBPTS. Registration to participate does not guarantee selection in the pilot. After indicating an interest to participate, contact Kathy O’Neill at [kathy.oneill@sreb.org](mailto:kathy.oneill@sreb.org) or Melinda Mollette at [melinda.mollette@sreb.org](mailto:melinda.mollette@sreb.org) if you have additional questions.

### Parent Workshops on Response to Intervention Set for Next Month

The Illinois Parent Training and Information Centers (PTICs) are partnering with Illinois ASPIRE to provide workshops for parents on response to intervention (RtI). Each PTIC will hold three workshops in June, each in a different location, as detailed below. Please note that the morning workshop on June 18 will be presented in Spanish.

- **June 9, 2011**: Jefferson High School, Rockford, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- **June 21, 2011**: Woodruff High School, Peoria, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- **June 28, 2011**: McKendree University, Lebanon, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

- **June 18, 2011**: The "New Cicero" Community Center, Cicero, 9-11 a.m. (Spanish) and noon to 2 p.m. (English)
- **June 25, 2011**: University Center of Lake County, Grayslake, 10 a.m. to noon

Registration is required, and additional details may be obtained by contacting the PTIs by phone and/or visiting their web sites (see above). We ask that you disseminate this information to parents of students with and without disabilities in your area.

### High School Challenge Conference Set for June 13-14 in Bloomington

The Coalition for Illinois High Schools’ sixth annual High School Challenge Conference is set for June 13-14 in Bloomington. This year’s conference is entitled “Improving Student Learning” and features Mike Schmoker, author of “FOCUS: Elevating the Essentials to Radically Improve Student Learning.”

The conference is designed for all those involved with and interested in the work of high schools. The workshop fees are $200 for both days and $125 for a single day. For teams of three or more, it is $180 per person. For more information, visit [http://cfihs.net](http://cfihs.net). The deadline to register is June 4.

### Summer School Program Study to Utilize ‘The Electric Company’

WestEd, a non-profit educational research, development, and service agency, is working with PBS to conduct a study in summer school programs utilizing episodes of the popular show “The Electric Company” along with supporting activity plans that are educational and easy to implement. “The Electric Company” aims to wholly engage children between the ages of 6 and 9 while simultaneously teaching the crucial areas of literacy and
math. Teachers teaching summer school classes that include students entering second grade are eligible to participate.

Teachers will receive stipends from $400 to $1,000 for participation in the study, and their school will receive $500.

Visit http://www.wested.org/tec to learn more about the study and to apply, either as a summer school teacher or as a summer school administrator/district personnel. Space is limited to 20 teachers. Apply by June 1 for the best chance to participate.

**Student Opportunities**

**Students Receive Awards From Illinois Environmental Protection Agency**

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency presented Environmental Excellence Awards to four Illinois students at the State Science Exposition held May 7 in Champaign. The competition, hosted by the Junior Academy of Science, focuses on projects that promote and enhance the protection and care of the environment.

Brady Holst of Southeastern High School in Augusta was presented with the Outstanding Achievement award in the senior division (grades 9-12). Second place in the senior division went to Bana Zayyad of Aqsa School in Bridgeview.

Elizabeth Ringhausen of St. Francis/Holy Ghost School in Jerseyville received the Outstanding Achievement award in the junior division (grades 7 and 8). Alex Chovan of Wallace Grade School in Ottawa was the second-place winner.

**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**