There is no opening message this week from State Superintendent Dunn as he is meeting with the other state chiefs at the summer meeting of the Council of Chief State School Officers.—Editor

### Upcoming Deadlines
- Waiver applications to be considered in November – August 11, 2006
- Early Childhood Prevention Initiative grants – August 15
- Rules Public Comment Deadline, Part 65 and Part 365 – August 21, 2006
- Public Comment on Special Education Rulemaking – September 15, 2006
- Rules Public Comment Deadline, Part 265 – September 15, 2006

### Student Assessment

**Scores Posted**

The ISAT scores for 700 districts are now posted on Spectrum – [http://spectrum.harcourt.com](http://spectrum.harcourt.com). Districts can log on and view ISAT scores including individual results in national percentile rank, Lexiles, stanines and more. Directions on exporting data using the “Export Search Results” link on Spectrum will be posted on [http://www.isbe.net/assessment/htmls/assessment_corrections.htm](http://www.isbe.net/assessment/htmls/assessment_corrections.htm) soon.

SIS districts can view only on Spectrum; Non-SIS districts can make demographic corrections on Spectrum.

Spectrum, however, does not have the corrections that SIS districts have made on the Assessment Correction file and therefore, demographics will not necessarily be accurate until the results are posted on the Assessment Score file on IWAS.

We expect ISAT and IAA scores for SIS districts to be posted on SIS throughout this week—continue to check your IWAS account. We expect IMAGE scores to be posted this week. PSAE will be posted later – more information forthcoming.

If you need assistance, please call the Help Center at Harcourt for Spectrum questions – 800-763-2306 - and help@isbe.net or call 217-558-3600 for SIS questions.

### Rules

**Opportunity for Public Comment**

Rules have been developed for Part 265 (Grants for Arts Education and Foreign Language Education.) The proposed set of rules was reviewed by the State Board of Education at its special meeting on July 6 and is currently available for public comment. This new item has been posted on the agency’s web site at [www.isbe.net/rules](http://www.isbe.net/rules); choose “Proposed Rules and Amendments”. Please submit any comments or suggestions you may have to rules@isbe.net by September 5, 2006.

### Nutrition

**Summer Food Service Program participants congratulated**

Congratulations to the following 21 school districts for operating the Summer Food Service Program. Their efforts this summer help children receive nutritious meals and snacks. We encourage school districts to consider providing this service in FY07.

1. Alton Community Unit School District 11
2. Bloomington Public Schools
3. Brooklyn Unit School District 188, Lovejoy
4. Catholic Diocese of Belleville
5. Chicago Heights School District 170
6. Christopher Unit School District 99
7. Du Quoin Community Unit School District 300
8. East Alton School District 13
9. Effingham Community Unit School District 40
10. Freeport School District 145
11. Harvey Public School District 152
12. Macomb Community Unit School District 185
13. Meca Elementary School, Bellwood
14. Murphysboro Community Unit School District 186
15. Pekin Public School District 108
16. Pembroke Community Consolidated School District 259, Hopkins Park
17. Peoria School District 150
18. Prairie-Hills Elementary School District 144, Markham
19. Quincy School District 172
20. Red Hill Community Unit School District 10, Bridgeport
21. South Holland School District 151

Kudos also to the Illinois schools participating in the Summer Seamless Option Information about the Summer Food Service Program and the Summer Seamless Option is available at http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/summer.htm.

Breakfast Start-Up Grants Available in 2006-2007

On June 30, 2006 Governor Rod Blagojevich signed SB2336 amending the School Breakfast and Lunch Program Act and the Childhood Hunger Relief Act that requires more Illinois schools to implement a breakfast program. The law stipulates that all public schools in which at least 40 percent of the students are eligible for free or reduced-price lunches must also provide a breakfast meal. The amendments provide clarification on how schools that do not participate in the National School Lunch Program will determine if they are mandated to implement breakfast. Provisions are included in the law to allow a school district to opt out of the breakfast program under certain financial circumstances. To view the full text of the amended laws go to http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name=094-0981.

To assist schools in overcoming some of the barriers associated with starting a new program the Illinois State Board of Education is offering Breakfast Start-Up Grants of up to $3,500 per school. Any school that did not participate in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) during the 2005-06 school year and agrees to operate a SBP for a period of not less than three years from the date that meal service is initiated is eligible to apply. The school must also operate a breakfast program for a minimum of 20 days during the 2006-07 school year. Priority for funding will be given to applications received by October 31, 2006 for sites in which 40 percent or more of their students are eligible for free and reduced-price meals. Beyond that timeframe applications will be funded in the order by which they are received. The application packet is available at http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/breakfast_state.htm.

Anticipated Commodity Chart for 2006-2007 Posted

The Anticipated Commodity Chart for SY07 has been placed on the Food Distribution Program website which is available at: http://www.isbe.net/business.htm. The USDA has not offered all commodities for 2007 yet, so the chart will be updated as commodities are ordered. Be sure to check the chart frequently as changes are made to it often. By monitoring the chart and comparing it to what you have ordered, you can better manage your PAL dollars.

Basic Training for NSLP

In August, 2006, the Illinois State Board of Education Nutrition Programs Division will again offer introductory workshops targeted to new sponsors/new staff of school-based Child Nutrition Programs. The half-day workshop will provide participants with an overview of the United States Department of Agriculture’s regulations that govern the school-based programs including processing household applications, verification, completing the annual application process and financial reports, menu planning, food commodities and much more. Even though primarily designed for new sponsors/new staff, the workshops will serve as an excellent overview of the program regulations for anyone with these responsibilities.

Dates and locations are as follows:
- August 10, 2006 - 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Northfield Inn and Conference Center, Springfield
- August 24, 2006 - 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. - Hilton Hotel, Oak Lawn, IL

Registration for both locations will begin at 8 a.m. Beverage service will be provided; however, no food will be served. Feel free to bring a snack for breaks. For specific workshop information and required pre-registration, go to http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/workshops.htm and click on Workshop/Training Schedule and Online Registration.
Legal

Child Murderer/Violent Offender Against Youth Database created

P.A. 94-945 creates the Child Murderer/Violent Offender Against Youth Notification Law and Database, under which the Illinois State Police will require individuals convicted of certain violent but not sexually-based offenses to register with local law enforcement and be listed in the Database. This database will also include information currently listed on the LEADS database. The Illinois State Police must create this database by June 2007. This Database is intended to be a companion to the Sex Offender Registry and will be available and searchable on the Internet through a link on the Illinois State Police website. Please note that with the creation of this Database, the Sex Offenders Registry will no longer include individuals who have been convicted solely of non-sexually based offenses against children.

Violent offenses that will require registration include kidnapping, aggravated kidnapping, unlawful restraint, aggravated unlawful restraint; any attempt of those offenses; first degree murder; child abduction; and forcible detention. Adults and minors convicted of such an offense against a child or children will be required to register with the local law enforcement in the municipality in which they reside, work and attend school.

School districts are mandated to check the Child Murderer/Violent Offender Against Youth Database in conjunction with any background check (once it becomes available). For individuals applying for teacher certification or currently holding certificates, being listed on the Child Murderer/Violent Offenders Against Youth Database will not automatically prohibit certification or employment (unless by district policy). However, certain convictions that lead to registration do indeed prohibit certification and employment.

ISBE suggests that school districts review any policies regarding child sex offenders visiting campus or juvenile sex offenders enrolling in the district to determine if any changes should be made in regard to P.A. 94-945.

P.A. 94-945 can be viewed online at http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?name=094-0945

Early Childhood

Special Project RFPs released

The Prevention Initiative, as outlined in Section 2-3.89 of the Illinois School Code provides for grants to establish programs which offer coordinated services to at-risk infants, toddlers and their families. Both of the new requests for proposal (RFP) fund assistance in the development and implementation of Prevention Initiative programs. RFPs must be submitted by 4 pm on August 15.

Prevention Initiative Technical Assistance and Training: Birth to 3 Years

This RFP funds training and technical assistance for recipients of Prevention Initiative Grants. Successful Applicants will provide core and ongoing trainings to ensure high-quality Prevention Initiative programs as well as technical assistance to help programs with strategies for improving services, strengthening program quality, planning for a continuous improvement approach, implementing their chosen model with fidelity and helping program staff implement what is learned in training. The RFP is available at: http://www.isbe.net/earlychi/pdf/07_ta_training_RFP.pdf

Prevention Initiative Mental Health Consultation and Training: Birth to 3 Years

This RFP funds a successful applicant to provide mental health consultation and training for the recipients of Prevention Initiative grants. Because families participating in the 0 to 3 at-risk programs may have challenges such as domestic violence, substance abuse, depression or other mental illness or homelessness, which invariably affect the child’s behavior and overall development,

Prevention Initiative programs need to be prepared to adequately serve these families and ensure they are connected with appropriate services in the community. Successful applicants will provide this training as well as constant support and professional development. The RFP is available at http://www.isbe.net/earlychi/pdf/07_mental_health_RFP.pdf

If you have questions or would like to obtain a paper copy of the RFPs, please call 217-524-4835.

Curriculum and Instruction

Technology Immersion Pilot Project RFP

The Technology Immersion Pilot Project Request for Proposal (RFP) will soon be released. Eligible applicants include school districts, public university laboratory schools approved by the Illinois State Board
of Education (ISBE), charter schools, area vocational centers and any public schools operated by an agency of the State of Illinois that:

• serve students in grades 6 through 8;
• have State-approved technology integration plans; and either
• have one or more schools in Academic Early Warning or Academic Watch status under Section 2-3.25d of the School Code (105 ILCS 5/2-3.25d); or
• serve a significant percentage of students whose identified needs would make the use of technology devices more necessary or effective in their education than is the case for the student population as a whole.

Grants will be provided to at least seven school districts or other eligible applicants in the following manner:

• at least three schools in the City of Chicago School District 299;
• at least one school in each of three districts/applicants located in the portion of Cook County outside of the city of Chicago and DuPage, Kane, Lake and Will counties; and
• at least one school in each of three districts/applicants located in the remainder of the state.

Districts will be asked to form a technology immersion committee. This committee will determine the grade served within the school, the curricular area that will be concentrated on in the project and the relevant teachers and administrators that will participate in the project. Successful applicants will not receive monetary awards but will receive laptops for all students, teachers and administrators involved in the project and if necessary, up to $15,000 worth of applicable software and hardware. In addition, teachers and administrators will participate in ISBE-sponsored professional development.

Those interested in applying will need to submit an “Intent to Apply” form found within the RFP and must attend one of the following grant writing workshops:

• July 25, 2006 - 1 to 4:30 p.m. at University of Illinois at Chicago, Conference Room C, Student Center West, 828 S. Wolcottin
• July 26, 2006 - 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at University of Illinois at Springfield, Public Affairs Building, Conference Room C/D

For more information about the Technology Immersion Pilot Project, contact Jamey Baiter at 217- 557-7323 or jbaiter@isbe.net. For more information about the grant writing workshops, please contact the Office of Lt. Governor Pat Quinn at 312-814-5220.