



Illinois State Board of Education

100 North First Street • Springfield, Illinois 62777-0001
www.isbe.net

Jesse H. Ruiz
Chairman

Christopher A. Koch, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education

November 3, 2009

Dear Superintendent:

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), The Attorney General's Office, and The Governor's Office have created the first statewide internet safety contest in Illinois in response to the legislation, effective January 1, 2009, and in the Illinois School code Section 27-13.3. The purpose of this contest is to raise awareness about how to protect children who use the internet and prevent the overall misuse of technology, throughout the State. This year's theme will focus on cyberbullying. Students may address any issue related to cyberbullying. We would like to engage all students in the State and for this reason we have tried to make this a fun activity that encourages the appropriate usage of digital technology.

The contest will be divided into two categories: 1) video/podcast/slideshow and/or 2) poster. The students may enter one of the two categories. A group may have up to three students in it. Additionally, the contest will be broken down by grade level groups. The grade level groups are as follows: 1-3, 4-6, 7-8, and 9-12. A winner will be selected in each category and for each grade level. There will be first place, second place, and third place winners for each category and within each age group. Each district is allowed one submission per category, per grade level group. Submissions are due by March 31, 2010 and should be mailed to The Illinois State Board of Education, Curriculum and Instruction Division, 100 North First Street, Springfield, IL 62777. Winners will be acknowledged at the ISBE board meeting and at the Illinois Educators Technology Conference (IETC). Their work will also be posted to the ISBE and other participating websites. For entry forms, contest rules, terms and conditions, please visit http://www.isbe.net/curriculum/html/internet_safety.htm.

This is a very exciting endeavor! We hope you support your students by encouraging them to participate, providing them with resources, and guiding their projects so as to reinforce safe/smart usage of technology. Please email netsafety@isbe.net or call James Walsh at 217/557-7323, with any questions regarding this contest.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christopher Koch".

Christopher A. Koch, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education