




# Every Day Counts Cohort Meeting

November 19, 2025



# Logistics

Before we get started,

-  This meeting is being recorded so we can share key takeaways and support those who couldn't attend live.
-  Please stay muted unless you're speaking, to help reduce background noise.
-  If you have a question or comment, feel free to unmute yourself or type it in the chat—we want to hear from you!

Thanks for helping us create a respectful and engaging space for everyone.

# Meet the Illinois State Board of Education SCTAC team

- **Carl Amos**- Safe and Healthy Climate
- **Nanette Coley**-Safe and Healthy Climate
- **Sarah Littrell**- Learning Renewal – Safe and Healthy Climate
- **Theresa Olsen**- Wellness and Student Care



# Agenda

- Inclusive Welcome
- Resource Spotlight
- Pass the Mic
- Announcements
- Intentional Close



# The purpose of this cohort

☀ Everyday Counts Illinois

*Student Engagement Cohort on Chronic Absenteeism*

Building Belonging, Connection, and Equity—One Day at a Time

Chronic absenteeism is more than missed day it's a signal of disconnection. This cohort is about reconnecting students through relationships, equity, and SEL.

Together, we'll share strategies, celebrate wins, and build systems that help every student feel seen, supported, and engaged.

# *Inclusive Welcome*



## Synectics

- *Problem solving technique that promotes creative thinking*
- **View** the set of images; what **resonates** with you today?
- **Complete the sentence:**  
*Education today is like \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_*
- **SHARE** in chat or unmute and share out loud



**Education today is like**  
*(choose image)* **because....**



# Synerctics and SEL Skills



SELF-MANAGEMENT /  
AGENCY



RELATIONSHIP SKILLS /  
COLLABORATIVE PROBLEM  
SOLVING

**Webinar:  
Improving Attendance and  
Engagement in Schools**

*Presented by*



**Attendance  
Works**

Advancing Student Success By Reducing Chronic Absence

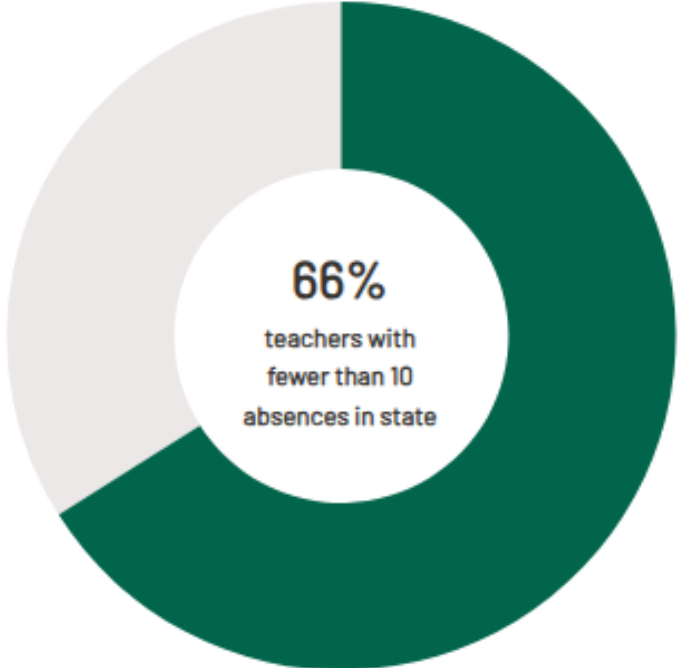
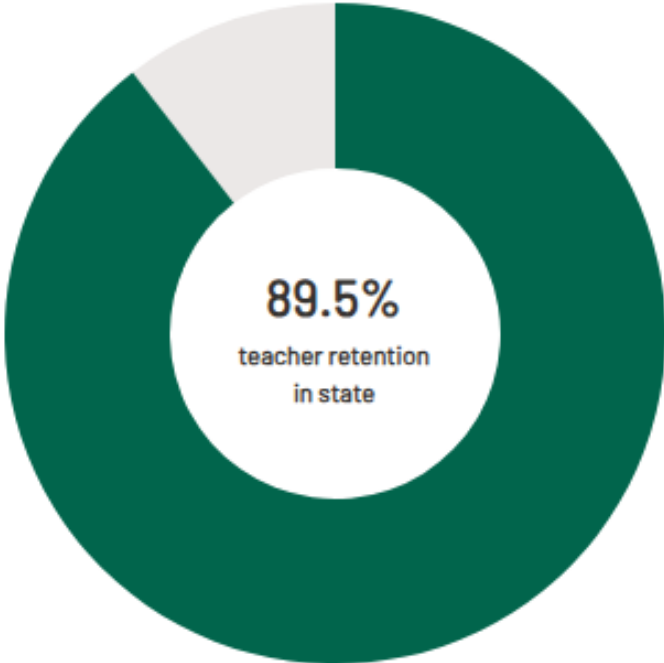
**February 25, 2026  
1:00 pm – 2:30 pm**

*Save the Date*



# Improving Student Attendance: Teacher Attendance and Retention

# Snapshot - 2025 IL School Report Card



# Teacher Attendance

Leading indicator  
of student  
achievement

Teacher with  
REGULAR  
Attendance

Teachers absent  
10 days or MORE

Continuity of  
instruction

Attention to  
individual  
students

Student outcomes  
decrease  
significantly

Loss of instruction  
time

Financial costs to  
district for Subs



Join us **December 17**

Dr. Jaclyn Lennox

Bolingbrook High School

2025 [Milken Award Winner](#)

# ISBE and SEL supports

Illinois State Board of Education

**Social Emotional  
Learning Hubs**



**Resilience • Supportive**  
SCHOOLS ILLINOIS

<https://www.isbe.net/selhubs>



## Social Emotional Learning Hubs

- Direct support for social emotional learning and universal mental health screening.
- The Hubs provide coaching, professional development, training and capacity building to districts and regional offices in their area.
- Assist school-community leadership teams to implement data driven strategies to address student trauma and mental health needs and build resilient communities.

## Resilience Supportive Schools Illinois

- **Free** and voluntary support that uses school-specific data to connect educators with evidence-informed tools and resources to improve the mental health and well-being of their school-communities. Choose a focus:
  - Trauma-responsiveness
  - Social and Emotional Learning
  - Mental Health
  - Cultural Responsiveness

# Welcome....

## Madeline Smith

Sr. Data & Research Manager



# Get Access to RSSI Data Snapshot

Resilience Supportive Schools  
Illinois (RSSI) - User Account  
Request

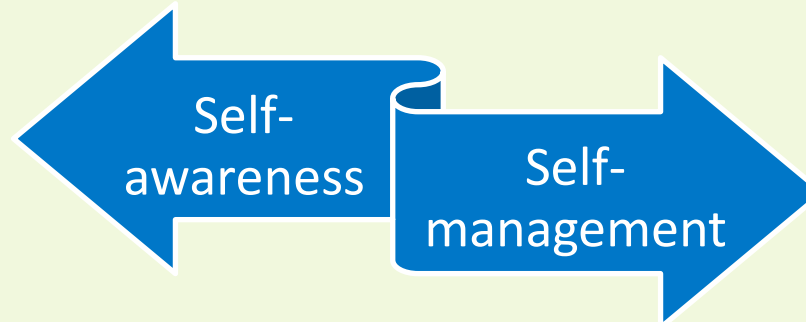


# *Intentional Close*



## Build a Bridge...

**Identify one connection** between what was learned or discussed today that is applicable to something you need to do in the next week or so.



# Announcements



Next Meeting Date: December 17, 2025



Resources: All Materials and tools will be posted on the ISBE website

# Contact Information

Carl Amos: [camos@isbe.net](mailto:camos@isbe.net)

Nanette Coley: [ncoley@isbe.net](mailto:ncoley@isbe.net)

Sarah Littrell: [SLITTREL@isbe.net](mailto:SLITTREL@isbe.net)

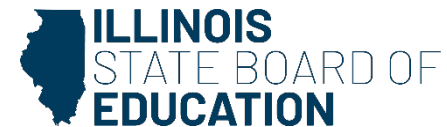
Theresa Olsen: [tolsen@isbe.net](mailto:tolsen@isbe.net)

Email: [everydaycounts@isbe.net](mailto:everydaycounts@isbe.net)

[ISBE Chronic Absenteeism Website](#)

# SEL as a Strategy - Resources

- [Social-Emotional Learning Hubs](#)
  - Provide professional development, training, coaching and capacity building to schools, districts and ROEs to example SEL and trauma-responsive programming.
  - Provide coaching supports for RSSI
- [Resilience Supportive Schools Illinois \(RSSI\)](#)
  - Choose your focus: Trauma-Responsiveness, Social & Emotional Learning, Mental Health, Cultural Responsiveness, Anti-Racism & Equity
  - 15 question survey and build your plan with an SEL coach
- [Learning and Resource Hub](#)
  - FREE educational resource in support of strategies pertaining to social and emotional learning, trauma-responsive practices, mental health, and healing for both staff and students.
  - Approved provider for ISBE professional development.
  - *NEW information and modules added regularly.*



# CASEL Resources



- [CASEL](#) – Collaborative for Social Emotional and Academic Learning
- [5 SEL Competencies](#) & Focal Constructs
- [3 Signature Practices](#)
- [School](#) and [District](#) SEL Implementation
- [How does SEL Support Equity?](#)

Thank you