

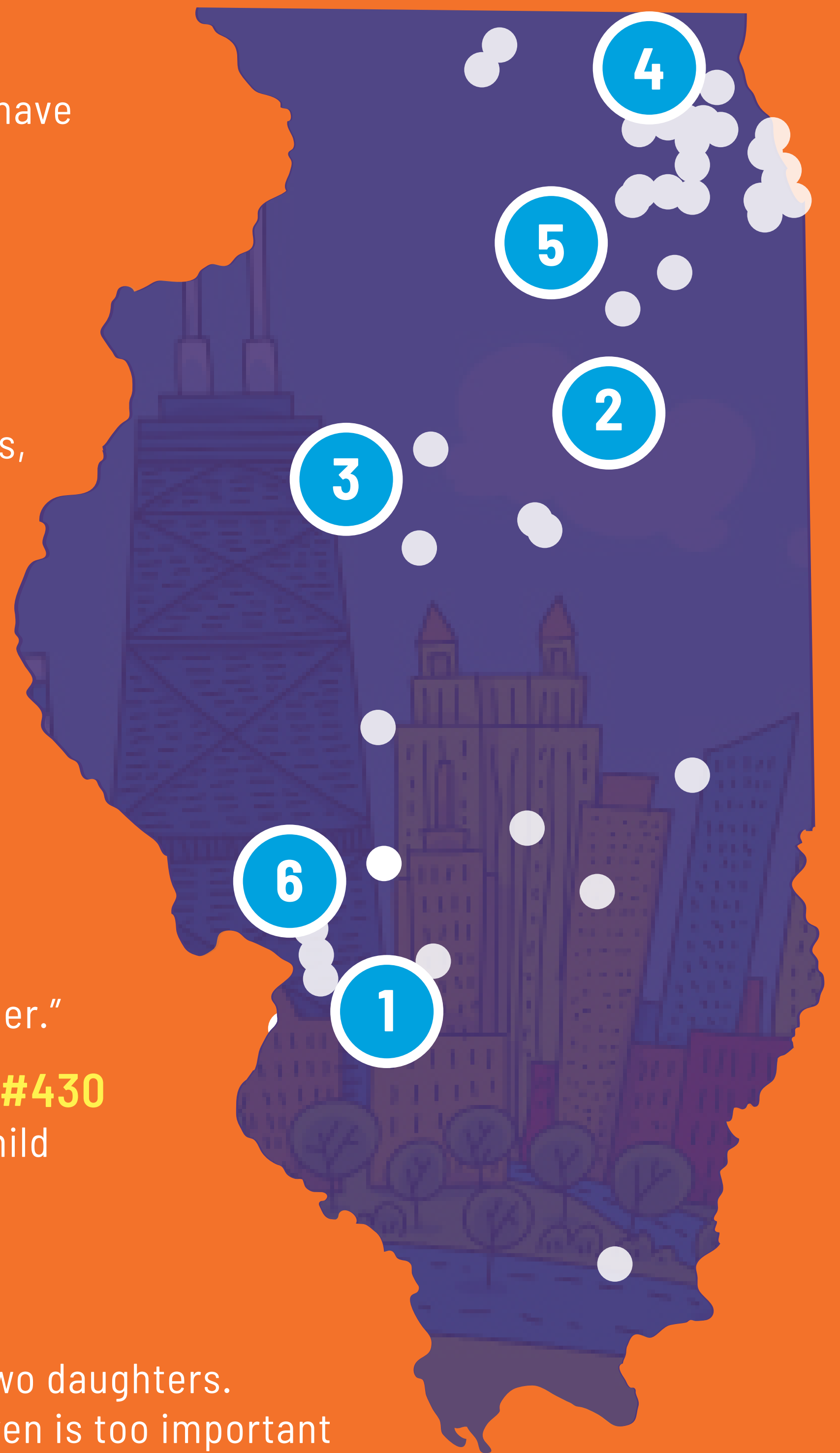
EXCEL



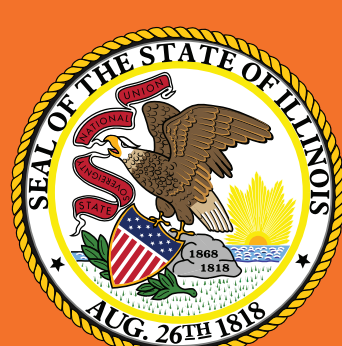
ISBE's Those Who Excel program recognizes outstanding educators, staff, and community members from throughout the state annually. The program also names the Illinois Teacher of the Year in October each year. Nominations for all recognition categories are accepted beginning in the spring. Nominate an outstanding educator in your area!

ILLINOIS TEACHERS OF THE YEAR 1971-2019

- 1 Susan Converse | 2018-19**
Edwardsville School District #7
"I tell everyone who asks me about my position that 'I have the best job in the world' and I truly believe that I do."
- 2 Lindsey Jensen | 2017-18**
Dwight Public School District #232
"I fell in love with teaching in an environment that would send most adults running for the hills.
"Despite the challenging days and difficult experiences, it was in this special classroom where my unconventional path to a career began."
- 3 Kim Thomas | 2015-16**
Peoria Public Schools District #150
"I became a teacher so kids would have an awesome experience going to school."
- 4 Steve Elza | 2014-15**
Township High School District #211
"It is my goal to help students to rediscover the empowerment that comes from being a life-long learner."
- 5 Pam Reilly | 2013-14 | Sandwich School District #430**
"I understand the importance of teaching the whole child in front of me, not just the curriculum."
- 6 Annice Brave | 2010-11**
Alton Community Unit School District #11
"I decided to become a teacher after the birth of my two daughters. That is when I realized that educating America's children is too important to leave to amateurs."



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