



# Sharon Battles's Retirement



Sharon Battles, who enjoyed a wonderful career in the ISBE Licensure Division (now Educator Effectiveness), was recently recognized, along with other agency employees, for 20-plus years of service at ISBE. She is pictured with Superintendent Smith. Sharon was with ISBE for almost 24 years and retired at the end of February. Her warmth, sense of humor, outlook on life, and incredible knowledge will be greatly missed by her colleagues and those in the field who have had the pleasure of working with her. Best of luck in your new adventures, Sharon!

## Licensure

### PRINTING LICENSES

Please note: ISBE does not issue paper copies of licenses. You may print a copy of your credentials screen in ELIS if you so choose. Make sure you are using Internet Explorer or Firefox as your browser.

ranges of 5-8 are still valid; in Illinois, once one is qualified, always qualified.

These changes only effect additional endorsements sought after the new middle grades programs come into effect on February 1, 2018. The document will outline the charge behind the transition, frequently asked questions and example scenarios: <http://isbe.net/licensure/pdf/higher-ed/future-of-illinois-middle-grades.pdf>.

### THE FUTURE OF ILLINOIS MIDDLE GRADES

This document provides a reference for Institutions of Higher Education, stakeholders, administrators and educators as Illinois transitions from the current middle school endorsement structure to new middle grades programs and endorsement requirements. **PLEASE NOTE: current endorsement credentials in the grade**

### INNOVATIONS IN THE FIELD

District, school, and state representatives convened in Denver last week for the Network to Transform Teaching (NT3) Learning Session. Illinois was one of ten states in attendance. Illinois' team focused on creating pathways for novice teachers to become accomplished teachers.



*Felice Hybert and Rusti Merrill of the Kankakee School District discuss strategies for incorporating the body of knowledge into their pilot schools in the upcoming school year.*



## NEW WEBSITE

The agency launched the new redesign of its website December 22, 2016. The redesigned ISBE website features content organized and prioritized by user interest and includes enhancements such as easier readability on mobile devices and greatly improved search functionality. A new brief “How to navigate the new website” video is located under the “Current Topics” section on the new draft homepage to assist users to find the most common agency pages.

Prior to the launch, the Division of Educator Effectiveness held a webinar that gave external stakeholders a “first look” at the website live. The webinar allowed stakeholders an opportunity to see where the most frequented documents are located prior to the launch. The webinar was recorded and can be found here.

This is a dynamic process and we are in a learning mode. Thank you for your patience, innovation, diligence, and passion. Feedback regarding the Educator Licensure Pages (Licensure, Renewal & Reinstatement, and Educator Preparation Providers & Stakeholders) can be sent to: [licensurewebfeedback@isbe.net](mailto:licensurewebfeedback@isbe.net)

## SENATE BILL 2912 - IMPORTANT UPDATES

Governor Rauner signed into law Senate Bill 2912 on January 6, 2017. The law changes include lower application fee for substitute licenses (now \$50) and no basic skills test needed for renewal in five years, content test reciprocity from other states for initial licensure, Illinois Provisional Licensure option for those completing IL approved programs, and more. See the summary link for more details.

<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/EESenate-Bill2912.aspx>

# Renewal

## REINSTATEMENT

Registration and renewal for FY 2017 starts on 4/1/2017 and must be complete on/before 8/31/2017. Please reference the following links to the License Renewal Chart that outline the renewal/registration deadlines (<https://www.isbe.net/Documents/license-renewal-chart.pdf>) and the instructions for recording professional development (<https://www.isbe.net/Documents/record-prof-dev.pdf>). A helpful renewal how-to video is available online at <https://vimeo.com/196776968>.

Beginning April 1, 2017 educators can carry over unused professional development hours completed between April 1 and June 30 of the final year of their renewal cycle to the next five-year renewal cycle. Educators should not record unused professional development in ELIS until July 1 of the next renewal cycle.

LAST YR OF 5-YR CYCLE	PD COMPLETED	NEXT 5-YR CYCLE	RECORD CARRY OVER PD IN ELIS ON/AFTER
2017	4/1-6/30/2017	7/1/2017-6/30/2022	7/1/2017
2018	4/1-6/30/2018	7/1/2018-6/30/2023	7/1/2018
2019	4/1-6/30/2019	7/1/2019-6/30/2024	7/1/2019
2020	4/1-6/30/2020	7/1/2020-6/30/2025	7/1/2020
2021	4/1-6/30/2021	7/1/2021-6/30/2026	7/1/2021

Those who perform evaluations of teachers are reminded that module 5 of the Growth Through Learning pre-qualification modules must be completed before conducting an evaluation that includes student growth. For information regarding the pre-qualification modules, please visit <http://www.growththroughlearningillinois.org/>.

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Renewal Cycle	Date of Retraining
As a teacher evaluator, if I took the initial training in 2012 and renewed my license by July 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2013.	My retraining must be completed by June 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2018.
As a teacher evaluator, if I renewed my license by July 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2014	My retraining must be completed by June 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2019
As a teacher evaluator, if I renewed my license by July 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2015	My retraining must be completed by June 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2020
As a teacher evaluator, if I renewed my license by July 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2016	My retraining must be completed by June 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2021
As a teacher evaluator, if I renew my license by July 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2017	My retraining must be completed by June 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2022

Evaluators who have taken the initial evaluator training (Growth Through Learning Modules or district developed) must complete retraining "once within the next renewal cycle" (105 ILCS 5/24A-3)). The chart below provides a guide for determining when retraining must be completed. Please note that retraining is connected to the renewal cycle of the license (PEL).

Retraining will be offered through the Administrator's Academies. Retraining through the Administrator Academy structure will allow for the inclusion of teachers who have successfully completed initial evaluator training, but do not hold an administrator endorsement on their PEL. Two academies are required to meet the retraining requirement. One will address teacher practice, and the other will address student growth. The academies neither need to be taken in any particular order, nor do they have to be taken together.

Districts are reminded that they have the option of developing their own retraining program, districts choosing to do so they must notify the State Board of Education no later than July 1 immediately preceding the school year in which the process or program will be implemented. The notification shall at least include the type of training to be offered, names of the individuals presenting the training, and date upon which each school district-designated trainer completed the "train-the-trainers" program offered by, or on behalf of, the State Board of Education (Part 50 Administrative Rule section 50.400 (c) <http://www.isbe.net/rules/archive/pdfs/50ARK.pdf>).

## EXCITING OPPORTUNITY FOR ADMINISTRATOR LEADERS

There are currently forty-seven National Board Professional Development Schools in Illinois led by administrator leaders. The NBRC is expanding this program to include an additional twenty-five schools/districts to take part in this opportunity during the 2017-2018 school year.

Members of the National Board Professional Development Schools will spend a year or more fostering personal and professional growth as they build collegial relationships. This program is school based and includes several research-based instructional strategies which focus on implementing effective teaching approaches that nurture critical thinking. Participants support each other in completing the National Board components, collaborate on adapting curriculum to the Illinois Learning Standards, and articulate teaching practices aligned with the Danielson Framework for Teaching while relating these topics to the school's goals. Teachers expand leadership skills which are critical to serving the needs of students, schools and the teaching profession. The overall focus of the National Board Professional Development School program is to impact teaching and learning.

## IMPORTANT DATES

**March 27, 2017** - Application submission

**April 3, 2017** - The NBRC will notify the schools/districts selected as one of the twenty-five cohorts to participate in the National Board Professional Development Schools program. Call 309-438-1833 (w) or 815-878-0509 (c) for more information.

## HOW TO VIDEOS AVAILABLE FOR LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS

Link to How To Videos: <http://isbe.net/licensure/default.htm?col3=open#Col-lapsiblePanel3>

All videos provided to assist educators that are featured on the ISBE website are compatible with PCs, Mac devices and are mobile friendly.

**REMINDER:** As always, be sure all of your contact information is up to date in your Educator Licensure Information System (ELIS) account so you will not miss any important ISBE reminders or updates regarding your license.

## Staff Spotlight



### MEET TODD WILLIAMS - PRINCIPAL CONSULTANT

Todd graduated from Cuba High School and Illinois State University. Todd's first job was as the District School Counselor at Illiopolis CUSD. His career with ISBE began seven years ago in the Special Education Services Division. For the past two and a half years, he has worked in the Educator Effectiveness Division as a Principal Consultant. Todd enjoys lawn care and maintenance during his free time.

Todd is a great asset to the Educator Effectiveness staff!