

January 2026

Dear Administrator:

Each year, from January through May, the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) surveys a representative sample of parents of students with disabilities to determine how well schools throughout the state are involving parents in their children's education. The survey results are a required component of ISBE's Annual Performance Report (APR) to the United States Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). Your district or the districts within your cooperative are included in the January 2026 survey sample.

The purpose of this letter is to notify the districts and cooperatives that are being surveyed this year that the 2026 Indicator 8 Parent Involvement survey is being distributed to the parents of students with disabilities in your district. Parents of students with disabilities in your district receive a letter in the mail this month in the mail that contains a link and a QR code to the parent survey. It is suggested that districts and cooperatives prepare as well as provide information to parents regarding the survey so they can more easily complete it.

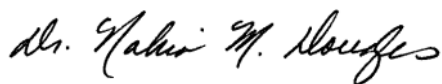
Districts and cooperatives can:

- Utilize your district website, teachers, counselors, special education staff, parent teacher conferences and communications to promote parent awareness and involvement in the survey.
- Provide survey awareness to parents during Individualized Education Program (IEP) meetings.
- Send out reminders to parents of students with disabilities via text and/or email listservs during February through May 2026.

Please visit the [ISBE Indicator 8: Parent Involvement webpage](#) for resources and information that was utilized in previous survey cycles. ISBE will be providing future information, resources, and reminders regarding the January 2026 Indicator 8 Parent Survey to districts and cooperatives.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Jill Baranowski (jbaranow@isbe.net) or Kristina Holloway (khollowa@isbe.net) at 217-782-5589. ISBE would like to thank you for helping our improvement efforts.

Sincerely,



Dr. Nakia Douglas
ISBE Director of Special Education