## The District EJC Journey to Improved Outcomes for All Students

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#### Agenda

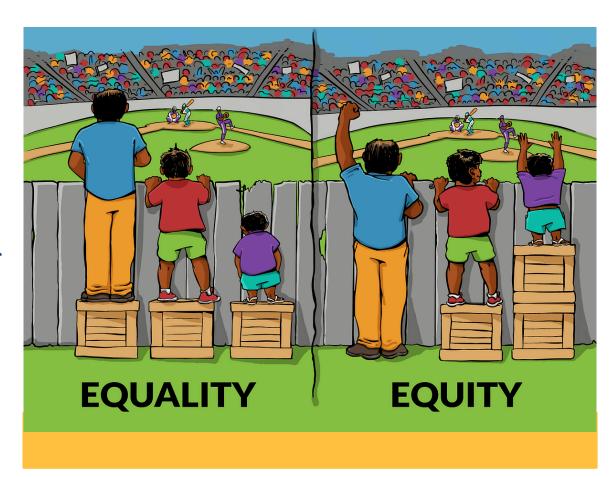
- Equal and/or Equitable
  - Is there a difference?
- The New Illinois Strategic Plan and Educational Equity
  - What is it and how do we provide it?
- The Equity Journey Continuum (EJC)
  - Development, Strategic Plan -- Goals, Access, and Use
- Exploring Your District EJC and ISBE Resources
  - Determining Next Steps



#### What is Equal? What is Equity?

Equal is having the same expectations for all learners without needed supports.

Equity means having high expectations for every learner and providing supports and resources so each learner can meet those expectations.





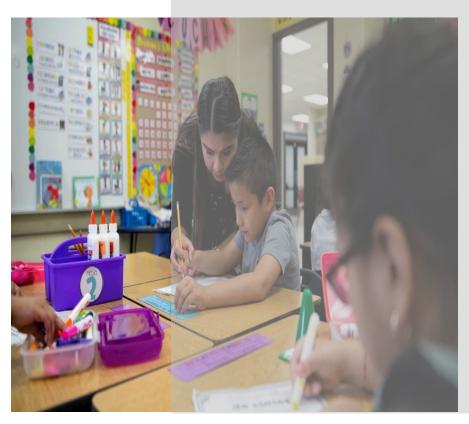
#### What is Equality? What is Equity?

**Equity means** having high expectations for every learner and providing supports and resources so each learner can meet those expectations.





#### **ISBE Equity Statement**



"Illinois has an urgent and collective responsibility to achieve educational equity by ensuring that all policies, programs, and practices affirm the strengths that each and every child brings within their diverse backgrounds and life experiences, and by delivering the comprehensive supports, programs, and educational opportunities they need to succeed."



#### The New Illinois Strategic Plan



#### Illinois Strategic Plan

- Student Learning -- Goal 1
  - All students will receive a highquality education with access to appropriate resources and supports to increase their knowledge, skills, and opportunities so they graduate equipped to pursue a successful future.



#### Illinois Strategic Plan

- Learning Conditions -- Goal 2
  - In partnership with its stakeholders, ISBE will advocate for the necessary resources to create safe, healthy, and welcoming learning environments that meet the unique academic social and emotional needs of every student.



#### Illinois Strategic Plan

- Elevating Educators -- Goal 3
  - Illinois' diverse student population will have educators who are prepared through multiple pathways and supported in and celebrated for their effectiveness in providing every child a high-quality education that meets their needs.



#### **ISBE Strategic Plan - EJC**

The Equity Journey
Continuum (EJC) tool
was researched,
developed, and
incorporated into each
district's public 2023
Report Card.

ISBE 2024-2027 Strategic Plan



Goal E.2 An Equity
 Journey Continuum will
 be used to publicly
 indicate where each
 Illinois school district is
 on its equity journey.



#### ISBE Strategic Plan 2024-2027



E.2.3 By the end of FY 2025, the Equity Journey Continuum will be added to the School Improvement Needs Assessment.

E.2.4 By the end of FY 2025, ISBE will develop a suite of resources to assist schools and districts in integrating their Equity Journey Continuum results into their continuous improvement planning.



#### Why Focus on Educational Equity?

The data shows us that in our Illinois education system:

families are
underrepresented in
Advanced Placement and
gifted programs.

English learners score
below their peers in math
and reading proficiency.

Students of color are more often suspended.

Students with IEPs are more often chronically absent.



#### Illinois State Board of Education

## The Equity Journey Continuum (EJC)

Helping you discover, understand, and improve your district's story





#### **Equity Journey Continuum Goal**

Develop a tool to help school districts improve outcomes for students by increasing access to the educational opportunities, quality programs, supports, and resources needed for success.

Identify data that reflect access to opportunities and supports.

Inform a process of system- and culture-level change.

Connect
districts to
resources to
increase equity
for lowperforming
student
groups.



#### **Research and Development**

Creating a tool for Illinois: Research, analyze, review information and resources

#### The Education Commission of the States

- Building Educational Equity Indicator Systems: A Guidebook for States and School Districts
  - ✓ Identifies equity indicators
- <u>Equity and Excellence ESSA State Report Cards: A</u>
   <u>State-by-State Analysis</u>
  - ✓ Provides equity indicators



#### Other States and Agencies

### Pennsylvania School Boards Association: Equity Toolkit

- Equity System Continuum
- Equity Toolkit
- Equity Lens Approach

## North Carolina Schools Racial Equity Report Cards

- Snapshot of Racial Disproportionalities
- Academic Achievement
- School Discipline and Court Involvement



#### **Educational Equity**

The foundational elements of the Equity Journey Continuum are based in educational equity.

- Adequate effort to lessen the effects of structural disadvantages that disproportionately affect different student groups.
- Parity among student groups in terms of educational outcomes or access to a resource.
- A fit between resources and student needs.

#### **Results of Providing Educational Equity**

#### Increase, Improve, Develop:

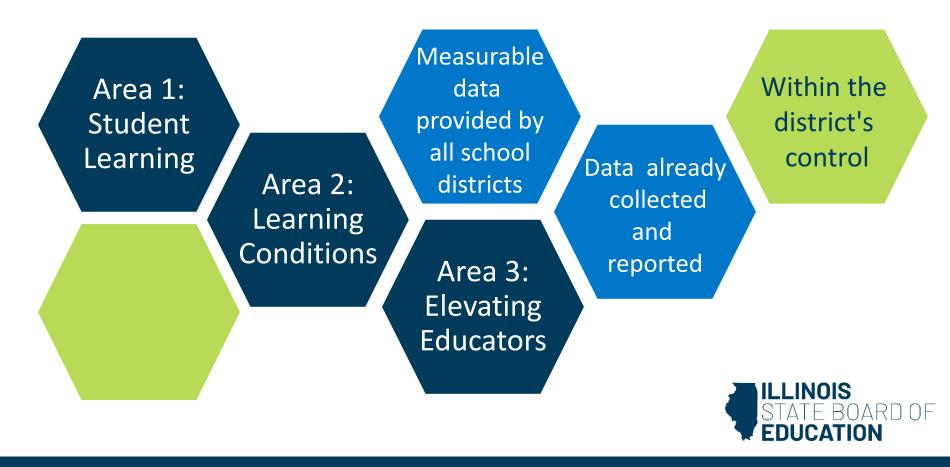
- Student achievement and post-school success
- Learning conditions
- Educators and staff
- Parents and community

- In Illinois, our public school system shows persistent and significant gaps in achievement between student groups.
- The Equity Journey Continuum will serve to illuminate areas where a district may need to alter systems, increase access, add resources, and provide supports to ensure students from all backgrounds can achieve the same high standards.



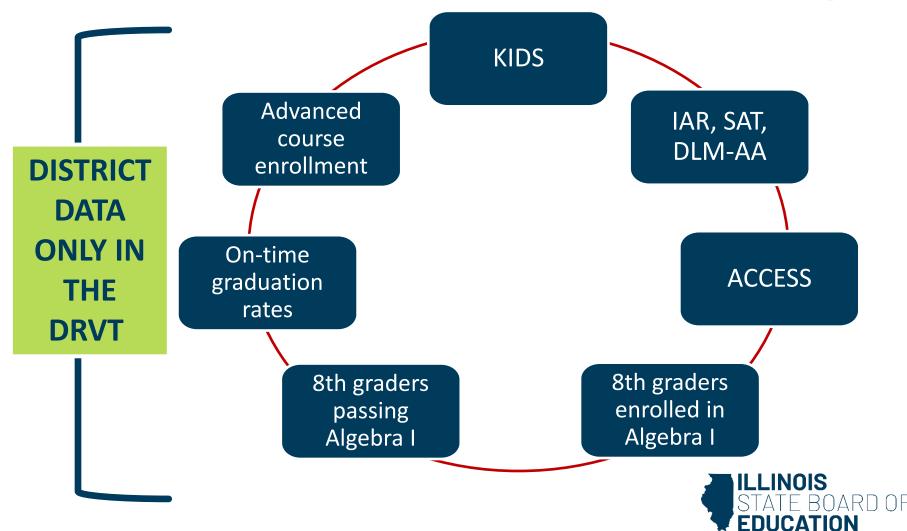
#### **EJC Building Blocks**

#### Strategic Plan Goals & Data Requirements



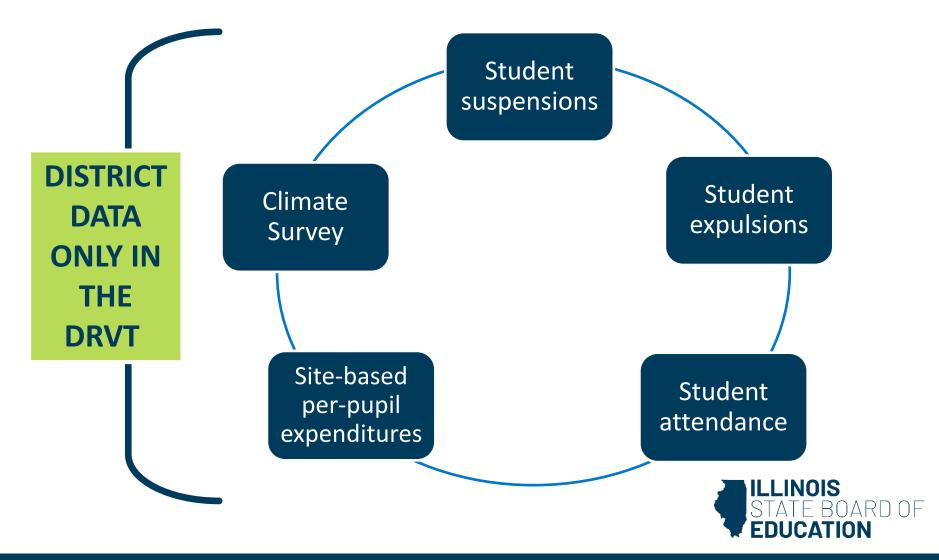
#### Focus Area 1: Student Learning





#### Focus Area 2: Learning Conditions





#### **Educational Equity and Gaps**



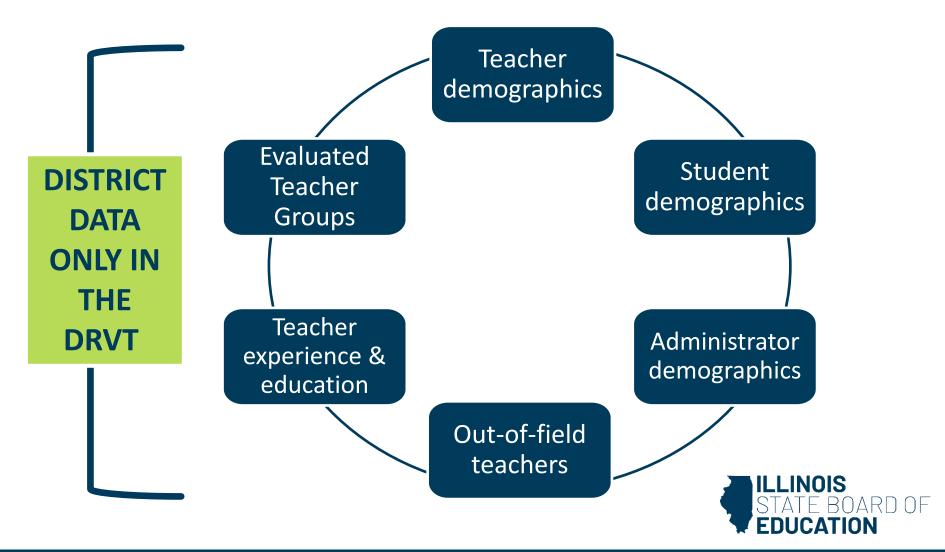
**Turn and Talk Topic** 

Why are gaps the focus of educational equity?



#### Focus Area 3: Elevating Educators





#### **Equity Journey Continuum Fact Sheets**





<u>Introduction</u>

**Data Elements** 

**Four Steps** 

How to Use

**Your Narrative** 

ISBE Equity Information and Resources Webpage <a href="https://www.isbe.net/equity">https://www.isbe.net/equity</a>

- Glossary
- FAQ
- The Data Review and Verification Tool (DRVT) Contains district data.
   (Superintendent accessible).



#### **Progress Along the EJC**

Progress along the continuum will be designated by four steps:



Large gaps in equity



Moderate gaps in equity



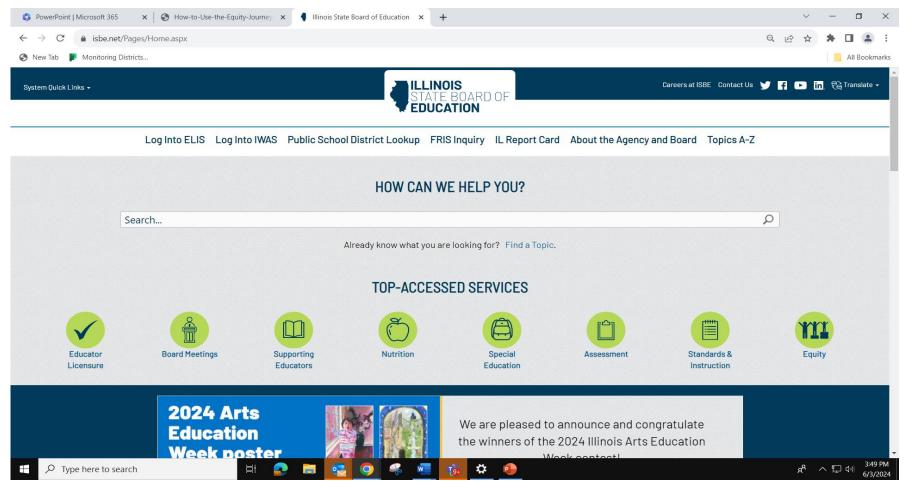
Small gaps in equity



Minimal gaps in equity



#### Accessing the ISBE EJC



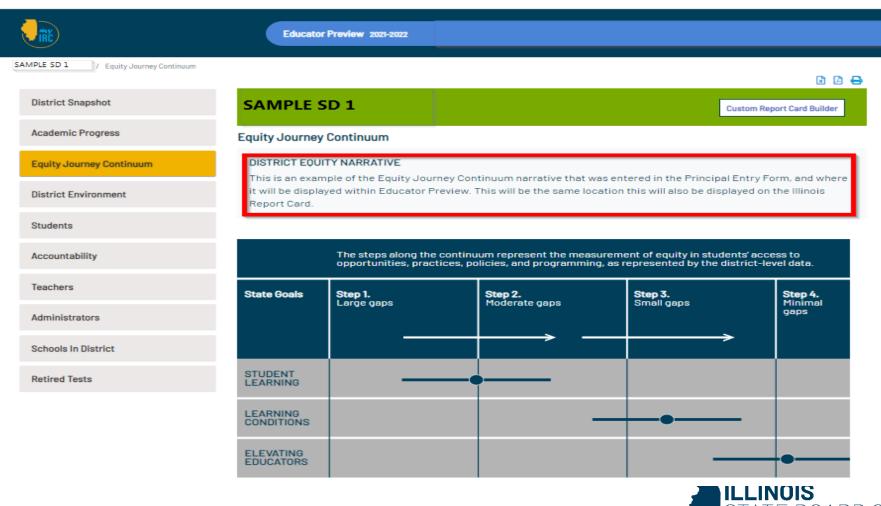


#### **Accessing the EJC and Website Supports**

- Access your district <u>IL Report Card</u> or go to <u>www.isbe.net</u> and click "IL Report Card" in the row across the top of the page.
- Click <u>Illinois Interactive Report Card</u> in column at right.
- In the "Find Your School" box enter your <u>district</u> name, select it from the list, and press "Search".
- In the list on the left, click "Equity Journey Continuum".



#### **Exploring Your District EJC**



#### **District Next Steps**



- Looking at your district's 2023 EJC data, what are the steps the district can take to reach the three Strategic Plan goals? How will the district utilize the EJC in plans to improve educational equity for students who need it?
- What resources does your district have to mitigate educational equity gaps? What ISBE or other resources are districts aware of?



#### **Equity Journey Continuum Fact Sheets**











**Introduction** 

**Data Elements** 

**Four Steps** 

**How to Use** 

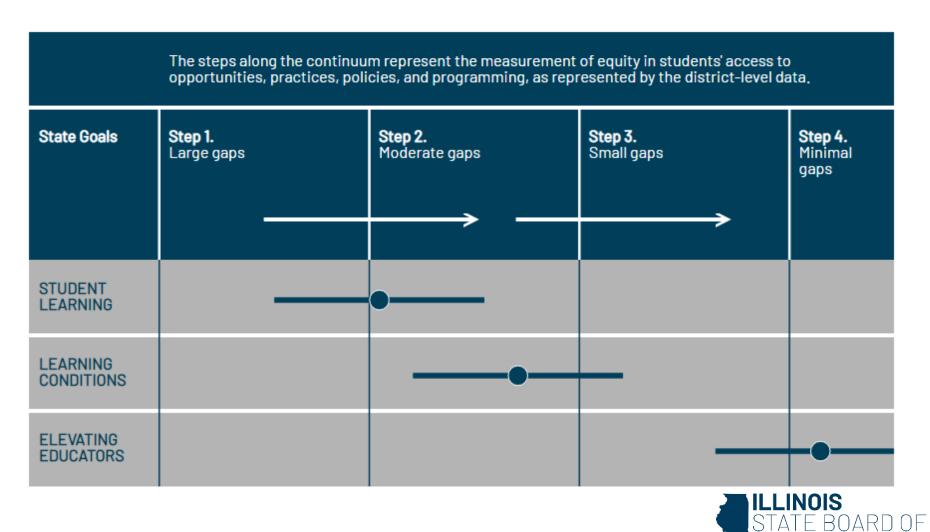
**Your Narrative** 

ISBE Equity Website: <a href="https://www.isbe.net/equity">www.isbe.net/equity</a>
Also accessible from the ISBE home page (Equity circle)

- Glossary
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   (Superintendent has access.)



#### **State-Level Equity Journey Continuum**



## Next Steps: Developing Equitable Policies, Practices, and Procedures

- Help district leaders and their communities make informed decisions about their schools' equity strengths, opportunities for growth, access, and supports
- The factual, objective data helps all stakeholders speak effectively about where to invest their equity efforts and resources.
- Help to ensure students from all backgrounds can achieve high standards as districts move forward in their unique equity journey.



## Next Steps: Developing Equitable Policies, Practices, and Procedures

#### **Elevating Educators**

- Offer grants to current or prospective educators to fulfill coursework and licensure requirements to address high-need areas.
- Professional learning, mentoring programs, and supports for educators, include special educators.
- Develop future teachers and paraprofessionals and new ISBE program(s) for students.



# Questions?



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# thankyou

