



Illinois State Board of Education

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Christopher A. Koch, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education

TO: District Superintendents and Regional Superintendents

FROM: David Andel, Division Administrator, Special Education and Support Services *DA*

DATE: March 1, 2012

RE: Reporting Students Administratively Transferred to Regional Safe School Programs

Article 13A of the Illinois School Code, 105 ILCS 5/13A-1 *et seq.*, provides for alternative programs for disruptive youth in grades 6 through 12. Approximately 100 Regional Safe Schools Program (RSSP) sites are located throughout Illinois and are administered by the Regional Offices of Education and District 299 (Chicago Public Schools).

Generally, a student who is determined to be subject to suspension or expulsion in the manner provided by Section 10-22.6 or 34-19 of the School Code may be immediately transferred to an RSSP, see 105 ILCS 5/13A-4; however, Section 13A-4 does not, in our opinion, give schools the unilateral right to transfer students to the alternative program without prior consultation with the regional superintendent. The reference to an "immediate transfer" in Section 13A-4 means only that the transfer may be implemented without the student first serving the suspension or expulsion that would otherwise be imposed.

For purposes of reporting RSSP students in the statewide student information system (SIS) the record should indicate the *home school* as the school initiating the administrative transfer. The *servicing school* is the RSSP site the student is attending during the transfer period. Schools can contact their Regional Office of Education if they have questions about the region, county, district, type, school (RCDTS) of the RSSP site. **The student's SIS servicing school information should be updated immediately upon the student's transfer to RSSP.** The RSSP end of year student data report is based on students identified in SIS as attending RSSP sites. The district of the student's residence (home school) is administratively responsible for including RSSP students on reports to the Illinois State Board of Education such as the School Report Card and statewide testing.

Any questions regarding this letter should be addressed to Sally Veach, Special Education and Support Services Division, at (217) 782-2948 or sveach@isbe.net.

Thank you for your continued service to students in Illinois.