

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

April 23, 2019



Hello,

All this week, we're celebrating science in our schools with Illinois Science Education Week. Science educators are working every day to develop our students into the innovative thinkers and problem-solvers we need to lead the country and the world. Illinois adopted new science learning standards in 2014 that build on children's inherent curiosity. Today, science

education in Illinois emphasizes an engaged, hands-on learning experience in which teachers facilitate student-led inquiry, discussion, research, and real-world experiments.

ISBE has resources available to support Illinois Learning Standards in science at every grade level, as well as a new video series on how teachers are changing their approach to science instruction using the Illinois Learning Standards in science. You can find it all at isbe.net/science (/science). And we want you to engage in the celebration by tweeting photos and videos of your activities for Illinois Science Education Week with #ILScienceWeek.

Work on addressing the teacher shortage began last fall with the release of the [Teach Illinois report](#) (/teachillinois), and the Board continued this work with an in-depth discussion at last week's State Board meeting. Addressing this shortage is a very serious issue. Conversations about how this crisis affects your community are exactly what we need to hear. The Board and I greatly appreciated all the public engagement and active participation from a variety of stakeholders and from the following guests:

- Superintendent Jennifer Garrison, Vandalia CUSD 203
- Superintendent Chuck Lane, Centralia HSD 200
- Catherine Main, College of Education program coordinator at the University of Illinois at Chicago
- Dr. Joi Patterson, director of Educator Preparation at Governors State University
- CEO Alicia Winckler and President Alan Mather, Golden Apple

We truly understand how deep and structural the teacher shortage issue is across our state, as well as how its effects are felt differently in every area of the state. We are committed to reducing the barriers to getting effective educators into our classrooms, while also maintaining high standards for those educators. State legislators have put forth many ideas to address the teacher shortage, including modifying testing requirements. The Board is also advocating for \$2.4 million in additional state funding to implement teacher shortage solutions in fiscal year 2020. We know this is a complex issue that will require both short- and long-term solutions, and we're committed to making those investments.

Quick Links

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[Those Who Excel](#)
[U.S. Presidential Scholars Program](#)
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[Evidence-Based Funding](#)
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But we're not just talking about how to start addressing the teacher shortage – programs are already in place to tackle this issue. Teacher Residency Planning Grants will be awarded in the next month to three districts serving high numbers of low-income students or students of color, as well as districts that have experienced chronic teacher shortages. A total of \$750,000 will be awarded to support partnerships between institutions of higher education and high-need school districts to plan full-year teacher residencies. This program will place a teacher candidate in a classroom with a certified teacher to learn alongside them, similar to a medical residency.

One of the priorities identified by the Teach Illinois report is to elevate the teaching profession and inspire more young people to become teachers. ISBE is launching "The First Year" blog series during Teacher Appreciation Week, May 6-10. The series will highlight novice teachers' reflections on their first years in the classroom. If you know an educator completing their first or second year of teaching at any level, please email their contact information to dalbert@isbe.net (mailto:dalbert@isbe.net).

And finally, the nomination period remains open for the 45th annual Those Who Excel program, which names the Illinois Teacher of the Year annually. I encourage you to nominate an outstanding educator in your district for these honors. Nominations are due June 3. You can find more information on the [Those Who Excel webpage](http://thosewhoexcel.org) (/thosewhoexcel).

Sincerely,

Carmen



UPCOMING ISBE DATES AND DEADLINES

Please note this is not a complete list of events, meetings, and deadlines. For more events and details, visit the [ISBE Meetings page](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/ISBE-Meetings.aspx) (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/ISBE-Meetings.aspx) or call the Illinois State Board of Education at (866) 262-6663.

April 22-26: [Illinois Science Education Week](https://www.isbe.net/science)
(https://www.isbe.net/science)

April 26: [Illinois Assessment of Readiness Online/Paper Administration Testing Window closes](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/IAR.aspx)
(https://www.isbe.net/Pages/IAR.aspx)

April 29: [Public comment period ends for proposed amendments to Rules - Part 1 \(Public Schools Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision\)](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Proposed-Rules-and-Amendments.aspx)
(https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Proposed-Rules-and-Amendments.aspx)

April 30: [2019 Title Grants Technical Assistance Tour - Lisle](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/TitleGrantsTour.aspx) (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/TitleGrantsTour.aspx)

April 30: ISBE finalizing SY 2019-20 EBF Enrollment counts

May 1: [Deadline to submit public comments on FY 2019 IDEA Part B Annual State Application](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/IDEA-Part-B-Annual-State-Application.aspx)
(https://www.isbe.net/Pages/IDEA-Part-B-Annual-State-Application.aspx)

May 1: [Deadline to submit public comments on the ESSA State Plan amendments](https://www.isbe.net/essa) (https://www.isbe.net/essa)

May 1: [2019 Title Grants Technical Assistance Tour – Skokie](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/TitleGrantsTour.aspx) (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/TitleGrantsTour.aspx)

May 2: [2019 Title Grants Technical Assistance Tour – Oak Lawn](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/TitleGrantsTour.aspx) (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/TitleGrantsTour.aspx)

May 6: [2019-20 Teach Plus Illinois Teaching Policy Fellowship](https://teachplus.org/illinois-teaching-policy-fellowship) (https://teachplus.org/illinois-teaching-policy-fellowship)

May 7: [2019 Title Grants Technical Assistance Tour – Springfield](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/TitleGrantsTour.aspx)
(https://www.isbe.net/Pages/TitleGrantsTour.aspx)

May 8: [2019 Title Grants Technical Assistance Tour - Effingham](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/TitleGrantsTour.aspx)
(https://www.isbe.net/Pages/TitleGrantsTour.aspx)

May 9: [2019 Title Grants Technical Assistance Tour - Collinsville](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/TitleGrantsTour.aspx)
(https://www.isbe.net/Pages/TitleGrantsTour.aspx)

May 11: [Annual Statewide Summit for Bilingual Parents](http://irc2.thecenterweb.org/site/summit)
(http://irc2.thecenterweb.org/site/summit)

May 12: [Illinois National Board for Professional Teaching Standards First-Time Candidate Fee Subsidy closes](https://nbrc.illinoisstate.edu/firsttime/index.php)
(https://nbrc.illinoisstate.edu/firsttime/index.php)

May 14: [2019 Title Grants Technical Assistance Tour - Rockford](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/TitleGrantsTour.aspx) (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/TitleGrantsTour.aspx)

May 15: Deadline to submit Letter of Interest and Resume for Illinois Advisory Council on Bilingual Education – May 15

May 15: [2019 Title Grants Technical Assistance Tour - Peoria](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/TitleGrantsTour.aspx) (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/TitleGrantsTour.aspx)

May 17: [Deadline to complete IL ePlan Interactive Dashboard survey](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=5kA8ZJ9Eq1LDNameV30UpAoIVJa0pCnoA5pVG05wdUNVFNN1M2N08yOFM4VFdaQkxBRzNINKc2SS4u)
(<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=5kA8ZJ9Eq1LDNameV30UpAoIVJa0pCnoA5pVG05wdUNVFNN1M2N08yOFM4VFdaQkxBRzNINKc2SS4u>)
May 17: [IL-EMPOWER Peer Learning Partners: Round 2 Application](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/IL-Empower.aspx) (<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/IL-Empower.aspx>)
May 20: [School Nutrition Program Orientation Training](http://webprod1.isbe.net/cnscaledar/asp/eventlist.asp)
(<http://webprod1.isbe.net/cnscaledar/asp/eventlist.asp>)

May 20: [2019-20 Teach Plus Early Childhood Educator Policy Fellowship application due](https://teachplus.org/illinois-teaching-policy-fellowship)
(<https://teachplus.org/illinois-teaching-policy-fellowship>)
May 27: [2019-20 Teach Plus Early Childhood Educator Policy Fellowship application due](https://teachplus.org/illinois-teaching-policy-fellowship)
(<https://teachplus.org/illinois-teaching-policy-fellowship>)
May 31: Deadline to submit final amendments for state and federal grants with a project end date of June 30, 2019

ILLINOIS SCIENCE EDUCATION WEEK

Celebrating Illinois Science Education Week – April 22-26



Governor JB Pritzker declared this week [Illinois Science Education Week](#) ([/Documents/2019-Illinois-Science-Education-Week-Proclamation.pdf](#)). The week celebrates the role of high-quality science education in developing the innovative thinkers and problem-solvers Illinois needs to lead the country and the world. April 22 also marked the 50th anniversary of the first-ever national Earth Day.

Visit www.isbe.net/science (<http://www.isbe.net/science>) and follow ISBE's [Facebook](#) (https://www.facebook.com/IllinoisStateBoardofEducation/?ref=br_rs) and [Twitter](#) (<https://twitter.com/ISBEnews>) pages for a full week of science education resources. Learn how you can support science instruction that aligns to the Illinois Learning Standards in science. The standards emphasize an engaged, hands-on learning experience, in which teachers act as facilitators for student-led inquiry, discussion, research, and real-world experiments.

Share photos and videos of your students engaging in science in innovative ways with the hashtag [#ILScienceWeek](#). Raise awareness about Illinois Science Education Week by sharing the [graphic](#) ([/_layouts/Download.aspx?SourceUrl=https%3a//www.isbe.net/PublishingImages/Facebook-ILScienceWeek-v2.jpg](#)) and [flyer](#) ([/Documents/ISBE_ILScienceWeek.pdf](#))!

THOSE WHO EXCEL

2019 Illinois Teacher of the Year Available for Speaking Engagements

The 2019 Illinois Teacher of the Year, Susan Converse, currently teaches high school special education in Edwardsville Community Unit School District 7. Susan has an attitude and enthusiasm toward teaching that is contagious and is ready to share that enthusiasm for teaching with you!

Susan is dedicated to her students. After serving in an administrative role, she seized the opportunity to return to the classroom in order to more directly influence student lives. She has dedicated her life to helping students reach their highest potential, regardless of ability.


One parent described Susan's teaching with these words, "It is not an overstatement to say that the trajectory of my child's life has forever been positively impacted by this woman. Mrs. Converse's unwavering commitment to honoring and believing in all students, regardless of typicality and because of each one's unique strengths and challenges, is witnessed by anyone who observes her."

Susan has inspired many of her students and had a profound impact on their development as they transition out of high school. She provides guidance for a student-run coffee shop that allows her students an opportunity to experience and develop important functioning life skills. These students learn to create a product, sell it, and maintain the shop right alongside general education students on a day-to-day basis.

If you would like Susan to share her insights, strategies, and ideas with your staff, please email her at 2019ilttoy@gmail.com (mailto:2019ilttoy@gmail.com) or contact her via [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/conversesusan/) (https://www.facebook.com/conversesusan/).

U.S. PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Illinois Semifinalists Announced for 2019 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program

Congratulations to the [21 Illinois students named as semifinalists in the 2019 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program!](https://www2.ed.gov/programs/psp/2019/semifinalists.pdf) 
(<https://www2.ed.gov/programs/psp/2019/semifinalists.pdf>)

The program was established in 1964 to recognize and honor some of the country's most distinguished graduating seniors. In 1979, the program was expanded to recognize students who demonstrate exceptional scholarship and talent in the visual, creative, and performing arts. In 2015, the program was expanded once more to recognize students who show ability and accomplishment in career and technical fields. Up to 161 students are chosen annually from among outstanding seniors to become U.S. Presidential Scholars, one of the nation's highest honors for high school students.

A total of 621 semifinalists have been selected from across the country. These semifinalists form the pool from which the 2019 U.S. Presidential Scholars will be chosen. The scholars will be announced in early May. For more information, visit the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program webpage (<https://www2.ed.gov/programs/psp/index.html>).

EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT

ESSA Accountability System Amendment for Public Comment


As directed by the U.S. Department of Education, ISBE is amending its approved ESSA State Plan to remove indicators that carry weight in the system, but which are not yet ready to be fully implemented. [The red-lined version of the plan is available for public comment](#) (/essa). To submit your comment, either complete the short survey below the draft, or email essa@isbe.net (mailto:essa@isbe.net).


Please note the scope of this amendment is very small and procedural. Thus, we are asking for comment only on the proposed amendment itself. We will collect suggestions on how to amend the ESSA State Plan more broadly through a series of public engagement events this summer and through a much longer feedback survey.

The comment period will close May 1 to ensure submission to the State Board and U.S. Department of Education by the requested June 1 deadline.

Newly Updated Guidance on ESSA Site-Based Expenditure Reporting

ESSA requires all LEAs to report per-pupil expenditure data at the district level and at the school level, disaggregated by source of funds, beginning with 2018-19 school year data. Site-based expenditure reporting will be submitted to ISBE, which will post the data to the Illinois Report Card to meet ESSA reporting requirements. The reporting window for these data will open in IWAS on July 1, 2019.

ISBE, in partnership with Afton Partners and the Site-Based Expenditure Reporting Advisory Group, has issued an [updated guidance document](#)  (/Documents/ISBE-Site-Based-Expenditure-Reporting-Guidance.pdf) to provide LEAs and other reporting entities with guidelines for fulfilling the site-based expenditure reporting requirement. The original guidance was published in January 2018; this update

provides clarifications and refinements after a year of receiving feedback from the field and adds a new [introductory cover letter](#)  (/Documents/Site-Based-Exp-Report-Guidance-cover-letter.pdf) from State Superintendent Dr. Ayala. Guidance, cover letter, and other resources for site-based expenditure reporting are all available on the [Site-Based Expenditure Reporting webpage](#) (<http://www.isbe.net/site-based>). Additional information will continue to be added to the webpage and promoted through the Superintendent's Weekly Message as it becomes available.

Please contact Sara R. Shaw at the ISBE Division of Finance at (217) 782-0249 or site-based@isbe.net (<mailto:site-based@isbe.net>) with questions.

EVIDENCE-BASED FUNDING

Last Call for School Year 2019-20 EBF Enrollment

The Evidence-Based Funding (EBF) enrollment collection period for fiscal year 2019-20 is coming to a close. Fall Enrollment (enrollment as of Oct. 1, 2018) was due on Nov. 16, 2018, and Spring Enrollment (enrollment as of March 1, 2019) was due on April 16, 2019. The Illinois State Board of Education will be finalizing enrollment counts at the end of the day on April 30, 2019.


This communication is the official "Last Call" for corrections for EBF enrollment – Fall or Spring. If your district has not yet verified Fall or Spring enrollment, please check for accuracy immediately and indicate that you have reviewed your counts in SIS.

Please contact the division of Data Strategies and Analytics at (312) 814-9192 with questions.

ILLINOIS REPORT CARD

Discontinuing ADA, E-Report Card, and End of Year Report Collections


Last year, ISBE added a district attendance data collection to the Student Information System (SIS). At the time, ISBE was collecting attendance and attendance-related data across three systems in at least seven different data fields (not including SIS). ISBE is excited to announce that going forward, attendance will **only be collected in SIS**. The average daily attendance (ADA), e-Report Card data collection, and End of Year report collection will be discontinued. **Districts only need to submit attendance data for SY 2018-19 in SIS.**

If you have questions about submitting attendance in SIS, please refer to the [guidance document](#)  (/Documents/Student-Attendance.pdf) or contact the SIS helpdesk at (217) 558-3600.


If you have other questions about student attendance and its uses, please contact Data Strategies and Analytics at (312) 814-9192.

Building the 2019 Illinois Report Card – Upcoming Webinars


SIS End of School Year 2019 and Planning for School Year 2020 – April 25

Join ISBE for a webinar from 1:30 - 3 p.m. on April 25 to learn more about the End of School Year 2019 SIS tasks and planning for school year 2020 changes. [Register for the SIS End of School Year Webinar now!](#)  (<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8927574119142055938>)

Updating District Contact Information in EPS – May 7

Join ISBE for a webinar from 10 – 11:30 a.m. on May 7 to learn more about the process to ensure district and school contact information remain current in our Entity Profile System. Current information in EPS is vital, as this is the contact information used by ISBE to share important information and updates with all schools and districts. This webinar is intended only for district and ROE program personnel. [Register for the Updating Contact Information webinar now!](#)  (<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/231892897962512898>)

Year End Collection – May 14

Join ISBE for a webinar from 10 – 11:30 a.m. on May 14 to learn more about the new Year End Collection (YEC) that opens on May 15. The YEC replaces the e-Report Card Data Collection and the End of Year Report Collection. The YEC will collect Minutes Per Day, Health and Wellness, Truant Minors, and No Pass No Play. This webinar will walk through the new collection system and provide a forum to ask and answer questions. Data submission for the YEC is due July 31, 2019. [Register for the Year End Collection webinar now!](https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5675751988453862914) 
(<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5675751988453862914>)

DATA STRATEGIES & ANALYTICS

Upcoming Event: Building Your Data Team Roadmap – May 10

ISBE and the Illinois Principals Association are hosting a free, live event from **9 a.m. – noon on May 10**. (Lunch will be provided.) Participants can attend in person at the Illinois Principals Association's office in Springfield or by webinar. This event will assist data teams with planning and/or refining their current data team system at the district or school level. This kickoff training for Module 1 will provide teams (two or more participants) the opportunity to have time away from the building/district to plan or refine their current framework and be part of a network of individuals working through the data systems process. Participants can also join the training via live webinar. ISBE and IPA will use this year's modules to focus on parts of Ed360 to help support your school improvement planning, efforts, implementation and evaluation cycle. Ed360 is ISBE's statewide dashboard for educators. Using Ed360, educators will be able to view near-real-time student data to help them make data-driven instructional decisions.



[Registration for the event is now available](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/isbes-building-your-data-team-dt-roadmap-making-sure-the-right-drivers-are-on-your-team-tickets-59961508486) (<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/isbes-building-your-data-team-dt-roadmap-making-sure-the-right-drivers-are-on-your-team-tickets-59961508486>).

Physical Fitness Assessment Data Reporting – Due June 30

Starting in the second semester of this school year, schools were to begin administering physical fitness assessments using either FitnessGram or, for students with disabilities, the Brockport Physical Fitness Test in the following four areas: Aerobic Capacity (grades 4-12), Flexibility (grades 3-12), Muscular Endurance (grades 3-12), and Muscular Strength (grades 3-12).

By **June 30 of each year**, districts must ensure the aggregate results of these assessments (number of students meeting Healthy Fitness Zone or Needs Improvement by gender in grades 5, 7 and 10 only) are submitted electronically to ISBE through the Student Health Data - Physical Fitness system. This system is now available in IWAS.

Please use the following for assistance and support:

- For assistance gaining access to this system and submitting this data, please refer to the [User Guide for Entering Student Health/Physical Fitness Data into IWAS](#).  (/Documents/PhysicalFitness_IWAS_User_Guide.PDF)
- For help designating account levels for whomever will be entering and/or approving data, the [IWAS User Guide is available](#)  (/Documents/PhysicalFitness_IWAS_User_Guide.PDF).
- If you have general questions related to the physical fitness assessment requirements, please refer to [the Q&A on Physical Fitness Assessment and Data Reporting Requirements](#) (/Pages/Enhanced-Physical-Education.aspx).

You may also contact Marjorie Ribeiro with ISBE's Data Strategies and Analytics Division at mrribeiro@isbe.net (mailto:mrribeiro@isbe.net) or at **(312) 814-9192**. If you require IWAS technical assistance after reviewing the online help, please contact our Call Center at (217) 558-3600 Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

TITLE GRANTS

2019 Title Grants Technical Assistance Tour

Join ISBE's Title Grants staff at a Technical Assistance Tour stop near you! ISBE invites all district leaders and federal grants staff to a day of professional learning and personalized technical assistance. Members of ISBE Title Grants staff are visiting communities throughout the state to give presentations on Title Grants planning, applications, and reporting and to provide in-person technical assistance.

Presentations will cover topics such as Consolidated District Plan, the Grant Periodic Reporting System, grant application updates, equitable services, and any other topics important to you. Please see the agenda below:

- 8:30 – 9 a.m. - Registration/Sign-in
- 9 a.m. – noon - Sessions and Breaks
- Noon – 12:30 p.m. - Working Lunch (*Provided*)
- 12:30 p.m. – 2 p.m. - Sessions, Closing Remarks, & Questions
- 2 – 3 p.m. - Technical Assistance

Please note that while ISBE staff will assist in preparing and filing grant applications, no grants will be approved on the tour.

We have confirmed the final locations of all eight tour stops. Please note: Each location has a limited capacity and a specific RSVP deadline. **The location will no longer appear as an RSVP option once capacity is reached or the deadline is passed.** Every attendee should RSVP individually, so please forward this form to the members of your team whom you would like to attend.

We look forward to seeing you! Please RSVP at [ISBE's 2019 Title Grants Technical Assistance Tour webpage](#) (/Pages/TitleGrantsTour.aspx).

2019 Title Grants Technical Assistance Tour dates, locations, and RSVP deadlines:

- **April 30** - Lisle – **RSVP closed**
- **May 1**- Skokie – **RSVP closes at 11:59 p.m. on April 26**
- **May 2** - Oak Lawn – **RSVP closed**
- **May 7** - Springfield - **RSVP closes at 11:59 p.m. on April 26**
- **May 8** - Effingham - **RSVP closes at 11:59 p.m. on April 26**
- **May 9** - Collinsville - **RSVP closes at 11:59 p.m. on April 26**
- **May 14** - Rockford - **RSVP closes at 11:59 p.m. on May 3**
- **May 15** - Peoria – **RSVP closes at 11:59 p.m. on May 3**

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

FY 2020 Early Childhood Block Grant RFP Live Technical Assistance Webinar - April 24

ISBE's Early Childhood Education division is hosting a webinar from **10-11:30 a.m. on April 24** to provide information on the FY 2020 Request for Proposals (RFP). This webinar will review the RFP process for the Prevention Initiative, Preschool for All, and Preschool for All Expansion funding opportunities due at 4 p.m. on June 10. This webinar is a live alternative to the recorded technical assistance webinars posted on the Early Childhood RFP page. Both live and recorded webinars provide the same information. However, in the live webinar participants will be able to submit questions. [Registration is now available](#) 📄
(<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2748029600722503170>).

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

Upcoming Professional Learning Opportunities

#ILMathCom Virtual Learning Community: Free, virtual events for math educators! To register for the two events below go to

#ILMathCom page (<http://www.mathteachersinaction.org/ilmathcom.html>).

- **The Opportunity Myth: May 2, 3:30-4:30 p.m.**

Mary Pittman, project director for TNTP, will share the results of TNTP's newest national report, "The Opportunity Myth," which followed nearly 4,000 students to learn more about their experiences. What was found was unnerving -- classroom after classroom filled with students whose big goals for their lives are slipping further away each day, not because they could not master challenging material, but because they were rarely given a chance to try.

- **Shift the Cognitive Lift: May 16, 3:30-4:30 p.m.**

Joanie Funderburk, director of IM Certified Facilitators at Illustrative Mathematics, will discuss how math educators should stop working harder than their students and "Shift the Cognitive Lift" in math class. Learning math requires deep thinking and cognitive engagement. In this session, learn about tools for identifying when and how to make the shift and the resources available to shift the cognitive lift back to your students.

Online Impact

The latest online workshops are [open for registration](https://education.illinoisstate.edu/casei/onlineimpact/) (<https://education.illinoisstate.edu/casei/onlineimpact/>). Take advantage of this opportunity for a small, online community of colleagues to share your strategies, learn from each other, and earn professional learning hours.

- Topics and dates include:
 - Implementing the Eight Mathematical Practices in the Elementary School Classroom (May 9 - June 25)
 - Illinois Civics is Back (May 15 - June 25)
 - Planning a Close Reading Lesson Step by Step: Grades 3-6 (May 15 - June 25)
 - Using Digital Assessment Tools in the Classroom (May 15 - June 25)
 - Vocabulary Instruction in Elementary and Middle School (May 15 - June 25)
 - Math Talks: Engaging Students in Daily Discourse K-6 (May 22 - June 25)
 - Implementing Illinois Writing Standards in K-8 Classrooms (June 5 - July 16)
 - Hack the Classroom with Google Extensions and Add-ons (June 12 - July 23)
 - Setting the Stage for Close Reading in Grades K-2 (June 19 - July 30)

Mathematics in CTE: June 26-27, Normal


This two-day workshop will strengthen instruction in your discipline by incorporating appropriate mathematics. In this workshop, experience will focus on several lessons that address specific CTE content and the related mathematics. Find ways to enhance instruction and student understanding by including relevant math in CTE. Workshop plans to meet from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day, offering 12 CDPUs. There is a \$60 registration fee. Lunch and snacks will be provided. Go to [Math in CTE Registration Link](https://illinoisstate.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9AHrb1GWchnjFyJ) (https://illinoisstate.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9AHrb1GWchnjFyJ) to register. Contact Brad Christensen at bachris@ilstu.edu (<mailto:bachris@ilstu.edu>) for more information.

DRIVER'S EDUCATION

Scott's Law (the Move Over Law) with Teen Drivers and Families

In 2019, too many Illinois State Troopers have been put in danger or lost their lives by drivers not following the law. The Illinois State Board of Education and the Illinois State Police are working together to ensure all teen drivers and their parents and families have the information they need to protect those who protect us. Scott's Law, also known as the Move Over Law, was named after Lieutenant Scott Gillen of the Chicago Fire Department. He was struck and killed by an intoxicated driver while assisting at a crash site on the Dan Ryan Expressway. Scott's Law mandates that upon approaching any stationary vehicle with flashing emergency lights, including commercial trucks and cars, all approaching vehicles shall:

- Reduce speed,
- Change lanes if possible, and;
- Proceed with caution.

Please [print and post the flyer about Scott's Law](#)  (/Documents/ISBE-MoveOver-Flyer.pdf) in your classrooms and schools, as well as distribute it to individual students. You can also distribute it electronically via school listservs.

Thank you so much for your partnership in raising awareness that “if it’s flashing, move over.”

IL EPLAN

Phase 2: Interactive Dashboard – Seeking Feedback on Dashboard Elements

ISBE developed the IL ePlan as a result of more than a year of inquiry into the best systems around the country and the needs of educators, practitioners, and students in Illinois with the goal to provide efficient technology that brings practitioners together for meaningful collaboration. The second phase of the IL ePlan will launch an interactive dashboard for education grantees and ISBE staff to access multiple information resources linking ISBE’s existing financial and educational web-based applications. It will become a responsive “one-stop shop” for Illinois school districts and ISBE to assist in planning and budgeting.

ISBE is looking to gather feedback from administrators, grant, and fiscal staff on the most important data elements to include on the interactive dashboard. By completing the survey below by Friday, May 17, you will give us valuable information to guide our development. It will take less than 5 minutes of your time to complete.

[Complete the IL ePlan Survey now!](#) (<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=hv5kA8ZJ9Eq1LDNameV30UpAoIVJa0pCnoA5pVG05wdUNVFNN1M2N08yOFM4VFdaQkxBRzNINkc2SS4u>)

Please contact ileplan@isbe.net (mailto:ileplan@isbe.net) with any questions.

IL-EMPOWER

New Story: Parents of Diverse Learners Champion Differentiated Instruction for All Students

The ISBE Storyteller team recently posted a new peer-to-peer learning resource focusing on the phenomenal parent-teacher collaboration for special education at Waters Elementary in City of Chicago SD 299.

[Read the story](#) (/Pages/Story.aspx?ItemId=24) and view available resources. Please feel free to submit comments or reach out to the Waters team for more information.

Storytellers at ISBE identify, produce, and share stories of effective, replicable practices positively impacting schools across Illinois to inspire educators to engage in statewide peer-to-peer learning with the goal of better serving our students. Does your school or district have a story to share? [Submit your story idea](#) (/Pages/stories.aspx).

GRANT ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY ACT

FY 2020 Fiscal and Administrative Risk Assessment Now Available

The Fiscal and Administrative Risk Assessment (ICQ) for fiscal year 2020 is now available in the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act ([GATA](#)) [Grantee Portal](#) (<https://grants.illinois.gov/portal/>).

All entities must complete and submit the FY 2020 ICQ as soon as possible. ISBE will not approve FY 2020 grant applications, nor will awards be made, without the completed FY 2020 ICQ.

The ICQ is required once per fiscal year and all state agencies utilize results to assess conditions of risk. The ICQ should be completed by someone with financial or accounting experience. For reference, the portal provides access to prior year ICQ responses.

Please direct any GATA-related questions to GATA@isbe.net (mailto:GATA@isbe.net) or (217) 782-5630.

SAM Registration and Renewal

GATA requires all entities to maintain an active DUNS number and active registration with the federal System for Award Management (SAM). SAM registrations expire annually.

Expired or invalid SAM accounts will delay the ISBE grant application process.

All entities creating, renewing, or updating SAM registrations are required to mail an original, signed, notarized letter to SAM confirming the authorized Entity Administrator associated with the entity's DUNS number within 30 days of account activation. Failure to do so within 30 days of activation will result in registration deactivation.

Users are required to utilize a Login.gov user account to access SAM. This account will be associated with the email address on record with SAM.gov.

ISBE encourages all grantees to review their accounts at [www.SAM.gov](http://www.sam.gov/) (<http://www.sam.gov/>) and to renew at least two months prior to expiration.

Further information is available at [www.SAM.gov](http://www.sam.gov/) (<http://www.sam.gov/>) or through the Federal Service Desk at (866) 606-8220. There is no cost for support services or to register in SAM.gov.

FUNDING & DISBURSEMENTS

Employer's TRS Contribution on Federally Funded Salary for Summer Activities

The Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) requires earnings for summer work to be reported on an accrual basis. Earnings for work performed in June 2018 must be reported on the 2018-19 TRS Annual Report, even if the member is not paid for the June work until July or August. The 2018-19 TRS and THIS contribution rates apply to accrued earnings for work performed in June, regardless of when the June earnings are paid to the teacher.

Earnings for work performed in July and August 2019 must be reported on the 2019-20 TRS Annual Report. The 2019-20 TRS and THIS contribution rates apply to accrued earnings for work performed in July and August, regardless of when the July and August earnings are paid to the teacher.

Several questions from the field regarding what federal TRS rate to use for SUMMER salaries has prompted TRS to instruct LEAs to use the new employer TRS contribution on federally funded salaries that are providing services AFTER the start of the new fiscal year (July 1, 2019). Below are three scenarios and what federal TRS rate to use in each scenario:

1. FY 2019: Federally funded staff/teachers who have completed their assignments by June 30, 2019, but are being paid after July 1: The CURRENT RATE (FY 2019) applies (9.85 percent).
2. FY 2019: Federally funded staff/teachers providing services and being paid after July 1: The NEW RATE (FY 2020) applies (10.66 percent). (Please note that an FY 2019 amendment may be needed in this scenario.)
3. FY 2020: Federally funded staff/teachers: The NEW RATE applies (10.66 percent).

More information is available on the [TRS website](https://www.trsil.org/employers/payments/contribution-rates_earnings-limitations) (https://www.trsil.org/employers/payments/contribution-rates_earnings-limitations).

Further questions can be directed to the TRS Employer Services Division at employers@trsil.org (mailto:employers@trsil.org) or (877) 927-5877 (877-9 ASK TRS).

Title I Excess Carryover

Federal regulations for Title I require that states limit the amount of funds carried over to a subsequent fiscal year. LEAs may only carry over 15 percent of the current year allocation, including funds transferred into Title I through the local Transferability Authority, for grants of \$50,000 or more. Carryover exceeding 15 percent is considered excess and will be reduced from total funds available.

Reasons for excess carryover:

- a. The LEA has excess carryover in the current year project based on ACTUAL expenditures over a 15-month period (final expenditure report from current year plus first-quarter expenditure report of next year).
- b. The LEA has potential excess carryover into the next year's project based on unbudgeted funds within the current year application.

There are three options available if you have potential excess carryover:

1. Funds can be relinquished. (These funds are used for reallocation to other LEAs.)
2. Information about an excess carryover waiver can be found at https://www.isbe.net/Documents/carryover_waiver.pdf (/Documents/carryover_waiver.pdf). A waiver request must be submitted prior to the project end date. LEAs may only request a waiver once every three years.
3. An amendment can be submitted for the total funds available and expenditure of these funds can be completed. Amendments must be submitted at least 30 days prior to the project end date.

Maximum 2019 carryover amounts for LEAs with greater than \$50,000 current year allocation, along with information showing whether your LEA has requested a waiver in the last three years, are available in the [maximum carryover and waiver history document](#) (/Documents/title_I_carryover.pdf). If there is an x in any of the last three years, you cannot request a waiver to carry over excess funds into 2020.

It is the LEA's responsibility to be aware of the total funds available and if there is a possibility of excess carryover into the next fiscal year. The LEA should monitor its grant to ensure that all available funds have been budgeted and that funds are being spent so that the maximum carryover amount is not exceeded.

The [Title I Carryover Calculation Worksheet](#) can be found under the [Title I Excess Carryover section](#) (/Pages/General-Grant-Information.aspx). This can help you determine if there could be a potential excess issue.

ISBE has notified the LEAs of unbudgeted funds or if the LEA has exceeded carryover, but the LEA should monitor the grant to ensure that if the potential for excess carryover exists that action is taken before the funds are lost.

Please contact your program consultant for information regarding your Title I program. If you have questions on the Title I excess carryover process, please contact the ISBE Funding and Disbursements Division at (217) 782-5256.

IN BRIEF

Upcoming Events

- Chicago Public Schools is partnering with the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities to host a Parent Empowerment Expo from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on May 11. [Additional information and registration is available.](#) (<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2019-spring-parent-empowerment-expo-hosted-by-office-of-diverse-learner-supports-services-chicago-tickets-56442751790>)

School Recognition

- Congratulations to **Roosevelt Middle School in Belleville School District 88** for representing the state of Illinois as one of four national finalists in the [Math Video Challenge](#) (<https://videochallenge.mathcounts.org/videos/going-home>) produced by [MATHCOUNTS](#) (<https://videochallenge.mathcounts.org/videos/going-home>) Competition Series!

Educator Recognition

- Congratulations to the amazing Illinois teachers who received the [2019 Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching](https://goldenapple.squarespace.com/awards#2019-award-recipients) (<https://goldenapple.squarespace.com/awards#2019-award-recipients>)!
- Congratulations to the following administrators for receiving [the IPA/Horace Mann Awards for Excellence](https://ilprincipals.org/about/awards-for-excellence/) (<https://ilprincipals.org/about/awards-for-excellence/>): Elementary Principal of the Year **Michael Merritt of Brentwood Elementary School** in Des Plaines; Middle School/Junior High Principal of the Year **Jared Ellison of Westville Junior High**; High School Principal of the Year **Amy Jo Mascal of Streator Township High School**; and Assistant Principal of the Year **Doug Owens of Tri-C Elementary School in Carterville**!

Student Opportunities

- **Illinois State University** is offering summer programs for high school students interested in careers in quantitative analytics, actuarial science, and insurance in the summer of 2019. Find links to information about these programs on the [ISU Summer Programs website](http://smarturl.it/SummerPrograms) (<http://smarturl.it/SummerPrograms>).

ISBE Employment Opportunities

Watch for ISBE career opportunities and find instructions for applying at [Careers at ISBE](http://www.isbe.net/Pages/Careers-at-ISBE.aspx) (<http://www.isbe.net/Pages/Careers-at-ISBE.aspx>).