

ISBE'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

May 2, 2023

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Dear Colleagues:

You may have seen or heard news over the past few weeks about an issue with funding for the Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant program. This stemmed from the pandemic years when the agency allowed grantees to carry over unspent grant funds into the next year, rather than return them to ISBE to help fund the following year, per normal practice. ISBE did not adequately forecast the impact of the carryover allowance, leading to a projected shortfall of \$12.4 million for FY 2024.

ISBE requested to use some of our ARP ESSER state set-aside funds to address the shortfall, and the U.S. Department of Education approved our request. This will fully cover the shortfall and allow us to meet all obligations to grantees in FY 2024. But there is still not federal funding available to allow us to offer renewals or a new grant competition in FY 2024, which means the grant cycle for the cohort initially funded for five years in FY 2019 concludes this year. Renewals and new competitions are only offered in years when funding is available, which is why the 21st Century grant application requires applicants to plan for sustaining programming once the grant concludes. The FY 2019 grantees serve 68 locations. ISBE staff are contacting all of the school districts, and 42 have indicated they intend to offer afterschool programming for students using other funding sources. Another 13 school districts are working through this possibility. This does not guarantee that the district will continue working with the 21st Century grantee, but it does mean that programming will continue for many of the affected students.

We know that the FY 2019 grantees are asking the General Assembly for state funding to continue their grants. However, we needed assurance that any state financial intervention would not violate the supplement versus supplant provisions regarding federal grants. The U.S. Department of Education provided us guidance that one year of state funding for the FY 2019 grantees would not be considered supplanting. The cost of one year of additional funding for the Fiscal Year 2019 grantees would total \$10.1 million.

We take full responsibility for the lack of forecasting and the late communication to grantees and are taking action to prevent this situation from occurring again. First, we are committed to providing more timely communication to grantees about whether or not they can expect renewals or new competitions when their grant cycle concludes. As part of this commitment, we issued a letter on April 21 to the cohort of grantees that have a

10-year grant cycle concluding at the end of FY 2024. ISBE initially funded this cohort in FY 2015 for five years and provided a five-year renewal in FY 2020. This cohort's 10-year grant cycle is the maximum number of allowable years permitted by federal program requirements, so another renewal is not possible.

ISBE is continuing our cash flow analysis and forecasting for future fiscal years, but we know right now that if there is any funding available for a new grant competition in FY 2025, it will be for a much smaller amount than was available for other competitions.

A number of other state and federal grants have supported afterschool programming over the past couple years – from the \$20 million After School Programs grant, to the \$10 million in CURE funding for after school programs, to the \$910 million in ARP ESSER funding that districts must use to address learning loss. ISBE stands ready to provide technical assistance and thought partnership to grantees about sustaining afterschool programming after the conclusion of their grant cycle. Like you, we recognize the need and the value of quality after-school activities for Illinois schoolchildren.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out. Grantees may contact their grant manager at ISBE or email 21stccclc@isbe.net (<mailto:21stccclc@isbe.net>).

Pictured: May is Mental Health Awareness Month. Students in Johnsborg School District 12 typically include yoga practice and gong meditation on Wednesdays. How are you and your students keeping mental well-being at the forefront this month?

All my best,

Tony

DATES AND DEADLINES

Please note this is not a complete list of events, meetings, and deadlines. For more events and details, visit the ISBE Calendar page (<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/ISBE-Meetings.aspx>).

May 4	Informational webinar: National Board Certification (https://forms.illinoisstate.edu/forms/learn_about_national_board_certification_for_illinois_teachers_spring_2023)
May 5	Survey for science educators closes (https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSePQ5JUYUy-YMnw2xdJB_21strE8rvrYRNrL4BbRnnpPhljSw/viewform)
May 8-12	Teacher Appreciation Week
May 8	Webinar: Building Resilient Schools through the REACH Statewide Initiative (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5287142830112706650)
May 8	Deadline to complete the Survey for Understanding Learning Renewal Best Practices (https://uic.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_etbYYGxCQ0oBqPs)
May 8-12	Teacher Appreciation Week
May 10	National Board Certification state spring subsidy window closes (https://nbrc.illinoisstate.edu/firsttime/index.php)
May 11	Webinar: Sourcing Local Foods Using Illinois Market Maker (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3540256348153669461)

May 11	Webinar: ISBE Data Collection Q&A (https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/2174502371330329612)
May 11	Illinois Virtual Postsecondary and Career Expectations (PaCE) Symposium (https://www.isac.org/pace/Illinois-PaCE-Symposium/)
May 12	ISBE Career Pathways User Group Meeting (https://niu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bvZKx2J8m2JDIBg)
May 20	Those Who Excel & Teacher of the Year Banquet – New date!
May 20	Those Who Excel & Teacher of the Year Banquet – Awardees check your email for an invitation!
May 26	Deadline to submit a grant application for Healthy Meals Incentives Initiative (https://healthymealsincentives.org/)
May 29	ISBE offices closed for Memorial Day
Jun. 7-8	ISBE/ISELA Statewide Directors' Conference (https://www.isbe.net/NSDocuments/2023-SELA.pdf)
Jun. 13-15	Illinois New Teacher Collaborative 2023 Summer Conference Series (https://emails.illinois.edu/newsletter/37/1612142237.html)
Jun. 19	ISBE offices closed for Juneteenth
Jun. 20-21	IncludED Conference (https://www.ltcillinois.org/included/)
Jul. 4	ISBE offices closed for Independence Day
Jul. 25-26	School Nutrition Programs Back to School Conference
Aug. 22	Deadline to apply for U.S. EPA grant to replace existing school buses with clean and Zero Emissions school buses (https://www.epa.gov/grants/2023-clean-school-bus-csb-grant-program)
Sept. 4	ISBE offices closed for Labor Day
Sep. 5	Deadline to apply for Driving a Cleaner Illinois grant to replace old, diesel school buses with new all-electric school buses (https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/air-quality/driving-a-cleaner-illinois.html)

NEW

LEARNING RENEWAL

Each week this section will focus on the learning renewal that is taking place in Illinois schools. We invite you to share

(<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=hv5kA8ZJ9Eq1LDNameV30Ufi4KgH87ICv6FRRQI8cviUNTdHWktDS1NJWjJZVDFaQ09RVINCUVdMRI4u>) how you are investing federal relief

funds to help students recover.

LAST CALL – SURVEY FOR UNDERSTANDING LEARNING RENEWAL BEST PRACTICES

A survey to identify best practices in learning recovery, led by the Illinois Workforce and Education Research Collaborative (<https://dpi.uillinois.edu/applied-research/iwerc/>) (IWERC), will close **May 8**. School and district leaders are invited to fill out the survey (https://uic.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_etbYYGxCQ0oBqPs) to share strategies for learning renewal in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. It will take about 20 minutes to complete. Your survey results will be collected and analyzed by IWERC. Survey responses will be used to inform how we improve student renewal in Illinois. Questions? Email Dr. Marianna Barragan Torres at marianab@uillinois.edu (<mailto:marianab@uillinois.edu>).

SEL DIRECTORS AND COACHES GATHER FOR A RETREAT IN SPRINGFIELD, SUMMER PLANS UNDERWAY

Last week around 30 directors and social-emotional learning (SEL) coaches from Illinois’ SEL Hubs met in Springfield to receive professional development and plan for statewide collaboration in the future. The hubs have big plans for professional development opportunities over the summer. Here are just a few of the many professional learning events coming up:

- Area 1 - The Lake County Regional Office of Education (ROE) is hosting a summer SPLASH conference (<https://www.lake.k12.il.us/spalsh>) with Chris Singleton’s keynote on “Overcoming the Unthinkable Adversity.”
- Area 3 – The hub is hosting a series of workshops (<https://www.roe1.net/sel-hub-area-3/>), including “Restoring Relationships & Planning Your Restorative Classroom” and “Fostering Resilient Learners,” through the summer.
- Area 5 – The hub is hosting a day-long conference, Directions 2023: SEL, Trauma and Schools (<https://newdirectionseducation.weebly.com/>).
- Area 6 – ROE 21 is hosting a Summer Institute (<https://www.roe21.org/event/summer-institute/>) featuring expert presenters and an Administrator Academy on “Implementing a Social and Emotional System of Support.”

Check out the SEL Hub (</selhubs>) in your area to learn more about the coaching and professional development opportunities offered in your area.

NEW

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

ISBE CELEBRATES TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK WITH SOCIAL MEDIA ACTIVITY

ISBE is celebrating Teacher Appreciation Week from May 8-12. Please join us by using this template (https://www.canva.com/design/DAFhOKK93pU/Xt5wjnqLC6-lwHRQnbnmPdQ/view?utm_content=DAFhOKK93pU&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link&utm_source=publishsharelink&mode=preview) to post about your favorite teachers on social media. Tag us on Facebook @IllinoisStateBoardOfEducation and Twitter @ISBEnews!

To edit the template, first create a Canva account. After you have created an account, please edit the text in the blanks. When satisfied, click "Share" in the top right corner and select share on social media to post directly or download the file and upload from your device to post.

NEW

DATA STRATEGIES & ANALYTICS

DATA COLLECTION Q&A WEBINAR

ISBE will host a webinar at **10 a.m. May 11** 🇺🇸 (<https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/2174502371330329612>) to give school districts a chance to ask any questions they have about the ISBE data collections. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us at 312-814-9192 or datahelp@isbe.net (<mailto:datahelp@isbe.net>).




REVIEW THE REVISED FY 2024 EBF SPENDING PLAN

In consultation with an advisory group, ISBE has redesigned the Evidence-Based Funding (EBF) Spending Plan (/ebfspendingplan). It will appear as a new tab in the annual district budget form beginning in FY 2024. Organizational units that do not submit a budget form to ISBE will complete the spending plan via a standalone Excel template. ISBE is making the template available now so that Organizational Units can get familiar with the new format. It is for review only and is not meant to be submitted to ISBE. Additional resources, including a webinar, guidance document, and finalized templates will be available later this spring.

Many questions in the revised plan are consistent with prior spending plans. Instructions and context are provided throughout. There is also a table at the bottom of the template that allows users to determine if all required questions have been completed. Additionally, the EBF Spending Plan webpage has been updated with new content, including definitions of key EBF terms that appear in the spending plan. Leaders can learn more about the advisory group's work to redesign the plan by reading "Preparing for the Evidence-Based Funding Spending Plan – FY 2024" (/Documents/Spring-23-UPDATE-p20-23.pdf), an article that appeared in the Spring 2023 Update Magazine published by the Illinois Association of School Business Officials. Questions can be directed to ebfspendingplan@isbe.net (mailto:ebfspendingplan@isbe.net).

FY 2024 EBF DATA SETS AVAILABLE

ISBE is in the process of finalizing data that will be utilized in the fiscal year 2024 EBF calculations. The following data sets have been posted and are available for review.

- Tax Year 2021 Tax Rates and Original EAV  (https://isbe.net/_layouts/Download.aspx?SourceUrl=/Documents/2021-AVTR.xlsx)
- Calendar Year 2022 CPPRT Revenue  (<https://isbe.net/Documents/CY-22-CPPRT-Revenue-Summarized-by-District.pdf>)
- Preliminary Tax Year 2021 Limiting Rates  (<https://isbe.net/Documents/2021-Limiting-Rates-FY24-EBF.pdf>)

Additional data sets will be posted and announced as they are completed.


District administrators are encouraged to review their data to ensure accuracy **prior to EBF calculations being completed**. EBF utilizes over 17,000 unique variables and a correction to one variable results in changes to all districts' results.

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

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO ROCK THE FAFSA

The end of the school year is close at hand, but it's not too late to help your senior students complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) or Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid (Alternative App) to determine their eligibility for financial aid for the 2023-24 academic year. You can see the number of students at your school who have completed a 2023-24 financial aid application by visiting ISAC's Financial Aid Application Completion Performance Metrics webpage (<https://www.isac.org/home/fafsa/index.html>).

ISAC FIRST GENERATION SCHOLARS NETWORK

The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) reminds you to encourage your students who will be the first person in their family to earn a college degree to join ISAC's First Generation Scholars Network (https://studentportal.isac.org/web/guest/student/?p_p_id=Student_WAR_Studentportlet&_Student_WAR_Studentportlet__facesViewIdRender=/views/isacorpsFirstGenScholarsNetwork.xhtml) (FGSN). FGSN is connecting first generation college students with one another so they can support each other through this network, providing additional support from ISAC's First Generation Scholars Network mentors, combating summer melt, and helping make transition to college a whole lot easier — and successful. Send students to the FGSN webpage (https://studentportal.isac.org/web/guest/student/?p_p_id=Student_WAR_Studentportlet&_Student_WAR_Studentportlet__facesViewIdRender=/views/isacorpsFirstGenScholarsNetwork.xhtml) to join and learn more, and please share information about the FGSN with colleagues at your school and district and with others in your personal and professional networks. And check out ISAC's YouTube page  (<https://www.youtube.com/%40ISACvid/playlists>) for ISAC College Minute™ videos specifically addressing challenges and providing tips for first generation college students. For questions about FGSN, please contact ISAC.FirstGen@illinois.gov (<mailto:ISAC.FirstGen@illinois.gov>).

JOIN ISAC FOR A VIRTUAL PACE SYMPOSIUM

ISAC would like to thank everyone who attended the in-person second annual Illinois Postsecondary and Career Expectations (PaCE) Symposium (<https://www.isac.org/pace/Illinois-PaCE-Symposium/2022.html>), including the presenters for sharing their knowledge, expertise, and time!

In response to the high level of interest in the PaCE Symposium, ISAC is excited to announce that it will host a virtual PaCE Symposium **from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. May 11**. The virtual symposium will include an encore of several presentations given during the in-person symposium, including:

- Learning about the new Middle School PaCE Framework
- Updates to the High School PaCE Framework
- Using the PaCE Framework to expand support for K-12 students and more!


We hope those who were unable to join in-person can join virtually to learn about the new and exciting updates happening with the Illinois PaCE Framework! For registration and details, visit the PaCE Symposium page (<https://www.isac.org/pace/Illinois-PaCE-Symposium/>).

For questions about the PaCE Symposium, contact sac.pace@illinois.gov (<mailto:sac.pace@illinois.gov>).

NEW

RESEARCH & EVALUATION

JUNE COLLEGE BOARD WORKSHOPS

College Board will be offering in-person workshops from **June 13-15** and **June 21-23** to assist educators in understanding how to interpret SAT with Essay, PSAT 10, and PSAT 8/9 score data and share information about the upcoming shift to digital testing in spring 2024. Register for the Data Analysis Workshops and Digital Preview here  (</Documents/June-2023-CB-Data-Digital-Reg.pdf>). For your convenience, a recorded version of this workshop will be made available on the ISBE website.

NEW

SAFE & HEALTHY CLIMATE

REQUEST YOUR MCKINNEY-VENTO INFORMATIONAL BOOKLET

The “Illinois McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Program: Information and Resources for School Administrators and Staff” booklet has been created and is ready to distribute. This new booklet is sturdy, spiral bound, magnetized, and ready to be at your office staff’s fingertips.


Staff can find information on:

- Eligibility for McKinney-Vento Services
- Rights of McKinney-Vento Youth
- Common Signs of Lack of Permanent Housing
- Unaccompanied Youth

There are specific pages for:

- Teacher
- Nurse/Health Aide
- Guidance Counselor/Social Worker
- Administrator/Principal
- Secretary and Enrollment Personnel

We suggest making photocopies of the job-specific portions to share with individuals and to keep the original in an easy-to-access location in the office.

Have all of your offices received your new McKinney-Vento books? If you have not, please connect with the McKinney-Vento contact  (/Documents/Subgrant-Liaison-Contact-List.pdf) for your area.

LUNG CANCER ACTION WEEK

The American Lung Association invites schools/districts to wear turquoise to raise awareness for lung cancer during the week of **May 8-14**. Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths in the United States. Anyone can get this disease, and everyone can play a part in ending it.


Join the American Lung Association to truly make a difference and help save lives by:

- Wearing turquoise to raise awareness of lung cancer and celebrate survivors.
- Sharing ways that anyone can take action to end lung cancer:
 - Getting screened (https://www.lung.org/lung-health-diseases/lung-disease-lookup/lung-cancer/saved-by-the-scan?utm_source=SavedByTheScan&utm_medium=redirect&utm_campaign=AC_LUNG&utm_content=EN), if eligible.
 - Testing home for radon (https://action.lung.org/site/Ecommerce?store_id=34304&_ga=2.12031027.667477513.1671375176-308459560.1633954564).
 - Learning about the latest information on lung cancer (<https://www.lung.org/lung-health-diseases/lung-disease-lookup/lung-cancer>).

NEW

SPECIAL EDUCATION

SAVE THE DATE: ISBE/ISELA STATEWIDE DIRECTORS' CONFERENCE

The exciting return of the Statewide Directors' Conference  (<https://campussuite-storage.s3.amazonaws.com/prod/1559142/55884a52-4353-11ed-aeba-0e8d50c885b7/2586367/42a35954-e858-11ed-a420-0a8f7df0cecf/file/2023%20SELA%20-%20The%20Art%20of%20Blending%20Special%20Education%20Leadership%20and%20Guidance%20%282%29%20%282%29.pdf>) is set for **June 7-8**. The conference will provide great professional learning and planning opportunities for the 2023-24 school year. State Superintendent of Education Dr. Tony Sanders will give the special keynote and welcome address at **1 p.m. June 7**.

TEACHING & LEARNING

FAMILIES CAN SAVE ON THEIR INTERNET BILLS WITH THE AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM

High-speed internet is a necessity – especially for students. That’s why the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law created the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) to lower internet costs for families. ACP provides eligible households:

- Up to \$30/month off their internet bills; and
- A one-time \$100 discount off a laptop, tablet, or computer.

Tens of millions of families are eligible but have not yet claimed their benefit. A family is eligible if any one of the following applies:

- A child participates in the Free and Reduced-Price School Lunch or Breakfast Program, including at Community Eligibility Provision schools;
- The household’s income is 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines or less (\$60,000 for a family of four);
- A member of the household participates in certain other federal programs, like Medicaid or SNAP; or
- The household meets the eligibility criteria for a participating provider’s existing low-income plan.

Many internet service providers offer high-speed plans that are fully covered by ACP – meaning millions of families can now get high-speed internet without paying a dime. GetInternet.gov (<https://www.whitehouse.gov/getinternet>) is a one-stop shop to check eligibility and sign up. Families can also call 877-384-2575 for more ways to apply. Help spread the word with the ACP Consumer Outreach Toolkit (<https://www.fcc.gov/acp-consumer-outreach-toolkit>).

PROFILES IN IMPROVEMENT: HOW ILLINOIS DEVELOPED A DATA SYSTEM TO ADVANCE TEACHER PREPARATION

New America recently published a research brief (<https://www.newamerica.org/education-policy/briefs/profiles-in-improvement-how-illinois-developed-a-data-system-to-advance-teacher-preparation/>) on the Illinois Educator Preparation Profiles (/Pages/eppPublic.aspx). The brief describes the work of ISBE and the Partnership for Educator Preparation to develop the platform and shares lessons learned for state and federal policymakers, as well as for advocates looking to support similar efforts across the nation.

NUTRITION

SOURCING LOCAL FOODS USING ILLINOIS MARKET MAKER WEBINAR

Join ISBE and the Illinois Farm Bureau **from 2-3 p.m. May 11** for a walk-through of the Illinois Market Maker website (<https://il.foodmarketmaker.com/>). This web-based training will be targeted specifically towards schools and provide a hands-on tutorial for navigating this online local foods sourcing system. Register for the hand-on tutorial for navigation local foods sourcing system webinar here <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3540256348153669461>.

The live webinar will be recorded and posted to ISBE’s Farm to Child Nutrition Programs webpage (/Pages/School-Nutrition-Farm-to-School.aspx), along with a variety of additional farm-to-school information and the most up-to-date local food for schools information.

IN BRIEF

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Ed Leaders Network

Ed Leaders Network is offering the following live webinar. Visit the Ed Leaders course library (<https://edleadersnetwork.org/courses/>) to view the entire selection available.

- **3-4 p.m. May 9:** Mental Health Awareness for Leaders 🇺🇸 (<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/592171004441135454>) - Managing individuals who may be struggling with stress, anxiety, depression, and other mental health concerns can be a difficult balancing act. Your role is to manage performance and to bring out the best in your workforce, but accomplishing this often requires you to express concern and support when employees struggle emotionally. Managers often feel uncomfortable in this aspect of their role and may lack the important skills of “emotional management.” This course covers ways employees may present their distress and offers insights and strategies on forging supportive empathic alliances within the role of manager. The session also identifies common mistakes managers make in responding to employees in distress and explains communication skills that express support and convey positive expectancy. Participants are also given information on how to refer employees to the Employee Assistance Program.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

2023 Prudential Emerging Visionary Grand Prize Winner

Congratulations to Nikita Agrawal for being named a 2023 Prudential Emerging Visionary Grand Prize winner. Nikita, a student Whitney M. Young Magnet School in Chicago Public Schools, was selected for her inspiring commitment to improving the lives of others. She received \$15,000 in funding and participated in the Prudential Emerging Visionaries Summit at Prudential's headquarters in Newark, New Jersey, from April 22-25.

EDUCATOR OPPORTUNITIES

Scholarship Opportunities for CS PD Week

Google is providing scholarships to 25 K-12 educators from Illinois to participate in Computer Science PD Week, free of charge. This program aims to expand opportunities for students in underrepresented communities to learn and excel in computer science.

The scholarships will be awarded to educators that are currently employed at a school serving a majority community of Black and/or Latinx students. This program aims to expand opportunities for students in underrepresented communities to learn and excel in computer science.

Get the details and apply on the Learning Technology Center of Illinois website (<https://www.ltcillinois.org/cspdweek/scholarships/>).

Career Z Challenge

The U.S. Department of Education has expanded the eligibility requirement of the Career Z Challenge (<https://www.challenge.gov/?challenge=careerzchallenge&tab=resources>), as well as changed the submission deadline to **5 p.m. June 7**. The Career Z Challenge is a \$2.5 million multi-phase prize challenge to create and/or enhance high-quality, work-based learning opportunities in career and technical education programs.

To learn more, register for Career Z Challenge Info Session 2

(https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/7116826070401/WN_nUZDk2HhTyKnGL_kAraCEA) at **1 p.m. May 4**.

Students for Innovation: Advocacy Day

The Illinois Digital Educators Alliance (IDEA) is asking Illinois administrators to save the date for Students for Innovation: Advocacy Day, which is happening at the Capitol Building in Springfield on **May 10**. IDEA has hosted this day of amplifying student innovation for over 30 years (<https://ideail.org/advocacyblog3823>); however, the event hasn't been in person since 2019. But this year it's back, and IDEA has planned an incredible day, which includes a special morning just for administrators. Mark your calendar now for a morning of administrator networking, an afternoon of supporting student innovation, and a day of showing legislators and educational stakeholders that funding for education matters.

Contact info@ideallinois.org (<mailto:info@ideallinois.org>) with any questions or reserve your spot today
(https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfxi3Oh4R96cO6Rs3A1ckWCVHC0qW9GhqpSLbui8VHI_r_obw/viewform?usp=sf_link).

Bridge Fellowship Now Accepting Applications

WestEd, in collaboration with the Illinois Regional Office of Education Lead Hubs, is launching the Bridge Project, a critical Illinois investment in diversifying the state's principal workforce in urban, rural, and suburban settings that will support the career growth of aspiring principals of color and aspiring female principals.

The program will run from June 2023 through July 2025. If you are interested in participating in the Bridge Project, please apply (https://www.wested.org/wested_event/bridge-project-sign-up/) by **May 15**.

EDUCATOR RECOGNITION

2023 Pyramid Model Champion

Tonia Williams, principal of James Mitchem Early Childhood Center in Valley View District 365U, received the 2023 Pyramid Model Consortium Champion Award for Pyramid Model at the most recent National Training Institute on Effective Practices. The Pyramid Model is a framework of evidence-based practices for promoting young children's healthy social and emotional development. Congratulations, Principal Williams!

FEATURED ISBE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Early Childhood Project Specialist (Principal Consultant #1857) (</Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=818>)
- METT Principal Consultant (Principal Consultant #453) (</Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=821>)
- Administrative Support (Program Specialist #1663) (</Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=819>)
- Floater (Program Specialist #1028) (</Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=820>)

View all open positions at ISBE (</Pages/Careers-at-ISBE.aspx>).