

ISBE'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

June 13, 2023

WHAT'S INSIDE

- [Learning Renewal](#)
- [Early Childhood](#)
- [Finance](#)
- [Research & Evaluation](#)
- [Data Strategies & Analytics](#)
- [Nutrition](#)
- [Safe & Healthy Climate](#)
- [Teaching & Learning](#)
- [In Brief](#)



Dear Colleagues:

The biggest controversy of my time as superintendent/chief executive officer at Elgin District U-46 happened just two years into my tenure, and it concerned a transgender student. Early in the 2016-17 school year, we found ourselves working to meet the requests of several of our transgender students, one of whom requested access to locker room facilities that matched their gender identity. With the well-being of all students top of mind, we made arrangements with the transgender student's family for their child to change clothes in a private stall, and we ensured the locker room would continue to be supervised by an adult. We made plans to provide an alternative changing location for any other student who felt uncomfortable, had

conversations with the staff, and provided professional development for employees at that school. I also notified all our board members.

What we did not do was put the question up for a vote. There was simply no reason to do so. We already had a policy that provided equal opportunities for all students, and it aligned with state and federal laws. Board meetings became a bit more heated for a short time, but looking back, I take much pride in the fact that the educators at U-46 stayed true to our mission to stand up for and actively include all kids.

June is Pride Month – the time we celebrate how much wiser and happier society has become by providing equal rights for LGBTQIA+ people. I feel like we've made a giant step forward in the years since our 2016 locker room controversy. For example, an art and design class at Homewood-Flossmoor High School developed community-based art projects, presented the proposals to village officials, then implemented the options officials chose. They are honoring Pride month by yarn bombing trees with colors from the LGBTQIA+ flag and stenciling messages on sidewalks like "Humankind. Be both."

June is also the month in which we celebrate Juneteenth, the holiday that marks the day slavery was finally abolished – June 19, 1865. Yes, the Emancipation Proclamation had been signed almost three years earlier, but that news had been withheld from enslaved people in Texas. It wasn't until Union troops arrived on Galveston Island that enslaved people found out they were officially free. What a wonderful historical moment to celebrate.

I'm embarrassed to admit that, until recently, I was woefully unaware of Juneteenth. I learned about it in 2020 when, like many people, I was moved by the murder of George Floyd to begin educating myself more deeply about the social history of our nation. Discovering that I'd had a blind spot about such a major moment in history makes me realize that there are undoubtedly many more. We don't know what we don't know. None of us do.

And that’s precisely the purpose of holidays and heritage months: to bring awareness to and give each of us the opportunity to learn more about the contributions, struggles, and rich histories of our fellow Americans. As educators, we are – by definition – accustomed to the role of teaching. But we must also remain open and committed to continuing to learn.

Pictured: To kick off LGBTQIA+ Pride Month, students from Homewood-Flossmoor High School developed community-based art and design projects. Village officials selected their tree-trunk “yarn bombs” and their “summer secret” supportive messages stenciled onto sidewalks using paint that’s visible only after it rains. One of those messages: “Humankind. Be both.”

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>).

Jun. 1-30	LGBTQ Pride Month (https://www.loc.gov/lgbt-pride-month/about/)
Jun. 13-15	Illinois New Teacher Collaborative 2023 Summer Conference Series (https://emails.illinois.edu/newsletter/37/1612142237.html)
Jun. 14	Webinar: My Data Dashboard New Approach to Assessment Reporting (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7863948385625540182)
Jun. 15	Webinar: SY 2023 Average Daily Attendance Webinar (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5599047891079488608)
Jun. 16	Bid deadline for \$6 million ISBE marketing campaign (https://www.bidbuy.illinois.gov/bso/external/bidDetail.sdo?docId=23-586SBE-POLIC-B-36887&external=true&parentUrl=close)
Jun. 19	ISBE offices closed for Juneteenth
Jun. 20-21	IncludedED Conference (https://www.ltcillinois.org/included/)
Jun. 20	Webinar: What Does It Mean to Check Your Data (https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/8562059104874950234)
Jun. 22	FY 2023 Site-Based Expenditure Reporting Guidance Highlights webinar (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1511267067905391456)
Jun. 23	Student Advisory Council Convening 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. (https://cape.uis.edu/portal/Student_Advisory_Covening)
Jun. 28	Grants 101: New ISBE-IASA Workshop on grant applications and management (https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_S80aHPVLQImTxVhYq4DUKg#/registration)
Jun. 29	Seminar: Education Law: A Year in Review (https://reg.planetreg.com/edlawyearinreview)

Jun. 29	School District Financial Reporting Webinar (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7610411999845543515)
Jun. 30	Deadline to submit FY 2024 Early Childhood Block Grant Request for Proposal (https://www.isbe.net/ecbg)
Jun. 30	Deadline to submit SY 2023-24 ISBE Student Advisory Council applications (https://isbe.submittable.com/submit/258537/2023-24-student-advisory-council-application)
Jun. 30	Deadline for community organization and school partnerships to apply to start the Parent Mentor Program in their local public schools. (https://www.parentengagement.institute/)
Jul. 4	ISBE offices closed for Independence Day
Jul. 11	Webinar: What Does It Mean to Check Your Data (https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/8562059104874950234)
Jul. 18	Webinar: My Data Dashboard New Approach to Assessment Reporting (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5936597960780507743)
Jul. 25-26	School Nutrition Programs Back to School Conference
July 25	Grants 101: New ISBE-IASA Workshop on grant applications and management (https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_z8glw-cWRESqkAv2IDbC8g#/registration)
Jul. 31	Deadline to submit Student Discipline Data in SIS
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)
Sep. 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=5v5kA8ZJ9Eq1LDNameV30Ufi4KgH87ICv6FRRQI8cviUNTdHWktDS1NJWjJZVDFaQ09RVINCUVdMRi4u>) how you are investing federal relief

funds to help students recover.

POSTSECONDARY SUPPORT AT DISTRICT U-46

The mission of School District U-46 in Elgin is to “be a great place for all students to learn, all teachers to teach, and all employees to work. All means all.” With six high schools and nearly 12,000 high school students, achieving this goal of equity is no small task. With six high schools and nearly 12,000 high school students, achieving this goal of equity is no small task. The district partnered with OneGoal to advance postsecondary outcomes and to increase college and career readiness for its students.

District leaders at U-46 evaluated their postsecondary advising and preparation program and found that the percentage of students attending college was not meeting district goals. In fact, a survey of students showed that one in five disagreed that all students are encouraged to go to college. A survey of teachers found that a majority reported they did not think postsecondary was part of their work.

OneGoal has identified seven focus areas related to a district’s postsecondary practices. Each district working with OneGoal selects 1-2 areas for improvement. U-46 had the opportunity to work with OneGoal through ISBE’s partnership, funded by federal pandemic relief funds, and selected Continuous Improvement Cycles and Adult Capacity Building as its areas of focus.

Seeing an increase in the number of students completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid and more students with a documented postsecondary plan have been big wins for the district. Lead Counselor Alexa Charsha-Hahn also points to a larger cultural shift in the district since it began partnering with OneGoal: “The conversations that counselors are having with students has changed, and the language we’re using has helped us translate the options available to our students in really meaningful ways.”

Read more about how District U-46 is advancing postsecondary readiness and success for its student (<https://www.onegoalgraduation.org/resources/case-studies/elgin-u-46/>)s.

NEW

EARLY CHILDHOOD

DEADLINE EXTENDED! FY 2024 EARLY CHILDHOOD BLOCK GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE JUNE 30

The FY 2024 Early Childhood Block Grant application deadline has been extended to **4 p.m. June 30**. The FY 2024 state budget includes an additional \$75 million to expand access to preschool across the state. The application prioritizes providers in identified preschool deserts (</Pages/ECBG-Preschool-Deserts.aspx>) where low-income children lack sufficient access to publicly funded preschool. Access the application, technical assistance webinars, and other resources on the ISBE website (<https://isbe.net/preschool>). A wide range of providers from school districts, to child care centers, to community-based organizations are eligible to apply. Help ISBE spread the word about these available funds for preschool by utilizing the communications toolkit (</Pages/ECBG-Communications-Toolkit.asp>).

NEW

FINANCE

GRANTS 101: NEW ISBE-IASA WORKSHOP ON GRANT APPLICATIONS AND MANAGEMENT

Acquiring additional funding through state and federal grants is crucial to support innovative programs, enhance student experiences and promote overall educational excellence. IASA and ISBE are offering a new, free virtual workshop for new and early-career superintendents, as well as bookkeepers and others who would benefit, to help you navigate the grant application process and understand key compliance requirements.

Register for this free online webinar to deepen your understanding of the nuances of the grant application process and various grant program requirements. Topics covered will include budget development, expenditure reporting and periodic reporting. The webinar will also discuss GATA approval, accessing SAMS number approval and a sharing of other resources available from ISBE regarding grant programs.

Participants will receive an Evidence of Completion Form for 3 CPD hours; this workshop is not eligible for AA credit.

- Register - 9 a.m. June 28 (https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_S80aHPVLQImTxVhYq4DUKg#/registration)
- Register - 9 a.m. July 25 (https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_z8glw-cWRESqkAv2IDbC8g#/registration)

Contact Kristy Ponsler at kponsler@iasaedu.org (<mailto:kponsler@iasaedu.org>) or 217-753-2213 with any questions.

SCHOOL DISTRICT FINANCIAL REPORTING WEBINAR

School Business Services is hosting a live webinar at **1 p.m. June 29**. The topic will be updates to the fiscal year 2024 Budget form and FY 2023 Annual Financial Report (AFR) form and helpful tips for completing the budget, and AFR and Annual Statement of Affairs forms. Please go to ISBE's website (</Pages/School-District-Joint-Agreement.aspx>) to register for the School Business Services webinar 🗣️ (<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7610411999845543515>).

FISCAL YEAR 2023 SITE-BASED EXPENDITURE REPORTING: SUBMISSION DATES AND GUIDANCE HIGHLIGHTS WEBINAR

The FY 2023 Site-Based Expenditure Reporting submission window will run **July 3 – Aug. 17**. An updated reporting guidance document (</Documents/FY23-SBER-Guidance.pdf>) is available on the ISBE Site-Based Expenditure webpage. The reporting guidance reflects only minor changes from last year's FY 2022 guidance. Changes primarily concern enhancements to the IWAS reporting system and edits to improve clarity and support accurate reporting. The designated Reporting Entities remain the same and will follow similar reporting rules.

District leaders are invited to register for the FY 2023 Site-Based Expenditure Reporting Guidance Highlights webinar 🗣️ (<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1511267067905391456>), which will take place at **1:30 p.m. June 22**. This webinar will provide key information about the FY 2023 reporting window, including dates, approaches to submissions, IWAS enhancement, and highlights from the 2023 guidance.

ISBE is also aware of a new federal requirement to report school finance information, known as the School-Level Finance Survey. We are assessing this new requirement and will provide a brief update during the webinar.

SCHOOL DISTRICT/JOINT AGREEMENT BUDGET FORMS AVAILABLE

The following FY 2024 School District/Joint Agreement Budget forms with related additional information and instructions are now available at the School Business Services Department webpage (</Pages/School-District-Joint-Agreement.aspx>):

- FY 2024 School District/Joint Agreement Budget, ISBE Form 50-36/50-39
- Links to Current Rules and School Code Requirements
- Dates to Remember
- Additional Help Guides and Other Useful Links

FY 2024 School District/Joint Agreement Budget forms must be submitted to ISBE no later than **Oct. 31**.

Section 17-1 (105 ILCS 5/17-1) of the School Code requires school districts/joint agreements to electronically submit their adopted annual budget to ISBE and requires school districts that adopt an unbalanced budget in the operating funds to complete a Deficit Reduction Plan to balance the budget within three years. School districts that have unbalanced operating funds for their FY 2023 Annual Financial Report are required to submit a Deficit Reduction Plan as well.

New submission process: Please submit the FY 2024 budgets to ISBE via IWAS (<https://apps.isbe.net/iwas/asp/login.asp?js=true>).

All FY 2023 amended budgets will still need to be submitted via ISBE Attachment Manager (<https://sec1.isbe.net/attachmgr/default.aspx>).

Call School Business Services at 217-785-8779 if you have questions regarding the school district or joint agreement budgets.

RESEARCH & EVALUATION

IAR, SAT, AND DLM-AA NOW AVAILABLE ON MY DATA DASHBOARD

We are excited about the recent release of new My Data Dashboard screens, which focus on the Illinois Assessment for Readiness (IAR), SAT, and Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessment (DLM-AA). The new screens include historical data from school year 2018-19 to SY 2021-22 and will be updated with SY 2022-23 data after the release of the 2023 Illinois Report Card this fall.

Each screen provides extensive information not previously available from ISBE systems (securely and within Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and Children's Online Privacy Protection Rule guidelines for the protection of students' rights to privacy).

- New metrics visualization gives users the ability to use and understand IAR, SAT, and DLM-AA data that are reported publicly at a more detailed level.
- Business rules are presented on screen for each metric, including explanations of how each are calculated, using references to *your local data* in the explanation.
- Public Illinois Report Card data are displayed and connected directly to a student-level breakdown of those data.
- Student data is being presented for the first time by *student cohort* as well as by school year and grade level, allowing for more accurate program analysis.
- Complete student rosters allow for quick and flexible analysis of student group performance, dependent on the availability of active students within the district/school for a particular metric, including the ability to sort and filter by proficiency level at the student level.
- Data can be seen via cohort, trend, and snapshot, as well as a detailed filterable roster allowing users to analyze and dissect data at a nuanced level.
- There are additional historical data and data at all performance levels.

My Data Dashboard demonstrates ISBE's commitment the continuing development of tools that provide local districts with the resources necessary to make effective choices for the benefit of students statewide. Additional assessment reporting screens – including ACCESS and the Illinois Science Assessment – will be coming later this year as we empower you with the best information the agency has available to support your local instructional and operational decision-making.

Learn more about My Data Dashboard and these new visualizations at one of two upcoming webinars:

- 11 a.m. | June 14 📅 (<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7863948385625540182>)
- 11 a.m. | July 18 📅 (<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5936597960780507743>)

Additional details, including resources such as quick start guides and videos, can be found here (/ed360).

DATA STRATEGIES & ANALYTICS

WEBINAR: WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO CHECK YOUR DATA? – JUNE 20 AND JULY 11

This webinar will explain how data is organized in various data systems and provide best practices for checking data, including which reports to pull in what systems. It will review systems of record, including the Student Information System (SIS), Entity Profile System, the IEP-Student Tracking and Reporting System, Employment Information System, and the Educator Licensure Information System, as well data review systems like the Data Quality Dashboard 2.0 and Data Review and Verification Tool. This session is highly recommended for superintendents, assistant superintendents, principals, assistant principals, and all district staff responsible for the collection and use of data. Register here for one of three sessions for this webinar 📅 (<https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/8562059104874950234>):

- 1-3 p.m. June 20
- 10 a.m.-Noon July 11
- 1-3 p.m. July 11


NUTRITION

REGISTER FOR ISBE'S SNP BACK TO SCHOOL CONFERENCE

Registration is open for the ISBE Nutrition Department's annual School Nutrition Programs Back to School Conference (/snpb2s).

The conference returns to an in-person event **July 25-26** at the Wyndham Springfield City Centre in downtown Springfield. Pre-conference sessions are **July 24**. ISBE is partnering with the Illinois School Nutrition Association (ILSNA) to offer New Leadership Training as one of four in-person pre-conference presentations. Registrations for the pre-conference trainings are separate:

- Forecasting the Procurement of Foods (Noon-4 p.m. July 24)
- Utilizing the Cafeteria as a Classroom (Noon-4 p.m. July 24)
- Menus of Flavor: East and Southeast Asian Fusion (Noon-4 p.m. July 24)
- ILSNA/ISBE New Leadership Training (Noon-4 p.m. July 24)

The free conference on **July 25-26** will include trainings on procurement, menu planning, food handler training, and much more. The tentative agenda is available online  (/Documents/2023snpb2s-registration-agenda.pdf). There will also be exhibitors and an area for one-on-one technical assistance with ISBE staff. Here are the links to the conference registration and hotel reservations:

- Conference Registration
- Hotel Registration

SAFE & HEALTHY CLIMATE

ISBE STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL CONVENING

The ISBE Student Advisory Council is excited to announce the 2023 Convening from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on **June 23** at the University of Illinois Springfield Student Union Ballroom. The topic this year is "Student Well-Being," and the event is open to students, educators, administrators, legislative staff, families, and education professionals who want to discuss, collaborate, and work together to find solutions for Illinois students. SAC members will be facilitating conversations among attendees and there will be nationally known speakers presenting on the topics of student mental health and bullying. Dr. Jason Okonofua (<https://www.jokonofua.com/>) will deliver the keynote.

You can register for the convening here (https://cape.uis.edu/portal/Student_Advisory_Covening).

TEACHING & LEARNING

PARENT MENTOR PROGRAM APPLICATION NOW AVAILABLE

The Parent Engagement Institute (PEI) (<https://www.parentengagement.institute/mission>), a partnership between Palenque LSNA (<https://www.palenguelsna.org/>) and the Southwest Organizing Project (<https://www.swopchicago.org/>), is looking for community organizations and school partnerships in Illinois to apply to start the Parent Mentor Program in their local public schools. PEI anticipates the average grant amount

would be at least \$80,000 to start up and run the Parent Mentor Program in two schools, with a cohort of six-eight parent mentors in each school during the 2023-24 school year.

Parent mentors help address persistent equity gaps in their own children's schools by volunteering in classrooms for two hours/day for at least 200 hours. The parent mentors access weekly professional development on instructional practices, mentoring from a teacher, leadership and career opportunities, and stipends. Parent mentors support each other within their cohort to pursue their dreams and unite the school community for long-term change.

For more information, please visit the Parent Engagement Institute website (<https://www.parentengagement.institute/>) and this document (https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/11mPajB8rEcJ3TQa0a0nbhfximc-_dTos/edit#slide=id.p1), which demonstrates the impact of Illinois Statewide Parent Mentor Initiative Program. You may also email bmurphy@palenquelsna.org (<mailto:bmurphy@palenquelsna.org>) with additional questions. The application deadline is **June 30**.

LEARNING WHILE LEADING: LAUNCHING TEACHERS WITH ADMIN ENDORSEMENTS INTO PRINCIPAL POSITIONS

The Learning While Leading Program is currently recruiting a new cohort of 40 participants, especially targeting rural educators. The Learning While Leading Program is federally funded and coordinated through the Regional Office of Education Lead Hubs and launches teacher leaders who already have their administrative endorsement into an assistant principal or principal position starting with the 2024-25 school year. The program includes professional development on leading school improvement work through a learning cycle process as well as 1:1 coaching support during the aspiring and induction phase.

For more information about the program and to apply, click here (<https://roe17.org/programs/roe-17-lead-hub/learning-while-leading>). Please share this opportunity with your teachers! Complete applications, including the written application and all forms, are due **June 16**.

ISBE SEEKING VENDOR FOR \$6 MILLION MARKETING AND ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN

The Illinois State Board of Education is seeking an experienced vendor to develop and execute a \$6 million multimedia marketing, communications, and advertising campaign in English and Spanish to promote the teaching profession. The goal of the campaign is to inspire target audiences to pursue teaching as a career, especially in the high-demand areas of bilingual education and special education and in high-need regions, with memorable, thought-provoking ads.

Share this opportunity with your contacts! Apply here (<https://www.bidbuy.illinois.gov/bso/external/bidDetail.sdo?docId=23-586SBE-POLIC-B-36887&external=true&parentUrl=close>). Bids are due **June 16**.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT SUMMER INSTITUTES

The University of Illinois System, in partnership with the College Board, will launch two Advanced Placement (AP) Summer Institutes in 2023 at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and the University of Illinois Springfield in an effort to increase the number of AP teachers in the state of Illinois. The institutes will take place **June 26-30** in Springfield and **July 10-14** in Champaign. This brand new initiative is a 30-hour training program designed for new AP teachers or those AP teachers with minimal training from school districts with AP exam participation of less than 10 percent. The institutes will focus on four subjects: English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition, U.S. Government and Politics, and U.S. History. Teachers can earn up to 30 hours of professional development through ISBE upon successful completion. **The University of Illinois System will cover the full cost of tuition and housing for teachers who qualify.** If interested in one of the U of I AP Summer Institutes, please email your contact information to UllinoisAPSI@uillinois.edu (<mailto:UllinoisAPSI@uillinois.edu>). Learn more here.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Free Educator Workshops: Unvarnished: Housing Discrimination in the Northern and Western United States

The Naperville Heritage Society received a grant from the Illinois Secretary of State to produce teacher professional development workshops around the content of its online exhibit, *Unvarnished: Housing Discrimination in the Northern and Western United States*, which shares the history of segregation in the Northern and Western United States, as a result of housing discrimination and sundown town practices. In Illinois, scholars have estimated that over 70% of communities of over 1,000 people in 1970 were all-White on purpose.

The Naperville Heritage Society will host three free workshops for middle and high school educators **June 27, July 12, or July 17** featuring the Unvarnished exhibit and digging deeper into Illinois housing history. To join a workshop, please fill out this brief application and interest statement and send the completed form to Donna Sack at sackd@naperville.il.us (<mailto:sackd@naperville.il.us>).

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 p.m. July 11:** Creating an Inclusive and Diverse Space with Classroom Media Content (https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_9zX7JKWARTm_UFa1yQZ2pQ?_x_zm_rtaid=1yiYm26mQJyUyb65G62maQ.1686589760334.6fd042d90e699f2e53d179394a5871a5&_x_zm_rtaid=277#/registration)
 - The presentation begins with data showing the strong impact of visuals on children's perceptions and behaviors. All visuals a child is exposed to send a message to the child so classroom visuals should be chosen with intentionality. Further, classroom visuals should be seen as an opportunity to build inclusion and identity with students. The presentation then reviews best practices for the types of visuals teachers should include in their classrooms taking into account differences in factors such as race, ethnicity, gender, religion, body type, and abilities. The presentation ends with resources for teachers to increase diverse representation in their classroom content, as well as a personal call to action to 1) continuously increase their exposure to different types of people, and 2) keep an open mind to recognize and address their own biases.

IRC Hosts Multilingual Mini-Conference EmpowerCon

The Illinois Resource Center (IRC) will host a one-day mini conference for English learner/bilingual/dual language educators that will support attendees to feel empowered and equipped to lead in their schools and districts. This free, in-person conference will provide teachers with an empowering keynote session as well as multiple breakout sessions centered around serving and supporting multilingual learners and their families. The IRC specialists will leave you feeling inspired, energized, and ready to start the new school year with fresh ideas for serving and supporting your multilingual learners and their families. Get ready! Get set! Get to IRC's EmpowerCon on **July 18 or July 20!** All participants will receive five professional development credit hours. Register for EmpowerCon 2023 here (<https://irc.thecenterweb.org/events/empowercon-2023>).

EDUCATOR RECOGNITION

Lockport Township High School Teacher Receives William and Mildred Jackson Teacher Recognition Award

Congratulations to Lockport Township High School District 205 teacher Bridget Hope for receiving the 2023 William and Mildred Jackson Teacher Recognition Award! Hope has served in the district's special education department for nearly 19 years. The award honors an educator who has exhibited special skills in the art and science of teaching.

CPS Counselor Named 2023 Illinois School Counselor of the Year

The Illinois School Counselor Association (ISCA) named Lisa Delgadillo, a school counselor at Hibbard Elementary School in Chicago Public School District 299, the 2023 Illinois School Counselor of the Year. The ISCA School Counselor of the Year award recognizes full-time school counselors who have demonstrated leadership, collaborated and built relationships with all members of the school community, and advocated for the school counseling profession.

Delgadillo started work at Hibbard Elementary in 2021 and immediately demonstrated her leadership and ability to build relationships within and outside the school community. She has led numerous professional development sessions for Hibbard teachers, including trainings on how to implement Calm Classroom to mediate and de-escalate disputes and disruptive behaviors. She has also led outreach to families, working with students and family members to find resources they need outside the classroom, including clothing, living essentials and therapy resources. Prior to joining Hibbard, Delgadillo was a school counselor at Nobel Elementary School, where she partnered with Communities in Schools, a national organization dedicated to connecting schools with community resources to help students succeed in school and after graduation.

Congratulations, Lisa! Thank you for all that you do for your students' well-being.

FEATURED ISBE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Executive Director of Specialized Instruction (Executive Director #1861) (</Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=835>)
- Executive Director of Data, Accountability & Assessment (Executive Director) #1860 (</Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=833>)

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