

# ISBE'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

July 11, 2023

## WHAT'S INSIDE



- Learning Renewal
- Early Childhood Development
- Data, Accountability, & Assessment
- Safe & Healthy Climate

- Finance
- Teaching & Learning
- In Brief





Dear Colleagues:

I worked at a hardware store when I was 14 years old. One day my boss asked me to sort through customer-returned garden hoses that had holes in them, to cut them at the location of the leak, and sell each segment of the hose separately. The challenging part was that I had to price the pieces according to their new length, calculating cost per foot. For a student like me, this hands-on activity taught me more about ratios and the multiplication of fractions than I ever learned in school. Every job I have had since has provided me similar opportunities to apply my learning to solve real-world problems.

Career and Technical Education (CTE) offers students this kind of hands-on, career-connected learning that puts knowledge into practical application. It also offers students the chance to explore an interest or potential profession, to acquire tangible skills, and to build toward real certifications – all of which gives them a jump start on a productive future. I am so pleased to continue to see Career and Technical Education grow in Illinois. To support that growth, ISBE has begun developing a new funding formula for CTE, informed by stakeholder input. **Now we want your feedback.** You can view all the details in a State CTE Funding Formula Update presentation  (/Documents/CTE-Funding-Formula-Update-June-2023-FA%20.pdf) and video  (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2xa1Dbbr66Q>) and send your questions and feedback to CTE@isbe.net (mailto:CTE@isbe.net).

CTE has two major funding streams – federal Perkins funding (nearly \$49 million) and state funding (about \$47.7 million). The proposal we're considering would only phase in a new calculation for Area Career Centers and state "formula funds," beginning in 2025.

The new formula will provide funds to support career exploration for elementary students, quality CTE programming for secondary students in districts and Area Career Centers, and regional CTE system leadership. The proposal builds off the Evidence-Based Funding (EBF) methodology by applying an EBF-based equity multiplier in the calculations leading to the elementary and secondary student allocations to send more resources to underfunded districts. For Area Career Centers, the new formula uses student enrollment as the basis for funding. The formula also incentivizes program quality by encouraging course offerings that allow students to build on their skills in a specific field. It allocates more dollars for students who qualify as "CTE concentrators," students who complete at least two courses in a single CTE program of study. The formula also provides leadership funding based on real data – the median principal salary for each Education for Employment CTE System region. As you can tell, this new formula is complex and deserves a close look. So please, review the formula (presentation  (/Documents/CTE-Funding-Formula-Update-June-2023-FA%20.pdf) and video  (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2xa1Dbbr66Q>)) and send us your feedback by emailing CTE@isbe.net (mailto:CTE@isbe.net).

A study recently published by School Psychology Review (<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/2372966X.2023.2217980>) taught me a new word – eudaimonia. It means “having the opportunity to understand what purpose in life feels like ... and having opportunities to cultivate your unique personal strengths and talents,” as one researcher of a new study defined it to NPR (<https://www.npr.org/2023/07/06/1186154250/study-examines-what-aspects-of-mental-health-are-tied-to-doing-well-in-math-engl>). The headline on Forbes’ report on this study (<https://www.forbes.com/sites/nickmorrison/2023/07/05/sense-of-purpose-has-more-impact-on-grades-than-happiness-study-finds/?sh=197890512f57>) phrased it this way: “Sense Of Purpose Has More Impact On Grades Than Happiness, Study Finds.” It turns out that – even controlling for gender, socio-economic status, and other factors – feeling a sense of meaning and purpose helps students excel academically.

All our students deserve the chance to find their purpose. Career and Technical Education is the key to this equation for a many students. Expanding access to CTE depends on us getting resources where they are needed most.

*Pictured: Bethalto Community Unit School District 8 gave students in Grades 4-7 the chance to sample Career and Technical Education during a week in June at “Camp C.” About 50 students rotated through sessions that were focused on carpentry, clothing, coding, and cooking. They picked up new skills, along with an understanding of the importance of CTE, and learned about the opportunities that they will have in high school.*

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>).

<b>Jul. 10 - 14</b>	National Summer Learning Week ( <a href="https://www.summerlearning.org/summer-learning-week-2/">https://www.summerlearning.org/summer-learning-week-2/</a> )
<b>Jul. 13</b>	Preschool Development Grant B-5 Renewal Application Listening Session ( <a href="https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/8015535855851676502">https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/8015535855851676502</a> )
<b>Jul. 18</b>	Webinar: My Data Dashboard New Approach to Assessment Reporting ( <a href="https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5936597960780507743">https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5936597960780507743</a> )
<b>Jul. 18</b>	Mental and Behavioral Health Screening Listening Session (virtual) ( <a href="https://www.isbe.net/Pages/mentalhealthscreening.aspx">https://www.isbe.net/Pages/mentalhealthscreening.aspx</a> )
<b>Jul. 20</b>	Preschool Development Grant B-5 Renewal Application Listening Session ( <a href="https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/8015535855851676502">https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/8015535855851676502</a> )
<b>Jul. 20</b>	Webinar: Revisiting the Data Review and Verification Tool ( <a href="https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3998283206886354523">https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3998283206886354523</a> )
<b>Jul. 25-26</b>	School Nutrition Programs Back to School Conference ( <a href="https://www.isbe.net/snpb2s">https://www.isbe.net/snpb2s</a> )
<b>Jul. 25</b>	Grants 101: New ISBE-IASA Workshop on grant applications and management ( <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_z8glw-cWRESqkAv2IDbC8g#/registration">https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_z8glw-cWRESqkAv2IDbC8g#/registration</a> )
<b>Jul. 25</b>	Mental and Behavioral Health Screening Listening Session (Collinsville) ( <a href="https://www.isbe.net/Pages/mentalhealthscreening.aspx">https://www.isbe.net/Pages/mentalhealthscreening.aspx</a> )
<b>Jul. 26</b>	Mental and Behavioral Health Screening Listening Session (Marion) ( <a href="https://www.isbe.net/Pages/mentalhealthscreening.aspx">https://www.isbe.net/Pages/mentalhealthscreening.aspx</a> )

Jul. 27	Illinois Literacy Plan Listening Tour (Mt. Vernon) ( <a href="https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-Literacy-Plan.aspx">https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-Literacy-Plan.aspx</a> )
Jul. 27	Mental and Behavioral Health Screening Listening Session (Champaign) ( <a href="https://www.isbe.net/Pages/mentalhealthscreening.aspx">https://www.isbe.net/Pages/mentalhealthscreening.aspx</a> )
Jul. 27	Preschool Development Grant B-5 Renewal Application Listening Session ( <a href="https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/8015535855851676502">https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/8015535855851676502</a> )
Jul. 31	Deadline to submit Student Discipline Data in SIS
Jul. 31	Illinois Literacy Plan Listening Tour (virtual) ( <a href="https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-Literacy-Plan.aspx">https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-Literacy-Plan.aspx</a> )
Jul. 31	Mental and Behavioral Health Screening Listening Session (virtual) - REGISTRATION CLOSED ( <a href="https://www.isbe.net/Pages/mentalhealthscreening.aspx">https://www.isbe.net/Pages/mentalhealthscreening.aspx</a> )
Aug. 2	Mental and Behavioral Health Screening Listening Session (Chicago) ( <a href="https://www.isbe.net/Pages/mentalhealthscreening.aspx">https://www.isbe.net/Pages/mentalhealthscreening.aspx</a> )
Aug. 3	Mental and Behavioral Health Screening Listening Session for Students/Youth (virtual) ( <a href="https://www.isbe.net/Pages/mentalhealthscreening.aspx">https://www.isbe.net/Pages/mentalhealthscreening.aspx</a> )
Aug. 4	Mental and Behavioral Health Screening Listening Session (virtual – NEW SESSION ADDED) ( <a href="https://www.isbe.net/Pages/mentalhealthscreening.aspx">https://www.isbe.net/Pages/mentalhealthscreening.aspx</a> )
Aug. 8	Mental and Behavioral Health Screening Listening Session for Parents/Caregivers/Community Members (virtual) ( <a href="https://www.isbe.net/Pages/mentalhealthscreening.aspx">https://www.isbe.net/Pages/mentalhealthscreening.aspx</a> )
Aug. 22	Deadline to apply for U.S. EPA grant to replace existing school buses with clean and Zero Emissions school buses ( <a href="https://www.epa.gov/grants/2023-clean-school-bus-csb-grant-program">https://www.epa.gov/grants/2023-clean-school-bus-csb-grant-program</a> )
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 ( <a href="https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/air-quality/driving-a-cleaner-illinois.html">https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/air-quality/driving-a-cleaner-illinois.html</a> )
Sep. 29:	Deadline to submit U.S. Presidential Scholars nominations ( <a href="https://www.isbe.net/Pages/US-Presidential-Scholars.aspx">https://www.isbe.net/Pages/US-Presidential-Scholars.aspx</a> )

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=hv5kA8ZJ9Eq1LDNameV30Ufi4KgH87ICv6FRRQI8cviUNTdHWkIDS1NJWjJZVDFaQ09RVINCUVdMRI4u>) how you are investing federal relief funds to help students recover.

### ILLINOIS VIRTUAL INSTRUCTIONAL COACH AND BUILDING MENTOR PROGRAM SUPPORTS NEW TEACHERS

Amber Sims, an elementary school teacher in Alton CUSD 11, started her teaching career in the midst of the pandemic. She got the support she needed during that unique time through the Illinois Virtual Instructional Coach and Building Mentor Program. She met with a virtual instructional coach once a week for about an hour over Zoom. Sims shared her experiences in the classroom and received advice on how to better serve

students. Her mentor also provided a folder of activities each month that had been successful in her classroom in the past.

“The Coaching and Mentoring Program has helped build my confidence as a new teacher tremendously. I have been blessed to be a part of this awesome program for two years now. Both years, my mentors have been kind, empathetic, supportive, and encouraging,” said Sims. “It’s nice to know that I’m supported by others in this profession.”

In addition to having a virtual coach once a month, members across the state who took part in the program met over Zoom with a guest speaker. These meetings offered additional resources, support, and an opportunity to collaborate with other educators from across the state.

Schools or districts interested in participating can get started by having the local union president or a school/district administrator complete a short interest survey through the program partners, the Illinois Education Association or the Illinois Federation of Teachers. More information is available on the ISBE website (</Pages/Illinois-Virtual-Instructional-Coach-Building-Mentor-Program.aspx>).

NEW

## EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

### PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANT B-5 RENEWAL APPLICATION LISTENING SESSIONS

ISBE received a Federal Forecast of a new Preschool Development Grant Birth to 5 (PDG B-5) Notice of Funding Opportunity to be released later this summer. In order to prepare for the application, ISBE is seeking recommendations from the field on activities to be included in the PDG B-5 renewal grant application. Please join us for a webinar to share your thoughts.

This webinar will be presented several times. Please register for the date and time 📅 (<https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/8015535855851676502>) that works best for you.

- **2 p.m. July 13**
- **10 a.m. July 20**
- **5:30 p.m. July 27**

NEW

## DATA, ACCOUNTABILITY, & ASSESSMENT

### 2022-23 REVISITING THE DATA REVIEW AND VERIFICATION TOOL

Please join us from **1-2:30 p.m. July 20** for an overview of the Data Review and Verification Tool (DRVT). DRVT is a real-time tool used to share Report Card calculations with school districts to ensure accuracy of the data that is used for the Report Card. Several changes have been made this year in response to feedback from the field. Register for the webinar here 📅 (<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3998283206886354523>).

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

ISBE has released updates to My Data Dashboard that illustrate a significant change in the way it provides access to data and supports data-driven programmatic decision-making. The recently released screens focus on Illinois Assessment of Readiness, SAT, and Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessment.

Learn more about My Data Dashboard and these new visualizations at a webinar at **11 a.m. July 18** 📅 (<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5936597960780507743>). Additional details, including many resources, such as quick start guides and videos, can be found here (</ed360>).

## MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SCREENING LISTENING SESSIONS – NEW VIRTUAL SESSION ADDED FOR AUG. 4

ISBE has added a new virtual session from **9-10:30 a.m. Aug. 4** as part of the statewide landscape scan examining mental and behavioral health screening of students. Registration for the July 31 virtual session has reached capacity and is now closed.

Visit the ISBE website (</Pages/mentalhealthscreening.aspx>) for more details and to register to attend a listening session hosted by ISBE, the seven Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) Hubs, and the Children's Behavioral Health Transformation Initiative to gather feedback from districts, community members, students, and families across the state.

ISBE is also collecting feedback through a short online survey, available through early September to all districts and Regional Offices of Education and Intermediate Service Centers in the IWAS system listing under "Surveys."

Please email [mentalhealth@isbe.net](mailto:mentalhealth@isbe.net) (mailto:mentalhealth@isbe.net) with any questions.

## APPLY FOR ELECTRIC SCHOOL BUS FUNDING

This summer only there are unique offerings for electric school bus funding from both state (Illinois Environmental Protection Agency [IEPA] Volkswagen settlement) and federal (U.S. EPA Clean School Bus Program [CSBP]) sources. This is likely the only time both will be offered and there will never be more funds available than this.

- IEPA has opened up its remaining \$27 million for electric school buses (prioritizing Chicago and Metro East area counties with historic air pollution and seven additional counties).
- U.S. EPA has a grant program offering \$52 million for Region 5, which includes Illinois.

There are numerous resources to help with understanding these opportunities and applying. To see the differences in the programs and which option(s) best suit your district, see this fact sheet ([https://environmentallaw-my.sharepoint.com/:x:/g/personal/gkwan\\_elpc\\_org/EV4XnnGXL5FDnZlxeeeLRzoBUeCgSGOwwX1ljVAf8B1gLQ?rttime=-lg18VSC20g](https://environmentallaw-my.sharepoint.com/:x:/g/personal/gkwan_elpc_org/EV4XnnGXL5FDnZlxeeeLRzoBUeCgSGOwwX1ljVAf8B1gLQ?rttime=-lg18VSC20g)) comparing last year's CSBP rebate round (as there will be a similar one this fall), the current CSBP grants, and IEPA VW funds.

If you are interested in being part of a joint application to U.S. EPA for electric buses being put together by the Illinois Association of School Business Officials/the Illinois Association of School Administrators/Illinois Association of School Board's Bus2Grid project team, submit this form (<https://forms.gle/UQYFskYRdkHkktDb7>) by **noon Friday, July 14**.

If you'd like to join the IL-VW Grant coalition, please submit this form (<https://forms.gle/pVgJzk4KfvhGJ16AA>).

Or if you want to go it alone, check out the World Resources Institute's How to Apply for the U.S. EPA Clean School Bus Program Funding ([https://electricschoolbusinitiative.org/how-apply-clean-school-bus-program-funding?utm\\_medium=email+&utm\\_source=article&utm\\_campaign=csbp\\_round2](https://electricschoolbusinitiative.org/how-apply-clean-school-bus-program-funding?utm_medium=email+&utm_source=article&utm_campaign=csbp_round2)) to get answers to your questions and learn about in-depth resources. Finally, see the Environmental Law & Policy Center's Illinois VW How-To Guide to apply for IEPA funds.

## REQUIRED ANNUAL SEXUAL HEALTH EDUCATION SURVEY CLOSING SOON

Public Act 102-0522 requires ISBE to survey all public school districts on comprehensive personal health and safety and comprehensive sexual health instruction annually for five years. The survey for school year 2022-23 has been released to all districts in IWAS under "System Listing." The "Surveys" category will remain open until **July 21**. The survey is titled "PA102-0522 Sexual Health Education Survey". All districts must complete

this short survey, even if they are opting not to provide sexual health instruction. Please ensure the survey is completed by the person in your district who oversees sexual health education instruction. Additional information about sexual health education is available on ISBE's Sexual Health webpage (/sexualhealth). Please contact sexualhealtheducation@isbe.net (mailto:sexualhealtheducation@isbe.net) with any questions.

UPDATES TO BULLYING PREVENTION POLICY REQUIREMENTS

Governor JB Pritzker recently signed Public Act 103-0047 (<https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name=103-0047>), which went into effect June 12. The legislation changes/adds language to the bullying prevention statute (105 ILCS 5/27-23.7). Specific language changes/additions to bullying prevention policies are underlined and bolded below:


1. “Consistent with federal and State laws and rules governing student privacy rights, includes procedures for promptly informing parents or guardians of all students involved in the alleged incident of bullying **within 24 hours after the school's administration is made aware of the students' involvement in the incident** and discussing, as appropriate, the availability of social work services, counseling, school psychological services, other interventions, and restorative measures. **The school shall make diligent efforts to notify a parent or legal guardian, utilizing all contact information the school has available or that can be reasonably obtained by the school within the 24-hour period.**”
2. “Is posted on the school district's, charter school's, or non-public, non-sectarian elementary or secondary school's existing, **publicly accessible** internet website ...”
3. “**Requires all individual instances of bullying, as well as all threats, suggestions, or instances of self-harm determined to be the result of bullying, to be reported to the parents or legal guardians of those involved under the guidelines provided in paragraph (4) of this definition.**”

The act also includes a new requirement that entities shall collect, maintain, and submit non-identifiable data regarding verified allegations of bullying to ISBE.

If you have any questions about PA 103-004 or bullying prevention policies in general, please contact bullyingpolicy@isbe.net (mailto:bullyingpolicy@isbe.net) or 217-785-5585.


FINANCE

FY 2023 SITE-BASED EXPENDITURE REPORTING SUBMISSION WINDOW IS OPEN

The fiscal year 2023 Site-Based Expenditure Reporting submission window is now open. Districts can submit their per-pupil expenditure data in IWAS until **Aug. 17**. Reports may be edited until **Aug. 31**. Updated FY 2023 resources, including annual reporting guidance and a recording of the most recent webinar, are now available on the site-based webpage (/site-based). The FY 2023 Site-Based Expenditure Guidance Highlights webinar  (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FL4LKkNNI1w>) provided key information about the reporting window, including dates, approaches to submission, IWAS enhancements, and highlights from the 2023 guidance. It also contained important information about a new federal financial reporting requirement known as the School-Level Finance Survey.

Further resources regarding the available reporting options are posted on the ISBE Site-Based Expenditure Reporting webpage (/site-based). Questions not addressed in these materials may be directed to site-based@isbe.net (mailto:site-based@isbe.net). The ISBE team is also available for on-demand office hours throughout the reporting window. To sign up for a 15-minute slot, click here (<https://calendly.com/site-based>).

### SHORT-TERM SUBSTITUTE TEACHING LICENSE EXTENSION

Public Act 103-0111  (<https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/103/PDF/103-0111.pdf>), effective immediately, extends the availability of the Short-Term Substitute License through June 30, 2028, for currently licensed substitute teachers seeking renewals and qualified candidates seeking initial licensure. Educators who currently hold Short-Term Substitute Licenses with an expiration date of **June 30, 2023**, can renew the license for a five-year period by logging into their Educator Licensure Information System accounts and clicking on the “Renewals” link in their Action Center.

A short-term substitute can teach for up to five consecutive days per licensed teacher. Candidates only need an associate’s degree or 60 semester hours of college coursework to qualify. Learn more on the ISBE website (</Pages/Short-Term-Sub-Teach.aspx>).

## IN BRIEF

### PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

#### Ed Leaders Network

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

- **3 p.m. Sept. 12:** Conflict Resolution: A Crucial Professional Competency in Education Today ([https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_YSJ4gjZ0QiiVR6drTpDR6w?\\_x\\_zm\\_rtaid=tzs5tx6nSPmq1hH\\_7dLPTg.1689092394158.148dbcf9fa38e1a850deb9a79669e577&\\_x\\_zm\\_rhtaid=89#/registration](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_YSJ4gjZ0QiiVR6drTpDR6w?_x_zm_rtaid=tzs5tx6nSPmq1hH_7dLPTg.1689092394158.148dbcf9fa38e1a850deb9a79669e577&_x_zm_rhtaid=89#/registration)) – The techniques presented here are time-tested, simple, and familiar. They are based on the work of mediation experts, experts in negotiation, and experts in conflict resolution. Takeaways will include a teacher-friendly handout (easily printable for quick reference) in a table format. This table lists each clinically tested technique used by experts in the mediation field to de-escalate conflicts. In addition, alongside each technique are language samples to use as models when struggling to find the right words to use when emotions are running high combined with “do’s” vs. “don’ts” that can help or hurt the outcomes.

#### Illinois Association of Title I Directors 2023 Fall Conference

The Illinois Association of Title I Directors 2023 Fall Conference – Leading for Their Future – is **Sept. 18-20** at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield. Join more than 200 Title grant leaders for three days of learning, inspiration, and sharing best practices to strengthen opportunities for students.

Register here (<https://www.eventsquid.com/event.cfm?id=20727>).

### STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

#### 2023-24 U.S. Presidential Scholars Nominations

ISBE is now accepting nominations for the U.S. Presidential Scholars (</Pages/US-Presidential-Scholars.aspx>) program for school year 2023-24. If you have a student who you believe would be an excellent candidate for this program, please complete and submit a nomination form by **5 p.m.**

**Sept. 29.** If you have questions about the program or nomination process, please contact [presidentialscholars@isbe.net](mailto:presidentialscholars@isbe.net)

(<mailto:presidentialscholars@isbe.net>) or 217-785-5585.

### FEATURED ISBE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Special Education Consultant (Principal Consultant #1156) (</Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=843>)
- Grant Manager/Program Monitor (Principal Consultant #468) (</Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=844>)
- Grant Reviewer (Principal Consultant #1406) (</Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=845>)

