

ISBE'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

September 19, 2023

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Dear Colleagues,

Last week, I had the honor of visiting Huntley Community School District 158 (<https://huntley158.org/>) – one of two Illinois school districts that earned a 2022-23 Green Ribbon award from the U.S. Department of Education. This week, you have the chance to apply for the 2023-24 Illinois Green Ribbon Schools Award (<https://www2.ed.gov/programs/green-ribbon-schools/index.html>) to share your great work. This initiative is designed to recognize and celebrate the unwavering commitment of our schools, districts, and institutions of higher education to environmental education and sustainability.

Huntley 158 and Prairie Trails School (<https://www.rtsd26.org/schools/pt>) of Mount Prospect were selected as 2022-23 Green Ribbon winners for their comprehensive approach to environmental education and management. Schools dedicated to green initiatives play a major role in molding our students into responsible stewards of our planet. We take pride in acknowledging schools that have made remarkable strides in reducing their environmental impact, promoting health and wellness, and offering sustainability education.

Hosting the Illinois Green Ribbon Schools program is just one way we can celebrate green initiatives across the state. We also celebrate green initiatives through curriculum. As a state with local control, each school district's board has the responsibility to choose the curriculum and instruction that best suit the needs of its student population and community, and to offer courses that meet Illinois' graduation requirements. The Illinois Science Learning Standards  (</Documents/IL-Learning-Standards-Science.pdf>) align with green initiatives by addressing climate change, the functioning and resilience of ecosystem dynamics, and the value of biodiversity. These standards complement the existing instructional mandate that all schools in Illinois must include instruction, study and discussion of current problems and needs in the conservation of natural resources, including pollution, waste reduction and recycling, the effects of excessive use of pesticides, preservation of wilderness areas, forest management, protection of wildlife and humane care of domestic animals.

Huntley was recognized for its water waste reduction, investment in solar energy, community health initiatives, and opportunities for students to explore the impact of sustainability. The district has cut its energy costs by more than 50 percent since 2009, thanks largely to operational changes in equipment and equipment programming, upgrading lighting and HVAC and then tying it to occupancy sensors. In the fall of 2020, Huntley “flipped the switch” on the largest solar energy installation on school district property in Illinois, with three large solar installations totaling 15,100 panels across three campuses, offsetting some 12.3 million pounds of carbon emissions annually.

If your campus can't match that kind of effort right now, don't give up. Huntley also uses an assortment of much smaller efforts, like barrels to collect rainwater, a Food Sharing Table where students can leave lunch items they know they won't eat (saving on waste while reducing food insecurity), "dump and recycle" stations where students can empty their drink containers and send them to recycling, and bulk condiment stations in lunchrooms, to avoid throwing 2,400 little ketchup, mayo, mustard and ranch packages into landfills. As Huntley school officials wrote in their Green Ribbon application: "The first step toward a greener future, where energy bills are smaller and tax dollars can be saved, is to simply start somewhere."

We can all start where we are and choose the path that leads toward a healthier environment. It's important to do whatever we can to invest in our students' future.

Pictured: State Superintendent of Education Dr. Tony Sanders participates in an energy exploration activity with fourth grade students in Brandi Wargo's class at Conley Elementary School in Huntley Community School District 158. The district was named a 2022-23 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School for its commitment to sustainability and environmental awareness.

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>).

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Sept. 18-20 | Illinois Association of Title I Directors Fall Conference (https://www.iatd.net/domain/42) |
| Sept. 20 | Webinar: Illinois Postsecondary Profiles Website - Overview and Guidance (https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfFmUJW81q57mbCABHAOqwCUFyfRzZRRmZl6pdkz18at41PHA/viewform) |
| Sept. 26 | Webinar: Nonpublic Proportionate Share Services (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/59379558683948640) |
| Sept. 26 | Webinar: Illinois Green Ribbon Schools (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8626955581998876251) |
| Sept. 29 | Deadline to submit U.S. Presidential Scholars nominations (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/US-Presidential-Scholars.aspx) |
| Sept. 29 | Deadline to apply for the FY 2024 After School Programs - Non-School Districts grant (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/After-School-Programs.aspx) |
| Oct. 3 | FY 2025 budget hearing (in-person) (https://isbe.net/budget) |
| Oct. 4 | Statewide Equity Symposium (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Statewide-Equity-Symposium.aspx) |
| Oct. 5 | FY 2025 budget hearing (virtual) (https://isbe.net/budget) |
| Oct. 11 | Deadline to apply for National Board Certification State Fall Subsidy (https://nbrc.illinoisstate.edu/candidates/firsttime/) |
| Oct. 13 | |

Deadline to apply for the Perkins Innovation and Modernization Grant Program for Career-Connected High Schools (<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/08/14/2023-17226/applications-for-new-awards-perkins-innovation-and-modernization-grant-program>?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=)

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|---------------------------|---|
| Oct. 13 | Deadline to apply for the Perkins Innovation and Modernization Grant Program for Career-Connected High Schools (https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/08/14/2023-17226/applications-for-new-awards-perkins-innovation-and-modernization-grant-program ?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=) |
| Oct. 15 | Deadline to submit 2024 Those Who Excel & Teacher of the Year Awards nominations (https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=hv5kA8ZJ9Eq1LDNameV30Qsb_h6l8RNEt5PpPtq9RRxUMERXU1FDUjVOVjhWQUVCSkZIWU9aNEE1TC4u) |
| Oct. 20 | Deadline for high schools to submit entries in the U.S. Department of Education's Your Place in Space Challenge (https://www.yourplaceinspacechallenge.com/) |
| Oct. 30 | FY 2025 budget hearing (virtual) (https://isbe.net/budget) |
| Oct. 31 | Deadline to submit FY 2025 budget requests (https://isbe.net/budget) |
| Nov. 6 | Webinar: Newly Designated Schools (https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/4444121979713581918) |
| Nov. 8 | Webinar: Newly Designated Schools (https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/4444121979713581918) |
| Dec. 5-7 | Multilingual Illinois 2023 Statewide Conference (https://irc.thecenterweb.org/events/essa-conference) |
| Dec. 22 | Deadline to apply for the Illinois Green Ribbon Schools Award (https://illinoisgreenalliance.org/green-ribbon-schools/) |
| Jan. 19, 2024 | Deadline to apply for Illinois National Board Maintenance of Certification Fee Subsidy (https://nbrc.illinoisstate.edu/renew/) |
| Jan. 19, 2024 | Deadline to apply for Illinois National Board Retake Candidate Fee Subsidy (https://nbrc.illinoisstate.edu/candidates/retake/) |
| Feb. 20, 2024 | Illinois Social Emotional Learning Conference (https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfkhFEsukOkHCXPRHOy1EINv0b5t2WBV1p7qKhBYnRnA9M-Bg/viewform) |
| Feb. 23, 2024 | Deadline to apply for National Board Certified Teacher Intent to Mentor (https://nbrc.illinoisstate.edu/mentor/) |
| Mar. 1-2, 2024 | Illinois Teacher Leadership Summit (https://sites.google.com/view/ilteacherleadershipsummit/home) |
| June 18, 2024 | ISBE Career Connection Conference |


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.

UNLOCKING ACADEMIC SUCCESS: THE ILLINOIS TUTORING INITIATIVE'S COLLABORATIVE APPROACH SHINES

The Illinois Tutoring Initiative exemplifies the power of collaborative partnerships among state agencies, higher education institutions, and K-12 priority school districts in their collective mission to support student learning in reading and math. This comprehensive effort spans Grades 3 to 8, extending support to high school math tutoring as well.


Early research  (<https://illinoistutoringinitiative.org/wp-content/uploads/Student-and-Tutor-Outcomes-Report-AY-2022-23-Final-8.18.23-1.pdf>) indicates that this approach is working in partnership with institutions of higher education across the state, including Governors State University; Northern Illinois University, Illinois Central College, Illinois State University, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, and Southeastern Illinois College. These institutions hire, train, and oversee tutors in their region. ISU also provides overall project management for the initiative, including tutor training and development, tutor matching and scheduling, data collection, and research.

A focus on relationships and connection to the local curriculum are key features of high-impact tutoring. The approach offers adults the time and resources to understand students, consider their needs, and provide the support for them to be able to truly succeed in school and beyond. Pairing students with an adult who understands their community and shares similar lived experiences can significantly benefit student development (<https://studentvoiceforum.org/students-stand-to-benefit-from-diverse-teachers-e1fff085ad3e>) and learning and deepen relationships. Sessions include instruction and guided practice directly connected to what students are learning in their classrooms, providing added benefit.

Angie Saldana served as tutor during the 2022-23 school year. Ms. Saldana, a teacher education candidate at Northern Illinois University, shared her experience in the program, stating, "For all my students I have tutored I've seen that at first, they are very shy and quiet. They don't like to talk, but they are willing to work on the problems and activities I have provided. This changes over time as they start to open up and get out of their comfort zone. Some other changes I notice are their improvement in the subject I am tutoring, and they tell me how happy they understand the material."

The initiative used the National Student Support Accelerator's Tutoring Quality Improvement Scale (<https://studentsupportaccelerator.com/tqis/quality-standards>) during the design phase to ensure strong alignment to all of these research-based strategies and features. School districts interested in high-impact tutoring still have time to leverage Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funding to implement programming at the local level. The National Student Support Accelerator offers a District Playbook (<https://studentsupportaccelerator.com/district-playbook>) to develop and implement high-impact tutoring programs with quality.

STRONG TUTOR-STUDENT RELATIONSHIPS AND ENHANCED TUTOR EFFICACY DRIVE SUCCESS WITH THE ILLINOIS TUTORING INITIATIVE

The Illinois Tutoring Initiative recently released a report  (<https://illinoistutoringinitiative.org/wp-content/uploads/Student-and-Tutor-Outcomes-Report-AY-2022-23-Final-8.18.23-1.pdf>) on its high-impact tutoring program, revealing that more than 70% of tutored students exhibited expected or better growth in reading and math. High-impact tutoring is deliberately designed with several crucial components, and research (<https://eleducation.org/resources/relational-trust-in-schools>) consistently shows that positive student-teacher relationships significantly boost academic success. To achieve this, the initiative prioritized providing well-trained tutors who engage students individually or in small groups at least three times a week for a minimum of 30 minutes, focusing on building strong connections.

The program places a strong emphasis on tutor training, ensuring tutors have the necessary resources and support. Tutors saw substantial improvements in their confidence and effectiveness as they assisted students during the 2022-23 academic year. Training covered critical thinking, assessment of student comprehension, and diverse teaching methods. This boost in self-efficacy is crucial for tutors as it positively impacts their ability to set goals and excel in their work with students.




Interested in becoming a tutor? Find more information about applying to tutor at a school in your region or serving as an online math tutor on the Illinois Tutoring Initiative's website (<https://illinoistutoringinitiative.org/become-a-tutor/>).

NEW

FINANCE

COMMUNITY FINANCIAL MEETING TOOLKIT NOW AVAILABLE

In partnership with the Region 9 Comprehensive Center and the West 40 Intermediate Service Center, ISBE is pleased to share the Community Financial Meeting Toolkit (CFMT). This is a new set of resources for engaging communities in financial decisions vital to the health of schools and students. The toolkit includes a facilitator's guide, a presentation template, and an FAQ on Illinois school finance and the Every Student Succeeds Act. The CFMT materials leverage real data on district finances and student outcomes, allowing school leaders and stakeholders to participate in informed discussions pertaining to student equity and financial planning. The toolkit provides a general structure for the conversation, but districts are encouraged to tailor the materials to fit their own local context and effectively communicate their story. The toolkit includes the following resources:

- Facilitator's Guide  (/Documents/Community-Financial-Meeting-Toolkit-Facilitators-Guide.pdf)
- Presentation Template  (/Documents/Community-financial-Meeting-Toolkit-IL-ITA-Presentation.pptx)
- FAQ  (/Documents/Community-Financial-Meeting-Toolkit-FAQ.pdf)

The materials can be found on ISBE's Site-Based Expenditure Reporting webpage (/site-based). Questions can be directed to Luke Corry at lcorry@isbe.net (mailto:lcorry@isbe.net) or Isabel Monaghan at imonagha@isbe.net (mailto:imonagha@isbe.net).


SCHOOL-BASED MEDICAID TRAINING

School districts are approved service providers under the federal Medicaid program, so they have an enormous opportunity to leverage this substantial and sustainable revenue stream to support the provision of school-based health services. West 40 Intermediate Service Center in Maywood is offering a one-hour training session (<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/virtual-school-based-medicaid-training-tickets-718509560437>) from **1-2 p.m. Sept. 27** with Kate Yager, the director of Medicaid for Chicago Public Schools. She will provide an overview of the school-based Medicaid program in Illinois and review recent changes in state and federal policy. Register here by Sept. 21 (<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/virtual-school-based-medicaid-training-tickets-718509560437>). The cost is free. Contact grants@west40.org (mailto:grants@west40.org) if you have questions.

NEW

SAFE & HEALTHY CLIMATE

2023-24 GREEN RIBBON SCHOOLS APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

ISBE and the Illinois Green Alliance (<https://illinoisgreenalliance.org/illinois-green-schools-project/>) have launched the application process for the 2023-24 Illinois Green Ribbon Schools award (<https://www2.ed.gov/programs/green-ribbon-schools/index.html>). The Green Ribbon Schools program (<https://illinoisgreenalliance.org/illinois-green-schools-project/>) recognizes schools that are leading the way to promote sustainability and environmental education. Interested applicants are encouraged to participate in ISBE's informational webinar  (<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8626955581998876251>) on **Sept. 26** to gain insights into the awards process (/Pages/Green-

Ribbon.aspx) and explore how their school communities can engage with ISBE's Green Ribbon Schools program. All application materials (<https://illinoisgreenalliance.org/green-ribbon-schools/>) must be submitted by **5 p.m. Dec. 22**. Please contact greenribbon@isbe.net (<mailto:greenribbon@isbe.net>) if you have questions about the awards program.

RESOURCES TO PROTECT YOUTH FROM E-CIGARETTES

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention’s Office on Smoking and Health (OSH) recently launched the Empower Vape-Free Youth™ campaign to empower middle and high school educators to speak with youth about the risks of e-cigarettes and nicotine addiction and to encourage youth to avoid and/or quit vaping. The new campaign materials include print resources, animated videos, live action videos, and social media assets. These materials are available on the OSH website (<https://nccd.cdc.gov/mcrc/index.aspx>).

NEW

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT & INNOVATION

UPCOMING WEBINAR FOR NEWLY DESIGNATED SCHOOLS

ISBE will host webinars for newly designated schools at **2 p.m. Nov. 6** and at **10 a.m. Nov. 8**. Register here <https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/4444121979713581918>.

The School Improvement Report opens **Nov. 1** and is due **Nov. 20**. The Quarterly Expenditure Report is due **Oct. 20**.

NEW

SPECIALIZED INSTRUCTION

ISBE NONPUBLIC PROPORTIONATE SHARE SERVICES WEBINAR

Join us for a webinar at **9 a.m. Sept. 26** to learn about school district requirements for Nonpublic Proportionate Share Services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. We will review information contained in ISBE’s May 2023 guidance document [📄 \(/Documents/ISBE-Nonpublic-Proportionate-Share-Services-Guidance.pdf\)](#). Register now for the Sept. 26 webinar! <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/59379558683948640>

HELP WANTED: FINDING MIGRATORY FAMILIES

Do you have new students this year? It takes only a couple of minutes to fill out the Illinois Migrant Education Program (MEP) family referral form (<https://www.niu.edu/illinois-mep/index.shtml>) for new students who might have family in agriculture/seasonal farmworker employment. Title I Part C provides funds to Illinois to find, identify, and then serve such students. MEP will contact the family to determine eligibility and then connect them with available resources. Please help us by submitting a referral for a student (<https://idrreferrals.net/>) who has a family member working in agriculture as a seasonal farmworker.

NEW

TEACHING & LEARNING

TRANSITIONAL MATH AND ENGLISH FALL PORTABILITY PANEL DATE APPROACHING

Fall portability panels for both Transitional Math and Transitional English will meet on **Nov. 1**. The deadline to submit portability materials in iPlacement is **Oct. 1**.

Both the Transitional Math and Transitional English Portability Panels are seeking new members to serve on the panels. Interested individuals can email TRInstruction@isbe.net (<mailto:TRInstruction@isbe.net>) if they have questions or need more information.

SY 2023-24 NATIONAL BOARD UPDATES

National Board First Time Candidate Fee Subsidy

The National Board Resource Center (NBRC) at Illinois State University (<https://nbrc.illinoisstate.edu/>) invites state educators and school counselors to take advantage of first-time applicant funding. Funds will cover the cost of components while pursuing National Board Certification. In addition, NBRC offers support options throughout the process.

Current Illinois full-time educators and school counselors who teach in a public school and who have not previously taken advantage of the first-time state subsidy are eligible to apply. The subsidy application is available through **Oct. 11**.

For more information and to apply for the subsidy, visit the NBRC website (<http://nbrc.illinoisstate.edu/candidates/firsttime/>).

National Board Certified Teacher Intent to Mentor

National Board Certified Teachers (NBCTs), National Board Certified retired educators, and National Board Certified school counselors are invited to apply as a mentor (<https://nbrc.illinoisstate.edu/mentor/>) to support candidates pursuing National Board certification. Eligible educators, retirees, and counselors are eligible to clock up to 45 hours of mentoring and/or professional development. The application is available through **Feb. 23, 2024**.

Illinois National Board Maintenance of Certification Fee Subsidy


NBRC invites National Board Certified teachers/counselors, pending renewal, to take advantage of the Maintenance of Certification Fee Subsidy. Renewal of National Board certification enables NBCTs to demonstrate that their professional practice remains consistent with the high and rigorous standards of their subject area. The certification fee of \$495 will be paid to NBCTS after determining eligibility. The subsidy window is open through **Jan. 19, 2024**. Go to the NBRC website (<https://nbrc.illinoisstate.edu/renew/>) to determine if you qualify.

Illinois National Board Retake Candidate Fee Subsidy

NBRC offers a retake subsidy for National Board candidates who plan to resubmit a component. If you are a candidate who has completed all four components and received scores for each, you are eligible to apply for funding (<https://nbrc.illinoisstate.edu/candidates/retake/>). The application is available through **Jan. 19, 2024**.

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

NEW ENTITY PROFILE CONTACTS

ISBE has added new entity profile contacts into the Entity Profile System (EPS). Please go into EPS and enter your contacts for Title IX coordinator, 504 coordinator, and FAFSA coordinator. The Office of Civil Rights requires each district to identify a Title IX coordinator and a 504 coordinator. This list enables ISBE to communicate with these coordinators and provide technical assistance and resources for your districts. See the EPS Guide  (/Documents/eps-guide.pdf) for detailed instructions on how to add or change contacts. If you have any questions, please contact EPSchange@isbe.net (mailto:EPSchange@isbe.net) or 312-814-9192.

All FAFSA coordinators entered into the EPS system will have their registration fee waived for the 2023 FAFSA Symposium. To accommodate the level of interest, the Illinois Student Assistance Commission is offering the 2023 FAFSA Symposium (<https://www.isac.org/FAFSASymposium>) at two locations this fall.

CTE EDUCATOR OFFICE HOURS

ISBE is initiating dedicated time to hear from our wonderful CTE educators. This interaction will be conducted virtually. (See links below.) If you have questions, need assistance, or just want to say “hello!” ... we are just a click away.

- **Sept. 28 | 12:30-3:30 p.m.** (https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19:meeting_YjZhZWM5OWEtNTNjNy00YTk0LTg4YWltODU3MTIyYTFmNjdi%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22:%220364fe86-49c6-4af4-b52c-335a99e577d1%22%2c%22Oid%22:%22894eb660-dfa9-46ae-8a14-d1c16071bfdc%22%7d)
- **Oct. 3 | 3-4:30 p.m.** (https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19:meeting_MzQ0YmZIN2QtMTI0MC00MmMyLWlyZjEtNjU1MWE4YmY0Njcw%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22:%220364fe86-49c6-4af4-b52c-335a99e577d1%22%2c%22Oid%22:%22894eb660-dfa9-46ae-8a14-d1c16071bfdc%22%7d)
- **Oct. 12 | 12:30-2:30 p.m.** (https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19:meeting_YTAwYjEwM2QtYjFhYy00ZjgyLTlhYzMtYjYyYzJjOGNjOGZm%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22:%220364fe86-49c6-4af4-b52c-335a99e577d1%22%2c%22Oid%22:%22894eb660-dfa9-46ae-8a14-d1c16071bfdc%22%7d)
- **Oct. 24 | 3-4:30 p.m.** (https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19:meeting_OWJIOWU2OGItNWUzYi00ZGU4LWE3ZWmtOWJmNmQ3M2U5NWQw%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22:%220364fe86-49c6-4af4-b52c-335a99e577d1%22%2c%22Oid%22:%22894eb660-dfa9-46ae-8a14-d1c16071bfdc%22%7d)
- **Nov. 2 | 12:30– 2:30 p.m.** (https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19:meeting_OTAT1NWQ3YjAtNTQyNS00NGIxLTg5YjMtMGRjZjZmZmxgOTE3%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22:%220364fe86-49c6-4af4-b52c-335a99e577d1%22%2c%22Oid%22:%22894eb660-dfa9-46ae-8a14-d1c16071bfdc%22%7d)
- **Nov. 7 | 3-4:30 p.m.** (https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19:meeting_ZDFiNGU0YzYtODlmNi00YTlkWE0M2MtMDFiZTcxYmlxZWY5%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22:%220364fe86-49c6-4af4-b52c-335a99e577d1%22%2c%22Oid%22:%22894eb660-dfa9-46ae-8a14-d1c16071bfdc%22%7d)
- **Nov. 16 | 12:30-2:30 p.m.** (https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19:meeting_M2Y1OWVvKlNWUtMjg1MS00Nzk1LTlhNWltNDY0MmMzMGI3NTU0%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22:%220364fe86-49c6-4af4-b52c-335a99e577d1%22%2c%22Oid%22:%22894eb660-dfa9-46ae-8a14-d1c16071bfdc%22%7d)
- **Nov. 21 | 3-4:30 p.m.** (https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19:meeting_ZTEwMGlwNmUtYzkyZYS00OTjkLThiOTktNWYxZWQ2ZTZQ0NzRI%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22:%220364fe86-49c6-4af4-b52c-335a99e577d1%22%2c%22Oid%22:%22894eb660-dfa9-46ae-8a14-d1c16071bfdc%22%7d)
- **Nov. 28 | 3-4:30 p.m.** (https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19:meeting_Mjc0MWZkYjltMzZhYy00NWZILWI5ZjktODEwMDhlZmZlNTBk%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22:%220364fe86-49c6-4af4-b52c-335a99e577d1%22%2c%22Oid%22:%22894eb660-dfa9-46ae-8a14-d1c16071bfdc%22%7d)
- **Dec. 7 | 12:30-2:30 p.m.** (https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19:meeting_ZWNhMDVhODItMzVINi00OWM4LWFmOGMtYTg4Y2lwNGlzZDA2%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22:%220364fe86-49c6-4af4-b52c-335a99e577d1%22%2c%22Oid%22:%22894eb660-dfa9-46ae-8a14-d1c16071bfdc%22%7d)
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EDUCATOR/SCHOOL RECOGNITION

- Arnett C Lines Elementary School, Barrington CUSD 220
- Geneva Community High School, Geneva Community Unit School District 304

- St. Isaac Jogues Elementary School, Diocese of Joliet
- Hiawatha Elementary School, Hiawatha CUSD 426
- Pleasantdale Elementary School, Pleasantdale School District 107
- Rondout Elementary School, Rondout School District 72
- Lebanon Elementary School, Lebanon CUSD 9
- Saint Joan of Arc School, Diocese of Joliet
- Franklin Elementary School, Massac UD 1
- Prospect High School, Township High School District 214
- Ellsworth Elementary School, Naperville CUSD 203
- Glenbrook North High School, Glenbrook High School District 225
- Northbrook Junior High School, Northbrook School District 28
- Oak Ridge Elementary School, North Palos School District 117
- Prairie Hill Elementary School, Prairie Hill CCSD 133
- Teutopolis Junior High School, Teutopolis CUSD 50
- Forest Hills Elementary School, Western Springs SD 101
- Saint Francis High School, Diocese of Joliet
- Romona Elementary School, Wilmette SD 39
- School of Saints Faith, Hope and Charity, Archdiocese of Chicago

Apply to ILGA's Green Schools Project

The Illinois Green Alliance is accepting nominations for the Illinois Green Schools Project (<https://illinoisgreenalliance.org/illinois-green-schools-project/>). The project helps K-12 schools across Illinois find fun, engaging, and educational ways to address sustainability in their schools through student-lead projects, like building a community seed library (<https://illinoisgreenalliance.org/pleasantdale-elementary-2023/>), implementing a composting program for their cafeteria (<https://illinoisgreenalliance.org/st-joseph-2023/>), or executing an energy audit (<https://illinoisgreenalliance.org/whitney-young-2023/>)! Please watch this overview video (<https://illinoisgreenalliance.org/illinois-green-schools-project/#overview-video>) if you'd like to learn more about the program.

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

2023-24 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program

The U.S. Department of Education allows for the state superintendent of education to nominate students for the general and career and technical education components. If you have a student who you believe would be an excellent candidate for this program, please complete and submit a nomination form (</Pages/US-Presidential-Scholars.aspx>) by **5 p.m. Sept. 29**. Please contact presidentialscholars@isbe.net (<mailto:presidentialscholars@isbe.net>) or 217-785-5585 if you have questions.

Deadline Extended - 2023 Presidential Cybersecurity Education Award Nominations

The nomination window for the Presidential Cybersecurity Education Award (<https://cte.ed.gov/cyberaward>) has been extended to **Sept. 29**. This award honors two K-12 teachers for excellence in cybersecurity education. Now in its fourth year, the award is part of a coordinated federal effort to develop and maintain a superior cybersecurity workforce. The U.S. Department of Education recognizes the critical role teachers have in preparing students with the skills needed to fortify our nation's security and to succeed in the ever-evolving cybersecurity environment.

You can find the rules, terms, and conditions and details on how to apply on the PCRN website (<https://cte.ed.gov/cyberaward>). Award recipients are selected for their superior accomplishments as teachers, academic achievement indicators, and leadership contributing to the field of cybersecurity. Anyone may nominate a teacher for this honor; self-nominations are also permitted.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Ed Leaders Network

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

- **3 p.m. Oct. 3: Modernizing Your ESL/Bilingual/Dual Program Design** (https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_-PqKAWKdQjyI3YJBs-7oLg?_x_zm_rtaid=PLecmBsgTaKaJ_jYwKIsBQ.1695054160857.ef3b675506219df3d0a2fa982e1c0fbe&_x_zm_rhtaid=97#/registration) –This webinar is designed to orient participants to a framework that will help to modernize their English learner program design. Participants will learn about an effective action plan to facilitate teamwork that is organized around three essential activities: discover, design, and deliver. Participants will also gain greater appreciation pertaining to the importance of pairing legal parameters and evidence-based best practice to better meet unique and local needs. Finally, participants will examine practices that build consensus toward recommendations for change while staying mindful of perceptions and appearances from multiple vantage points.

FEATURED ISBE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Compliance Monitor (Principal Consultant #1708) (</Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=868>)
- Accountant (Principal Consultant #187) (</Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=869>)

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

UNDERFANGER AMANDA