

## WHAT'S INSIDE

- Learning Renewal
- Illinois Report Card
- Career and Technical Education
- Data Strategies and Analytics
- Funding and Disbursements
- Thomas Lay Burroughs Award
- Illinois Student Assistance Commission
- Standards and Instruction
- In Brief



Dear Colleagues:

On behalf of the Board and the agency, I wholeheartedly welcome Dr. Steven Isoye as the incoming chair of the State Board of Education. Dr. Isoye is a distinguished lifelong educator - a former Illinois Teacher of the Year, former school principal, and retired district superintendent. He brings invaluable perspective and experience to the role. Serving as a Board chair takes patience, integrity, a collaborative spirit, and an ability to listen to different viewpoints, while upholding the mission, vision, and values of the Board. Dr. Isoye has all of these qualities and more. I look forward to partnering with

Dr. Isoye to lead the agency in serving and supporting Illinois' students as they recover from the pandemic and pursue academic excellence. You can read more about him here (<https://www.illinois.gov/news/press-release.25449.html>).

You might remember Dr. Isoye from our 2022 Those Who Excel & Illinois Teacher of the Year banquet on Aug. 6. He did a wonderful job as our emcee for the event! I am now excited to announce that today we are opening our nomination window for the next round of Those Who Excel & Illinois Teacher of the Year (</Pages/teacher-of-the-year.aspx>) Awards. You can nominate your inspiring colleagues on the ISBE website (</Pages/teacher-of-the-year.aspx>) through **Nov. 18**. Nominees will then receive a link to complete the application process, with a deadline of **Dec. 2**.

Our award categories include Administrators, Community Volunteers, Student Support Personnel, Educational Service Personnel, Classroom Teachers, and Teams. Our reviewers will have the difficult task of choosing 10 Regional 🗺️ (</Documents/TOY-area-map.pdf>) Teachers of the Year plus the Bilingual, Special Education, and Early Childhood Teachers of the Year. From this group of finalists, reviewers select the 2023 Teacher of the Year. ISBE will also recognize an Outstanding Early Career Educator – a talented teacher who has fewer than five years of experience.

Prospective applicants and nominators are encouraged to review the application process 📄 (</Documents/Infographic-Award-Process.pdf>) and attend an informational webinar 🗣️ (<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3099748004489532684>) on **10 a.m. Oct. 3**. We hope to announce all awardees in Spring 2023, with our annual banquet to follow soon after.

These awards recognize the incredible work happening in and around Illinois schools, as the result of exemplary educators who far too often go unrecognized outside of their own schools or districts. We encourage everyone to think about someone at their school who is making a positive impact on students and honor them by nominating them for an award. You can also spread the word about the awards by sharing on social media with the hashtag **#ElevatingEducators**, **#2023ILTOY**, **#2023ILTWE**.

Saying “thank you” is an awesome way to show appreciation – but nominating the incredible educators in your community for Those Who Excel & Teacher of the Year is even better. Submit your nomination by Nov. 18 at <https://isbe.submittable.com/submit> (<https://isbe.submittable.com/submit>).

*Pictured: Dr. Steven Isoye was sworn in as the Chair of the Illinois State Board of Education during today’s Board meeting.*

Sincerely,

*Carmen*

## 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>Sept. 19-21</b>	2022 Illinois Association of Title I Directors Fall Conference ( <a href="https://www.eventsquid.com/contestant-reg.cfm?event_id=17530">https://www.eventsquid.com/contestant-reg.cfm?event_id=17530</a> )
<b>Sept. 19 - Nov. 18</b>	Submit Nominations for Those Who Excel & Teacher of the Year Awards ( <a href="https://www.isbe.net/elevatingeducators">https://www.isbe.net/elevatingeducators</a> )
<b>Sept. 19 - Dec. 2</b>	Apply for Those Who Excel & Teacher of the Year Awards ( <a href="https://www.isbe.net/elevatingeducators">https://www.isbe.net/elevatingeducators</a> )
<b>Sept. 20</b>	Webinar: National Board Certification ( <a href="https://forms.illinoisstate.edu/forms/learn_about_national_board_certification_for_illinois_teachers_spring_2022_copy_1">https://forms.illinoisstate.edu/forms/learn_about_national_board_certification_for_illinois_teachers_spring_2022_copy_1</a> )
<b>Sept. 21-23</b>	Bilingual Program Directors meeting ( <a href="https://www.isbe.net/Documents/FY23-Bilingual-Prog-Dir-Mtg.pdf">https://www.isbe.net/Documents/FY23-Bilingual-Prog-Dir-Mtg.pdf</a> )
<b>Sept. 21</b>	Webinar: Public Service Loan Forgiveness ( <a href="https://www.isac.org/pslf">https://www.isac.org/pslf</a> )
<b>Sept. 22</b>	Webinar: ACT Now's School Partnerships Series: Designing Programming Using Needs Assessment and Asset Mapping ( <a href="https://metrofamily.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcvc-2hqDksH901PX8fb9qcdRYU0jodzQ7Z">https://metrofamily.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcvc-2hqDksH901PX8fb9qcdRYU0jodzQ7Z</a> )
<b>Sept. 26</b>	Webinar: Accelerated Placement updates ( <a href="https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7925743132997122319">https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7925743132997122319</a> )
<b>Sept. 26</b>	Webinar: Public Service Loan Forgiveness ( <a href="https://www.isac.org/pslf">https://www.isac.org/pslf</a> )
<b>Sept. 27</b>	Webinar: National Board Certification ( <a href="https://forms.illinoisstate.edu/forms/learn_about_national_board_certification_for_illinois_teachers_spring_2022_copy_1">https://forms.illinoisstate.edu/forms/learn_about_national_board_certification_for_illinois_teachers_spring_2022_copy_1</a> )
<b>Sept. 30</b>	Deadline to submit FY 2023 EBF Spending Plan in IWAS
<b>Sept. 30</b>	Deadline to submit Bullying Prevention Policy in IWAS
<b>Oct. 3</b>	Accountability 2022 Webinar Series: How to Interpret & Communicate Your 2022 Summative Designation ( <a href="https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4898694162669042447">https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4898694162669042447</a> )

Oct. 3	Educator Preview opens. All districts receive access to preview 2022 Illinois Report Card data in Educator Preview portal of MyIRC.
Oct. 3	Webinar: 2023 Those Who Excel and Illinois Teacher of the Year application process ( <a href="https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3099748004489532684">https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3099748004489532684</a> )
Oct. 4	Accountability 2022 Webinar Series: How to Interpret & Communicate Your 2022 Summative Designation ( <a href="https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5843064699765897996">https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5843064699765897996</a> )
Oct. 4	FY 2024 agency budget hearing (virtual) ( <a href="https://www.isbe.net/budget">https://www.isbe.net/budget</a> )
Oct. 4	Deadline to submit general nominations for U.S. Presidential Scholars ( <a href="https://www.isbe.net/NSDocuments/88-01A-B.pdf">https://www.isbe.net/NSDocuments/88-01A-B.pdf</a> )
Oct. 4	Deadline to submit CTE nominations for U.S. Presidential Scholars ( <a href="https://www.isbe.net/NSDocuments/72-27A-B.pdf">https://www.isbe.net/NSDocuments/72-27A-B.pdf</a> )
Oct. 6	FY 2024 agency budget hearing (in person) ( <a href="https://www.isbe.net/budget">https://www.isbe.net/budget</a> )
Oct. 7	Webinar: National Board Certification ( <a href="https://forms.illinoisstate.edu/forms/learn_about_national_board_certification_for_illinois_teachers_spring_2022_copy_1">https://forms.illinoisstate.edu/forms/learn_about_national_board_certification_for_illinois_teachers_spring_2022_copy_1</a> )
Oct. 7	Deadline to apply for United States Senate Youth Program Hearst Scholarship ( <a href="https://www.isbe.net/Pages/United-States-Senate-Youth-Program-Hearst-Scholarship.aspx">https://www.isbe.net/Pages/United-States-Senate-Youth-Program-Hearst-Scholarship.aspx</a> )
Oct. 10	Deadline to apply for Early Childhood Construction Grant ( <a href="https://www2.illinois.gov/cdb/professionalgrowth/grants/Pages/ecgp.aspx">https://www2.illinois.gov/cdb/professionalgrowth/grants/Pages/ecgp.aspx</a> )
Oct. 11	Deadline to apply for National Board Certification State Fall Subsidy ( <a href="https://nbrc.illinoisstate.edu/firsttime/index.php">https://nbrc.illinoisstate.edu/firsttime/index.php</a> )
Mid-Oct.	All districts receive official letter listing 2022 Annual Summative Designation for each school.
Mid-Oct.	All schools designated for improvement with a Targeted or Comprehensive designation receive information on getting started with IL-EMPOWER.
Mid-Oct.	Comprehensive schools receive information from their assigned IL-EMPOWER coordinator.
Oct. 18	Media Call #1 - ISBE to discuss what's new on the Illinois Report Card in 2022
Oct. 20	Media and all districts receive 2022 Illinois Report Card data under embargo (cannot be shared publicly) until 9 a.m. Oct. 27
Oct. 21	Nomination deadline for Thomas Lay Burroughs Award ( <a href="https://www.isbe.net/Pages/thomas-lay-burroughs-award.aspx">https://www.isbe.net/Pages/thomas-lay-burroughs-award.aspx</a> )
Oct. 24	FY 2024 agency budget hearing (virtual) ( <a href="https://www.isbe.net/budget">https://www.isbe.net/budget</a> )
Oct. 24	Media Call #2 - State Superintendent of Education to discuss state-level data under embargo
Oct. 27	ISBE publishes 2022 Illinois Report Card at <a href="https://IllinoisReportCard.com">IllinoisReportCard.com</a>

Nov. 7	Webinar: IL- EMPOWER introduction for schools newly designated for improvement with a Targeted or Comprehensive designation.
Nov. 9	Webinar: IL- EMPOWER introduction for schools newly designated for improvement with a Targeted or Comprehensive designation.
Nov. 15	Webinar: IL- EMPOWER grant application process for schools designated for improvement with a Targeted or Comprehensive designation.
Nov. 16	Webinar: IL- EMPOWER grant application process for schools designated for improvement with a Targeted or Comprehensive designation.
Dec. 1	Deadline to apply for the School Technology Revolving Loan Program ( <a href="https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Educational-Technology.aspx">https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Educational-Technology.aspx</a> )
Jan. 23 - Mar. 31, 2023	SY 2022-23 School Climate Survey administration window
Feb. 23	ISBE Career Connections: Building Community Before the Illinois Association for Career and Technical Education Annual Conference

NEW

## LEARNING RENEWAL

This section will focus each week 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.

### SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS SERIES HELPS SCHOOLS EFFECTIVELY USE THEIR ESSER FUNDS FOR AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

ACT Now's School Partnerships Series is an opportunity for school administrators to learn how to access and utilize their district's available Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) III funding to provide sustainable opportunities for youth after school and during out-of-school time. The Designing Programming Using Needs Assessment and Asset Mapping webinar

(<https://metrofamily.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcvc-2hqDksH901PX8fb9qcdRYU0jodzQ7Z>) at **10 a.m. Sept. 22** will identify best practices and methods to design effective programming for youth. This webinar will demonstrate how to use needs assessments and asset maps to capture relevant needs within a target community and, in turn, use that data to design programming that is important to youth.

NEW

## ILLINOIS REPORT CARD

### 2022 REPORT CARD OVERVIEW WEBINAR

Join us for the 2022 Report Card Overview webinar 🗓️ (<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/487832844271304719>) from **10-11:30 a.m.**

**Oct. 6.** ISBE staff will review all new elements on the 2022 Report Card and walk through the Educator Preview tool. Additionally, staff will assist with any questions regarding abnormal-looking data and any other questions you may have. The webinar will be recorded and posted for those unable to attend in person. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

### HOW TO INTERPRET & COMMUNICATE YOUR SUMMATIVE DESIGNATION WEBINAR

New *annual summative designations* will be issued to all public schools in 2022. Much has changed since the last time *annual summative designations* were generated in 2019, and the *accountability system* has been officially amended in response to the impact of pandemic. This session will tackle questions like:

- Should a school's 2022 designation be compared to 2018 or 2019 designations?
- What does it mean if a school's 2022 designation is/is not changed from 2019?
- What happens if a school is newly identified as being Targeted or Comprehensive in 2022?
- How will newly identified Targeted and Comprehensive schools know if they are eligible for early exit from school improvement status in 2023?
- What information or data can be shared with school boards, teachers, parents, or the community to help them understand this designation?
- What cautions or caveats are important for those looking at the data to be aware of?

A question-and-answer period will conclude the session. This session is intended for school and district administrators, in particular superintendents and principals who may be fielding questions about their schools' 2022 *annual summative designation*. Register at the links below:

- 1:30 p.m. Oct. 3 📅 (<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4898694162669042447>)
- 10 a.m. Oct. 4 📅 (<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5843064699765897996>)

## GET READY FOR THE 2022 ILLINOIS REPORT CARD

Get ready for the 2022 Illinois Report Card! The Illinois Report Card is released annually by the Illinois State Board of Education and offers a snapshot of school performance in the 2021-22 school year to inform and empower educators, families, and communities as they support their students. The Illinois Report Card will be published at [www.illinoisreportcard.com](http://www.illinoisreportcard.com) (<http://www.illinoisreportcard.com>) at **9 a.m. Oct. 27**. See below for resources to help your district prepare and stay tuned for more information.

- Timeline 📄 (/Documents/2022ReportCard-Timeline.pdf) - See a full timeline of events leading up to the Illinois Report Card, including final opportunities to review your district's data and webinars to help you prepare.
- What's New on the 2022 Illinois Report Card 📄 (/Documents/2022ReportCard-WhatsNew.pdf) - The 2022 Illinois Report Card has new features, including a brand new element called the Equity Journey Continuum.
- What's New with Accountability 📄 (/Documents/2022ReportCard-What%27sNewwithAccountability.pdf) - Per federal requirements, all public schools will receive a new summative designation on the 2022 Illinois Report Card for the first time since 2019, identifying some schools to start school improvement support through IL-EMPOWER. Summative designations are based on multiple measures of school performance. ISBE amended its accountability plan to account for disruptions caused by the pandemic.

Find more updates and subscribe to the Report Card Rundown at [www.isbe.net/reportcard](http://www.isbe.net/reportcard) (<http://www.isbe.net/reportcard>).

## EQUITY JOURNEY CONTINUUM PUBLIC DISPLAY ON THE 2022 ILLINOIS REPORT CARD

The 2022 Illinois Report Card will include a brand new feature called the Equity Journey Continuum, which is an informational tool for districts to track their progress toward closing gaps in student achievement, opportunities, and supports.

The 2022 Illinois Report Card will publicly display a very high-level view of the Equity Journey Continuum: only the district's placement in each of the three broad categories of the continuum, along with a district provided narrative. Click here for what the Equity Journey Continuum will look like on the Illinois Report Card (/PublishingImages/EJC-Report-Card.png), so you can begin to craft your district's accompanying narrative.

The tool analyzes a continuum of district-level data points, already collected and reported to ISBE, through the lens of equity to make that data more useful for improving outcomes for all students. School district administrators have access to the full spectrum of data and analysis that are part of the Equity Journey Continuum through the Data Review and Verification Tool, accessible via MyIRC. Learn more about the Equity

NEW

## CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

### SAVE THE DATE: ISBE CAREER CONNECTIONS: BUILDING COMMUNITY BEFORE THE IACTE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

ISBE has partnered with the Illinois Association for Career and Technical Education (IACTE) to offer a one-day conference ahead of IACTE's annual conference on **Feb. 15, 2023**, in Normal. The ISBE Career Connections: Building Community Before the IACTE Annual Conference is aimed at promoting effective CTE instructional practices and increasing equity by improving access for students to CTE classes and programs. Registration information will be shared soon.

### ISBE CTE STANDARDS FEEDBACK WEBINAR

Provide input regarding our need for Career and Technical Education (CTE) standards and support for professional development in Illinois from 7:30-9 a.m. ([https://niu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_6yXOt8LWXfXnM6G](https://niu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6yXOt8LWXfXnM6G)) and 3:30-5 p.m.

([https://niu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_djnoFYdX2JvJKiW](https://niu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_djnoFYdX2JvJKiW)) **Sept. 29**. Participation is open to all educators and administrators who teach or support CTE programs in Illinois.

The goal of this work will be to provide teachers, schools, and school districts with the tools necessary to ensure that there are high-quality and equitable CTE opportunities for all students across Illinois and for the ISBE CTE team and its partners to best support educators in meeting those goals.

NEW

## DATA STRATEGIES AND ANALYTICS

### EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM WEBINAR

This webinar will cover how to submit 2023 employments, positions, noncertified staff full-time equivalents (FTEs), and unfilled positions in the Employment Information System (EIS). This webinar will provide detailed instruction on how to enter new employees, add positions, add work locations, enter noncertified aggregate FTEs, submit unfilled positions, as well as identify and complete EIS missing records. There will be a question-and-answer period at the end of the webinar. Register for the EIS webinar, which will be at **10 a.m. Sept. 29** <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6475700601378341132>.

NEW

## FUNDING AND DISBURSEMENTS

### TITLE I EXCESS CARRYOVER

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

Reasons for excess carryover:

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

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

1. Funds can be relinquished. (These funds are used for reallocation to other LEAs.)
2. An excess carryover waiver can be requested. LEAs may only request a waiver once every three years.

Maximum 2022 carryover amounts for LEAs with greater than \$50,000 current year allocation, along with information showing whether your LEA has requested a waiver in the last three years, are available via the maximum carryover and waiver history document (</Pages/General-Grant-Information.aspx>). ISBE applied a blanket waiver to all LEAs to eliminate carryover restrictions from 2020 into 2021 and 2021 into 2022; accordingly, all LEAs will be eligible to submit a waiver for carryover from 2022 into 2023. **LEAs should be mindful that if a waiver is granted, the LEA will not be eligible for a waiver again until the 2025 into 2026 cycle.**

Carryover waivers should only be submitted once the LEA has submitted its fourth-quarter fiscal year 2022 and first-quarter FY 2023 expenditure reports, **but in any circumstance must be submitted prior to Nov. 20, 2022.** Please refer to the carryover limitations and waiver requests overview document (</Pages/General-Grant-Information.aspx>) to ensure you are sending your Title I waiver to the correct individual within Funding and Disbursements.

**It is the LEA's responsibility to be aware of the total funds available and if there is a possibility of excess carryover into the next fiscal year.** The LEA should monitor its grant to ensure that funds are being spent so that the maximum carryover amount is not exceeded. The Title I Carryover Calculation Worksheet (</Pages/General-Grant-Information.aspx>) can be found under the Title I Excess Carryover section and can help you determine if there could be a potential excess issue.

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

NEW

THOMAS LAY BURROUGHS AWARD

ISBE SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR OUTSTANDING SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Does your school district have an outstanding school board member – someone who has pushed for equity, overcome challenges, and improved outcomes for students? Nominate them for the Thomas Lay Burroughs Award! Named after late Illinois State Board of Education Chairman Tom Burroughs, the annual Burroughs Award recognizes extraordinary leadership on a local board of education. The State Board of Education has honored a district school board president for a number of years, but has expanded eligibility to include all school board members who have demonstrated personal leadership in:

- Improving student learning, closing achievement gaps, and supporting educational excellence; and/or
- Expanding educational opportunities for underserved students; and/or
- Resolving a crisis or major difficulty with the result of more equitable outcomes for students.

Submit your nomination (</Pages/thomas-lay-burroughs-award.aspx>) by the close of business on **Oct. 21.**

ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

PUBLIC SERVICE LOAN FORGIVENESS WEBINARS

The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) is providing additional webinars regarding the temporary changes to the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program, including a limited waiver, that may benefit public sector and non-profit employees. Upcoming webinar dates are:

- **5-6 p.m. Sept. 21**
- **1-2 p.m. Sept. 26**

Please share this information with your staff and teachers. Learn more and register at <https://www.isac.org/pslf> (<https://www.isac.org/pslf>).



## GET READY FOR FAFSA SEASON WITH FREE ISAC RESOURCES

The 2023-24 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) and the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid (Alternative Application) become available to students beginning **Oct. 1**. College Changes Everything Campaign (<https://www.collegechangeseverything.org/ccemonth/>) offers schools and community-based organizations the support and resources needed to host financial aid and college application completion workshops.

ISACorps, composed of near peer mentors, has been helping students and families navigate the college and financial aid process since 2009. You can learn more about the ISACorps and connect with your local ISACorps member by visiting <https://studentportal.isac.org/isacorps> (<https://studentportal.isac.org/isacorps>).



Another resource for schools is the Financial Aid Application Completion Initiative (<https://www.isac.org/home/fafsa/index.html>) through which ISAC shares data with schools to identify students who have not filed a financial aid application (the FAFSA or the Alternative Application).

ISAC looks forward to partnering with your school and community in supporting your students with the college and financial aid application process.

NEW

## STANDARDS AND INSTRUCTION

### ISBE RELEASES ACCELERATED PLACEMENT SUPPORTS

Public Act 101-0654 (<https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/101/101-0654.htm>) requires districts with K-12 grade levels to update their acceleration policy before the 2023-24 school year. ISBE has worked with a group of educators, administrators, and the Advisory Council on the Education of Gifted and Talented Children (</Pages/Advisory-Council-Education-Gifted-Talented-Children.aspx>) to develop support documents, including the Accelerated Placement Guidance  ([/Documents/Accelerated\\_Placement\\_Act\\_Guidance.pdf](/Documents/Accelerated_Placement_Act_Guidance.pdf)). Additionally, ISBE is hosting an Accelerated Placement Updates webinar  (<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7925743132997122319>) at **10 a.m. Sept. 26**. Please contact [ILTeachTalkLearn@isbe.net](mailto:ILTeachTalkLearn@isbe.net) (<mailto:ILTeachTalkLearn@isbe.net>) if you have questions.

## 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 p.m. Oct. 13:** Navigating Difficult Conversations About Race, Implicit Bias, and Micro-aggressions (<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEkcceCorDIrG92r-f3cB8QBWd37kwaDK3nU>) - This training will provide a starting point for educators to begin having uncomfortable conversations about race. Recent history shows that progress is made by avoiding conversations of this nature. Participants in this conversation will enter breakout rooms with strangers of varying ideological stances. Prepare for and expect discomfort. The idea is not for everyone to leave the conversation in agreement but to lay the foundation for understanding.

#### Illinois Education & Technology Conference

Teachers, administrators, and IT staff are invited to the Illinois Education & Technology Conference (<http://www.ltcillinois.org/ietc>) **Nov. 2-4** in Springfield. Sessions and workshops will focus on technology integration strategies, engaging instructional practices, digital tools and resources, and emerging edtech trends. Early bird registration closes Oct. 7.



## Empowering Student Success Through Career Advising and CTE

This virtual workshop, delivered in half-day sessions from **9 a.m.-noon on Sept. 27 and Sept. 28**

(<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=hv5kA8ZJ9Eq1LDNameV30YINRT-28INMh3SEonIzeHRUMUpUM1JBOUhRWFFDOVAyUjhLVEIMMFY2Qi4u>), will provide school counselors and other advising professionals

with the information and resources they need to connect students with opportunities aligned with their career passions. Participants will emerge with an enhanced knowledge of the full range of education and career options, with a specific focus on Career Technical Education (CTE) and in-demand occupations, to empower students to skillfully navigate their path to career and college success as well as expand their existing strategies for effective career advisement.

## EDUCATOR RECOGNITION

### 2022 School Counselor of the Year

Congratulations to the Illinois School Counselor Association's 2022 School Counselors of the Year: Nancy Fernandez of Brighton Park Elementary in Chicago Public School District 299 and Mary Wilson of Churchville Middle School in Elmhurst Community Unit School District 205.

### 2022 Illinois History Teacher of the Year

Congratulations to Samantha Stearns, social studies teacher at Roosevelt Middle School in River Forest School District 90, for being named the 2022 Illinois History Teacher of the Year by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History (<https://www.gilderlehrman.org/programs-and-events/national-history-teacher-year/2022-state-winners>). ISBE is partnering with Stearns and the University of Illinois for an upcoming professional development series for about 250 K-12 social studies teachers across the state.

## EDUCATOR OPPOTUNITIES

### IPA Education Leaders Annual Conference

We hope you can join the largest school leader networking event of the year — the Illinois Principals Association (IPA) Education Leaders Annual Conference – **Oct. 16-18**, at the BOS Center in Springfield. (A virtual option is available.)

There are so many reasons to attend — amazing presenters, fun activities, valuable resources, and most importantly to share ideas and be encouraged as a Leader of Hope! Don't forget — group registrants from the same district are eligible for a discount. Make your plans and register today!

### Illinois Council for the Social Studies Fall Conference

Teachers, administrators, and curriculum specialists are invited to the Illinois Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference (<https://www.illinoiscss.net/conferences.html>) on **Oct. 14** at Harper College in Palatine. Sessions focus on implementation of the TEEACH Act, inquiry-based approaches to social studies, navigating controversial topics in the classroom, and more.

## STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

### Holiday Cards for Our Military

It is time to prepare to spread some holiday cheer and support the Holiday Cards for our Military Challenge! Schools nationwide are encouraged to participate in this worthy endeavor to create holiday cards that will be sent to soldiers overseas. Watch this video and share it widely with your school leaders and teachers in the hopes that students throughout the country will find some time to write a short message to a soldier. This is a simple way to make a profound impact.

The guidelines are easy – please address the card to “Dear Warrior” and write a holiday greeting or personal note while signing your first name and hometown. Sign the cards mutually as a group or individually. You may write as many as you want – the sky is the limit! Cards should be no larger than an 8x11-size paper folded in half. Envelopes are not required; however, if you have one, please do not seal it or address it. The deadline to send cards is **Nov. 18**.

They should be addressed to:

Laura Landerman-Garber  
Holiday Card Challenge  
PO Box 103 Hollis, NH 03049

If using FedEx or UPS, please address to:

Holiday Card Challenge  
5 Hutchings Drive Suite 100 Unit  
103 Hollis, NH 03049

For more information, please visit Holidays Cards for our Military Challenge (<https://militaryholidaycardchallenge.com/>) or email [holidaycardsnh@gmail.com](mailto:holidaycardsnh@gmail.com) (<mailto:holidaycardsnh@gmail.com>).

### **U.S. Presidential Scholars General Nominations**

The U.S. Presidential Scholars Program honors students based on outstanding scholarship. Principals and school counselors can nominate high school seniors graduating between January and June of 2023 who might not otherwise be recognized through the SAT/ACT, Arts, CTE recognition process. All high school seniors who are U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents and who attend public, parochial, or independent schools, as well as those who are home-schooled, are eligible. Administrators, counselors, and teachers may nominate up to 10 students for consideration.


Applications must be submitted to [presidentialscholars@isbe.net](mailto:presidentialscholars@isbe.net) (<mailto:presidentialscholars@isbe.net>) by **4 p.m. Oct. 14**.

### **U.S. Presidential Scholars CTE Nominations**

The U.S. Presidential Scholars Program now honors students based on outstanding scholarship and demonstrated ability and accomplishment in CTE fields. Therefore, in addition to the general nominations, ISBE is also asking administrators, counselors, and teachers to nominate students from their jurisdiction to be included as candidates for recognition for excellence in CTE. Administrators, counselors, and teachers may nominate up to five CTE students per school for consideration.

All high school seniors who are participants in a CTE program graduating between January and June of 2023 who are U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents and who attend public, parochial, or independent schools, as well as those who are home-schooled, are eligible.

The top five nominees from Illinois will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Education. All 2023 U.S. Presidential Scholars will be selected by the Commission on Presidential Scholars and will receive the Presidential Scholars Medallion at a ceremony in their honor in Washington, D.C.

Please submit nominations and applications  (/NSDocuments/72-27A-B.pdf) to [presidentialscholars@isbe.net](mailto:presidentialscholars@isbe.net) (<mailto:presidentialscholars@isbe.net>) by **4 p.m. Oct. 14**. For additional information about the program, visit the U.S. Department of Education U.S. Presidential Scholars Program page (<http://www.ed.gov/psp>).

**Encourage your high school students to apply for the Illinois Council on Women and Girls**

The Illinois Council on Women and Girls invites young women in high school to apply to join the council's Girls Committee. Participants will share about their experiences and perspectives to help make Illinois a place where all girls can thrive.

Chaired by Lieutenant Governor Julianna Stratton, the Illinois Council on Women and Girls advises Governor JB Pritzker and the General Assembly on policy issues impacting women and girls in Illinois. Girls participating in the council will have the opportunity to make a difference in issues affecting their lives and the lives of their peers.

The council highly values diversity in its membership and seeks applicants with a range of geographic, racial, academic, and personal backgrounds. The application is open to all nonbinary and female-identifying youth residing in Illinois and in the 9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th grades at the time of applying.

Applications to the Girls Committee are due by **Oct. 23**. Apply online here (<https://isbe.submittable.com/submit/236836/2022-illinois-council-on-women-and-girls-girls-committee-application>). Please share this opportunity with your high school students!

### FEATURED ISBE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Financial Consultant / Grant Reviewer (</Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=724>)
- Administrative Support (</Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=723>)

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