WHAT'S INSIDE

Dear Colleagues:

We publish the Illinois Report Card at the end of October. School districts have had since the summer to review and, if necessary, correct their data. However, several school districts recently identified inaccuracies in the attendance data they submitted related to the appropriate coding of students receiving remote instruction. ISBE is statutorily obligated to publish the Illinois Report Card by the end of October. To meet that deadline while also ensuring maximum data integrity and accuracy, ISBE will provide a one-time, final 48-hour opportunity for school districts to provide corrections to school year 2021-22 **attendance data only** in the Student Information System. There will be no changes to 2021-22 school year student enrollment data.

Please ensure your attendance data is correct for the 2021-22 school year in the Student Information System **by the end of the day on Friday, Oct. 14.** Changes that we receive during this window may impact the preliminary school summative designations that have been available in Educator Preview since Oct. 3. As always, please keep in mind that all Report Card data is preliminary and subject to change until it is officially published on www.illinoisreportcard.com (http://www.illinoisreportcard.com/). Please see below for more information on this topic and thank you for your cooperation.

October is also Bullying Prevention Month and an opportunity to reinforce the importance of creating welcoming, inclusive learning environments. Bullying doesn't affect just the student being targeted; the effects spread through the classroom and hallways. Just witnessing bullying, and realizing that it's tolerated, undermines children's sense of safety, sense of belonging, feelings of value, and ability to learn.

In 2019, the National Center for Educational Statistics issued a report 📄 (https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2019/2019054.pdf) that shows one out of every five students reported being bullied – and most students do not notify an adult at school. That means it's on us as educators to pick up on cues and provide support. Another study 📄 (https://njbullying.org/documents/YVPMarch2010.pdf) asked students what teachers can do to help, and students said the most helpful things we can do are to listen to them, check in with them afterwards to see if the bullying stopped, and give them advice. Students said the worst things teachers can do are to tell them to solve the problem themselves, that the bullying wouldn't happen if they acted differently, or to tell them to stop tattling.

National Coming Out Day is celebrated on Oct. 11. Our LGBTQ youth (https://www.hrc.org/news/new-cdc-data-shows-lgbtq-youth-are-more-likely-to-be-bullied-than-straight-cisgender-youth) are even more likely to experience bullying than their straight, cisgender peers. Students who are bullied out of bias – for their race, disability, sexual orientation, or other attributes – can experience severe emotional and physical health effects, putting them at increased risk for depression, anxiety, sleep difficulties, lower academic achievement, and dropping out of school.

Researchers have found that students who experience bullying find peer actions most helpful. There are many ways to cultivate a culture of caring and inclusivity in our schools:

- The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority provides an overview of bullying and interventions (https://icjia.illinois.gov/researchhub/articles/youth-bullying-an-overview-and-related-interventions/).
- Boston Public Schools offers a guide 📄 (https://www.bostonpublicschools.org/cms/lib/MA01906464/Centricity/Domain/204/embedding%20bullying%20prevention.pdf) to embedding anti-bullying into the curriculum at all grade levels.
- For younger students, Sesame Street provides some great videos (https://sesamestreetincommunities.org/activities/reporting-bullying/).
- An organization called PACER, formed in the 1970s by parents of children with disabilities, offers a full range of anti-bullying resources on its website (https://www.pacer.org/bullying/es/), including bullying prevention resources in Spanish (https://www.pacer.org/bullying/es/), and a Q&A column (https://pacerkidsagainstbullying.org/what-is-bullying/carmens-advice/) where kids can seek advice.
- The Cyberbullying Research Center (https://cyberbullying.org/resources/educators) has resources for educators, parents, and teens to address bullying online.

As a reminder, Illinois law requires all school districts, charter schools, and nonpublic nonsectarian elementary and secondary schools to create and implement bullying prevention policies (/Pages/Bullying-Prevention.aspx) and to file the policy with ISBE every two years.

Join me this October in taking steps to stop bullying and foster a culture that practices empathy, kindness, and care. And don't forget to take a final look at last year's attendance data in the Student Information System by this Friday.

Pictured: Right on cue for the season, Tracy Frew, a kindergarten teacher at Prairie Trails School in Mount Prospect, helps her students investigate pumpkins.

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).

Date	Event
Nov. 17	Deadline to apply for the Arts and Foreign Language Implementation Assistance Grant (https://arts.illinois.gov/afl)
Sept. 19 - Nov. 18	Submit Nominations for Those Who Excel & Teacher of the Year Awards (https://www.isbe.net/elevatingeducators)
Sept. 19 - Dec. 2	Apply for Those Who Excel & Teacher of the Year Awards (https://www.isbe.net/elevatingeducators)
Oct. 12	Webinar: Accelerated Placement Update (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7925743132997122319)
Oct. 13	Webinar: 2023 Illinois Green Ribbon Schools (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/938633710885774093)
Oct. 13	Webinar: Data Collections Q&A (https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/2174502371330329612)
Oct. 14	Illinois Council for the Social Studies Fall Conference (https://www.illinoiscss.net/conferences.html)
Oct. 14	Deadline to submit general nominations for U.S. Presidential Scholars (https://www.isbe.net/NSDocuments/88-01A-B.pdf)

Oct. 14	Deadline to submit CTE nominations for U.S. Presidential Scholars (https://www.isbe.net/NSDocuments/72-27A-B.pdf)
Oct. 14	Webinar: FY 2023 After School Programs – Non-School District Technical Assistance (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4652870851555847440)
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 (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5432113434138058000)
Oct. 19	Webinar: Arts and Foreign Language Implementation Assistance Grant (https://arts.illinois.gov/afl)
Oct. 19	Webinar: 2022 Report Card Open Forum #2 (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6329949339994167823)
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 (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/thomas-lay-burroughs-award.aspx)
Oct. 24	FY 2024 agency budget hearing (virtual) (https://www.isbe.net/budget)
Oct. 24	Media Call #2 - State Superintendent of Education to discuss state-level data under embargo (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4500460948039802126)
Oct. 24	Application deadline for Illinois Council on Women and Girls – Girls Committee (https://isbe.submittable.com/submit/236836/2022-illinois-council-on-women-and-girls-girls-committee-application)
Oct. 27	ISBE publishes 2022 Illinois Report Card at IllinoisReportCard.com
Oct. 31	Deadline to submit school district budget (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/School-District-Joint-Agreement.aspx)
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. 14	Deadline to apply for FY 2023 After School Programs – Non-School Districts grant (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/After-School-Programs.aspx)
Nov. 15	Webinar: IL- EMPOWER grant application process for schools designated for improvement with a Targeted or Comprehensive designation.
Nov. 15	Deadline to submit Annual Financial Report (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Annual-Financial-Report.aspx)

Nov. 15	Deadline to submit Limitation of Cost Worksheets (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Limitation-of-Administrative-Costs.aspx)
Nov. 16	Webinar: IL- EMPOWER grant application process for schools designated for improvement with a Targeted or Comprehensive designation.
Nov. 17	Deadline to apply for the Arts and Foreign Language Implementation Assistance Grant (https://arts.illinois.gov/afl)
Nov. 18	Deadline to submit nominations for Those Who Excel & Teacher of the Year Awards (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/teacher-of-the-year.aspx)
Dec. 1	Deadline to apply for the School Technology Revolving Loan Program (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Educational-Technology.aspx)
Dec. 2	Deadline to apply for Those Who Excel & Teacher of the Year Awards (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/teacher-of-the-year.aspx)
Dec. 15	Deadline to submit Annual Statement of Affairs (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Annual-Statement-of-Affairs.aspx)
Dec. 27	Deadline to submit Certificate of Tax Levy (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Certificate-of-Tax-Levy.aspx)
Jan. 9	Deadline to apply for 2023 Illinois Green Ribbon Schools (https://illinoisgreenalliance.org/green-ribbon-schools/)
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

ILLINOIS REPORT CARD

FINAL OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW AND CORRECT SY 2021-2022 ATTENDANCE DATA

ISBE will publish the Illinois Report Card at the end of October. School districts have had since the summer to review and correct, if necessary, their data in the Student Information System (SIS) and supporting systems like the Data Review and Verification Tool (DRVT). However, several school districts recently identified inaccuracies in the attendance data they submitted related to the appropriate coding of students excluded from school and receiving remote instruction.

ISBE is statutorily obligated to publish the Illinois Report Card by the end of October. To meet that deadline while also ensuring maximum data integrity and accuracy for the upcoming SY2021-2022 Report Card, **ISBE will provide a one-time final 48-hour opportunity** for school districts to **provide corrections to SY 2021-2022 <u>attendance data only</u>** in the Student Information System. No other changes made to SY 2021-22 SIS data will be recorded – including no changes to SY 2021-2022 student enrollment data. Only attendance data for student enrollments previously finalized for SY2021-2022 will be updated during this one-time opportunity.

Please ensure your attendance data is correct for the 2021-22 school year in the Student Information System **by the end of the day on Friday, Oct. 14** in order for those changes to be included in the Student Attendance Rate, Chronic Absenteeism, and Chronic Truancy metrics for the upcoming SY 2021-2022 Report Card.

Changes that ISBE receives during this window may impact the preliminary school summative designations that have been available in Educator Preview since Oct. 3. As always, and as noted in prior communications 📄 (/Documents/RCRundown-Sept22.pdf) to the field, please keep in mind that all Report Card data is preliminary and subject to change until it is officially published on www.illinoisreportcard.com (http://www.illinoisreportcard.com/). Thank you for your cooperation.

PREPARE FOR THE 2022 ILLINOIS REPORT CARD

ISBE has created a series of fact sheets and resources to help you prepare to tell your 2022 Illinois Report Card story. Review the resources below for support in how to talk about the new Equity Journey Continuum, your 2022 annual summative designation, and the accelerated growth your students may have experienced in 2022. Find all of these resources on the ISBE Report Card webpage (/reportcard).

- How to Tell Your Summative Designation Story 📄 (/Documents/How-Tell-Your-Summ-Desig-Story.pdf)
  - Report Card Press Release Template 📄 (/_layouts/Download.aspx?SourceUrl=/Documents/2022-IRC-Temp-Press-Release.docx) - Click the link and check your downloads folder
  - Letter to the School Community Template for Targeted and Comprehensive Schools 📄 (/_layouts/Download.aspx?SourceUrl=/Documents/RC-Template-Letter-Targeted-Comp.docx) - Click the link and check your downloads folder
    - Arabic – *Coming Soon!*
    - Chinese – Traditional – *Coming Soon!*
    - Chinese – Simplified – *Coming Soon!*
    - Gujarti – *Coming Soon!*
    - Hindi – *Coming Soon!*
    - Polish – *Coming Soon!*
    - Russian – *Coming Soon!*
    - Spanish – *Coming Soon!*
    - Urdu – *Coming Soon!*
    - Telugu – *Coming Soon!*
- Annual Summative Designations 📄 (/Documents/Report-Card-2022-Support-Accountability-Fact-Sheet.pdf)
- Multiple Indicators of Student Success 📄 (/Documents/Report-Card-2022-Multiple-Indicators-Fact-Sheet.pdf)
- 2022 Illinois Report Card - Narrative Opportunities 📄 (/Documents/2022ReportCard-TellYourStory.pdf)
  - Summative Designation Narrative Guidance 📄 (/Documents/2022-Report-Card-Narrative-Guidance-Summative.pdf)
  - Equity Journey Continuum Narrative Guidance 📄 (/Documents/2022-Report-Card-Narrative-Guidance.pdf)
    - ISBE Narrating the Continuum 📄 (/Documents/ISBE-Narrative-workshop.pdf)
- 2022 Illinois Report Card - What's New with Accountability? 📄 (/Documents/2022ReportCard-What%27sNewwithAccountability.pdf)
- 2022 Illinois Report Card - What's New 📄 (/Documents/2022ReportCard-WhatsNew.pdf)
- 2022 Illinois Report Card Timeline 📄 (/Documents/2022ReportCard-Timeline.pdf)
- Cohort vs. Baseline Student Growth Percentile - *Coming Soon!*

2022 REPORT CARD OPEN FORUM #2

Join ISBE at **1 p.m. Oct. 19** 📧 **(https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6329949339994167823)** to review the previous 2022 Report Card webinar Frequently Asked Questions and ask Report Card-related questions.

^{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 how you are investing federal relief funds to help students recover.

LAST CALL TO PARTICIPATE IN INTERIM ASSESSMENT RESEARCH TO SUPPORT LEARNING RECOVERY

Districts using interim assessments have a unique opportunity to contribute to a robust data set and support statewide learning recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic by joining 105 districts in an interim research study. ISBE is partnering with Northern Illinois University to develop a comprehensive understanding of the challenges and successes in student learning during the pandemic. The study will identify areas of growth and areas experiencing greater disruption by grade levels and/or among specific student groups. These results can bolster the efforts of ISBE and school leaders to implement effective recovery plans. For more information about the study and research aims, find an updated fact sheet here 📄 (/NSDocuments/Info-Sheet-Interim-Assess-Study.pdf). Authorized users will use this link (https://myircapi.niu.edu/Account/Login) to log in to MyIRC to authorize participation and select the interim assessment(s) used by the district. Authorized users will use this link (https://myircapi.niu.edu/Account/Login) to log in to MyIRC to authorize participation and select the interim assessment(s) used by the district. Districts are encouraged to opt-in (https://iirc.niu.edu/MyIRC.InterimAssessment/Home?Districtid=88888888888&refresh=true&domainid=88888888888) **by Oct. 31**, when research will begin; however, registration will be open **through December**.

RESEARCH AND EVALUATION

DATA COLLECTIONS Q&A WEBINAR

ISBE will continue hosting a monthly webinar on the second Thursday of each month to give Illinois school districts a chance to ask any questions they have about the ISBE data collections. The next Data Collections Q&A webinar is **10-11:30 a.m. Oct. 13** 📹 (https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/2174502371330329612). ISBE will have staff on hand who will be able to answer questions on any of the data collections listed below:

- Bilingual Education Program Delivery Report Collection
- Employment Information System, including Unfilled Positions Survey
- Entity Profile System
- Non-Certified Staff Salary Study
- Reduction in Force Survey
- Student Health (dental, eye, immunizations, and physical fitness)
- Student Information System
- Teacher Salary Study
- Title I Comparability
- U.S. Census School District Review Program
- Year End Collection
- IEP-Student Tracking and Reporting System

ISBE will not have any PowerPoint or predetermined path for the discussions/questions; however, we invite districts to come ready with their questions. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. For more information, please contact 312-814-9192 or datahelp@isbe.net (mailto:datahelp@isbe.net).

SAFE AND HEALTHY CLIMATE

FREE ONLINE RESTRAINT AND TIME OUT TRAINING AVAILABLE

ISBE and the Center for Intensive Behavioral Supports at Illinois State University are excited to announce the availability of free online professional training to support a reduction in the need to use physical restraint, time out, and/or isolated time out (RTO).

Illinois Administrative Code 1.285 requires that any adult who is supervising a student in time out or isolated time out, or who is involved in a physical restraint, shall receive at least eight hours of developmentally appropriate training annually. Online training may be utilized for all the following required training areas: A) crisis de-escalation, B) restorative practices, C) identifying signs of distress during physical restraint and time out, D) trauma-informed practices, and E) behavior management practices. **Online training may not be used for training pertaining to physical restraint**.

All Illinois teachers are eligible to register (https://www.behavioralsupportsil.org/) for the free online training series that fulfills this requirement. Any teacher who teaches an Illinois student, regardless of location of educational entity, is eligible to register for a free account. Additional training topics will be added over time.

FY 2023 AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS GRANT NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY/REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS RELEASED

The fiscal year 2023 After School Programs – Non-School Districts Grant (/Pages/After-School-Programs.aspx) is now open to applicants. Proposals are due to ISBE no later than **4 p.m. Nov. 14**. Please contact Connie Denney at cdenney@isbe.net (mailto:cdenney@isbe.net) if you have questions.

A technical assistance session will be held at **10 a.m. Oct. 14** ▣ (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4652870851555847440).

BULLYING POLICY SUBMISSION

Bullying Prevention Policies must be filed with ISBE by **Sept. 30** every two years. Policies must be reviewed and reevaluated every two years and be updated to reflect any necessary and appropriate revisions. Districts and schools should check the date of their last local review to determine if their policy is now due to ISBE. Entities should complete the IWAS Bullying Policy Submission, upload a PDF version of the policy, and include the website link, as applicable. We are aware that there was an issue with IWAS and some entities were unable to submit policies by the due date. Please note that entities will not be penalized for late submissions.

NEW

SCHOOL BUSINESS SERVICES

DEADLINE REMINDERS FOR FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS

- **School District Budget – Oct. 31**
  School districts should have adopted their FY 2023 budget no later than Sept. 30. The School District Budget Form (ISBE 50-36), in Excel format, must be submitted to ISBE no later than **Oct. 31** via the Attachment Manager (https://sec1.isbe.net/attachmgr/default.aspx), choosing "School Financial Reports" as the receiver. Additional information can be found on the ISBE School District Budget webpage (/Pages/School-District-Joint-Agreement.aspx).
- **Annual Financial Report – Nov. 15**
  School districts and joint agreements must have their Annual Financial Report (ISBE 50-35/50-60) (AFR) completed, signed, and submitted to the Regional Office of Education (ROE) or the Intermediate Service Center (ISC), as applicable, by Oct. 15. The ROE/ISC must sign the AFR and remit to ISBE no later than **Nov. 15**. The school district or joint agreement's auditor must also submit the AFR, in Excel format, no later than Nov. 15 via IWAS (https://sec1.isbe.net/iwas/asp/login.asp?js=true). The ROE/ISC may grant an extension to these deadlines, not to extend past Dec. 15. Additional information can be found on the ISBE Annual Financial Report webpage (/Pages/Annual-Financial-Report.aspx).
- **Limitation of Administrative Cost Worksheets – Nov. 15**
  Section 17-1.5 of the School Code requires school districts to limit the growth of certain administrative expenditures to a maximum of 5 percent from one fiscal year to the next. School districts must file the Limitation of Administrative Costs Worksheet with ISBE's School Business Services Department by **Nov. 15**. A blank Limitation of Administrative Costs Worksheet, quartile rankings for all school districts, and a sample waiver resolution for qualifying districts can be found on the ISBE Limitation of Administrative Costs webpage (/Pages/Limitation-of-Administrative-Costs.aspx). The Limitation of Administrative Costs Worksheet is included within the AFR, and the

worksheet may be submitted to ISBE in conjunction with the AFR. Alternatively, the completed and signed worksheet may be sent as an email attachment to finance1@isbe.net (mailto:finance1@isbe.net).

- **Annual Statement of Affairs – Dec. 15**
  School districts and joint agreements must complete an Annual Statement of Affairs (ASA) and publish an ASA summary in a newspaper of general circulation no later than Dec. 1. School districts and joint agreements must also submit the entire Annual Statement of Affairs (ISBE 50-37) electronically to ISBE by **Dec. 15** annually. The ASA, in Excel format, should be submitted to ISBE via the Attachment Manager (https://sec1.isbe.net/attachmgr/default.aspx), choosing "School Financial Reports" as the receiver. Copies of the ASA should be retained in the school district or joint agreement administrative office. The ASA form and instructions, along with additional publishing and submission information, can be found on the ISBE Annual Statement of Affairs webpage (/Pages/Annual-Statement-of-Affairs.aspx).

- **Certificate of Tax Levy – Dec. 27**
  School districts must submit a certified Certificate of Tax Levy (ISBE 50-02) to their county clerk(s) on or before **the last Tuesday in December**. Do not submit the Certificate of Tax Levy to ISBE. The Certificate of Tax Levy form can be found on the ISBE Certificate of Tax Levy webpage (/Pages/Certificate-of-Tax-Levy.aspx).

If you have any questions, please contact 217-785-8779 or finance1@isbe.net (mailto:finance1@isbe.net).

TEACHING AND LEARNING

FY 2023 ARTS AND FOREIGN LANGUAGE IMPLEMENTATION GRANT AVAILABLE

The Illinois Arts Council Agency and ISBE are pleased to announce funding is available for school districts and other eligible applicants in FY 2023 for the Arts and Foreign Language Implementation Assistance Grant (https://arts.illinois.gov/afl).

The Illinois Arts Council Agency has released a Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit proposals from eligible applicants that are seeking resources to introduce or expand instruction in the arts or foreign language, as applicable, and for developing means of perpetuating the funded program with local resources after the conclusion of the anticipated three-year grant cycle. Annual grant awards will not exceed $100,000 depending on the programmatic needs, size of district, and level of implementation proposed. Proposals are due **Nov. 17**.

An online, informational webinar about the Arts and Foreign Language Implementation Assistance Grant, designed to provide technical assistance on the RFP and answer questions about the process, will be held at **1 p.m. Oct. 19** (https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/j.php?RGID=rae68e6843d39ff0550202bfceba25026).

For more information, contact Jerome Grand at jerome.grand@illinois.gov (mailto:jerome.grand@illinois.gov) or visit https://arts.illinois.gov/AFL (https://arts.illinois.gov/AFL).

ACCELERATED PLACEMENT POLICY UPDATE

Recent changes to the Illinois School Code require districts to update their acceleration policy for Grades 9-12 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.

COMPUTER SCIENCE FOR EVERY LEARNER

The Illinois Resource Center is excited about a new professional development program to provide computer science skills among bilingual/English as a Second Language educators from underserved schools with large populations of linguistically and culturally diverse students. The initiative, called Computer Science for Every Learner (https://irc.thecenterweb.org/professional-learning/computer-science-for-esl-bilingual-educators), is sponsored by ISBE and supported by a partnership with Code.org, the Learning Technology Center of Illinois, Latinx Digital Leaders Now, and CS for Success. The program is expected to run during the 2022-24 academic years. For additional information, please contact cselinfo@cntrmail.org (mailto:cselinfo@cntrmail.org).

COLLEGE CHANGES EVERYTHING

OCTOBER IS COLLEGE CHANGES EVERYTHING MONTH

October is College Changes Everything® (CCE) Month in Illinois. The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) supports students and schools with free college and financial aid application workshops, one-on-one assistance from ISACorps near-peer mentors, a free text messaging service for students and families to get their college and financial aid questions answered via text by ISAC experts, "ISAC College Minute"™ video tips, and more. The 2023-24 FAFSA and the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid became available **Oct. 1**.

High schools can sign up to participate in the **CCE fall campaign** at collegechangeseverything.org/ccemonth (https://www.collegechangeseverything.org/ccemonth/) and receive a downloadable toolkit, materials, swag, and event support.

Learn more about college and financial aid supports from ISAC, including assistance with FAFSA completion (https://www.isac.org/newsroom/isac-press-releases/2022-Press-Releases/2022-CCE-Month.pdf).

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. Nov. 1**: Myths in Education (https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_8-u5nFtYS3OCMIEuj5WRVw) - Educators all have the same goal — to help students make the maximum possible academic gains in a positive and respectful environment that promotes success and nurtures their desire to learn. In this series of six webinars, the participants will gain valuable knowledge from the research and work of Dr. Anita Archer and Dr. Charles Hughes on explicit instruction. Explicit instruction is a structured, systematic, and effective methodology for teaching academic skills. It is considered an unambiguous and direct approach that includes instructional design and delivery procedures.

EDUCATOR RECOGNITION

2022-23 National Engineering Teacher of the Year

Congratulations to Corey Duzan for being named 2022-23 National Engineering Teacher of the Year by Project Lead The Way! (https://www.pltw.org/experience-pltw/national-awards-and-recognition)He works at Lockport High School in Lockport District 205, where he teaches Introduction to Engineering Design, STEM Exploration, and Digital Pathways.

EDUCATOR OPPORTUNITIES

UIS Workshop for Teachers: Lincoln and African Americans in History and Memory

The University of Illinois Springfield Center for Lincoln Studies will host a professional development workshop in-person for teachers from **10-11:30 a.m. Oct. 22** (https://www.uis.edu/event/2022-lincoln-legacy-lecture-workshop). Professor Jonathan White of Christopher Newport University will be teaching about documents out of his new book on African Americans' letters to Lincoln during the Civil War. The teachers who attend will receive a free copy of the book. They will read 40 pages in advance and will have a seminar discussion with Professor White, who has received the state of Virginia's highest award for faculty teaching. Teachers who participate will receive 3.5 hours of PD credit from the UIS School of Education.

Prek-12 schools, districts, and early learning centers with active sustainability practices or initiatives are encouraged to apply for the 2023 Illinois Green Ribbon Schools (https://illinoisgreenalliance.org/green-ribbon-schools/). Submission materials should be sent to greenribbon@isbe.net (mailto:greenribbon@isbe.net) by **5 p.m. Monday, Jan. 9, 2023**. Finalists at the state level will advance to the national level for potential recognition as a U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School (https://www2.ed.gov/programs/green-ribbon-schools/index.html).

All potential program participants are encouraged to join ISBE for an informational webinar at **3:30 p.m. Oct. 13** ◀ (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/938633710885774093).

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

16th Annual Create-A-Greeting-Card Scholarship Open

Calling all creative high school students! The Gallery Collection's 16th Annual National Create-A-Greeting-Card Competition is open through **March 2, 2023**. The national competition seeks to inspire today's youth to recognize quality and beauty and to capture it in the form of a digital photo or a finished piece of art from their art class or computer lab. The winning student will receive a $10,000 cash scholarship and a $1,000 cash prize for their school. Submissions will be judged for overall aesthetic appeal, quality of execution, creativity and originality, successful incorporation of design elements, appropriateness, attractiveness, and suitability for the gallery's greeting card line. To register and submit an online application, visit the scholarship page (http://www.galleryconnection.com).

FEATURED ISBE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Director of Software Solutions (/Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=730)

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