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Hello,

As many of you know, last week Governor Pritzker signed PA 101-0220 (http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/101/101-0220.htm) into law. The new law eliminates the requirement that a licensure candidate pass a test of basic skills. This clears the path for any teacher candidate who had completed all other requirements to earn the Professional Educator License. ISBE has identified 246 individuals with currently pending license applications that will be updated. Those candidates will either receive a license or be able to move forward with other remaining requirements.

We understand there are concerns regarding the passing of this law and how it effects individuals applying for a paraprofessional endorsement. We are working with the sponsors of the legislation to author a trailer bill during the fall veto session to reinstate the option for those applying for a paraprofessional endorsement to do so using a test. In the interim, individuals who do not hold an associate degree or higher or a minimum of 60 semester hours of credit from a regionally accredited institution of higher education may proceed with taking the ETS-paraprofessional exam or ACT WorkKeys, with the understanding that ISBE cannot consider a passing score as a means to obtain the endorsement until subsequent legislation is enacted. This likely will not occur until November due to the timing of the fall veto session.

The law does not affect endorsements and licenses that have already been issued. We have prepared a fact sheet (/Documents/SB1952-Test-of-basic-skills.pdf) with frequently asked questions to assist you and we will continue to keep you updated as we have more information.

August is National Immunization Awareness Month. As you're communicating important back-to-school messages to parents, we encourage you to include information about making sure students are up to date on their required vaccinations. The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) reports (http://www.dph.illinois.gov/news/vaxtoschool-%E2%80%93-schedule-vaccinations-now-during-national-immunization-awareness-month) we're seeing the highest number of measles cases in the United States since 1992, which underscores the importance of vaccinations. The immunization requirements for the 2019-20 school year

(http://www.dph.illinois.gov/sites/default/files/publications/Minimum%20Immunization%20Requirements.pdf) are the same as last year. You'll find many resources on the IDPH website (http://www.dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/prevention-wellness/immunization), including social media posts and graphics (http://www.dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/prevention-wellness/immunization/vaxtoschool) that you can use in communicating with parents about the importance of vaccinations.

Our Back to School Deep-Dive Webinar Series continues through the end of the month. We're offering in-depth discussions with ISBE content experts on hot topics, including the 2019 Report Card, Summative Designations, Teacher Assignments, and an Assessments Update. You can register for or view recordings of these webinars at isbe.net/backtoschool (/backtoschool). And don't forget to keep sharing your back-to-school photos on Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/IllinoisStateBoardofEducation/?ref=bookmarks) and Twitter (https://twitter.com/ISBEnews) with #ILBacktoSchool. We may share them on the ISBE page!

Lastly, thank you to East Aurora School District 131 for hosting me last week! I truly enjoyed returning to one of the districts that helped prepare me for my role in serving all of Illinois' students.

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).

| Aug. 8-18 | ISBE at the State Fair (http://www.isbe.net/statefair) |
|--------------|--|
| Aug. 14 | School Nutrition Programs: Direct Certification webinar - Aug. 14 (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7969276070625824002) |
| Aug. 14 | Illinois State Board of Education meeting in Springfield (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-State-Board-of-Education-Calendar.aspx) |
| Aug. 15 | Deadline to submit Annual Pupil Transportation Reimbursement claim to ISBE (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Funding-and-Disbursements-Transportation-Programs.aspx) |
| Aug. 15 | School Nutrition Programs: Certification of Household Eligibility Applications webinar - Aug. 15 (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4080588216693876994) |
| Aug. 15 | Deadline to submit Site-Based Expenditure Reports in IWAS (https://www.isbe.net/site-based) |
| Aug. 15 | Application deadline for the Fall 2019 Waiver Report (https://www.isbe.net/waiver) |
| Aug. 15 | Back to School Deep-Dive Webinar: Summative Designations (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5720353680040091907) |
| Aug. 16 | Webinar: Title I School Improvement 1003(a) Deliverables (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8826741209964323073) |
| Aug. 21 | Back to School Deep-Dive Webinar: Teacher Assignability (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2306310702034817795) |
| Aug. 30 | Deadline to submit application for FY 2020 Career and Technical Education State Leadership Request for Proposal (https://www.isbe.net/Documents/FY20-Connections-Conference.pdf) |
| Aug. 30 | Deadline to submit application for FY 2020 Educational Surrogate Parent Training Program RFP (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Special-Education-Surrogate-Parent-Program.aspx) |
| Aug. 30 | Back to School Deep-Dive Webinar: Assessments Update (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1722297404494635010) |
| Aug. 31 | Deadline extended! Deadline to submit application to become Statistics in Schools census ambassador (https://www.census.gov/schools) |
| Sept. | Deadline for joint agreements to adopt annual budge (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/School-Finance.aspx) |

| Sept. 1 | Deadline for ROEs/ISCs to file School Treasurer Bond Affidavit with ISBE |
|----------------|--|
| Sept. 9 | Deadline for superintendent signoff in Data Review and Verification Tool in MyIRC portal (https://www.isbe.net/Documents/June-2019-Data-Review-Verification-Tool-Memo.pdf) |
| Sept. 17-18 | Illinois State Board of Education Retreat (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-State-Board-of-Education-Calendar.aspx) |
| Sept. 30 | Deadline for school districts to adopt annual budget (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/School-Finance.aspx) |
| Oct. 1 | Deadline to submit application for United States Senate Youth Program (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/United-States-Senate-Youth-Program-Hearst-Scholarship.aspx) |
| Oct. 15 | Deadline to submit Annual Financial Report to ROE or ISC (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/School-Finance.aspx) |
| Oct. 15 | Illinois State Board of Education Meeting - East St. Louis (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-State-Board-of-Education-Calendar.aspx) |
| Oct. 31 | Deadline to submit annual budget to ISBE (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/School-Finance.aspx) |
| Nov. 15 | Deadline to submit Annual Financial Report to ISBE (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/School-Finance.aspx) |



COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

REGISTER FOR ISAC'S FAFSA SYMPOSIUM - AUG. 29

The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) is hosting the state's first Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Symposium from 8 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. on Aug. 29 at Moraine Valley Community College, 9000 W. College Parkway, Building M, Palos Hills.

Governor JB Pritzker recently signed legislation that requires public high school students to complete the FAFSA or an alternative state form as a condition of graduation beginning with the 2020-21 school year. Studies show that students who are most likely to benefit from financial aid are also the least likely to apply, leaving billions of dollars of assistance on the table. Making FAFSA completion part of the expectations for high school graduation can help students make empowered choices about their next steps after graduation.

The one-day FAFSA Symposium provides an opportunity to strengthen supports for students in completing the FAFSA and to increase overall completion rates for all students. FAFSA novices and experts alike are encouraged to attend to share and learn. This convening will focus on the following strategies:

- · Preparing students and families to complete the FAFSA
- · Supporting high schools' FAFSA completion efforts
- Follow-up support for students post-FAFSA completion and submission

Don't miss an opportunity to highlight FAFSA completion efforts in your school or community and to learn from your peers at this important community event!

The \$15 registration fee includes continental breakfast and lunch. Registration is now available (https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fafsa-symposium-tickets-66574306543).



REMINDER: UPCOMING COMPETENCY-BASED EDUCATION WEBINAR - AUG. 15

Registration is available for an upcoming CBE webinar (https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9BRTQ36) presented by ISBE in partnership with the Midwest Comprehensive Center from 1-2 p.m. on Aug. 15. "Investigating CBE: What it Means to Shift Towards a Competency-Based System" will be presented by Jen Sigrist, executive director of Media and Technology for the Central Rivers Area Education Agency in Iowa. Jen will address the following questions: What is a competency-based system all about? How does it look different from a traditional classroom? We'll talk about what CBE is during this introductory webinar, what it looks like in the classroom, and how the shift toward CBE impacts the system in supporting learners to be ready for the future.



ENGLISH LEARNERS

2019 BILINGUAL DIRECTORS' MEETING - SEPT. 25-27

The ISBE Division of English Learners invites all district administrators supporting English Learners (including Title I directors) to attend the annual Bilingual Program Directors' Meeting at the Westin Chicago Northwest, 400 Park Boulevard, Itasca 60143. The meeting will commence on the afternoon of Sept. 25, with sessions focused on supporting new administrators working with ELs however, tenured directors are also invited to attend. The workshops on Sept. 26-27 will focus on supporting ELs in a broad range of areas, including dual language, early childhood, high school, special education, funding, and more. Online registration (https://thecntr.org/irc-new/user-login-page---irc) is available or download a mail-in registration form (https://thecenterweb.org/files/directors-mtg-2019.pdf).

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

PREPARING FOR KIDS: A MONTHLY IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE FOR DISTRICTS

Kindergarten teachers and administrators know that the start of the school year signals the beginning of observation and collection of evidence of developmental readiness for a new group of kindergarten students using the Kindergarten Individual Development Survey (KIDS). School and building administrators, curriculum and assessment coordinators, IT directors, and classroom teachers may find a month-by-month planning guide helpful when laying out a timeline of tasks necessary to smoothly implement KIDS. ISBE has created the KIDS Monthly Implementation Guide (/Documents/KIDS-Monthly-Implementation-Plan.pdf).

District administrators and teachers are encouraged to contact their regional KIDS coach for questions and individualized support. Administrators may request assistance with the SIS and KIDStech uploads, plan a workshop for a School Improvement Plan day, seek coaching support for professional learning community times, or reach out for answers to specific questions along the way. Please contact Terri Lamb at tlamb@isbe.net (mailto:tlamb@isbe.net) or Michelle Escapa at mescapa@roe51.org (mailto:mescapa@roe51.org) for questions about KIDS.



SCHOOL HEALTH

UPCOMING WEBINARS FOR SCHOOL NURSES AND STAFF

• Illinois Department of Public Health Back to School Webinar – Aug. 21 (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8292414842839009795)

School staff who have responsibility for assuring that students meet the health requirements for school attendance may listen to this webinar offered by staff from the Illinois Department of Public Health from 1:30-2:30 p.m. on Aug. 21. Topics to be discussed include the schedule of required immunizations, including medical or religious waivers; the requirements of the child health examination (physical exam), including what constitutes a fully compliant exam; screenings for vision and hearing by qualified screeners; lead screening; screening for communicable diseases, the conditions under which a child may be lawfully excluded from school attendance; and new laws or regulations related to student

or staff health over which IDPH has jurisdiction.

• ISBE Back to School Webinar for School Nurses – Aug. 23 (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4862806078855813635)
School staff who have responsibility for assuring that both students and staff meet health requirements may attend a training offered by staff from the ISBE Wellness Team from 1:30-2:30 p.m. on Aug. 23. Topics to be discussed include health requirements for school attendance, the health examination and/or immunization requirement of school staff, required health data reporting, health evaluations for special education, legislative briefs, School Code and Administrative rules related to health, whole child framework, and other topics.

Both of these webinars are a Continuing Nursing Education offering – 1.25 contact hours per webinar will be emailed to those attending the webinars or recordings through Nov. 1. The evaluation survey must be completed no later than Nov. 8. The recordings and slides will remain available for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year.



FVIDENCE-BASED FUNDING

FY 2020 EBF SPENDING PLANS - DUE SEPT. 30

The Evidence-Based Funding (EBF) for Student Success Act requires each Organizational Unit (school districts, laboratory schools, Regional Offices of Education, and Intermediate Service Centers) to complete an EBF Spending Plan. Fiscal year 2020 is a refinement year, in which ISBE is actively seeking feedback on the EBF Spending Plan to collaboratively improve it for future years.

The goal of the EBF Spending Plan is to facilitate local conversations tying investments to school improvement goals. Money alone may not drive continuous improvement; however, where and why schools direct resources tells an important story about what matters to each school community.

The FY 2020 EBF Spending Plan includes three parts, asking questions about how each Organizational Unit:

- 1. Intends to achieve student growth;
- 2. Plans to spend existing and new Evidence-Based Funding based on data; and
- 3. Aims to allocate resources to support low-income students, students with disabilities, and English Learners.

An *optional worksheet* for the EBF Spending Plan is available to support collaboration and planning in advance of the official submission. The optional worksheet is available in two forms:

- as part of the school district budget form available at www.isbe.net/Pages/School-District-Joint-Agreement.aspx (/Pages/School-District-Joint-Agreement.aspx) for those who have not yet submitted their budgets and would like to think about their EBF Spending Plan as part of the budgeting process, and
- 2. as a stand-alone form for those who have already submitted their budgets. It's available at www.isbe.net/ebfspendingplan (http://www.isbe.net/ebfspendingplan).

The official EBF Spending Plan template will be released in IWAS and due Sept. 30 and is required for all Organizational Units, whether or not the optional worksheet is utilized.

If you have any questions while working through the optional worksheet, please contact ISBE at ebfspendingplan@isbe.net.

For more information regarding EBF Spending Plans, register for the upcoming 2019-20 EBF Spending Plan Informational Webinar from 4-5 p.m. on Aug. 21 (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7951578332788307970).

EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT

The deadline to report site-based expenditures through IWAS is upon us. If your Local Education Agency (LEA) has not yet signed into the IWAS System for Site-Based Expenditure Reporting and/or is not familiar with this requirement, please be aware that the reporting does take time to complete. ESSA Site-Based Expenditure Reporting will give LEAs and local communities an unprecedented opportunity to assess, affirm, and advocate for improved equity within school districts and to better understand the relationship between student outcomes and financial investments. In this first year of reporting, however, data calculation and collection represents a significant lift for LEAs. We encourage you to give your LEA enough time to prepare your submission before the deadline. IWAS is open for FY 2019 Site-Based Expenditure reporting until Aug. 15, 2019. Edits to submissions may be made until Aug. 30, 2019.

All published supports for Site-Based Expenditure Reporting are available at www.isbe.net/site-based (http://www.isbe.net/site-based).

Office hours to discuss Site-Based Expenditure Reporting with the ISBE team are available every Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon through Aug. 29. To sign up for a 15-minute slot, visit https://calendly.com/site-based (https://calendly.com/site-based). If office hours are unavailable, email site-based@isbe.net (mailto:site-based@isbe.net).



ASSESSMENT

DISTRICT ASSESSMENT SURVEY - DUE SEPT. 27

The fourth annual District Assessment Survey (/assessmentsurvey) is now available. Legislation requires each school district to report information to ISBE concerning the administration of standardized assessments to students at each school. The law also requires schools to make this information public via the school district's website or distribution in paper form. Districts can comply with this requirement by linking to the assessment survey results (/Pages/AssessmentSurveyResults.aspx). This will also allow districts to track their completion rate. The survey will dynamically populate data submitted in the previous year for review and editing as needed.

Please note that the law defines tests "scored by a non-district entity" as the focus of this data collection effort. We refer to these as "standardized."

We appreciate your assistance with completing the form **before noon on Friday**, **Sept. 27**. Contact the Assessment & Accountability Division at (866) 317-6034 if you have specific questions about the survey.

View the How-to-Guide 🕍 (/Documents/Assessment-Survey-Guide.pdf) for assistance in completing the survey.



TITLE GRANTS

TITLE GRANTS NEW DIRECTOR TRAINING - REGISTRATION NOW AVAILABLE

ISBE invites all first- and second-year Title directors to attend this day of professional learning and personalized support. ISBE Title Grants staff is visiting communities throughout the state to assist new directors in Title programing, grant administration, and reporting requirements.

Please Note: Each location has a limited capacity and a specific RSVP deadline. The location will no longer appear as an RSVP option once capacity is reached or the deadline is passed. Every attendee should RSVP individually, so please forward this information to the members of your team whom you would like to attend.

Registration is now available (/Pages/Title-Grants-New-Director-Training.aspx). Reach out with any questions to ISBE's Title Grants Division at (217) 785-1969.

Dates and Locations:

- Sept. 9: Bloomington ROE 17 (200 W. Front Street, #500D, Bloomington)
- Sept. 10: Chicago National Louis University (122 S. Michigan Ave, 2nd Floor, Chicago)
- Sept. 11: West 40 Intermediate Service Center (4413 Roosevelt Road Suite 104, Hillside)

Sept. 13: Regional Office of Education 13 (1710 Broadway, Mt. Vernon)

Tour Agenda

9:30-10 a.m. - Registration

10 a.m. - noon - Training Sessions

Noon-12:30 p.m. - Lunch

TITLE I SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT - 1003(A) GRANT UPDATE AND WEBINARS

ISBE Title I School Improvement 1003(a) allocations were released to qualifying LEAs on Aug. 7. LEAs qualify for this federal funding if they had one or more schools designated for improvement on the 2018 Illinois State Report Card. Designations were based on the accountability system outlined in the Illinois Every Student Succeeds Act Support and Accountability Plan.

Schools designated for targeted and comprehensive support may access the Illinois Quality Framework Supporting Rubric (IQFSR) and School Improvement Plan (SIP) via the ISBE electronic Grant Management System. As a reminder, schools designated for comprehensive support are required to select a learning partner to engage in school improvement efforts. The submission date for completing the IQFSR and SIP and selecting a learning partner is **Dec. 30, 2019**.

View the informational webinar on completing the Title I School Improvement 1003(a) grant application (https://register.gotowebinar.com/recording/3611708081492438531). A second webinar regarding school improvement deliverables (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8826741209964323073) will be conducted from **1-2:30 p.m. on Aug. 16** by the IL-EMPOWER Division.

For questions related to the grant application, please contact the Title Grants Division at (217) 785-1969. Questions regarding school improvement deliverables can be directed to the IL-EMPOWER Division at (312) 814-1088.

IN BRIFF

UPCOMING EVENTS

- The University of Missouri Thompson Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders is proud to announce the **14th annual**Thompson Center Autism Conference Sept. 26-27, 2019. This year's conference will feature keynote presentations by Lorri Unumb, JD,
 CEO of the Council of Autism Service Providers, and John Constantino, MD, Blanche F. Ittleson Professor of Psychiatry and Pediatrics at the
 Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. This conference aims to educate and provide support for professionals, including
 educators, psychologists, speech/language pathologists, medical professionals, applied behavior analysts, employment specialists, vocational
 rehabilitation counselors, service coordinators, and advocates, who work with individuals with autism spectrum disorders. All sessions of the
 conference will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, 16625 Swingley Ridge Road, Chesterfield, Mo. Find more information and register
 (https://one.bidpal.net/tcautismconf).
- The University of Illinois, CS4IL, and partnering sponsors are cohosting the inaugural Illinois Statewide K-12 Computer Science Education Summit on Sept. 20 in Urbana. The summit will engage K-12 educators, administrators, policymakers, industry professionals, nonprofits, and legislators in a day of collaboration, presentations, panel discussions, and working groups, all of which is bound by the shared goal of making computer science for all students a reality in Illinois. Visit the ILCS Ed Summit page for registration and additional details (https://www.ilcsedsummit.org/).

EDUCATOR OPPORTUNITIES

• The Illinois Rural Teacher Leader Collaborative (https://teachplus.org/rural-teacher-leader-collaborative-2019-20) is currently accepting applications from National Board Certified-teachers in Illinois. The Rural Teacher Leader Collaborative will recruit, select, train, and support

outstanding teacher leaders to lead a school-based effort to address a problem of practice that affects students across their school. The initiative is funded through the Illinois State Board of Education and is a collaboration of Teach Plus and the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards, hosted by Bunker Hill School District. The application deadline is **Feb. 12**. If you have questions about the program, please contact jbellingeri@teachplus.org (mailto:jbellingeri@teachplus.org).

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- The Ed Leaders Network is offering an on-demand, online courses titled "Leading Teaching and Learning: Facilitating Outcome-Based
 Conversations" for three PD hours. This course will strengthen a school leader's ability to facilitate conversations with staff in order to
 nurture professional growth. Participants will analyze the impact and influence such conversations have on instruction as well as investigate
 the skills necessary to lead outcome-based discussions effectively. Enroll now (https://eln.bridgeapp.com/learner/courses/f133b07a/enroll).
- The Illinois Association of School Boards and the Illinois Association of School Administrators are hosting "Seeking the Superintendency," an intensive one-day seminar designed to assist anyone seeking employment as a superintendent. Seminar dates are Sept. 5 and Sept. 19. Registration is available (https://iasb.netforument.com/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=IASB&WebKey=bc945ce1-4d3f-4201-aaf3-3bd712b858f4&FromSearchControl=Yes).

EDUCATOR RESOURCES

- The University of Illinois at Chicago's Division of Specialized Care for Children (DSCC (https://dscc.uic.edu/) is a resource for school health professionals who work with children with special needs and complex medical conditions. DSCC is a statewide program that partners with Illinois families and their local communities to connect children with special health care needs to the services and resources they need to reach their full potential. DSCC guides and supports families through their child's journey with a diagnosis and put them at the center of a seamless support system that improves the quality of their lives. Referrals (https://dscc.uic.edu/for-providers/refer-a-family/) to the program are simple. Visit the UIC Specialized Care for Children website (https://dscc.uic.edu/), call (800) 322-3722, or email dscc@uic.edu (mailto:dscc@uic.edu) to learn more about DSCC and its programs.
- The Illinois Department of Public Health recently posted a press release (https://www2.illinois.gov/Pages/news-item.aspx?
 ReleaseID=20390) regarding recent hospitalizations potentially tied to vaping. This release comes after three young people in Illinois experienced severe breathing problems after vaping. The individuals were eventually admitted to the hospital. IDPH is encouraging parents to talk with their teens about vaping and the consequences and potential dangers of it.

ISBE FEATURED CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Learn more and apply for the below career opportunities at ISBE!
 - Educator Licensure License Renewal, Professional Development, and Grants (/Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=342)
 - Title Grant Administration Grant Reviewer and Program Monitor (/Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=344)
- View all open positions at ISBE (/Pages/Careers-at-ISBE.aspx).