

WHAT'S INSIDE

- Illinois Teacher of the Year
- 5Essentials Survey
- Data Strategies and Analytics
- Evidence-Based Funding
- Family and Community Resources
- Illinois Student Assistance Commission
- School Nutrition
- Student Care
- Wellness
- Equity Journey Continuum
- Standards and Instruction
- In Brief



Dear Colleagues:

I recently had the pleasure of participating on a panel discussion with superintendents representing two Illinois school districts -- Evanston Skokie School District 65 and DeKalb CUSD 428. Both of these districts established and embraced equity goals at least five years ago. That was before ISBE launched the Equity Journey Continuum, which analyzes districts' data to illuminate successes and gaps in students' access to resources, opportunities, and supports. Yet through this panel discussion, we discovered that the equity journeys already underway at DeKalb and Evanston/Skokie match up very well with the Continuum.

Dr. Minerva Garcia-Sanchez is superintendent of the DeKalb district, which has become increasingly diverse over the past few years. The shift in student population inspired the district to formulate a diversity plan in 2017, and Dr. Garcia-Sanchez said ISBE's Equity Journey Continuum "fortifies" that effort. The Continuum confirms the district's own analysis about opportunities to expand access to Algebra I, so that every child can graduate from 8th grade having passed the course, and also confirms the district's desire to focus on student conduct and attendance, as well as staff diversity.

"[The Equity Journey Continuum] really just made a deep connection for us, and we said 'Hey, ISBE is also saying we're on the right track we need to be,'" she said. "This data has made me want to focus even more on the things that we already believed were imperative for our district."

Dr. Devon Horton is superintendent of the Evanston district, which adopted an equity plan back in 2016. He said the EJC "validated some things for us around what we are prioritizing as a district," and said having our state board support these goals will encourage his district to stay on the path. "It's like a touchdown for us," he said. "I feel very validated but also excited and happy to see that the state and other districts are all dealing with some of the same challenges that we are."

Dr. Horton is also happy to know that, through the Equity Journey Continuum, other districts will be pursuing the same goals. "Our district is excited to not be looking like this unicorn in this work," he said.

In case you're wondering who hosted the panel discussion, it was the [Illinois Education and Career Success Network](https://www.60by25.org/) (<https://www.60by25.org/>), formerly known as the Illinois 60 by 25 Network. That initiative, launched in 2009 by the P-20 Council and several state agencies, set a goal of increasing postsecondary attainment among adult Illinoisans to 60 percent by 2025. The new name expresses the purpose to carry on beyond 2025. The inclusion of Equity Journey Continuum in this organization's recent conference recognizes that

postsecondary success begins under our watch, in our schools, as early as the pre-kindergarten level. I encourage you to watch the panel discussion [here](https://youtu.be/20HiDO17g1o) (https://youtu.be/20HiDO17g1o) and to learn more about the Equity Journey Continuum by visiting www.isbe.net/equity (http://www.isbe.net/equity).

Wherever you are on your equity journey, you have my appreciation and support. Thank you for all you do!

Pictured: Students at McHenry Community High School District 156 recently decorated an Inclusion Garden to encourage inclusion throughout the year. Everyone was invited to write about inclusion on flower stickers and to wear blue to show support.

We love your images and stories. Keep sharing with us at press@isbe.net (mailto:press@isbe.net).

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) (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/ISBE-Meetings.aspx).

- Mar. 10** [Webinar: FY22 After School Programs – Non-School District Grant technical assistance](https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6827426667706008331) (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6827426667706008331)
- Mar. 10** [Data Collections Q & A](https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4159891612728216335) (https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4159891612728216335)
- Mar. 11** [Deadline to submit 5Essentials Survey of Learning Conditions](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/5Essentials-Survey.aspx) (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/5Essentials-Survey.aspx)
- Mar. 11** [Deadline to Submit Intent to Apply Form for Bilingual Educator Grant](https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=hv5kA8ZJ9Eq1LDNameV30cXCUSVZ7rpCrQ_qmbXrC0FUM1pCWVU0WEUwNEEyWVRUVFIHSjBVODBIRS4u) (https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=hv5kA8ZJ9Eq1LDNameV30cXCUSVZ7rpCrQ_qmbXrC0FUM1pCWVU0WEUwNEEyWVRUVFIHSjBVODBIRS4u)
- Mar. 14-18** [Illinois Arts Education Week](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Arts-Week.aspx) (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Arts-Week.aspx)
- Mar. 15** [Deadline for Advanced Placement coordinators to submit spring semester orders or changes to fall semester orders](https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/) (https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/)
- Mar. 16** [Deadline for LEAs to challenge 2020 poverty and population data for certain non-statistical errors](https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saipe/about/contact/challenges.html) (https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saipe/about/contact/challenges.html)
- Mar. 16** [Deadline for districts to submit application for reimbursement of costs for Illinois Virtual Catalog Courses](https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=hv5kA8ZJ9Eq1LDNameV30fS0MloyHPREm5bxN954JphUNExHSU82UkEzVzIxUFJaUDdSMzVS1E4Uy4u) (https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=hv5kA8ZJ9Eq1LDNameV30fS0MloyHPREm5bxN954JphUNExHSU82UkEzVzIxUFJaUDdSMzVS1E4Uy4u)
- Mar. 22** [Deadline to submit FY 2022-23 E-rate 471 application](https://itcillinois.org/resources/e-rateseries/) (https://itcillinois.org/resources/e-rateseries/)
- Mar. 23** [Transitional English Portability Panel will convene for its spring meeting](http://www.iltransitionalmath.org/) (http://www.iltransitionalmath.org/)
- Mar.** [2021 Report Card Overview #3 Webinar](#)

Mar. 31	Deadline to submit nominations for School Nutrition Champion Award (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/School-Nutrition-Champion-Award.aspx)
Apr. 6	Transitional Math Portability Panel will convene for its spring meeting (http://www.iltransitionalmath.org/)
Apr. 7	Deadline to submit FY 2022 Notice of Funding Opportunity / Request for Proposals for the After-School Programs – Non-School District grant to ISBE (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/After-School-Programs.aspx)
Apr. 24	Deadline to submit applications for CSTA Scholarships (https://conference.csteachers.org/event/6f29f862-5cb3-4b19-9f5a-3bd007da8ef6/summary)
Apr. 30	Deadline to submit all EBF claims, tax documents, and copies of Excel form (https://www.isbe.net/Documents/FY22-CE-and-Specific-objections.pdf)

COVID-19

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Each week, this section will contain a list of the resources and information posted to the [COVID-19 webpage](/Pages/covid19.aspx) (/Pages/covid19.aspx) over the past week. Please continue to check the COVID-19 webpage for the newest updates and information.

- **Back to School**

- [Governor Pritzker Lifts Masking Requirement in Schools, Beginning Monday, Feb. 28](/Documents/Governor-Pritzker-Lifts-Masking-Requirement-in-Schools-Beginning-Feb-28.pdf) 📄 (/Documents/Governor-Pritzker-Lifts-Masking-Requirement-in-Schools-Beginning-Feb-28.pdf)
ISBE will work with the Illinois Department of Public Health to update our guidance documents as soon as possible.
- [School Recognition Status Change Summary](/_layouts/Download.aspx?SourceUrl=https://www.isbe.net/Documents/School-Recognition-Status-Change-Summary.xlsx) 📄 (/_layouts/Download.aspx?SourceUrl=https://www.isbe.net/Documents/School-Recognition-Status-Change-Summary.xlsx)

EDUCATION WRITER'S ASSOCIATION VIRTUAL WORKSHOP

The Education Writers Association hosted a virtual workshop, [Follow the Money: Workshop for Illinois Reporters on Covering COVID-19 Relief for Schools](https://www.ewa.org/workshop-illinois-reporters-covering-covid-19-relief-schools) (<https://www.ewa.org/workshop-illinois-reporters-covering-covid-19-relief-schools>), to help journalists in Illinois navigate covering the use of federal pandemic relief funds. Illinois State Board of Education representatives Darren Reisberg, Board chairman, and Krish Mohip, deputy officer of operational education, were among the presenters who shared an overview of the activities and priorities of the state in spending relief dollars for education recovery. Workshop presentations are now available for public viewing at [ewa.org](https://www.ewa.org/workshop-illinois-reporters-covering-covid-19-relief-schools) (<https://www.ewa.org/workshop-illinois-reporters-covering-covid-19-relief-schools>).

NEW

ILLINOIS TEACHER OF THE YEAR

ISBE ANNOUNCES 2022 ILLINOIS TEACHER OF THE YEAR FINALISTS

ISBE has announced the [2022 finalists for Illinois Teacher of the Year](/Lists/News/NewsDisplay.aspx?ID=1393) (/Lists/News/NewsDisplay.aspx?ID=1393), as well as the 2022 Outstanding Early Career Educator. The annual [Teacher of the Year](/teacheroftheyear) (/teacheroftheyear) program honors incredible classroom educators who have made lasting impacts on the students, families, and fellow educators in their school communities. ISBE will showcase several finalists in the Weekly Message each week leading up to the announcement of the 2022 Illinois Teacher of the Year later this spring. Congratulations to all this year's extraordinary awardees!

Katie Jeck — 2022 Southwest Regional Teacher of the Year

Katie Jeck credits her ability to form relationships with her students as the key to their growth, not only academically, but also socially and emotionally. Katie, a special education teacher at Columbia Middle School in the Columbia Community Unit School District 4, believes this approach has allowed her students to feel safe, loved, and comfortable enough to make mistakes without feeling like they are being judged. Katie's enthusiasm for teaching was evident during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. When she sensed her students were struggling with remote learning, she began recording videos that she used to go over their instructions for daily assignments. She acted like a newscaster, including fun facts, jokes, or school announcements. Katie saw a huge increase in the number of students who completed their assignments. Students had a way to stay connected and find some form of humor or happiness throughout their day.

Katie Jeck is the 2022 Southwest Regional Teacher of the Year and a finalist for Illinois State Teacher of the Year.

Elliott Hile — 2022 North Suburbs Regional Teacher of the Year

Elliott Hile, band instructor at Lakes Community High School in Community High School District 117 in Lake Villa, understands that although his students might be divided by race, background, political views, etc., they all share a common experience with music. Elliott uses this as a lesson to challenge his students to find music that has made an impact on the world. He also has reflected on equitable access to music education for all students, realizing that barriers to music education had to be removed. One barrier to equity that Elliott noticed was the limited access some students had to private lessons. In 2016, Elliott developed the District 117 Summer Private Lesson Program. This six-week program allows students to receive private lessons from professional instrumental and vocal instructors from around the Chicagoland area. Elliott also has been instrumental in creating a series of music-related scholarships for students to offset costs of private lessons.

Elliott Hile is the 2022 North Suburbs Regional Teacher of the Year and a finalist for Illinois State Teacher of the Year.

Claire Trainer — 2022 Cook County Co-Teacher of the Year

Claire Trainer fully realizes the impact education has on her students. She feels it is a gateway for understanding a person's self-identity, self-acceptance, and personal growth. Claire, a middle school science teacher at Sauganash Elementary School in City of Chicago School District 299, started her career in the business sector, not in the classroom. During her first few years of corporate work, she spent time volunteering as a tutor at a local charter school and it changed her life. Claire was set on a new path within Chicago Public Schools, knowing she wanted to be a part of a diverse setting with multiple opportunities to have a positive social impact on students. She has worked tirelessly to encourage all her students that science is for everyone regardless of the traditional social norms that have been established.

Claire Trainer is one of three 2022 Cook County Co-Teachers of the Year and a finalist for Illinois State Teacher of the Year.

Kimberly Radostits — 2022 Northwest Regional Teacher of the Year

Kimberly Radostits clearly remembers the struggles she had when one particular freshman student declared that he hated school, and there was nothing she could do to change that. She cites the four-year struggle to prove him wrong as being one of the most impactful events in her teaching career. Kimberly, a high school Spanish teacher at Oregon High School in Oregon Community Unit School District 220, now draws from that experience to create a learning environment that routinely excites her students. Kimberly also recognized the importance of keeping her freshman students on track to graduate. She, with colleagues, developed the "Hawks Take Flight" program where they conduct interventions with freshman students who are falling behind and provide mentoring to get them back up to speed. She also has worked with administration to collect data on junior high students, developing an "early warning system" to target the ones who are struggling and provide them with assistance upon their entrance into high school.

Kimberly Radostits is the 2022 Northwest Regional Teacher of the Year and a finalist for Illinois State Teacher of the Year.

NEW

5ESSENTIALS SURVEY

Thank you to schools, families, and communities across Illinois for all their compassion, caring, and flexibility during these uncertain times. We appreciate everyone that has participated in the [5Essentials Survey](https://survey.5-essentials.org/Illinois/) (https://survey.5-essentials.org/Illinois/) and want to remind districts that the window will close **March 11**.

The survey generates valuable data that districts can use to guide ongoing efforts to improve schools and offer students an excellent education. The 5Essentials Survey is a critical improvement tool that allows districts and the state to share data to inform parents and community members about a school's learning environment. This feedback is incredibly important, especially as we invest in recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Schools that are strong on the five essentials of effective leaders, collaborative teachers, ambitious instruction, supportive environment, and involved families are 10 times more likely to improve student learning.

Please encourage your teachers, families, and students to complete the 5Essentials Survey. For more information, email 5Essentials@ISBE.net (mailto:5Essentials@ISBE.net).

NEW

DATA STRATEGIES AND ANALYTICS

2021 REPORT CARD OVERVIEW #3 WEBINAR

Please join ISBE staff for a webinar at **10 a.m. March 24** for the [2021 Report Card Overview #3](https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2840490855259983631) (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2840490855259983631). ISBE staff will review new elements on the third release of the 2021 Report Card, and answer questions about the new data available in the third release. The webinar will be recorded and posted for those unable to attend.

COLLECTION OF STUDENT SEX AND SEXUAL ORIENTATION POSTPONED UNTIL THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

Public Act 102-0543 requires ISBE to collect and report student sexual orientation and sex, in addition to gender, so we can collectively support equitable outcomes for all our students, including our LGBTQ+ students. The implementation of this requirement is being postponed until the 2023-24 school year.

ISBE will form a working group of educators, LGBTQ+ advocates, families, and students from across the state to ensure the data are collected with all students' safety and privacy in mind. ISBE will conclude this stakeholder engagement by October 2022 in order provide the field with revised guidance or to propose legislation to amend the requirement before registration begins for the 2023-24 school year.

For more information, view the [March 4 Memorandum](/Documents/Memorandum-Collection-of-Student-Sex-Sexual-Orientation.pdf) (/Documents/Memorandum-Collection-of-Student-Sex-Sexual-Orientation.pdf).

NEW DATA COLLECTIONS Q&A OPEN FORUM WEBINAR MARCH 10

The next [webinar](https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4159891612728216335) (https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4159891612728216335) in the monthly Data Collections Q&A webinar series is at **10 a.m. March 10**. ISBE will not have a PowerPoint presentation or predetermined path for the discussions/questions; we invite districts to come ready with their questions! For more information, please contact the Data Strategies and Analytics Department Help Desk at datahelp@isbe.net (mailto:datahelp@isbe.net) or (312) 814-9192.

NEW

EVIDENCE-BASED FUNDING

CERTIFICATES OF ERROR AND PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD HISTORICAL REPORTS NOW AVAILABLE

The Fiscal Year 2022 [Certificates of Error History report](/Documents/FY22-CE-and-Specific-objections.pdf) (/Documents/FY22-CE-and-Specific-objections.pdf) and [Property Tax Appeal Board Decisions History report](/Documents/FY-22-PTAB.pdf) (/Documents/FY-22-PTAB.pdf) are now available on the [Equalized Assessment Valuations Adjustments & Prior Year Corrections webpage](/Pages/eav-adjustments.aspx) (/Pages/eav-adjustments.aspx).

Please refer to the [Certificates of Error Procedures and Instructions](#) (/Documents/ce-instructions.pdf) for filing Certificates of Error.

All claims, tax documents, and copies of the Excel form are due to ISBE by **April 30**. For more information, contact State Funding and Forecasting at sff@isbe.net (mailto:sff@isbe.net) or (217) 782-0249.

NEW

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES

ENSURE YOUR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES DON'T LOSE MEDICAID COVERAGE

The Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) needs every Illinoisan who receives health insurance through Medicaid to update their mailing address, so they do not lose coverage when the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency ends. Help us ensure that your students and families don't lose Medicaid coverage by sharing this call to action.

People who use Medicaid can update their addresses two ways: calling the HFS hotline (877-805-5312) or through an [HFS web form](#) (<https://www2.illinois.gov/hfs/MedicalClients/Pages/addresschange.aspx>).

Use the [HFS communications toolkit](#) (<https://www2.illinois.gov/hfs/Pages/AddressUpdateMessagingToolkit.aspx>) to share this information with your students and families. The toolkit contains a sample call script, website and email language, social media posts, and flyers.

NEW

ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

ISAC COLLEGE Q&A

Help your students Rock the FAFSA! Connect with the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) to host a [financial aid application workshop](#) (<https://www.isac.org/e-library/documents/outreach/ISACOutreachRequestForm.pdf>) at your school and use our [Rock the FAFSA toolkit](#) (<https://www.isac.org/counselors/Rock-the-FAFSA/>) to spread the word to students and families. Students and families can get college planning and financial aid questions answered by ISAC experts via text and get targeted text reminders about college planning events and financial aid deadlines using the [free ISAC College Q&A text messaging service](#) (<http://www.isac.org/collegeqa>).

PUBLIC LOAN FORGIVENESS WEBINARS

Did you know that public service employees may be eligible for Federal Student Loan forgiveness? The Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program allows federal student loan borrowers to apply for forgiveness if they are employed full time by a government, 501(c)(3) organization, or public-serving nonprofit, and meet other requirements.

If you want to learn more about PSLF or if you have applied for PSLF and been denied, this is the session for you. In this session, we will discuss the existing PSLF program as well as a new limited waiver for PSLF that will allow borrowers to receive credit for payments that previously did not qualify for PSLF. The limited waiver period ends Oct. 3.

Webinar Dates:

- 5-6 p.m. March 9
- 12-1 p.m. March 24

For more information, email isac.pslf@illinois.gov (mailto:isac.pslf@illinois.gov).

ISAC ANNOUNCES COLLEGE CHANGES EVERYTHING VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

Mark your calendars for the [2022 College Changes Everything® \(CCE\) virtual conference](#) (<https://www.collegechangeseverything.org/events/2022-cce-conference-information.html>) the **week of July 11**. Help make this conference a

NEW

SCHOOL NUTRITION

SUPPLY CHAIN ASSISTANCE FUNDING PROGRAM GUIDANCE AVAILABLE

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) has allocated \$1 billion in relief funding to state agencies to assist school districts experiencing supply chain disruptions. This money has been made available through the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) and authorized under the CCC Charter Act [15 U.S.C. 714]. More than \$36 million of this national total is allocated to Illinois. These resources are referred to as Supply Chain Assistance (SCA) funds.

State agencies will distribute SCA funds to eligible School Food Authorities (SFAs) to be used exclusively to purchase unprocessed or minimally processed domestic food products (also referred to as commodities) to help SFAs deal with challenges, such as unanticipated cancellation of food and supply contracts, reduced availability of certain foods, unexpected substitution of certain products, unpredictable increases in food and supply prices, and other obstacles related to pricing and/or availability. As these challenges are both extensive and widespread, the SCA funds are targeted to provide a rapid and direct response via supplied commodities to affected school districts. The Illinois State Board of Education has identified eligible School Food Authorities. Please carefully review the USDA guidance on ISBE's [Supply Chain Disruptions in the Child Nutrition Programs webpage](#) (/Pages/supply-chain-disruptions.aspx) and the [Action Steps](#) (/Documents/030122-SCA-funding.pdf).

[Guidance for SFAs that Contract for Meals](#) (/Documents/SCA-meal-contracts.pdf): Specific guidance has been developed for SFAs that contract with a food service management company, vended meals company, or another school for meals regarding options for allowable spending of SCA funds and required documentation. Please review this guidance prior to completing the Action Steps below and discuss with your contractor if the requirements can be met. Once the SFA has decided, the SFA must complete the [Action Steps](#) (/Documents/030122-SCA-funding.pdf) to notify ISBE if the SFA will or will not elect to request SCA funds.

NEW

STUDENT CARE

PHYSICAL RESTRAINT, TIME OUT, AND ISOLATED TIME OUT REDUCTION PLANS DUE BY JULY 1

In accordance with the requirements set forth in [105 ILCS 5/2-3.130](#) (<https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/documents/010500050K2-3.130.htm>) and [Public Act 102-0339](#) (<https://ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/102/PDF/102-0339.pdf>), each school district board must [create an oversight team](#) (/Documents/RTO-Reduction-Plan.pdf) that consists of, but is not limited to, teachers, paraprofessionals, school service personnel, and administrators to develop district-specific plans that include procedures to reduce and eventually eliminate the use of physical restraint, time out, and isolated time out. Plans should be emailed to rtoreductionplan@isbe.net (mailto:rtoreductionplan@isbe.net).

GUIDANCE TO COMBAT SCHOOL-TO-PRISON PIPELINE

Attorney General Kwame Raoul and State Superintendent of Education Dr. Carmen I. Ayala have announced the state's first [guidance for school districts](#) (<https://illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/rights/2021%20OAG-ISBE%20School%20Discipline%20Guidance.pdf>) to ensure that disciplinary policies do not violate civil rights laws. The guidance is aimed in part at addressing the connection between exclusionary school discipline practices and increased rates of incarceration, often referred to as the school-to-prison pipeline.

NEW

WELLNESS

SCHOOL HEALTH PROFILES COMING SOON

The Illinois State Board of Education is conducting the School Health Profiles survey during the 2021-22 school year. School principals and lead health teachers in various schools across the state were randomly chosen by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to participate. Invitations and survey materials are coming soon. Profiles does not involve a student survey.

Profiles data supports the strong evidence of a direct relationship between students' health and their academic achievement. Obtaining this information will allow us to work to improve students' health by planning and allocating program resources adequately.

EQUITY JOURNEY CONTINUUM

EQUITY JOURNEY CONTINUUM DATA PREVIEW NOW AVAILABLE

The [Equity Journey Continuum](#) (/equity) is an informational tool to help districts view their data through the lens of equity. This data will help districts identify gaps and opportunities in students' access to resources and supports. Districts' data is **now available** to superintendents in the Data Review and Verification Tool, accessible via myIRC. A high-level version of the Equity Journey Continuum will appear as a new graphic element on the 2022 Illinois Report Card.

ISBE held a Q&A webinar on Feb. 28. You may access the [recording here](#) 🗣️

(<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/5735672096922279169>) and the [slides here](#) 📄 (/Documents/Equity-Journey-Continuum-Webinar-20220228.pdf).

Creating a more equitable school culture will benefit all students, all schools, and all communities. For more information, email equity@isbe.net (mailto:equity@isbe.net) or visit www.isbe.net/equity (http://www.isbe.net/equity).

STANDARDS AND INSTRUCTION

HIGH SCHOOL COMPUTER SCIENCE ASSIGNABILITY GUIDANCE

ISBE has released [Computer Science Courses and Assignability Recommendations](#) 📄 (/Documents/Computer-Science-and-Assignability-Recommendations.pdf). In accordance with [Public Act 101-0654](https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/fulltext.asp?DocName=010500050K2-3.185) (https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/fulltext.asp?DocName=010500050K2-3.185), every high school student must have the opportunity to take at least one computer science course that is aligned to the rigorous Illinois [Learning Standards](#) 📄 (/Documents/Illinois-Computer-Science-Standards.pdf) for Computer Science. For more information, email ILTeachTalkLearn@isbe.net (mailto:ILTeachTalkLearn@isbe.net).

CSTA 2022 CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIPS

Join us for the [2022 Computer Science Teachers Association \(CSTA\) Annual Conference](#) 📄 (/NSDocuments/CSTA-Overview.pdf) **July 14-17** in Chicago. Thanks to the generosity of their sponsors, CSTA will provide scholarships to support educators who would not be able to attend the conference due to financial limitations.

For more information or to apply, visit the [CSTA Scholarships website](https://conference.csteachers.org/event/6f29f862-5cb3-4b19-9f5a-3bd007da8ef6/websitePage:3808289c-c22d-44d6-bbc0-f984a6604b26) (https://conference.csteachers.org/event/6f29f862-5cb3-4b19-9f5a-3bd007da8ef6/websitePage:3808289c-c22d-44d6-bbc0-f984a6604b26). The deadline for applications is **April 24**. For more information about the conference, rates, and deadlines, visit the [conference website](https://conference.csteachers.org/event/6f29f862-5cb3-4b19-9f5a-3bd007da8ef6/summary) (https://conference.csteachers.org/event/6f29f862-5cb3-4b19-9f5a-3bd007da8ef6/summary).

COLLEGE BOARD ADVANCED PLACEMENT UPDATES

The deadline to submit new orders for second-semester classes and any changes to fall orders in Advanced Placement (AP) Registration and Ordering is **March 15**. All second-semester AP classes should now be created in AP Registration and Ordering, and students should have

The following professional development opportunities are also now available:

- **Build Readiness with Pre-AP Webinar:** Pre-AP supports AP success during our live webinar, [Pre-AP: Accelerating Learning and Promoting Equity](https://eventreg.collegeboard.org/events/pre-ap-discovery-series-spring-2021-22/agenda-45444bcd720348aea1e224f9f1b993d2.aspx?5S%2cM3%2c45444bcd-7203-48ae-a1e2-24f9f1b993d2=&SFMC_cid=EM678772-&rid=96933410) (https://eventreg.collegeboard.org/events/pre-ap-discovery-series-spring-2021-22/agenda-45444bcd720348aea1e224f9f1b993d2.aspx?5S%2cM3%2c45444bcd-7203-48ae-a1e2-24f9f1b993d2=&SFMC_cid=EM678772-&rid=96933410), **4 p.m. March 9**.
- **AP Capstone Summer Professional Learning:** Registration for summer 2022 AP Seminar and AP Research new teacher training is now open.
- **AP Connections to Project-Based Learning:** Project-Based Learning (PBL) can help build independent learners with the inquiry skills to take on real-world challenges. [New research](https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/pdf/project-based-learning-boosts-student-achievement-ap-courses.pdf?SFMC_cid=EM671845-&rid=394049145) (https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/pdf/project-based-learning-boosts-student-achievement-ap-courses.pdf?SFMC_cid=EM671845-&rid=394049145) shows a PBL approach can significantly improve student performance on the AP Exams in a study that includes AP Environmental Science and AP United States Government and Politics.

IN BRIEF

STUDENT RECOGNITION

Illinois Arts Education Week is March 14-18

Thank you for all the entries in the [Art Contest for the 40th annual Arts Education Week](/Pages/Arts-Week.aspx) (/Pages/Arts-Week.aspx). The Art Contest is sponsored by the Illinois State Board of Education and the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in cooperation with the Governor's Office.

We are pleased to announce and congratulate the following winners of the 2022 Art contest:

- High School Division – **Vidipta Roy**, Adlai E. Stevenson High School, District 125
- Middle School Division – **Elizabeth Ramirez**, Old Orchard Junior High, District 68
- Elementary Division – **Daleia Muhammad-Walker**, Flossmoor Hill District 161
- Early Learning – **Diana Lepak**, Westchester Primary School

Congratulations!

2022 Prudential Emerging Visionary

Tavish Sharma of Libertyville has been named a [2022 Prudential Emerging Visionary](https://www.prudential.com/links/about/emergingvisionaries) (<https://www.prudential.com/links/about/emergingvisionaries>). Tavish was selected for his inspiring commitment to improving the lives of others. For more information, please visit the Prudential Emerging Visionary or email emergingvisionaries@prudential.com (<mailto:emergingvisionaries@prudential.com>).

Congratulations, Tavish!

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Well Summit

The [fourth annual WELL Summit](https://ilprincipals.org/grow/well-summit/) (<https://ilprincipals.org/grow/well-summit/>) (Women in Education: Leading and Learning) is thrilled to be back in person in 2022 at the Bloomington-Normal Marriott Hotel & Conference Center on **March 16-17**. A limited number of seats and hotel rooms are still available, so [register](https://eweb.ilprincipals.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?WebCode=LoginRequired&expires=yes&Site=IPA) (<https://eweb.ilprincipals.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?WebCode=LoginRequired&expires=yes&Site=IPA>) today!

Application Window for Providers of District School Board Mandated Training Opens March 1

Providers that offer professional development activities may apply to the Illinois State Board of Education for approval to provide training for school board members in each of the topics specified in School Code [105 ILCS 5/10-16a]. Training organizations, institutions, Regional Offices of Education, firms, teachers' unions, and colleges and universities are eligible to apply. The application and resources can be found at [School Board Member Training Provider Application \(/Pages/School-Board-Member-Training-Provider-Application.aspx\)](#).

Geometry in Construction and AMPED

North Suburban Education Region for Vocational Education will be hosting Geometry in Construction and AMPED training at the New Trier High School Northfield Campus **June 20-23**. Please visit the [Contextual Learning Concepts](https://contextuallc.com) website (<https://contextuallc.com>) to register.

Ed Leaders Network

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

- **3:30-4:30 p.m. March 15: Grooming 101 - A Predator's Playbook** (https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_u5lFnIHytUKwEH7ZZZ7Bymw) — This presentation was designed to help you recognize the red flags that a child is being groomed in an institutional setting. When putting this presentation together, I had the unique advantage of being able to look through a dual lens. As a survivor of Educator Sexual Abuse, I know the truth that so desperately needs to be conveyed and as a former one-on-one aide and the wife of a school superintendent, I had the privilege of seeing so many educators and coaches who have only the best interest of their students at heart. I believe this presentation can help open eyes and minds to what grooming is and how predators often use honorable titles to become the strangers right beside us who exploit the children in our care.

FEATURED ISBE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- [Research Lead \(/Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=650\)](/Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=650)
- [Grants and Receivables Processing Specialist \(/Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=652\)](/Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=652)

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