



# Weekly Message

**Sept. 28, 2016**

## Message From State Superintendent Tony Smith, Ph.D.

Hello,

Congratulations to the 16 Illinois schools that were named 2016 National Blue Ribbon Schools by the U.S. Department of Education. The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes public and private elementary, middle, and high schools for their overall academic excellence or their improvements in closing gaps among student demographic groups. These schools demonstrate how high standards, collaboration, and innovation foster supportive learning environments that meet individual students' needs.

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Here are our 2016 award winners:

- Alan B. Shepard Middle School in Deerfield, Deerfield SD 109
- Countryside Elementary School in Barrington, Barrington CUSD 220
- Damiansville Elementary School in Damiansville, Damiansville SD 62
- Daniel Wright Junior High School in Lincolnshire, Lincolnshire-Prairie View SD 103
- Earl Pritchett School in Buffalo Grove, Aptakisic-Tripp CCSD 102
- Eisenhower Academy in Joliet, Joliet PSD 86
- Grove Avenue Elementary School in Barrington, Barrington CUSD 220
- Half Day School in Lincolnshire, Lincolnshire-Prairie View SD 103
- Kennedy Junior High School in Lisle, Naperville CUSD 203
- Monroe Elementary School in Hinsdale, Hinsdale CCSD 181
- Oak Grove Elementary School in Libertyville, Oak Grove SD 68
- Skinner North Elementary School in Chicago, City of Chicago SD 299
- Tri-Valley Elementary School in Downs, Tri-Valley CUSD 3
- Tripp Elementary School in Buffalo Grove, Aptakisic-Tripp CCSD 102
- Walden Elementary School in Deerfield, Deerfield SD 109
- Woodlawn Middle School in Long Grove, Kildeer Countryside CCSD 96

These schools are among the 279 public and 50 private schools honored this year. Students, educators, families, and communities all play a role in making a school great. I look forward to learning more about

these schools' best practices. Click [here](#) for more information about the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program.

As the 2016 National Blue Ribbon Schools illustrate, it takes hard work and commitment to build supportive learning environments. Students need to feel safe and valued in their school communities in order to be effective learners. Many students across the state have demonstrated remarkable leadership by challenging bullying in their schools. In celebration of National Bullying Prevention Awareness Month this October, I am excited to recognize Trisha Prabhu. She is a student at Neuqua Valley High School in Naperville who successfully pitched her app, [ReThink](#), on the TV show "Shark Tank." Trisha is using ReThink to prevent cyberbullying by prompting teens to reconsider potentially harmful messages before sending them. For more bullying and cyberbullying prevention resources, visit [www.stopbullying.gov](http://www.stopbullying.gov).

Please continue to share the achievements of students and educators in your districts by tagging us in your posts on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) or emailing us at [social\\_media@isbe.net](mailto:social_media@isbe.net).

Have a great week!

Tony

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### **Upcoming ISBE Dates and Deadlines**

Please note this is not a complete list of events, meetings, and deadlines. For questions, call the Illinois State Board of Education at (866) 262-6663 or (217) 782-4321 or visit the agency's official website at <http://www.isbe.net>.

- **Deadline to submit U.S. Senate Youth Program Application** – Oct. 5 ([www.isbe.net/spec-ed/pdfs/42-60-hearst.pdf](http://www.isbe.net/spec-ed/pdfs/42-60-hearst.pdf))
- **Deadline to submit nominations for Thomas Lay Burroughs Award** – Oct. 7 ([www.isbe.net/board/pdf/burroughs\\_award.pdf](http://www.isbe.net/board/pdf/burroughs_award.pdf))
- **Deadline to submit comments regarding ESSA State Plan Draft #1** – Oct. 7 ([www.isbe.net/essa](http://www.isbe.net/essa))
- **ISBE offices closed for Columbus Day** – Oct. 10
- **State Board of Education Meeting** – Oct. 20 (<http://www.isbe.net/board/pdf/2016-board-meetings.pdf>)
- **Part 1 (Public Schools Evaluation, Recognition and Supervision) and Part 650 (Charter Schools) – Public comment ends** – Oct. 24
- **Deadline to submit FY 2017 School District Budget/Joint Agreement Forms to ISBE** – Oct. 31 ([www.isbe.net/sfms/budget/default.htm](http://www.isbe.net/sfms/budget/default.htm))
- **ISBE offices closed for Election Day** – Nov. 8
- **ISBE offices closed for Veterans Day** – Nov. 11
- **State Board of Education Meeting** – Nov. 18 (<http://www.isbe.net/board/pdf/2016-board-meetings.pdf>)
- **ISBE offices closed for Thanksgiving** – Nov. 24-25
- **FY17 NCLB/ESSA Monitoring Instrument** – Nov. 30 (available Sept. 30)
- **FY17 NCLB/ESSA Title I Comparability Analysis** – Nov. 30 (available Sept. 30)
- **State Board of Education Meeting** – Dec. 15 (<http://www.isbe.net/board/pdf/2016-board-meetings.pdf>)
- **ISBE offices closed for Christmas Day** – Dec. 26
- **ISBE offices closed for New Year's Day** – Jan. 2, 2017
- **Postmark deadline for waiver applications to be considered by the General Assembly in spring 2017** – Jan. 13, 2017 (See [www.isbe.net/isbewaivers/default.htm](http://www.isbe.net/isbewaivers/default.htm) for public notice requirements for all waiver requests.)

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## Those Who Excel

### Meet Illinois Teacher of the Year Finalist Matt Herndon of Wood River-Hartford SD 15

Matt Herndon has teaching in his genes, literally! His father, grandfather, grandmother, and great-grandfather were all teachers, and Matt married a teacher as well. He credits his dad and his elementary school physical education teacher with his decision to become a physical education teacher. Matt says both men possess qualities he admired growing up and were excellent role models who made clear the necessity of physical education. He strives to be that same positive role model for his students and he stops at nothing to help his students succeed.



Matt developed the physical education curriculum for Lewis and Clark Junior High School in Wood River-Hartford School District 15, where he has taught for his entire 18-year career. Once that was in place, he collaborated with his colleagues and created the district's physical education curriculum. One of Matt's students shared this thought: "He genuinely cares, and is concerned for all students. If I ever need advice, I know I can count on Mr. Herndon to help. He makes P.E. fun because he switches up the games every 2 weeks and he is very creative, even researching games students play in other countries and teaching them to us."

Whenever he sees a need, Matt finds a way to fill it. He raises funds to ensure his students have the equipment they need to understand the important roles healthy living and physical activity play in a person's life. He built the fitness room from the ground up and students, parents, and teachers all utilize the facility. A fellow teacher describes Matt's commitment to his students, district, and the community: "Matt takes the initiative to identify problems and devise solutions. He is an important, effective, and integral part of our program. He is a motivated, dedicated, responsible teacher with a high degree of integrity."

Matt is one of our 10 finalists for Illinois Teacher of the Year, which we will name at the Those Who Excel banquet in Normal on Oct. 22.

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## School Business Services

### Reorganization Feasibility Studies

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) is now accepting agreements for the fiscal year 2017 School District Reorganization Feasibility Studies. Feasibility studies are a tool to be used by school districts wanting to investigate the advantages and/or disadvantages of reorganization options. The school board of each district involved in a feasibility study must approve, by board resolution, the initiation of the study. The districts involved will submit a proposed agreement with an independent contractor(s) to their Regional Office of Education (ROE) or Intermediate Service Center (ISC) in Cook County. The ROE or ISC, as applicable, will submit the agreement to ISBE for approval.

ISBE shall set the final state allotment for each study after review of the submitted study agreement. Funding shall be contingent on factors such as the number of districts involved in the study, the combined student enrollment of districts involved in the study, multiple studies with the same district or districts, new study versus update of a prior state-funded study, etc. Any study cost above the state funding will be the responsibility of the participating districts. In order to receive reorganization feasibility study funds in FY 2017, agreements must be approved by the ROE or ISC and ISBE, and studies must be completed, approved for payment by the ROE or ISC, and submitted to ISBE no later than June 30, 2017.

Procedures and sample forms are available at [www.isbe.net/sfms/html/feasibility.htm](http://www.isbe.net/sfms/html/feasibility.htm).

Please contact Michelle Heninger, School Business Services Division, at (217) 785-8779 or [mheninge@isbe.net](mailto:mheninge@isbe.net) with any follow-up questions.

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## State Funding and Forecasting

### FY 2017 General State Aid Claim is Final

The FY 2017 General State Aid (GSA) claim has been completed and is now final. Districts may view their calculation of entitlement and payment schedule in [GSA Inquiry](#). In FY 2017, districts receive the greater of (A) their FY 2016 payment plus a share of the new \$250 million equity grant pool or (B) their FY 2017 GSA claim. For those districts where option A is the greater amount, the difference between FY 2017 claim and the larger FY 2016 payment plus equity grant appears in the

calculation of entitlement as the Stop/Loss Adjustment. This portion of the claim was first applied in the payment made Aug. 20 and will continue throughout the year. All portions of GSA payments will appear in FRIS as revenue code 3001.

If you have questions about your GSA claim, you are welcome to contact staff in the State Funding and Forecasting Division. Please call (217) 782-0249 or email Ethelene Ferdinand at [eferdina@isbe.net](mailto:eferdina@isbe.net).

## **Grant Accountability & Transparency Act**

### **FY 2017 Indirect Cost Rates- REVISED**

In accordance with a Delegation Agreement between the U.S. Department of Education and ISBE, and pursuant to its authority under the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) and administrative rules, the Governor's Office of Management and Budget has granted ISBE an exception to the federal Uniform Guidance and GATA regarding the determination of indirect cost rates that may be utilized by all grantees that receive a state award or federal pass-through award for grant programs administered by ISBE.

Local Education Agencies (LEAs) may utilize either the restricted indirect cost rate the LEA negotiates annually with ISBE (school districts) or the statewide average indirect cost rate calculated by ISBE (Regional Offices of Education, Intermediate Service Centers, special education cooperatives, area vocational centers, charter schools, and university laboratory schools approved by ISBE). These LEAs will also utilize the ISBE-established restricted indirect cost rates for state and federally funded grant programs administered by other state agencies. Therefore, LEAs do not need to take any further action in order to establish or utilize an indirect cost rate for any state or federally funded grant program administered by any state agency.

Not-for-profit agencies, community/faith-based organizations, and for-profit entities may utilize the statewide average indirect cost rate calculated by ISBE for all state and federal grant programs administered by ISBE. Colleges and universities will be restricted to a maximum indirect cost rate of 8 percent or other indirect cost rate calculated by their cognizant federal agency, whichever is less, for state and federal grants administered by ISBE. However, these entities must negotiate a separate indirect cost rate or select another indirect cost rate option through the State of Illinois Centralized Indirect Cost Rate System (linked below) in order to claim an indirect cost reimbursement for state

and federally funded grant programs administered by other state agencies.

The restricted indirect cost rates calculated by ISBE for LEAs and non-LEA entities are found at [www.isbe.net/GATA/pdf/gata-indirect-rates-fy17.pdf](http://www.isbe.net/GATA/pdf/gata-indirect-rates-fy17.pdf). If you are a non-LEA that needs information about applying for an alternate indirect cost rate through the State of Illinois Centralized Indirect Cost Rate System to utilize with other state agencies, go to [www.illinois.gov/sites/GATA/Grantee/CentralizedIndirectCostSystem/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.illinois.gov/sites/GATA/Grantee/CentralizedIndirectCostSystem/Pages/default.aspx).

### **Notice of State Award and Grant Agreement Pages in eGMS - NEW**

All FY 2017 state and federal grants in the electronic Grants Management System will incorporate the new Notice of State Award (NOSA) and Grant Agreement pages. Specific conditions are reflected in the NOSA as a result of the Fiscal Internal Control Questionnaire (ICQ) and Program Risk Assessment grantee responses. Per the requirements of GATA, please be advised that a required component prior to FY 2017 grant execution is grantee acceptance of the specific award conditions as well as the terms, conditions, assurances, and grant exhibits in the Grant Agreement.

**IMPORTANT:** ISBE is currently reviewing the specific conditions assigned to grantees as a result of the responses from the ICQ and Program Risk Assessments. ISBE is meeting with other state agencies to discuss the appropriate course of action to implement specific conditions in the NOSA, including evaluation of grantee risk and the necessity of imposing additional specific award conditions. Your organization will be kept advised of the decisions, adoption of administrative rules, and ISBE's implementation plan in this regard. Depending on the specific condition, you will be notified how you can provide evidence of your organization's corrective actions to ISBE or your state cognizant agency according to the timeframe indicated in the NOSA. If you have questions regarding the specific conditions and ISBE's implementation plan, please contact your grant consultant. All other inquiries can be directed to [GATA@isbe.net](mailto:GATA@isbe.net).

Grantees completing their GATA registration should have received an automated notification to complete the ICQ. Separately, each grantee was also required to login via the ISBE IWAS portal and complete the



Programmatic Risk Assessment. The completion status of these important steps can be accessed at [www.isbe.net/GATA/pdf/gata-grantee-status-report.pdf](http://www.isbe.net/GATA/pdf/gata-grantee-status-report.pdf). If specific conditions are not present in the NOSA section, this indicates that either the ICQ and/or Program Risk Assessment has not been submitted and/or approved. Guidance for resolving grantee registration issues can be found under the Prequalification and Registration Status header on the ISBE GATA website at [www.isbe.net/GATA/default.htm](http://www.isbe.net/GATA/default.htm).

### Grantee Status Report

A new grantee status report has been created and can be accessed at [www.isbe.net/GATA/default.htm](http://www.isbe.net/GATA/default.htm) by clicking on the “GATA Grantee Status Report” under the “Prequalification and Registration Status” tab. Please reference this link to assess your organization’s completion of the GATA requirements needed for FY 2017 grant execution. ISBE will update this frequently, so please refer back to this report for the latest information.

As reminder, each grantee must complete the following:

1. Registration – Complete on the GATA website at [www.illinois.gov/sites/GATA/Grantee/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.illinois.gov/sites/GATA/Grantee/Pages/default.aspx).
2. Fiscal Internal Control Questionnaire (ICQ) - After completion of the registration process, an automated email will provide a link to access the grantee’s State of Illinois ICQ form, which must be completed and submitted.
3. Program Risk Assessment – Access via the IWAS login portal and choose the GATA Risk Assessment System. A DISTRICT ADMIN-level user must submit the GATA Risk Assessment. The GATA Risk Assessment application link will not be available to all users. Users with district-level accounts should request access to the system internally from their administrator. Technical assistance regarding system access steps can be directed to the ISBE Help Desk at (217) 558-3600.

Grantee registration and submission of the ICQ and Program Risk Assessment are required to be completed one time by each grantee and are good for one year.

Please refer to the following data elements in the GATA Grantee Status report:

1. RCDT – Region-County-District-Type Code for each ISBE grantee.
2. Local Education Agency Name – Generic label to describe each ISBE grantee.
3. DUNS Number Used for Grantee Registration – This is the nine-digit Data Universal Numbering System number entered by the grantee at GATA registration.
4. Grantee Registration – Overall status of registration. If status is not indicated as “Complete,” refer to the adjoining columns to remedy registration issues.
5. Illinois Secretary of State Standing – If status indicates “Not Applicable,” no further action is necessary. For status indicating “Unknown,” ISBE will notify you of appropriate action (if applicable).
6. SAM.gov Account Status – If status is “Expired” or blank, please refer to the guidance for activating or creating a SAM.gov account provided at <http://www.isbe.net/GATA/default.htm> under the Prequalification and Registration Status heading.
7. Fiscal Internal Control Questionnaire – If blank, please complete Grantee Registration. If status indicates “Unsubmitted,” please complete and submit the ICQ.
8. Program Risk Assessment – If status indicates “Not Started” or “Started,” please complete and submit via IWAS to ISBE.

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### Every Student Succeeds Act

#### Feedback Requested Regarding Supplement not Supplant Regulations

On Sept. 6, the U.S. Department of Education posted notice of proposed rulemaking regarding [supplement not supplant regulations](#). The intention of these rules is admirable, but the methodology will not help -- and may, in fact, hurt -- the students the proposed regulations are intended to benefit. Quality, types, and amount of resources are not considered compared to dollars spent. There is a lack of flexibility or

consideration for state and local control that is in contrast to the intention of the Every Student Succeeds Act. ISBE is beginning an in-depth analysis into the implications of these rules and needs your help.

#### PROVIDE YOUR FEEDBACK:

We want to ensure we include district information in our analysis of these regulations. Thus, we would greatly appreciate it if you can **respond to the following questions by Oct. 7 via [essa@isbe.net](mailto:essa@isbe.net)**.

- *What are the implications for your schools and districts if these rules are finalized?*
- *What do you estimate your additional burden would be to transition to site-based accounting?*
- *How would using the various formulas impact your spending and staffing for schools?*
- *What unintended consequences do you foresee if you have to comply with these new rules?*

For more information, please see the memo, overview, and Powerpoint available at <http://www.isbe.net/essa/>.

ISBE will host a webinar to review these proposed rules and address questions and concerns from **10 a.m.-noon on Oct. 4**. Registration information is available at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4503806712888455681>.

Should you have additional comments or questions, please contact Melina Wright, division administrator for Title Grants, at (312) 814-1295 or via email at [mewright@isbe.net](mailto:mewright@isbe.net).

### Round Two of Statewide Listening Tour – October date added

ISBE, with assistance from Regional Offices of Education, is hosting a second round of listening tour meetings to collect feedback on ESSA. Meetings are currently being held across the state to provide overview information on ESSA and allow participants to share their ideas on the draft state plan. The final meeting of the tour is Oct. 5 in Sycamore.

For additional information and to download a detailed schedule, please visit <http://isbe.net/essa/>.

### ESSA State Plan #1 Reader's Guide Available; Comment Submission Deadline Extended

The draft of the Illinois' ESSA State Plan #1 was presented to the Board at its meeting on Aug. 25. The draft is available at [www.isbe.net/essa](http://www.isbe.net/essa). A [Reader's Guide](#) has also been made available to help better understand and form questions regarding the ESSA State Plan draft.

The draft provides information on accountability, assessments, and statewide system of support, among other topics, for all schools in Illinois. There is a series of questions on topics throughout the plan where ISBE requests additional insight from the field. ISBE encourages individuals to read the plan and share their ideas, critiques, and potential solutions.

When submitting comments, please include the name of individual and/or organization, section number, and page number. **All comments should be submitted to [essa@isbe.net](mailto:essa@isbe.net) no later than Oct. 7.**

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### Special Education Services

#### Illinois LRE Data Cohort 7

The ISBE Special Education Services Division is accepting applications from districts that are interested in participating in the Seventh LRE Data Cohort, an opportunity for engagement in long-range planning and a facilitated district-level, data-driven improvement process regarding supports and services for students with individualized education programs (IEPs) in the general education environment for 80 percent or more of the school day.

The nature and purpose of the LRE Data Cohort is to provide districts with a process to analyze and synthesize their quantitative and qualitative data to fulfill the core belief of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), in which students with disabilities who have IEPs are educated to the fullest extent in the general education environment with their nondisabled grade level peers. District senior leaders will assemble a diverse leadership team to participate in three working seminars over a period of 12 months; the first session will take place in December. Details can be found at [www.isbe.net/spec-ed/html/lre-data-cohort.htm](http://www.isbe.net/spec-ed/html/lre-data-cohort.htm).

District senior leaders who are interested in the Illinois LRE Data Cohort 7 will be supported by ISBE staff through conference calls, webinars, seminars, and on-site technical assistance. To apply and be considered for the LRE Data Cohort 7 process, please contact Andrea Shryock at (217) 782-5589 or via email at [ashryock@isbe.net](mailto:ashryock@isbe.net) by Oct. 3.

### **Applications Sought for U.S. Senate Youth Program and Hearst Scholarship**

ISBE is seeking applicants for the 2016-17 U.S. Senate Youth Program and Hearst Scholarship. Information about the program is now available at [www.isbe.net/spec-ed/html/hearst.htm](http://www.isbe.net/spec-ed/html/hearst.htm).

The program's first phase brings two students from each state to Washington, D.C., from March 4-11, 2017, to participate in the U.S. Senate Youth Program. Delegates will be immersed in Washington activities throughout their weeklong stay. The William Randolph Hearst Foundation will pay all expenses for the week, including transportation, hotel, and meals. The second phase awards both recipients a \$10,000 college scholarship. The Hearst Foundation requires that to obtain scholarship funds, a student must participate in the Washington Week program and use the funds within four years of enrollment at an accredited U.S. college or university. The student is also encouraged to take courses in history, political science, or related subjects as part of his or her undergraduate program.

In addition to the superintendent's mailing, applications are also available at [www.isbe.net/spec-ed/pdfs/42-60-hearst.pdf](http://www.isbe.net/spec-ed/pdfs/42-60-hearst.pdf). ISBE must receive a hard copy containing original signatures no later than 4 p.m. on Oct. 5.

More information about this program is available at <http://ussenateayouth.org/> or by contacting Sally Veach, ISBE principal education consultant, at [sveach@isbe.net](mailto:sveach@isbe.net) or (217) 782-5589.

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## **College and Career Readiness**

### **Dual Credit Survey**

In partnership with the Illinois State Board of Education and the Illinois Board of Higher Education, the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) is conducting a survey on dual credit throughout the

state. With your input, ICCB can assess the effectiveness of creating postsecondary master's programs and certificates to assist high school teachers with obtaining the proper credentials to teach dual credit courses. Survey responses allow ICCB to continue to improve dual credit offerings in high schools and support students who seek to participate in dual credit coursework. The survey should only take approximately fifteen minutes and your responses are completely confidential.

Any questions regarding the survey can be directed to Dr. Ashley Becker at [Ashley.becker@illinois.gov](mailto:Ashley.becker@illinois.gov).

Thank you in advance for your assistance in this important endeavor. Your input is greatly appreciated!

Please complete the following survey no later than Oct. 14:  
[www.surveymonkey.com/r/statewidedualcreditqual16](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/statewidedualcreditqual16).

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## **Nutrition and Wellness Programs**

### **National School Lunch Week Scheduled for Oct. 10-14**



This year's theme for National School Lunch Week (NSLW), which is set for Oct. 10-14, is "Show Your Spirit." Visit the [School Nutrition Association's website](http://SchoolNutritionAssociation.org) to get started today. The special week is a great reminder for parents, students, and school officials that a healthy school lunch helps students power through the day.

You can download the NSLW 2016 Toolkit at <https://schoolnutrition.org/Meetings/Events/NSLW/2016/GetStarted/>. It includes tips and ideas to help plan a successful campaign. Also available on the NSLW webpage is a Certificate of Recognition that you can use to thank your school nutrition programs staff. Be sure not to miss the [National School Lunch Week activity sheets](#).

SNA is also teaming up with KIWI magazine for National Take Your Parents to Lunch Day on Oct. 12. Schools are encouraged to host a special day during NSLW and invite parents to attend lunch with their children. Read more at [www.kiwimagonline.com/lunchday](http://www.kiwimagonline.com/lunchday).

## **FY 2017 NSLP Equipment Assistance Grant RFP Released**

The Illinois State Board of Education has released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the FY 2017 National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Equipment Assistance Grants. These grants will provide \$1,127,625 in total to approved School Food Authorities (SFA) on a reimbursement basis to assist in purchasing equipment to serve healthier meals that meet the updated meal pattern requirement, improve food safety, and expand access.

Each SFA participating in the federally funded NSLP is eligible to submit an application for schools under its jurisdiction. An SFA is defined as a governing body that is responsible for the administration of one or more schools and has the legal authority to operate the NSLP therein. Although all NSLP SFAs are eligible to apply, priority will be given to schools 1) that have higher percentages of students eligible for free and reduced-price meals. (If needed, refer to the FY 2016 eligibility listing posted at [www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/eligibility\\_listings.htm](http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/eligibility_listings.htm).); 2) that did not receive equipment assistance grants since FY 2009 (If needed, refer to the “Previously Funded” listing at [www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/nslp\\_grant.htm](http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/nslp_grant.htm).); 3) that demonstrate high need, i.e., are able to show they are in an underserved area, have limited access to other resources/funding to purchase equipment, or have equipment that is outdated, nonfunctioning, or nonexistent; 4) that demonstrate how these funds will improve the quality of school meals; 5) that commit to implementing strategies for adopting smarter lunchrooms; 6) that participated in the School Breakfast Program (SBP) in SY 2015-16; and 7) that are self-prep and/or satellite meals to other schools participating in NSLP. Refer to “Review Criteria.”

The grant period will begin no sooner than Jan. 1, 2017, and will extend from the execution date of the grant agreement until June 30, 2018. All funds must be expended by the end of the grant period and the final Claim for Reimbursement for NSLP Equipment Assistance Grant funds, including invoices, must be received no later than July 31, 2018.

This FY 2017 Equipment Grant RFP is posted at [www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/nslp\\_grant.htm](http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/nslp_grant.htm) and the deadline to apply is 5 p.m. Nov. 3, 2016. Additional

information on the NSLP is available at [www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/national\\_school\\_lunch.htm](http://www.isbe.net/nutrition/htmls/national_school_lunch.htm).

If you have questions regarding this grant, please email Shawn Backs at [sbacks@isbe.net](mailto:sbacks@isbe.net).

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## **Thomas Lay Burroughs Award**

### **Nominations Sought for Award Honoring Outstanding School Board President**

The Illinois State Board of Education invites you to nominate your local board president for the Thomas Lay Burroughs Award for the State’s Outstanding School Board President.

This award was created in 1991 in memory of the late ISBE chairman and is presented each November at the Illinois Association of School Boards/ Illinois Association of School Administrators/ Illinois Association of School Business Officials conference in Chicago. The conference will be held Nov. 18-20 this year.

Nominations should be submitted by close of business on Friday, Oct. 7. You may email your nomination to Katherine Galloway at [kgallowa@isbe.net](mailto:kgallowa@isbe.net). Please indicate “Burroughs Nomination” in the subject line of the email. If you have any questions, call Galloway at (217) 557-6626. For nomination information and format, please visit [www.isbe.net/board/pdf/burroughs\\_award.pdf](http://www.isbe.net/board/pdf/burroughs_award.pdf).

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## **In Brief**

### **School Health Staff Recognition**

- Congratulations to three Illinois school nurses who were honored as **“40 under 40” Emerging Nurse Leaders** by the Illinois chapter of American Nurses Association on Sept. 22 during a ceremony at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago. The nurses were among 40 Registered Nurses (RNs) under 40 years of age recognized for their achievements as RNs in their specialty fields. The awardees are Saria Lofton, MSN, RN, PEL-CSN, University of Illinois at Chicago, school nurse certificate program, formerly of Chicago Public Schools; Anne Marie Mullins, BSN, RN, PEL-CSN/NCSN, head school nurse, Niles Township High School District 219; and Gloria



Barrera, MSN, RN, PEL-CSN, District 229 Oak Lawn Community High School.

### Grant Opportunities

- The [Life Time Foundation](#), the [Chef Ann Foundation](#), and the [Whole Kids Foundation](#) are teaming up for a school food grant opportunity aimed to help districts improve meal programs and transition to scratch cook operations. The application deadline for the School Food Support Initiative is Nov. 30. Selected districts will receive program services valued at approximately \$192,000 (dependent on district size). Up to seven districts across the country will be selected for this second round of grant founding. To read more, visit the [School Food Support Initiative webpage](#) or send questions to [info@chefannfoundation.org](mailto:info@chefannfoundation.org).

### Upcoming Events

- The Department of Children and Family Services Clinical Division, in conjunction with Prevent Child Abuse Illinois, has arranged a viewing of the documentary **“Paper Tigers”** later this month. Educators, foster parents, law enforcement, community partners, and social service providers are invited to the screening. Visit <https://acestoohigh.com/2014/12/02/paper-tigers-trailer-a-peek-into-documentary-about-lincoln-high-school/> to see a short overview of the documentary. For screening dates and locations, please contact Rita Houston at (773) 371-6488 or [Rita.Houston@illinois.gov](mailto:Rita.Houston@illinois.gov).
- USGBC-Illinois and the Center for Green Schools invite communities to take action with schools for the fourth annual **Green Apple Day of Service** on Sept. 24. K-12 students, teachers, and administrators are encouraged to plan a school sustainability project and work with community volunteers to create positive environmental change. Each school will identify a low- or no-cost environmental project that fulfills an unmet need such as planting school gardens, cleanups, e-waste, or recycling. Learn more and find project ideas and tool kits at [greenapple.org](http://greenapple.org). Sign up and be assigned a local project mentor at [usgbc-illinois.org/events/green-apple/](http://usgbc-illinois.org/events/green-apple/).

### Professional Development

- **University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration** is sponsoring a lecture from 10-11:30 a.m. on Oct. 14 titled “Applying Evidence-Based Practices in Real World Settings: Teacher-Child Interaction Training – Universal (TCIT-U) as an Exemplar.” Lecture details and a registration link can be found here [www.ssa.uchicago.edu/pdp-autumn-2016-programs/#Sarnat](http://www.ssa.uchicago.edu/pdp-autumn-2016-programs/#Sarnat). Attendance is free but registration is required. CEUs or CPDUS are available for \$15. Questions can be directed to Heidi Nagel at [hnagel@uchicago.edu](mailto:hnagel@uchicago.edu).

### Employment Opportunities

- Watch for vacancy lists and find instructions for applying on ISBE’s Human Resources webpage at [www.isbe.net/hr/Default.htm](http://www.isbe.net/hr/Default.htm).