



Weekly Message

Nov. 7, 2016

Message From State Superintendent Tony Smith, Ph.D.

Hello,

It is an exciting week for civics and service! Tomorrow, millions of people across the state will head to the polls to participate in our democracy. It will be especially exciting for students who are first-time voters to use the knowledge and skills they have gained in school to play a role in shaping the future of our government.

Illinois has worked to enhance civics education to better prepare our young people to be informed and responsible citizens. This is the first school year that students entering ninth grade will be required to complete at least one semester of civics in order to graduate. Through civics, students learn about government institutions, discuss current and controversial issues, and participate in service learning and simulations of the democratic process.

[Democracy Schools](#) model meaningful civics education. The Illinois Civics Mission Coalition recognizes high schools as Illinois Democracy Schools for helping students develop civic dispositions, engaging them in important dialogue around current issues, and preparing them to be effective contributors to society. Students understand their rights and responsibilities and learn how to engage with the tensions inherent in our democracy. The schools exhibit deep relationships with community partners and provide students with valuable service learning opportunities.

Congratulations to the 13 Illinois high schools recognized as 2016 Illinois Democracy Schools:

- Alton High School, Alton
- Collinsville High School, Collinsville
- James B. Conant High School, Hoffman Estates
- Marie Sklodowska Curie Metro High School, Chicago
- Elmwood Park High School, Elmwood Park
- Lindblom Math and Science Academy, Chicago
- Mascoutah High School, Mascoutah
- New Tech High at Zion-Benton East, Zion
- Normal Community High School, Normal
- Normal Community West High School, Normal
- Plainfield North High School, Plainfield
- Streamwood High School, Streamwood
- Wheaton Warrenville South High School, Wheaton

Table of Contents

Illinois Report Card.....	3
Every Student Succeeds Act	3
Illinois Arts Education Week.....	4
Nutrition and Wellness Programs	4
Grant Accountability & Transparency Act..	5
Charter Schools	6
Education Technology	6
Rules and Waivers	6
In Brief	6

Since 2006, [54 high schools](#) in Illinois have been recognized as Democracy Schools.

On Friday, we will be honoring those who serve and have served our country and the preservation of our democracy in the military. Serve Illinois, in partnership with Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs, is encouraging participation in the [Serving Those Who Served](#) program for Veterans Day. This month, communities can create or join volunteer projects in support of our veterans and their families. Take a look at [this toolkit to find out about service project resources](#). I invite you to share your pictures and posts about civics and service by tagging ISBE on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) or emailing social_media@isbe.net.

Illinois students have demonstrated a strong commitment to service. Many of our students are involved in the National FFA Organization, which works to develop agricultural leadership, build character, and promote citizenship and volunteerism. The FFA motto is “Learning to Do, Doing to Learn, Earning to Live, Living to Serve.” I would like to congratulate the Illinois FFA chapters, student members, alumni, and advisors for their accomplishments at the [2016 National FFA Convention](#) in Indianapolis, Indiana. The approximately 4,500 Illinois FFA members were among 60,000 students from across the country who attended the convention. Illinois students were recognized for their success in a variety of areas, including Environmental Science and Natural Resources, Agricultural Communications, Dairy Cattle Evaluation and Management, and Floriculture.

The award-winning students, teachers, programs, and alumni include:

- *National Agricultural Proficiency Winners (Top in the Nation)*
 - Braden Ifft, Tri-Point FFA (Agricultural Sales – Entrepreneurship)
 - Maddison Caldwell, Elmwood FFA (Agricultural Sales – Placement)
 - Brandon Livingston, Bushnell-Prairie City FFA (Nursery Operations – Entrepreneurship/Placement)
 - Travis Winans, Taylorville FFA (Turf Grass Management – Entrepreneurship/Placement)
- *Model of Innovation Chapters*
 - Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences (Chapter Development)
 - Goreville High School FFA (Student Development)
 - Pontiac High School (Chapter Development)
- *Honorary American Degree Recipients*
 - Parker Bane, Pontiac FFA Advisor
 - Jeff Clifton, Cissna Park FFA Advisor
 - Aaron Heartt, Mercer County FFA Advisor
 - Jeff Robison, Goreville FFA Advisor
- *National FFA VIP Award Recipient*
 - Eldon “Bud” Aupperle

You can view the complete list of awardees [here](#).

Our schools and communities thrive because of the service of educators, administrators, student support personnel, board members, and community partners. Together, you equip our students with the knowledge and skills they need to be engaged citizens. Thank you for your dedication!

Tony

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>.

- ISBE offices closed for Election Day – Nov. 8
- Deadline to submit data in the Unfilled Positions Survey system – Nov. 10
- ISBE offices closed for Veterans Day – Nov. 11
- 2015-16 Pupil Transportation Claim Reimbursement System Corrections – Nov. 14
- Deadline to submit data in the Student Health Data Immunization – Nov. 15
- Deadline to submit Limitation of Administrative Costs Worksheet – Nov. 15
- Annual Financial Report (ISBE Form 50-35) due to ISBE – Nov. 15
- 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
- FY17 NCLB/ESSA Title I Comparability Analysis – Nov. 30
- FY 17 School Technology Revolving Loan Program application deadline – Dec. 1 (www.isbe.net/ed-technology/html/revolving_loan.htm)
- Deadline to submit Illinois Arts Education Week posters – Dec. 6 (www.isbe.net/arts-week/default.htm)
- State Board of Education Meeting – Dec. 15 (<http://www.isbe.net/board/pdf/2016-board-meetings.pdf>)
- Annual Statement of Affairs (ISBE Form 50-37) due to ISBE – Dec. 15
- ISBE offices closed for Christmas Day – Dec. 26
- Certificate of Tax Levy (ISBE Form 50-02) to the county clerk – Dec. 26
- ISBE offices closed for New Year's Day – Jan. 2
- FY 17 IDEA excess cost worksheets due to IDEA grant coordinators – Jan. 31
- Postmark deadline for waiver applications to be considered by the General Assembly in spring 2017 – Jan. 13 (See www.isbe.net/isbewaivers/default.htm for public notice requirements for all waiver requests.)
- 2017 Illinois Arts Education Week – March 13-19
- Deadline to submit data in the Student Health Data Vision – June 30

Illinois Report Card

Supplemental Report Card Data Available on ISBE Webpage

Additional data and information regarding the [2016 Illinois Report Card](http://www.isbe.net/assessment/report_card.htm) is available at [isbe.net/assessment/report_card.htm](http://www.isbe.net/assessment/report_card.htm).

Supplemental data and information include the following:

- Illinois State Report Card (PDF)
- Access to all PDF versions of Report Cards (school and district)
- 15-Year Statewide Trend Data (2002-16)
- 2016 Report Card FAQ
- 2016 Report Card Definitions and Sources

- Assessment Participation Data (statewide, districts, and subgroup); Online/Paper
- Assessment Performance Data (grade-level, school, district, and subgroup)
- Postsecondary Remediation Report
- 5Essentials Survey Results
- Raw Report Card data files

If you have any questions, please contact reportcard@isbe.net.

Every Student Succeeds Act

Round Three of Statewide Listening Tour

ISBE, with assistance from Regional Offices of Education, is hosting a third round of listening tour

meetings to collect feedback on ESSA. A series of meetings will be held across the state to provide overview information on ESSA and allow participants to engage in a group discussion regarding the ESSA State Plan. The second draft of the plan will be released in mid-November and will be posted at isbe.net/essa. Comments may be sent to essa@isbe.net. For additional information and to download a detailed schedule, please visit <http://isbe.net/essa/>.

Illinois Arts Education Week

Entries Sought for Annual Poster Contest

High school students are encouraged to enter the 2017 Illinois Arts Education Week Poster Contest.

The 2017 Arts Education Week, held in cooperation with the Illinois Arts Education Association and ISBE, will be March 13-19. This year's poster contest theme is "Art Knows No Boundaries!" The winner's artwork will be featured on a poster that is sent to all public and private schools in Illinois.

The 2017 contest is open to all public, nonpublic, and home-schooled students in **grades 9-12**. For more information and contest criteria, visit www.isbe.net/arts-week/default.htm. Entries must be postmarked no later than Dec. 6.

Nutrition and Wellness Programs

Nominations Sought From Districts for Training Course Opportunity

Produce Safety University (PSU) and Serving Up Science: The Path to Safe Food in Schools are teaming up for a one-week, all-expenses-paid training course offered to local school district partners. A limited number of Illinois school district partners may be nominated to attend. Participants must have a current role in training school foodservice staff at the school district and school levels. Participants will be expected to teach others about the subject matter learned using the comprehensive training materials provided to all attendees.

If you have any questions about PSU or Serving Up Science: The Path to Safe Food in Schools, or the nomination process, please contact Roxanne Ramage (rramage@isbe.net) via at (800) 545-7892. More information about PSU may be found at

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/ofsp/produce-safety-university>. Please view a short promotional video about Serving Up Science: The Path to Safe Food in Schools at <http://cnsafefood.k-state.edu/resources/serving-up-science/>.

If you are interested in being nominated to attend Serving Up Science: The Path to Safe Food in Schools, please submit a letter of intent to Roxanne Ramage (rramage@isbe.net) as soon as possible but no later than Nov. 28. If you are selected, ISBE will require an approval letter from the school district's superintendent prior to nomination to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, as attendance at PSU or Serving Up Science: The Path to Safe Food in Schools is a week-long commitment.

Sign Up for Webinar on 'State ESSA Plan to Support Student Health and Wellness'

Registration is underway for the Healthy Schools Campaign's "Healthy and Ready to Learn: State ESSA Plans to Support Student Health and Wellness" webinar, which is set for 11 a.m. to noon Thursday, Nov. 17.

States around the country are working to develop state plans to implement the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). ESSA recognizes the need for schools to support the whole child and specifically acknowledges the importance of student health and wellness. The Healthy Schools Campaign and Alliance for Healthier Generation will be releasing "Healthy and Ready to Learn: State ESSA Plans to Support Student Health and Wellness" to help school health advocates and others take advantage of this unprecedented opportunity to integrate health and wellness into education policy and practice.

This webinar is an opportunity to learn about this important resource and connect with other advocates working to advance student health and school wellness through ESSA state plans. For more information and to register, visit <https://healthyschoolscampaign.org/hsc-event/healthy-ready-learn-state-essa-plans-support-student-health-wellness/>.

Grant Accountability & Transparency Act**Notice of State Award and Grant Agreement Pages in eGMS**

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. The completion status of all steps can be accessed at 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 Internal Control Questionnaire (ICQ) and/or ISBE IWAS 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.

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.

FY 2017 Indirect Cost Rates

In accordance with a Delegation Agreement between the U.S. Department of Education and the Illinois State Board of Education (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 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 indirect cost rates for state and federally funded grant programs administered by other state agencies.

Not-for-profit agencies, community/faith-based organizations, and for-profit entities may utilize the state-wide 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. These non-LEA entities may choose to negotiate a separate indirect cost rate to utilize for state and federally funded grant programs administered by other state agencies.

The 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.

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.

Charter Schools

Charter Design Institute

Learn how you can create schools tailored to your students and community at the [Charter Design Institute](#) (CDI) at the [Illinois Charter Schools Conference](#) Nov. 10 in Chicago. The CDI features a site visit to [Muchin College Prep](#), a campus of the Noble Network of Charter Schools, and customized charter design workshops, in addition to a provocative [keynote by Clint Smith](#), awards luncheon, and networking reception. The CDI includes an overview of [federal charter startup grants](#) available through the Illinois State Board of Education. Learn more and register at www.incschoools.org/start-a-charter/charter-design-institute/.

Scholarships available; please contact alevybrown@incschoools.org for more information.

Charters are open-enrollment public schools that have the independence and flexibility to introduce new educational models focused on student success.

Education Technology

Illinois Education & Technology Conference (IETC 2016)

The 23rd annual Illinois Education & Technology Conference will be held Nov. 16-18. IETC 2016 is a three-day professional development conference focused on technology integration strategies, engaging instructional practices, digital tools and resources, and emerging trends for teachers, administrators, and technology staff. Learn, explore, and connect with other innovative educators to harness the power of technology and prepare future-ready students. For more information and to register, visit www.il-edtech.org.

Rules and Waivers

Notice of Completed Rulemaking

Please be advised that one set of amendments recently adopted by ISBE became effective Oct. 24. Changes have been posted at www.isbe.net/rules/archive/default.htm.

Please choose “Rules Currently in Effect” and scroll to the Part number.

Part 235 (Early Childhood Block Grants: See Sections 235.100, 235.105, 235.110, 235.120, 235.130, and 235.140).

In Brief

Student Recognition

- Congrats to **Glenbard South High School student Luke Angelillo** for his perfect 5 on the Advanced Placement U.S. History exam. Angelillo is one of three students in the world who earned every point possible on the exam. Great job, Luke!

School Health Staff Recognition

- Congratulations to two Illinois school nurses who were honored recently at the annual conference of the Illinois Association of School Nurses, held in Springfield. **Linda Kimel, MS, BSN, RN, PEL-CSN**, was named School Nurse of the Year. Nurse Kimel, a resident of Rockford, has been with the Rockford Public Schools (District 205) for 22 years. She is head coach for the Rockford Public Schools Special Olympics Team and a past recipient of the Special Education Nurse of the Year awarded by the National Association of School Nurses. She serves on the Illinois State Board of Education’s School Health Advisory Council.

Eva Detloff, MEd, BSN, PN, PEL-CSN, NCSN, was named School Nurse Administrator of the Year. Nurse Detloff, a resident of Cary, is the nursing coordinator for Barrington CUSD #220.

Classroom Resources

- The **Veterans National Education Program (V-NEP)** provides free resources for teaching modern history and current conflicts from World War II to the present time. The organization also has created the [Global Awareness Map](#) initiative, an online, interactive tool that offers more than 600 video clips that encourage middle and high school students to explore real-world problems and challenges in more than 40 countries. For more information, visit <http://v-nep.org>.

District Opportunities

- Prevent School Violence Illinois (PSVI) is hosting a workshop, **Everyone Can Do Something: Addressing Bullying Through Effective School**

Climate Transformation, on Dec. 8-9 in Collinsville. The interactive workshop-style sessions are for school teams, including administrators, teachers, support staff, security, and community partners. Also, on Dec. 8 PSVI will host a one-day youth summit for a group of 15-20 students (ages 12-17) from the schools represented at the conference. For more information, please contact sarah@psvillinois.org.

- Applications to participate in **TECH 2017** are now being accepted. Each year, hundreds of students and teachers from across the state come together at the State Capitol Building in Springfield to speak with legislators about the innovative ways in which they use technology to enhance student learning. The window to submit an application is now open and closes on Feb. 3, 2017. Find out more information, including how your district can be one of the 100 schools representing Illinois' classrooms, at www.iceberg.org/tech/.

Educator Opportunities

- Apply now for the **Presidential Innovation Award for Environmental Educators**. This award recognizes outstanding K-12 teachers who employ innovative approaches to environmental education and use the environment as a context for learning. Award winners receive up to \$2,500 to continue their professional development in environmental education. Additionally, the teacher's local education agency will receive up to \$2,500 to fund environmental educational activities and programs. Applications are due on March 1. For more information, visit www.epa.gov/education/presidential-innovation-award-environmental-educators.

Student Opportunities

- The **National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists** is seeking high school students selected to become delegates by their teachers, principals, or counselors based on their dedication to entering the medical field to attend one of the annual summer congresses in Boston on June 25, 26, and 27, where they are mentored by leading figures in science and technology. For more information, visit www.futuredocs.com/.
- Apply now for the **Presidential Environmental Youth Award program**, which promotes

awareness of our nation's natural resources and encourages positive community involvement. Since 1971, the president has joined with EPA to recognize young people across the United States for protecting our nation's air, water, land, and ecology. Up to two awards - one for grades K-5 and one for grades 6-12—will be selected from each of EPA's 10 regions for national recognition. Projects are developed by young individuals, school groups, summer camps, and other youth organizations to promote environmental stewardship. Applications are due on March 1. For more information, visit www.epa.gov/education/presidents-environmental-youth-award.

Employment Opportunities

- Watch for vacancy lists and find instructions for applying on ISBE's Human Resources webpage at www.isbe.net/hr/Default.htm.