# MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

July 23, 2019



Hello,

As a former superintendent, I know that certain anxieties tend to develop this time of year when you're waiting for state funding and policy changes as you plan for the new school year. I want to do all I can to help ease those concerns, starting with information on when ISBE intends to release fiscal year 2020 Evidence-Based Funding (EBF) distribution

amounts. As you know, EBF calculations utilize a wide range of data sets that must be processed before distributions are made. Now that statewide enrollment and other numbers are finalized, calculations will be posted the week of Aug. 5. We anticipate the first EBF payment will be provided on Aug. 10.

We are also developing resources to help address concerns regarding the teacher shortage. There are currently various bills that are making their way through the legislative process. ISBE will continue to keep the field updated on the status of these bills and provide information on how this may affect teacher licensure candidates. ISBE is also developing an online tool and guidance documents on flexibility in teacher assignability offered in current rules. Look for that information to be released in the next few weeks as well.

A reminder to superintendents: Any time you have a question or concern, don't forget that ISBE senior staff are always just a phone call away. The Superintendents-Only Support (SOS) Line is active, ready to assist with any questions or concerns superintendents may have throughout the workday. Superintendents will receive an email with additional details regarding the SOS Line. Don't hesitate to give the SOS Line a call.

Finally, congratulations to several Illinois students who were recognized nationally this week:

- Deerfield High School incoming senior Kyla Guru and Libertyville High School graduate Molly Graton were named to Crain's Chicago Business Tech 50 2019 list. The pair co-founded GirlCon Chicago, a one-day conference that drew hundreds of young women to learn and network.
- The Pana Photons solar car team took first place in the 2019 Solar Car Challenge at the Texas Motor Speedway. Congratulations to all team members!

Sincerely,

Carmen

# **Quick Links**

Illinois Virtual School Competency-Based Education Career Technical Education **English Learners** Special Education Services Early Childhood Education **Educator Opportunities** ISBE's Education **Purchasing Program** School Business Services 2019 Report Card **Data Reporting** In Brief

UPCOMING ISBE DATES AND DEADLINES



Please note this is not a complete list of events, meetings, and deadlines. For more events and details, visit the ISBE Meetings page (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/ISBE-Meetings.aspx) or call the Illinois State Board of Education at (866) 262-6663.

July 23-24: ISBE School Nutrition Programs Back to School Conference (https://www.isbe.net/snpb2s)
July 24-26: Special Education Directors Conference

(https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Special-Education-Programs.aspx)

**July 28:** Deadline for educators to submit Illinois Rural Teacher Leader Collaborative applications

(https://teachplus.org/rural-teacher-leader-collaborative-2019-20)

**July 29:** Webinar: FY 2020 CTE State Leadership RFP Technical Assistance

(https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/26123663599437 78819)

**July 30:** Transitional Math Regional Workshop – Carterville

(https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd3puAL1-2zOJ9RURoczVnKNfHb-

MtBLB2XqP7jNY0ES27MuA/viewform)

**July 30:** Webinar: Site-Based Expenditure Reporting Open Forum

(https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3389840928102 988034)

July 31: 2019 Report Card: Year End Collection window closes in IWAS

**July 31:** Deadline to provide feedback on ISBE ESSA Amendment (https://www.isbe.net/essafeedback)

**July 31:** Deadline to apply for the U.S. Census Bureau's Statistics School Ambassador

(https://www.census.gov/schools/)

**August 1-2:** Illinois Career & Technical Administrators Back to School Retreat

(https://files.constantcontact.com/6fb4342a301/3e0f91ad-89bd-4ea3-acc5-51867059524b.pdf)

August 2: Webinar: Assessment Update

(https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/7167545164522275074

**August 6:** Webinar: 2019 Report Card Open Forum/Superintendent Signoff Details

(https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6010944707348 702977)

**August 6-7:** WIDA Professional Development Workshop in East Moline (free) (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/WIDA-Workshops.aspx)

**August 7:** ISBE Nutrition Division – Direct Certification and Certification of Household Eligibility Applications Regional Workshop – Oak Lawn

**August 7:** Webinar: ISBE Data Engagement (https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/9201940756540 459523)

**August 8:** ISBE Nutrition Division – Direct Certification and Certification of Household Eligibility Applications Regional Workshop – Bloomington

August 9: Webinar: Assessment Update (https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/7167545164522275074)

**August 13:** ISBE Nutrition Division – Direct Certification and Certification of Household Eligibility Applications Regional Workshop – O'Fallon

**August 14:** School Nutrition Programs: Direct Certification webinar - Aug. 14

(https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/79692760706258 24002)

**August 14:** Illinois State Board of Education meeting in Springfield (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-State-Board-of-Education-Calendar.aspx)

**August 15:** Deadline to submit Annual Pupil Transportation Reimbursement claim to ISBE

(https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Funding-and-Disbursements-Transportation-Programs.aspx)

**August 15:** School Nutrition Programs: Certification of Household Eligibility Applications webinar - Aug. 15 (https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/40805882166938 76994)

**August 15:** Deadline to submit Site-Based Expenditure Reports in IWAS (https://www.isbe.net/site-based)

**August 15:** Application deadline for the Fall 2019 Waiver Report (https://www.isbe.net/waiver)

**August 30:** Deadline to submit application for FY 2020 Career and Technical Education State Leadership Request for Proposal (https://www.isbe.net/Documents/FY20-Connections-Conference.pdf)

**August 30:** Deadline to submit application for FY 2020 Educational Surrogate Parent Training Program RFP (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Special-Education-Surrogate-Parent-Program.aspx)

**August 31:** Deadline extended! Deadline to submit application to become Statistics in Schools census

ambassador (https://www.census.gov/schools)

**September 1:** Deadline for joint agreements to adopt annual budge (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/School-

Finance.aspx)

**September 9:** Deadline for superintendent signoff in Data Review and Verification Tool in MyIRC portal

(https://www.isbe.net/Documents/June-2019-Data-Review-Verification-Tool-Memo.pdf)

**September 17-18:** Illinois State Board of Education Retreat (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-State-Board-of-Education-Calendar.aspx)

**September 30:** Deadline for school districts to adopt annual budget (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/School-

Finance.aspx)

October 15: Deadline to submit Annual Financial Report to ROE or ISC (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/School-Finance.aspx)

**Oct. 15:** Illinois State Board of Education Meeting - East St. Louis (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-State-Board-of-Education-Calendar.aspx)

October 31: Deadline to submit annual budget to ISBE (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/School-Finance.aspx)

**November 15:** Deadline to submit Annual Financial Report to ISBE (https://www.isbe.net/Pages/School-Finance.aspx)

### ILLINOIS VIRTUAL SCHOOL

### Illinois Virtual School Teacher Shortage Support

The Illinois Virtual School (IVS) has supported more than 2,000 enrollments from close to 25 partner schools across Illinois with its Full-Class Implementation Model over the past two years. Many of the partners enrolled large numbers of students in a virtual course due to an unexpected teacher vacancy or because of the challenges precipitated by the current teacher shortage.

IVS, which was established in 2001, is ISBE's statewide virtual school. It exists to complement the needs and goals of Illinois' public, private, and homeschool students. IVS recognizes the shared responsibility across the state to commit to equity and to ensure all students are college and career ready and have access to effective educators. More than 90 percent of the IVS instructors hold master's degrees, including the majority who are subsequently employed full time at local public or private high schools across Illinois. IVS can work with any district or school that anticipates a staffing shortage in a particular subject area or course to offer a custom learning solution that meets those needs. To learn more about how IVS might help you navigate the challenges triggered by the teacher shortage, please visit its Full-Class Implementation Model solution webpage (https://www.ilvirtual.org/partner-schools/full-class-implementations).

#### COMPETENCY-BASED EDUCATION

# Upcoming Competency-Based Education Webinar – Aug. 15

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

# CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION

New & Nearly New CTE Teacher Workshop

The Illinois Association for Career and Technical Education is hosting a New & Nearly New CTE Workshop from 2-5:45 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 1, (networking reception 6-8 p.m.) and from 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 2, at the Par-a-Dice Hotel and Conference Center, East Peoria. This workshop is designed for the new and nearly new career and technical education (CTE) teacher who did not go through a four-year university teacher education program. However, the sessions will be applicable to all new and nearly new teachers. Topics that will be covered include Lesson Plan Development, Teaching Methods, Classroom Management, Special Populations, Inclusion, Diversity, Professional and Student Organizations, Resources, Professionalism, and Fun Activities for the classroom. Workshop registration is still available (https://www.iacte.org/events/new-nearly-new-cte-teacher-workshop-2). Limited registration after July 25.

#### Reminder: FY 2020 CTE State Leadership RFP Released

ISBE recently released the FY 2020 Career and Technical Education State Leadership Request for Proposal (RFP)

(/Documents/FY20-Connections-Conference.pdf). The grant is a single grant not to exceed \$250,000. The program will deliver CTE conferences in two different geographical locations of the state to include conference activities that align with the statewide definition of career and technical education, ISBE's Board goals and equity principles, the Every Student Succeeds Act State Plan, the Perkins V: Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act, and the Illinois Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act. Conference activities must provide high-quality, research-based professional learning and development opportunities for CTE teachers, school counselors, administrators, and support staff with a primary focus on grades 9-12. In addition, the conference should include strands for 5-8 teachers in the form of career-connected exploration. The application deadline is **no later than 4 p.m. on Aug. 30**.

Additional information is available on the CTE webpage under Grants. A technical assistance session will be held at **1:30 p.m. on July 29**. For more information on this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)/RFP, contact Kimberly Barnes-Cummins at (217) 524-4832 or kbarnes@isbe.net (mailto:kbarnes@isbe.net).

#### **ENGLISH LEARNERS**

### Register Now for Free WIDA Workshops

ISBE's Division of English Learners has teamed up with WIDA to offer professional development workshops that are free of charge to school districts. Sessions are available throughout the school year. Check out the first session on Aug. 6-7 below:

• Purposeful Lesson Planning for Language Learners – Aug. 6–7 (/Pages/WIDA-Workshops.aspx)
This two-day workshop taking place at East Moline School District Administrative Center (extension options available) is designed for general classroom teachers and English language specialists who share instructional responsibility for language learners to enhance participants' lesson planning processes. Participants will examine seven essential elements during the workshop that tend to the needs of English language learners. In particular, participants will focus on creating contexts for meaningful language use within settings that integrate content learning and academic language development. Participants will utilize tools and resources from the WIDA Standards Framework to assist them in designing instruction that promotes content learning and language development.

# SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

## **Educational Surrogate Parent Training RFP Released**

The FY 2020 Educational Surrogate Parent (ESP) Training Program NOFO/RFP has been released. ISBE seeks an entity to recruit and train volunteers across Illinois to increase the pool of qualified and trained individuals available to be appointed by the State Board of Education as educational surrogate parents. The ESP Training Program has four areas of focus: recruitment, training, resource development, and collaboration.

Further information regarding the ESP Training Program, along with the RFP and application form, are available on ISBE's RFP page (/Pages/Request-for-Proposals.aspx). The deadline to submit a completed application is **4 p.m. on Aug. 30**. For any questions, please contact Erin Saxton at esaxton@isbe.net (mailto:esaxton@isbe.net) or (217) 782-5589.

#### **EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

# **ECE Professional Development Events and Resources**

#### **Outstanding Practices in Inclusion Recognition**

Does your preschool program implement high-quality inclusive practices? If so, consider applying for the Outstanding Practices in Inclusion recognition that will be celebrated at the Sharing A Vision Conference in 2021. Early CHOICES, ISBE's Preschool Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) Initiative, along with the Early Childhood LRE Stakeholders Consortium, will administer the recognition. Early CHOICES will hold a one-hour informational webinar form 9-10 a.m. on Aug. 6, 2019, to share information about the process of applying for the Outstanding Practices in Inclusion Award. Past awardees include Stock Elementary School in Chicago Public Schools and Schaumburg SD 54 in 2017-18 and Mannheim SD 83 in 2018-19.

#### **Sharing A Vision 2019**

Sharing A Vision 2019 is Illinois' statewide early childhood conference Oct. 2-4 at the Embassy Suites in East Peoria. This exceptional conference is planned to meet the needs of early childhood professionals and families in the state and is coordinated by the Illinois Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children, in collaboration with the Illinois State Board of Education and the Illinois Department of Human Services. Registration is now open at <a href="https://www.sharingavision.org">www.sharingavision.org</a> (http://www.sharingavision.org/).

#### **Professional Learning Resources**

ISBE has three projects that offer professional development and supports for early childhood programs as you prepare for the new school year. Visit ISBE's Early Childhood Professional Development page (/Pages/Early-Childhood-Professional-Development.aspx) for a list of professional development projects currently being offered.

- Illinois STAR NET (http://www.starnet.org/)
   Illinois STAR NET provides a variety of opportunities for personal and professional growth for those who touch the lives of young children, ages birth through 8, with an emphasis on children with special needs. STAR NET supports family-centered, researched, and effective practices in early childhood education and care.
- Early Childhood Professional Learning (https://www.eclearningil.org/)
   Our goal is to provide free professional learning and resources that support ISBE-funded programs in implementing evidence-based practices that improve outcomes for young children and their families.
- Early CHOICES (http://www.eclre.org/)
   Early CHOICES supports preschool inclusive education for each and every preschool-aged child. Our goals are to increase the number of children receiving services in high-quality regular early childhood environments. We provide technical assistance and professional learning to professionals and families.

## **EDUCATOR OPPORTUNITIES**

# Reminder: Illinois Rural Teacher Leader Collaborative Now Accepting Applications

The Illinois Rural Teacher Leader Collaborative (https://teachplus.org/rural-teacher-leader-collaborative-2019-20) is currently accepting applications from National Board Certified-teachers in Illinois. The Rural Teacher Leader Collaborative will recruit, select, train, and support outstanding teacher leaders to lead a school-based effort to address a problem of practice that affects students across their

school. The initiative is funded through the Illinois State Board of Education and is a collaboration of Teach Plus and the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards, hosted by Bunker Hill School District. The application deadline is **July 28**. If you have questions about the program, please contact jbellingeri@teachplus.org (mailto:jbellingeri@teachplus.org).

### ISBE'S EDUCATION PURCHASING PROGRAM

### New Education Purchasing Program Joint Purchase Contract — Insight Public Sector Inc.

ISBE and the Chief Procurement Office jointly have issued a contract with Insight Public Sector Inc. as part of ISBE's Education Purchasing Program (EPP). This contract, available to school districts statewide, offers technology-based products, services, and solutions. The purpose is to certify this contract for school districts use pursuant to the EPP, which was established in 105 ILC 5/28A (http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs4.asp?

DocName=010500050HArt.+28A&ActID=1005&ChapterID=17&SeqStart=177800000&SeqEnd=178300000).

This joint contract, through the EPP, allows for ISBE to certify education purchasing contract(s) in which educational entities, including school districts, cooperative entities made of up of school districts, Regional Offices of Education, and charter schools, may purchase supplies, materials, equipment, or services **without** the necessity of engaging in bid solicitation at the local level. This translates to purchasing power for school districts.

Find additional information on how to place an order with Insight Public Sector Inc

(https://www.omniapartners.com/publicsector/contracts/supplier-contracts/insight-enterprises).

#### SCHOOL BUSINESS SERVICES

## Reminder: Radon Testing and Reporting

Sections 10-20.48 and 34-18.39 of the Illinois School Code recommend that school districts test their school buildings for radon levels every five years. For more information regarding radon testing and to learn more about the harmful effects of high radon levels, please contact the Illinois Emergency Management Agency's Radon Program at (217) 782-1325. The U.S. EPA also has radon information, which can be found at https://www.epa.gov/radon/health-risk-radon (https://www.epa.gov/radon/health-risk-radon).

School code requires that results of radon testing of a public school building be transmitted to ISBE. They may be mailed to the Illinois State Board of Education, School Business Services, 100 North 1st Street, Springfield, Illinois 62777. Alternatively, an electronic copy may be sent to HLS@isbe.net (mailto:HLS@isbe.net). If you have any questions regarding submitting the results, please contact School Business Services at (217) 785-8779.

# Reminder: Quartile Rankings for FY 2020 Administrative Costs Now Available

Quartile rankings for the Fiscal Year 2020 Limitation of Administrative Costs Worksheet have been completed and can be found on the ISBE Limitation of Administrative Costs page (/Pages/Limitation-of-Administrative-Costs.aspx).

School districts with administrative expenditures in the 25th percentile or below, commonly called the 4th quartile, may waive the limitation following a public hearing and with the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the members of the school board. An eligible district that realizes that its Limitation of Administrative Costs budgeted for FY 2020 is going to increase greater than 5 percent can plan to hold a

hearing to waive the limitation on the same day as the hearing to adopt the FY 2020 budget. The district may approve the administrative cost waiver at the same meeting as it approves its FY 2020 budget. Alternatively, this hearing could also be held on the same day as any regularly scheduled or special board meeting.

Districts are welcome to use the sample resolution located at the above referenced webpage for the 4th quartile administrative costs waiver.

Any district waiving the limitation shall notify ISBE within 45 days after such action is taken. Districts can accomplish this by sending a copy of the approved and signed board resolution as an email attachment to finance1@isbe.net (mailto:finance1@isbe.net).

If you have questions, contact Michelle Heninger, School Business Services Division, at (217) 785-8779 or mheninge@isbe.net (mailto:mheninge@isbe.net).

# 2019 REPORT CARD

#### Report Card Open Forum/Superintendent Signoff Details – Aug. 6

Join members of the Report Card team from **10-11:30 on Aug. 6** to discuss the new function in the Data Review and Verification Tool (DRVT) that allows superintendents to certify their district Report Card data. Certification is required for ALL districts and is due on Sept. 9, 2019. The certification feature will go live in the DRVT on Aug. 17, giving superintendents just over three weeks to review their Report Card metrics and certify their accuracy.

Additionally, representatives from the Employment Information System, Student Information System, and assessment teams will be on hand to answer any questions about the Report Card process. Registration now available (https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6010944707348702977).

# DATA REPORTING

### Upcoming Data Engagement Webinar New Date! – Aug. 7

Join ISBE staff for the upcoming Data Engagement webinar from **10-11:30 a.m. on Aug. 7**. This webinar is aimed at facilitating conversations between ISBE and districts about ISBE's data policies, procedures, and infrastructure. The specific topics will rotate monthly and the majority of the time will be set aside for open forum discussion and Q&A. During the webinar, we plan to discuss developing guidance for standards-based grading and more formal participation from districts in ISBE's Data Governance process. Registration is now available (https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8057238101108721153).

# IN BRIEF

#### **Educator Resources**

Biology Education Advancement Program (BioLEAP) (http://www.bioleap.org/) is offering resources for teachers wanting to learn
more about cost-saving dissection alternatives. View up-to-date information about innovative dissection alternatives, a breakdown of
cost savings associated with dissection alternatives, and more.

#### **Student Resources**

• The Respiratory Health Association is offering **Fight Asthma Now** (https://resphealth.org/what-we-offer/our-programs-initiatives/fight-asthma-now/)©, a free, evidence-based asthma self-management program offered for youth (third–sixth grades) and teens (seventh–12th grades). For more information or to bring Fight Asthma Now© educators to your school, contact Program Coordinator Mary Rosenwinkel at mrosenwinkel@resphealth.org (mailto:mrosenwinkel@resphealth.org) or at (312) 628-0227.

#### **Upcoming Events**

The University of Illinois, CS4IL, and partnering sponsors are cohosting the inaugural Illinois Statewide K-12 CS Education
Summit on Sept. 20 in Urbana. The summit will engage K-12 educators, administrators, policymakers, industry professionals,
nonprofits, and legislators in a day of collaboration, presentations, panel discussions, and working groups, all of which contribute to
the shared goal of making computer science for all students a reality in Illinois. Visit the ILCS Ed Summit page for registration and
additional details (https://www.ilcsedsummit.org/).

# **ISBE Featured Career Opportunities**

- · Learn more and apply for the below career opportunities at ISBE!
  - Special Education Compliance Monitor Springfield (/Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=295)
  - Special Education Compliance Monitor Chicago (/Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=338)
  - Information Systems Business Analyst (/Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=313)
  - REVISED: Director of Fiscal Support Services (/Lists/ISBECareers/CareerDisplayForm.aspx?ID=257)
- View all open positions at ISBE. (/Pages/Careers-at-ISBE.aspx)