



Feb. 22, 2010

Message From State Superintendent Christopher A. Koch

Late last week we received word that our application for Phase II funding from the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) Education has been approved. This is very welcome news considering the state is \$ 4 billion behind in bills. Illinois and Massachusetts are the first states to be awarded the Phase II funding.

We were able to use these federal funds for the latest GSA payment which was distributed Friday and we will also make the next two GSA payments from SFSF funds. You may use the SFSF Education GSA funds for local expenditures and obligations between February 19 and March 31. Using these federal funds require some additional steps on your part to ensure accuracy in accounting. A more detailed message, outlining actions you need to take, was sent Friday and again follows this column.

Tomorrow we will announce the Illinois Honor Roll. Nearly 1,000 schools in Illinois will receive more than 1,100 awards for this commitment to academic excellence. I think it's important that we recognize that even as NCLB targets increase, students continue to show growth.

I congratulate all of the schools that are being singled out for this recognition and over the next couple of months I will try to get around the state to recognize the good work you do for our students. I won't be able to make it to all districts, but I do look forward to seeing many of you out in the field.

I want to clarify a misconception about our Board's and this Agency's position with respect to mandates on Illinois school districts. We generally do not support mandates that are unfunded and do not support mandates that do nothing to achieve the Board's mission or goals.

This misconception apparently stems from the Agency's current opposition to House Bill 4711, which would relieve public school districts and private schools from compliance with an unfunded or underfunded statutory or regulatory mandate.

Neither the Board nor the Agency takes issue with the intent of this proposal—to provide much needed relief to school districts in trying economic times. The Agency's concern is that the proposal's vague language leaves open too many questions. Is a particular activity a "mandate"? Is the amount appropriated sufficient to fully fund the activity? As we all know too well, vague language and open questions spawn legal challenges which are frequently time-consuming and costly.

The Agency instead would like to focus on the immediate repeal of numerous, but specific, mandates so that our Agency, school districts, educators, parents and all other education stakeholders can proceed with a clear understanding of our respective legal obligations. We are committed to working with the bill's sponsors to provide relief to our districts in a responsible manner.

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Finally, I want to remind you that severe weather preparedness week is February 28 through March 6. Springtime in Illinois means thunderstorms, floods and tornados. Please take a few moments to review you district's policies and procedures for dealing with severe weather. You can find more information about being prepared at <http://www.state.il.us/iema/disaster/pdf/severeweatherpreparedness.pdf>.

Have a great week!

Chris

Upcoming Dates and Deadlines

- **Part 35 (Mentoring Program for New Principals) and Part 145 (Temporary Relocation Expenses)** – Public comment period ends Feb. 22.
- **Non-Certified Staff Salary Study survey deadline** – March 1
- **Technology Integration Plan deadline** – March 1
- **2008-09 Study of School Level Expenditure Report deadline** – March 15
- **Preserve America History Teacher of the Year Award nomination deadline** – March 15
- **Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Grant applications deadline** – March 15
- **Part 180 (Health/Life Safety Code for Public Schools)** – Public comment period ends March 15
- **Illinois School Wellness ... From A to Z Conference** – May 4
- **Illinois Young Authors' Conference in Bloomington-Normal** – May 15
- **2009-10 Eye Examination Data Collection deadline** – June 30
- **Postmark deadline for waiver applications to be considered by the General Assembly in Fall 2010** – Aug. 13
- **Superintendents' Conference** – Oct. 26-27

Funding and Disbursements

State Fiscal Stabilization Fund – Education (General State Aid Payments)

The Illinois State Board of Education has received final approval of the Phase II portion of the American Recovery Reinvestment Act (ARRA) State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) – Education grant award. The approval will allow ISBE to distribute the next three General State Aid (GSA) payments to all local education agencies (LEAs) on Feb. 19, March 10 and March 19 with ARRA SFSF Education funds. These Federal payments must be recorded under revenue code 4850. As you make expenditures with these funds you must record the Fund, Function and Object Code along with Revenue Code 4850 in order to separately track the ARRA expenditures. The catalog of federal domestic assistance (CFDA) number for these funds for audit purposes is 84.394. The Federal Award number for these funds is S394A090014.

IMPORTANT: Federal rules require that the time between receipt of Federal funds and their expenditure must be minimized to avoid excess cash on hand. In order to comply with this requirement, all LEAs must assess whether or not they will be able to fully expend

the next three GSA payments made with the ARRA SFSF Education funds on or before March 31, 2010. If your LEA will not be able to fully comply with this requirement, please contact Jim Mathes at jmathes@isbe.net, Marj Beck at mbeck@isbe.net or call 217-782-5256 to modify your GSA payments to the amount that you will be able to fully expend. Any payment reduction will be added to a State funded GSA payment in April. ARRA SFSF Education grant funds can be used for a variety of allowable local costs with a few exceptions. Please refer to "Expenditures – ARRA General State Aid" in the ARRA Reporting Instructions http://www.isbe.net/arra/pdf/arra_reporting_inst.pdf for more information.

On Dec. 18, the Federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued new American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) jobs reporting guidance, which can be accessed at http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/assets/memoranda_2010/m10-08.pdf.

The new guidance makes two significant changes: Local education agencies will now report job totals by dividing the hours worked in the reporting quarter (i.e., the most recent quarter) by the hours in a full-time

schedule in that quarter. Previous guidance required LEAs to sum all hours worked from the current and all prior quarters and divide that total against a cumulative sum of all full-time hours from the current and prior reporting quarters.

The updated guidance eliminates subjective assessment and defines jobs to be reported as those funded in the quarter using ARRA funds. Jobs funded partially with ARRA funds will only be counted based on the proportion funded by ARRA. Previous guidance required LEAs to make a subjective judgment on whether a given job would have existed were it not for ARRA funds. ISBE is working on extensive changes to make the ARRA job and vendor data collection tool a separate system in IWAS. This new system will allow LEAs to report job information that will be in alignment with the new OMB guidance as well as vendor payment information.

FY 2011 Employer Contributions to TRS – Federal Grants

Please be advised that for Fiscal Year 2011 (July 1, 2010, to June 30, 2011) the employer's share of teachers' retirement will be 25.12 percent for personnel employed with federal grant funds.

As you are aware, this rate is preliminary and is subject to change. This is a change from the 23.38 percent which was in place for Fiscal Year 2010. Further information can be obtained from the TRS Web site at <http://trs.illinois.gov/subsections/employers/employerservices.htm>. The percentage is now determined annually according to the funding amount set by the state legislature.

If you have specific questions regarding TRS contributions, you may direct your inquiries to the TRS Employer Services Division at 888-877-0890.

ARRA

Study of School Level Expenditure Report: Revisions May Be Required After Further Guidance Received by ISBE

**** DUE DATE extended to March 15th ****

A school level expenditure report is required per the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) for local education agencies (LEAs) that are entitled to funds under Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) provided under

ARRA (i.e., LEAs that are entitled to ARRA Title I funds calculated under the Targeted Grant and Education Finance Incentive Grant formulas). Such LEAs are required to report school-by-school expenditures from state and local funds for the 2008-09 school year for all of their schools (not just Title I schools). The U.S. Department of Education states that they will use these data to examine the extent to which school-level education resources are distributed equitably within and across LEAs.

To facilitate this required reporting, we have created a new IWAS application. To access the application, log on to IWAS, and under System Listing, it is located under "Reporting."

This specific report is focused on ONLY state and local fund expenditures for Regular K-12 instruction, within four categories:

- Personnel salaries at the school level for all school-level instructional and support staff.
- Personnel salaries at the school level for instructional staff only.
- Personnel salaries at the school level for teachers only.
- Non-personnel expenditures at the school level (if available).

Further clarification has been received regarding the specific Function and Object codes to be captured for this report. Those codes are as follows:

All Personnel Salaries at the School Level and Non-personnel Expenditures now include:

- 1100 Regular Programs
- 1250 Remedial and Supplemental Programs K-12
- 1400 CTE Programs (Voc Ed)
- 1600 Summer School Programs ***new***
- 1650 Gifted Programs
- 1800 Bilingual Programs
- 1900 Truant Alternative and optional Programs
- 1911 Regular K-12 Programs – Private Tuition
- 1914 Remedial and Supplemental Programs K-12 – Private Tuition
- 1917 CTE Programs – Private Tuition
- 1919 Summer School Programs – Private Tuition ***new***
- 1920 Gifted Programs – Private Tuition
- 1921 Bilingual Programs – Private Tuition ***new***
- 2110 Attendance and Social Work Services

- 2120 Guidance Services
- 2130 Health Services
- 2140 Psychological Services
- 2150 Speech Pathology and Audiology Services
- 2190 Other Support Services – Pupils
- 2210 Improvement of Instruction Services
- 2220 Educational Media Services
- 2230 Assessment and Testing
- 2410 Office of the Principal Services
- 2490 Other Support Services – School Administration
- 2550 Pupil Transportation (for instructional field trips) ***new***
- 4110 Payments for Regular Programs
- 4140 Payments for CTE Programs ***new***
- 4170 Payments for Community College Programs ***new***

Personnel salaries at the school level for instructional staff only now includes all 1000 series Function Codes and includes teachers, substitutes and their support staff:

- 1100 Regular Programs
- 1250 Remedial and Supplemental Programs K-12 ***new***
- 1400 CTE Programs ***new***
- 1600 Summer School Programs ***new***
- 1650 Gifted Programs ***new***
- 1800 Bilingual Programs ***new***
- 1900 Truant Alternative and optional Programs ***new***

Personnel salaries at the school level for teachers only are within the 1000 Series listed above. Those “teacher only” amounts are to be reflected in BOTH the Instruction cost as well as the “teachers salaries only.”

A revised Excel worksheet is available for download and completion which can be accessed at <http://webapps.isbe.net/expstudy/download/schoolworksheets.xls>. The specific function and object codes, per Part 100 Requirements for Accounting, Budgeting, Financial Reporting and Auditing, are provided to assist in the calculation of reporting data per school.

IMPORTANT – School level expenditures to be excluded from this report include those:

- From federal program funds
- For special education pupils
- Not associated with regular K-12 programs, such as preschool and adult education.

- That serve students from more than one school attendance area, such as district-wide summer school.
- Expenditures for employee benefits (charged for Object codes 200 and 300).

To facilitate the revisions that LEAs may have to make to their reports, we have extended the due date to March 15, 2010.

For those districts that have submitted their reports and need them returned for edits, or if you have any questions, please contact Sally Cray of the Division of Funding and Disbursements, at 217-782-5256 or scray@isbe.net.

Standards and Assessments

2 percent Flexibility for Calculating IEP Subgroup Performance

Starting with the 2005 report card and continuing through the 2009 report card, the Department of Education (ED) granted Illinois flexibility in how it calculated AYP for the IEP subgroup. For schools not making AYP solely because the IEP subgroup failed to meet the meeting/exceeding standards benchmark, Illinois was allowed to add 14 percent to those schools’ percentage of students meeting/exceeding standards for that subgroup.

This flexibility was offered pursuant to federal law, which explicitly limited the duration of this flexibility through the 2008-09 school year. As a result of that time limitation, the transition flexibility that was previously offered is no longer available. As explicitly addressed in a letter from the department, starting with the 2010 report cards, the 2 percent flexibility is no longer obtainable. Given last year 56 schools and 84 districts benefitted, the elimination of this flexibility could have impact in the number of schools and districts making AYP in 2010.

Under law the secretary no longer has the authority to extend its use; therefore, this is not something that Illinois can appeal to ED.

Data Analysis and Progress Reporting

Report of Administrator and Teacher Salary and Benefits

Public Act 096-0266 added Sections 10-20.46 and 34-18.37 to the School Code [105 ILCS 5/10-20.46 and

5/34-18.37]. The two new Sections contain identical language requiring school districts to report administrator and teacher salary and benefits to the Illinois State Board of Education, effective Jan. 1, 2010:

“Each school board shall report to the State Board of Education, on or before July 1 of each year, the base salary and benefits of the district superintendent and all administrators and teachers employed by the school district. For the purposes of this Section, "benefits" includes without limitation, vacation days, sick days, bonuses, annuities, and retirement enhancements.”

To comply with this new law, school districts will be required to submit to the Illinois State Board of Education in late June the following data for each individual employed as an administrator and/or teacher during the 2009-10 school year:

- **Name:** Legal last name, first name and middle name
- **Position:** Main position, i.e., District Superintendent, Other Administrator, or Teacher
- **Title:** Title for main position (optional)
- **Base Salary:** Dollar amount of base salary for all positions combined
- **Full-Time Equivalency (FTE):** FTE for all positions combined, counted in hundredths
- **Vacation Days:** Number of vacation days awarded this school year
- **Sick Days:** Number of sick days awarded this school year
- **Bonuses:** Dollar value of bonuses
- **Annuities:** Dollar value of employer-provided qualified and nonqualified annuities
- **Retirement Enhancements:** Dollar value of employer-provided retirement enhancements
- **Other Benefits:** Dollar value of other benefits provided by employer

These data will be reported via IWAS, in a new Administrator and Teacher Salary and Benefits system that will be separate from the Teacher Service Record system. The new system will be open for data entry June 16-30, with the salary and benefits data that are to be reported based on known payments through June 30, 2010. Questions about the new system may be directed to the ISBE Data Analysis and Progress Reporting Division at 217-782-3950.

How should FTE be calculated? FTE should be calculated as the total number of hours worked through June 30, 2010, divided by the number of hours in a full-

time schedule through June 30, 2010. Consider the total number of hours worked during the school year as equivalent to 1 FTE even if the period is less than 12 months if a teacher is working pursuant to a contract regarded as full time. A teacher working in excess of a full-time contract would be counted as more than 1 FTE (e.g., a teacher who is working 12 months of the year and receiving additional compensation for working during the summer months). That teacher’s FTE should be determined by how many hours the teacher worked in relation to the number of hours in the normal full-time contract.

Curriculum and Instruction

Nominations Sought for Preserve America History Teacher of the Year

The Preserve America History Teacher of the Year Award presents \$10,000 to the best history teacher. The national winner is chosen from outstanding history teachers in each state, district and U.S. territory. State winners receive \$1,000 and an archive of books and other resources for their schools. The award is co-sponsored by the Gilder Lehrman Institute, Preserve America and the History Channel.

Nominations for the Preserve America History Teacher of the Year can be made by a department or division head, school director, social studies director, principal, superintendent, colleague, student or parent. In 2010, the Gilder Lehrman Institute will honor a middle or high school teacher of grades 7 through 12. K-6 teachers are honored every other year. To nominate a teacher and learn more about the award, visit <http://www.gilderlehrman.org/htoy.html>.

You may also contact the Gilder Lehrman History Teacher of the Year coordinator at htoy@gilderlehrman.org or via phone at 646-366-9666, ext. 28. The Illinois State Board coordinator is Mike Hatfill. He can be reached at dhatfill@isbe.net or 217-557-7323.

The nomination deadline is March 15.

Illinois Advanced Placement Fee Reduction Program for 2010

Illinois will participate in the Advanced Placement Federal Fee Reduction Program for the 2010 testing sessions. High school students in Illinois are eligible to participate in the program if they qualify for the Federal Lunch Program (either free or reduced levels) and are

identified as such in the state's Student Information System.

To participate in the program, the school's AP coordinator must complete the following steps:

- 1) Complete the grid on each eligible student's answer booklet indicating the exam qualifies for the Fee Program;
- 2) Complete the online invoice at the College Board Web site indicating the number of qualifying Fee Program exams;
- 3) Mail a copy of the online invoice to Marica Cullen, Illinois State Board of Education, 100 N. First Street, C-215, Springfield, IL 62777 no later than June 15, 2010; and
- 4) Mail a copy of the online invoice with any payment due to the College Board no later than June 15, 2010.

Deadline Coming Up to Submit New Technology Integration Plan

Several federal and state funding programs for schools and districts in the state of Illinois require an approved Technology Integration Plan (TIP). The Illinois State Board of Education serves as the approving entity of Technology Integration Plans for public schools and/or districts outside of the city of Chicago.

Schools and/or districts with a Technology Integration Plan expiring June 30, 2010, have until 11:59 p.m. Monday, March 1, to submit a new three-year Technology Integration Plan for FY10 approval. Plans will only be accepted for approval if submitted online, via the proper Illinois Interactive Report Card (iirc) template, available online at <http://iirc.niu.edu>, by the deadline. Districts that are not able to submit a plan by the deadline due to extenuating circumstances must request an extension, in advance of the deadline, by contacting Marica Cullen at mcullen@isbe.net.

Districts are advised to contact their local LTC director for technical assistance as needed. For more information, contact Faith Bishop at 217-557-7323 or fbishop@isbe.net.

Request for Proposals Issued for Math and Science Workshop or Program

The Illinois State Board of Education has released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the design and implementation of a summer workshop/institute project. The project will consist of a partnership designed to

improve the performance of Illinois students in the areas of math and science by offering an innovative, effective professional development program in teaching math and/or science or other approved grant activity. The program will allow teachers in the program an opportunity to increase their content knowledge as they explore challenging pedagogy and technology integration in the areas of math and science. The RFP is available at <http://www.isbe.net/curriculum/>.

For more information, contact Gil Downey in Curriculum and Instruction Division at gdowney@isbe.net or 217-557-7323.

Illinois Math Science Partnership FY 2011 Request for Proposals

The state board has released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a partnership comprised of an Institution of Higher Education (IHE) and a high-need LEA designed to improve the performance of Illinois students in the areas of math and science by offering an intensive, specialized graduate degree program in teaching math and/or science.

The program will allow teachers in the program an opportunity to increase their content knowledge as they explore challenging pedagogy and technology integration in the areas of math and science. The RFP is available at <http://www.isbe.net/curriculum/html/math.htm>.

For more information, contact Gil Downey, Curriculum and Instruction Division at gdowney@isbe.net or 217-557-7323.

Mark Your Calendar for the Illinois School Wellness ... From A to Z Conference

The third annual Illinois School Wellness ... From A to Z Conference is set for May 4 in Decatur. The one-day workshop is presented by the Illinois State Board of Education and Illinois Action for Healthy Kids.

The conference will feature nationally-known speakers in school wellness, state experts in nutrition and physical education and local wellness champions who will share their success stories from Illinois schools.

For more information, visit http://take.actionforhealthykids.org/site/Clubs?club_id=1121&sid=1040&pg=event.

School Opportunities

Annual Book Grant Program Gearing Up

The Illinois School Library Media Association/Library Book Selection Service Fund will issue its third annual book grants this year. Public and private school libraries as well as public libraries registered in any of the Illinois Readers' Choice awards programs — the Monarch Award, the Bluestem Award, the Rebecca Caudill Young Readers Book Award and the Abraham Lincoln Illinois High School Book Award — are eligible to apply.

Grant recipients will be awarded one set of the 2011 reading campaign books for the award program indicated on their application. The titles in each book award set are determined by the individual committees in charge of the reading award programs. Sets include one copy each of the 20 or 22 books, depending on the award program selected.

Information about the grant is available at the ISLMA/LBSS Endowment Fund Web site (<http://www.lbssfund.org>). The online application form will be available at the Web site beginning March 15. All grant applications must be submitted by May 15. Applicants must also be registered for the appropriate 2011 Readers' Choice program by May 15 (a separate process). Questions may be sent to info@lbssfund.org, by fax to 309-649-0916 or by phone to 309-649-0911.

Funds for the endowment fund were received by the Illinois School Library Media Association when the nonprofit Library Book Selection Service was dissolved in June 2005. A stipulation of the agreement between LBSS and ISLMA was that the assets be invested in order to fund grants to encourage student reading of quality literature in Illinois. Book vendors interested in bidding for the contract to provide books for this grant will find information at the same Web site. This is a competitive bid.

The ISLMA/LBSS Endowment Fund's mission is to "promote reading in Illinois." Both in 2008 and 2009, the fund awarded 160 sets of books to school and public libraries.

Student Opportunities

Young Scholars Program Seeks 7th-Graders From Across the U.S.

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation is looking for a few good 7th-graders. The foundation's Young Scholars

Program selects 50 students from across the country and follows them through high school with a tailored educational program.

High-achieving students with financial need are encouraged to apply by the deadline of April 26. The average family income is approximately \$25,000 for Young Scholars entering the program.

The tailored programs can include support for summer programs, distance learning courses, and music and art instruction. Some Young Scholars attend a private school if none of their public school options adequately serve their academic potential.

For more information about the program, including how to apply, visit <http://www.jkcf.org/scholarships/young-scholars-program>.

Human Trafficking Awareness Outreach Day Includes Poster Contest

The Department of Human Services and Illinois Rescue and Restore will hold the fifth annual Human Trafficking Awareness Outreach Day on April 24. On this day, DHS and Illinois Rescue and Restore will partner with hundreds of volunteers across the state to hang posters and distribute brochures detailing information on the scope of human trafficking, services available to victims, and the National Human Trafficking Resource Center Hotline number.

As part of Outreach Day activities, Illinois Rescue and Restore will engage Illinois high school students in the effort to raise awareness about human trafficking. An Outreach Day Poster Contest for high school students will be held in which contestants are asked to design a poster that creatively portrays a message about the injustice of human trafficking. Students will design a poster on poster board no larger than 22"x14" using appropriate images, drawings, pictures and/or symbols. Text should not be included in the design.

Visit <http://www.dhs.state.il.us/rescueandrestore> for more information regarding the poster contest including poster criteria, evaluation categories, mailing information, and details regarding the winning posters. Contact Rachael Burke at rachael.burke@illinois.gov or at 312-793-7342 with any questions regarding the Illinois Rescue and Restore Outreach Day Poster Contest.

Additionally, if you and/or your students would like to participate in Outreach Day by hanging posters and

distributing other anti-trafficking materials in your communities, you can sign up online at <http://www.dhs.state.il.us/rescueandrestore>.

Illinois Rescue and Restore is a statewide coalition of state agencies, health-care providers, law enforcement, advocacy groups, and social service organizations, working together to combat human trafficking in Illinois. The coalition seeks to raise awareness of human trafficking, increase the number of victims identified and help restore them to health.

High School Team Advances to National Competition in Engineering Challenge

The “JetHawks” of Heritage High School in Broadlands, Ill., will advance to national competition after winning the Real World Design Challenge against 23 other teams statewide.

The Real World Design Challenge puts high school students alongside industry experts to gain engineering experience by developing a solution to a proposed challenge. The challenge is a partnership involving the state of Illinois, U.S. Department of Energy, Federal Aviation Administration and others. This year’s challenge involved designing the tail section of an aircraft to maximize fuel efficiency.

The winning team is comprised of Clayton Bosch, Eli Forster, Spencer Lowe and Philip Mayes. Their coach is teacher Scott Gerard. They will compete in Washington, D.C., on March 29.

For information about participating in next year’s challenge, contact the Illinois Department of Transportation, Division of Aeronautics at 217-524-8763 or visit <http://www.dot.il.gov/aero>. Additional information is available at <http://www.realworldchallenge.org>.

Taiwan Ministry of Education Announces Scholarship Programs

The Taiwan Ministry of Education has announced two scholarship programs. The first, known as the Taiwan Scholarship, is offered to students who wish to enroll in a degree program in Taiwan. Recipients also can enroll in the Language Enrichment Program, which is taken a year prior to the regular program. The second program, the Huayu Enrichment Scholarship, is for students who wish to study Chinese.

Interested students must submit required documents by March 31. For more info and application forms, visit <http://www.edutw.org/english/scholarships/index.html>. Contact the Cultural Division of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Chicago at 312-616-0805 or info@edutw.org.

Professional Development

Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching

Application packets are available for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. The awards, which are administered by the National Science Foundation, have been presented to teachers from across the country since the program was enacted in 1983 by Congress.

Award winners receive a citation signed by the president of the United States, a paid trip to Washington, D.C., to attend recognition events and professional development opportunities and \$10,000 from the National Science Foundation. The president can bestow up to 108 awards each year.

Awards alternate between elementary and secondary teachers, with this year for K-6. For more information, go to <http://www.paemst.org>. The nomination deadline is April 1, and teachers have until May 3 to complete applications.

Rural Chemistry Teachers Sought for Program With University of Illinois

The National Science Foundation funded Institute for Chemistry Literacy Through Computational Science (ICLCS) is seeking rural chemistry teachers.

ICLCS is a five-year project designed to link research and computational/visualization resources at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign to chemistry teachers at rural Illinois high schools.

An application form is available at <http://iclcs.uiuc.edu/applications/c3>. The deadline to apply is March 5. For more information, visit the Web site or contact Dave Mattson at dmattson@ncsa.uiuc.edu.

Employment Opportunities

ISBE External Vacancy List

An External Vacancy List for the Illinois State Board of Education is available at

<http://www.isbe.net/hr/Default.htm>.

In the News

Weekly News Clips

ISBE has posted highlights from last week's education news clips at

<http://www.isbe.net/news/2010/newsclips/100222.htm>.