


# MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

February 27, 2018



Hello,

I have had the opportunity today to engage the House and Senate Appropriations Committees regarding the importance of [our fiscal year 2019 Investment to Support Educational Excellence Budget Recommendation](#)  (/Documents/FY\_2019\_Budget\_Book.pdf), along with Kevin Settle, who is a State Board member from Mount Vernon and chairman of ISBE's Finance and Audit Committee, and Chief Financial Officer Robert Wolfe. We continue to advocate for full funding to interrupt the deep and historic inequities in our state and provide the support that all our districts and students need to thrive.

Being in connection with schools is so important, in part because it allows us to share districts' own stories. I had the opportunity to connect with three engaged superintendents in the past week who

have been great advocates for their students. Bluffview Elementary

School in Dupo CUSD 196 has started implementing [Positive Behavioral](#)

[Intervention and Supports](#) (<https://www.pbis.org/>) (PBIS) for the first time this year and it has really taken root. This year's theme for the district – home of the Tigers – is to “Radiate the R.O.A.R.” by being “Responsible, Organized, Always Safe, and Respectful.” I saw common language pertaining to schoolwide expectations and positive reinforcements for students in the elementary building and positive messaging and artwork in the district's junior/senior high school, as well. I was struck by the district's intentional efforts to build connections between students and teachers, innovative activities to promote collaboration and teamwork, and a strong ROTC program.

I also appreciated the positive culture and climate of Crab Orchard CUSD 3. Students are participating in hands-on science activities; during my visit, seventh-grade students were building Rube Goldberg machines. In another class, I witnessed great teaching and conversation among students engaged in a livestock judging activity. Students shared compelling rationales for ranking pigs in different orders and, at the end, the teacher presented the official judging scorecard. It was powerful to see how, through agriculture, students are learning deeply about concepts like presenting opinions, making cases, and understanding objective criteria.

It was clear from my visit to Union SD 81 that the district is a force for community well-being. There are just about 100 students in the district, but the district's extraordinary kitchen prepares 2,000 meals a day to provide fresh, quality food for nine surrounding districts. The district is very child-centered and educators and staff have high expectations for all students. When the district saw that students needed support during the summer, it moved to a balanced school calendar to provide additional weeks of enrichment and remediation for students. Educators are focused on not only teaching students to be independent learners, but also teaching them to lead discussion in the classroom. Thank you to these districts for hosting me!

## Quick Links

[Grant Accountability Transparency Act](#)  
[Evidence-Based Funding Assessments & Accountability](#)  
[Educator Effectiveness](#)  
[Early Childhood Education](#)  
[Nutrition Programs](#)  
[Funding & Disbursements In Brief](#)

I am excited to share that [Illinois is outpacing the nation in increasing low-income students' participation in Advanced Placement](#) (/Lists/News/NewsDisplay.aspx?ID=1199) (AP). Congratulations to Chicago Public Schools for being named national AP District of the Year! What an extraordinary story that CPS is the only district of any size to receive this award more than once. Students who pursue AP courses and take AP exams can transition successfully to college, reduce the amount of their college remediation, and receive early college credit. It is so important that we continue to expand access to these rigorous learning opportunities. The success of our AP program shows what happens when we invest in equity.

All of these stories show that even in the face of financial uncertainty, districts have done so much invisible work to foster caring and supportive environments and provide quality educational opportunities for their students. We believe our FY 2019 budget recommendation creates the conditions for each and every student to feel safe and supported in school and to reach their full potential.

Have a great week!

Tony



### 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.

**March 1 - April 30:** 2018 Illinois Science Assessment testing window

**March 2:** [Deadline to submit Presidential Youth Fitness Program grant applications](#) ([https://foundation.us13.list-manage.com/track/click?](https://foundation.us13.list-manage.com/track/click?u=359ae80f0777f1003f1e0884a&id=644855ba2d&e=b43628e912)

[u=359ae80f0777f1003f1e0884a&id=644855ba2d&e=b43628e912](https://foundation.us13.list-manage.com/track/click?u=359ae80f0777f1003f1e0884a&id=644855ba2d&e=b43628e912))

**March 5-9:** 2018 National School Breakfast Week

**March 5:** [Deadline to submit Charter Schools Program – QSO – Cohort III RFP](#)

(<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/csGrantsRfps.aspx>)

**March 5 - April 30:** 2018 PARCC testing window

**March 8:** [Deadline to submit proposals for FY 2018 Arts and Foreign Language Planning Assistance Grant](#) (<http://www.arts.illinois.gov/AFL>)

**March 12-18:** [2018 Illinois Arts Education Week](#) (<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Arts-Week.aspx>)

**March 12:** [Deadline to submit Student-Centered Funding Pilot applications to ED](#)

(<https://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/essa/scfp/studentcentered.html>)

**March 14:** [Illinois State Board of Education meeting](#) (<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-State-Board-of-Education-Calendar.aspx>)

**March 19:** [Public comment period on Rules ends \(Part 203\)](#) (<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Rules.aspx>)

**March 30:** [Deadline to submit nominations for School Nutrition Champion Award](#)

(<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/School-Nutrition-and-Wellness-Champions.aspx>)

**April 1:** EBF Deadline to announce intent to change from half-day to full-day kindergarten

**April 18:** [Illinois State Board of Education meeting](#) (<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-State-Board-of-Education-Calendar.aspx>)

**May 21:** [Deadline to submit National Board Candidate Fee Subsidy Application](#) (<https://nbrc.illinoisstate.edu/firsttime/index.php>)

## GRANT ACCOUNTABILITY TRANSPARENCY ACT

### Required FY 2018 Grantee Periodic Performance Reports

Periodic performance reports are required for all fiscal year 2018 grants administered by the State of Illinois unless specifically exempted. Exempted ISBE programs include Evidence-Based Funding, Mandated Categoricals, and Drivers Education.

The reports include information on the accomplishment of deliverables described in the grant, the status of performance measures, and the alignment of accomplishments to date with spending to date. Reports are due quarterly except in cases where responses to programmatic risk assessments indicated the need for monthly reporting. ISBE has implemented the periodic performance reporting requirement through an IWAS-based system called the **Grant Periodic Reporting System**.

**Outstanding first- and second-quarter FY 2018 reports are past due. Failure to submit required reports can lead to an interruption of funding. Please submit your reports for those periods ASAP if you have not yet done so.**

NOTE: This performance reporting is **in addition to** the regular fiscal reporting done through the Electronic Expenditure Reporting system.

To learn more about the new reporting system and your obligations, please view the recorded webinar that can be found in the “What’s New?” section on the [GATA webpage](#) (/Pages/Grant-Accountability-and-Transparency-Act.aspx). Questions may also be submitted to the ISBE GATA administration staff at [GATA@ISBE.net](mailto:GATA@ISBE.net) (mailto:GATA@ISBE.net).

## EVIDENCE-BASED FUNDING

### Reminder - Deadline to Announce Intent to Change from Half-Day to Full-Day Kindergarten is April 1

The new Evidence-Based Funding (EBF) formula creates an Adequacy Target for each district based on total average student enrollment and English Learner and low-income enrollment populations. Kindergarten students are assigned a value of 0.5 if they attend a half day and a value of 1.0 if they attend a full day. Per Public Act 100-0465, a school district may inform the State Board of Education of its intent to change from half-day to full-day kindergarten. Taking this action will convert kindergarten attendance to full day for purposes of calculating EBF in the following year. The deadline to report this information is **April 1**.

Any school district that wishes to make this change for the 2018-19 school year must provide ISBE with a board resolution expressing the intent to make the change for the next school year, as well as the minutes from the meeting when this was approved. School districts may submit these documents to ISBE via [EBFhelp@isbe.net](mailto:EBFhelp@isbe.net) (mailto:EBFhelp@isbe.net). If you have questions, please call the State Funding and Forecasting Division at (217) 782-0249 or email your questions to [EBFhelp@isbe.net](mailto:EBFhelp@isbe.net) (mailto:EBFhelp@isbe.net).

## ASSESSMENTS & ACCOUNTABILITY

### 2018 Illinois Science Assessment New Resources and Recorded Webinar Available

The [Illinois Science Assessment \(ISA\) webpage](#) (/Pages/Illinois-Science-Assessment.aspx) was recently updated to include new resources and documents for test coordinators and administrators, as well as the Assessment Technology Requirements for technology coordinators. A [webinar](https://register.gotowebinar.com/recording/7388197359112391169?assets=true) (https://register.gotowebinar.com/recording/7388197359112391169?assets=true) was recently held regarding specifics for the 2018 ISA administration.

Please review the [2018 ISA 101 Presentation](#) (/Documents/2018-ISA-101.pdf) for the ISA calendar of events. Note: 2017 ISA user accounts were purged from the system. The 2018 user accounts were created from administrator and ISA test coordinator data in EPS and loaded into ISBE Teach on Feb. 22. If you have not logged in, go to the [ISBE Teach login screen](https://teach-isa.ileducates.org/user/login?nextDestination=dashboard) (https://teach-isa.ileducates.org/user/login?nextDestination=dashboard) and request a new password. If you do not have a 2018 account, see your superintendent, principal, or director as appropriate and ask to have one created.

The 2018 Assessments System Listing in IWAS is open to receive 2018 Reasons for No Valid Test Attempts. Please update student records as you work through the testing cycle. Please expect slower load time as all students are currently in the “Students with no test attempt” pool. Further updates will be provided as to when the corrections window will close.



The ISA testing window opens March 1 and runs through the end of the day on April 30. Send any questions to [assessment@isbe.net](mailto:assessment@isbe.net) (mailto:assessment@isbe.net).

## EDUCATOR EFFECTIVENESS

### National Board Certification Candidate Fee Subsidy Now Available

The Illinois State Board of Education is pleased to announce the \$1,900 [National Board Candidate Fee Subsidy Application](https://nbrc.illinoisstate.edu/firsttime/index.php) (https://nbrc.illinoisstate.edu/firsttime/index.php) is now available for Illinois teachers and counselors. Funding has been made available for 500 candidates. Applications are due **May 21**.

The U.S. Department of Education's [What Works Clearinghouse](https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/FWW/Results?filters=%2cTeacher-Excellence) (https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/FWW/Results?filters=%2cTeacher-Excellence) has added the National Board to its list of programs that meet the highest standards of research evidence supporting their effectiveness. The What Works Clearinghouse identifies interventions, programs, policies, and practices that meet the most rigorous research standards to answer the question "What works in education?" The National Board is one of only three programs nationally that meets their threshold.

This recognition builds on a large body of studies, highlights of which are captured in the National Board's [Impact Brief](http://www.nbpts.org/wp-content/uploads/impact_brief_final.pdf)  (http://www.nbpts.org/wp-content/uploads/impact\_brief\_final.pdf) and on the [National Conference of State Legislature's website](http://www.ncsl.org/research/education/national-board-for-professional-teaching-stand1097.aspx#_edn14) (http://www.ncsl.org/research/education/national-board-for-professional-teaching-stand1097.aspx#\_edn14). In the past few months, new research has found that Board-certified teachers' [turnover rates](https://www.cerra.org/uploads/1/7/6/8/17684955/nbct_retention_paper_1.30.18.pdf)  (https://www.cerra.org/uploads/1/7/6/8/17684955/nbct\_retention\_paper\_1.30.18.pdf) are nearly four times lower than for other teachers and that Board-certified teachers [increase students' future earnings](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/ecin.12525/abstract) (http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/ecin.12525/abstract) by \$48,000.

The National Board Resource Center (NBRC) is available to work with schools and districts to support efforts to build a community of National Board Certified Teachers. Call the NBRC at (309) 438-1835 for more information.

### Seeking Participants for Illinois Licensure Testing Committee

ISBE and the Evaluation Systems group of Pearson are currently seeking Illinois educators to apply to participate in test development activities for the Illinois Licensure Testing System (ILTS) program.

We will be convening committees through March for the following tests:

- English Language Arts
- Foreign Language: French
- Foreign Language: German
- Foreign Language: Hebrew
- Foreign Language: Italian
- Foreign Language: Japanese
- Foreign Language: Russian
- Foreign Language: Spanish
- General Middle Grades
- Library Information Specialist
- Mathematics
- Music
- Reading Teacher
- School Counselor

- School Nurse
- Social Science: Economics
- Social Science: Geography
- Social Science: History
- Social Science: Political Science
- Social Science: Psychology
- Social Science: Sociology and Anthropology

Your assistance is requested in one or more of the following ways:

- Share this communication with educators who may be interested in applying to serve on one of these committees. Interested educators can [click here to complete an application to be considered for participation](http://www.cvent.com/d/8dqyvh) (http://www.cvent.com/d/8dqyvh).
- Nominate specific educators to apply to serve on specific committees. Please [click here to complete the educator nomination form](http://www.cvent.com/surveys/Welcome.aspx?s=41707414-3d84-4cb3-b64b-c82deeb1c87d) (http://www.cvent.com/surveys/Welcome.aspx?s=41707414-3d84-4cb3-b64b-c82deeb1c87d).
- Complete an [application](http://www.cvent.com/surveys/Welcome.aspx?s=b79bc91b-b834-4b24-b033-0e303c8c831f) (http://www.cvent.com/surveys/Welcome.aspx?s=b79bc91b-b834-4b24-b033-0e303c8c831f) yourself for consideration if you are interested in participating.

### Eligibility Criteria

Public school educators who are:

- Certified in Illinois, and
- Currently practicing in one or more of the test fields listed above.

College faculty who are:

- Teacher preparation personnel (including education faculty),
- Practicing in one or more of the test field listed above, and
- Preparing teacher candidates in an approved Illinois teacher preparation program.

Benefits of participation include:

- Opportunity to make a difference in Illinois educator development and performance, and
- Professional growth and collaboration with educators in their field.

Qualified participants are eligible for:

- Substitute reimbursement for their school (public school educators only).
- Reimbursement for travel and meal expenses.
- Hotel accommodations, if necessary.

For more information, visit the [ILTS recruitment website](http://www.ilrecruit.nesinc.com/) (http://www.ilrecruit.nesinc.com/). If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Evaluation Systems at [evaluationsystemscrg@pearson.com](mailto:evaluationsystemscrg@pearson.com) (mailto:evaluationsystemscrg@pearson.com).

## EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

### KIDS Coaches Available to Assist

Kindergarten Individual Development Survey (KIDS) coaches are available to help teachers, administrators, and districts with additional training and technical support. KIDS coaches provide a range of services, including one-on-one technical assistance calls and visits, group coaching sessions, classroom walkthroughs, overview meetings, and support in interpreting and using data to improve classroom instruction. The new [“Find Your KIDS Coach” interactive map](/Pages/KIDS-Coach-Map.aspx) (/Pages/KIDS-Coach-Map.aspx) will help districts easily identify their KIDS coaches.

The Mastering KIDS Summit Highlights Report is now available online! The report shares a summary of the Dec. 14, 2017, summit in Rosemont. Presentations from the summit are available on the [KIDS Administrators and Teachers page](#) (/Pages/KIDSAdminandTeachers.aspx).

## Call for Evaluators – Early Childhood Education Request for Proposals

Please complete the [survey to apply as an evaluator](https://isbe-my.sharepoint.com/:x:/r/personal/mpolly_isbe_net/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?guestaccesstoken=Nako9VudKpAKDNzKdQ%2bjc4FKyODrmf9y3h4n1rvmSpQ%3d&docid=1_13713273979bd48e094b00abda80e3450&wdFormId=%7b7B7F84F6-1C27-4FAA-B6BC-D93F12B5EDF7%7d&action=formssubmit) (https://isbe-my.sharepoint.com/:x:/r/personal/mpolly\_isbe\_net/\_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?guestaccesstoken=Nako9VudKpAKDNzKdQ%2bjc4FKyODrmf9y3h4n1rvmSpQ%3d&docid=1\_13713273979bd48e094b00abda80e3450&wdFormId=%7b7B7F84F6-1C27-4FAA-B6BC-D93F12B5EDF7%7d&action=formssubmit) for the following RFPs: Prevention Initiative Birth to Age 3, Preschool for All Ages 3-5, Preschool for All Expansion Model State. You are volunteering time and expertise to complete the evaluation of approximately 10 to 20 proposals if you submit this application. Questions may be forwarded to the Early Childhood Division at [earlychi@isbe.net](mailto:earlychi@isbe.net) (mailto:earlychi@isbe.net%E2%80%8B).

## NUTRITION PROGRAMS

### School Year 2017-18 Physical Fitness Assessment, Data Collection, & Reporting

Districts are required to do the following to meet the Illinois physical fitness assessment requirements specified in [PA 98-0859](#) (<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name=098-0859>) and outlined in [Rules](#) (<ftp://www.ilga.gov/JCAR/AdminCode/023/023000010D04250R.html>):

Maintain evidence of training - Ensure that school personnel administering the assessments participate in training related to the proper administration and scoring of each of the four required FitnessGram assessments outlined below. At a minimum, staff must review the required administration manuals and it is recommended that staff also view training videos. District must maintain evidence of individual school personnel's successful completion of the training and make it available to ISBE upon request.

Ensure confidentiality - Establish procedures and protocols to ensure the confidentiality of individual student assessment results consistent with the requirements of the Illinois School Records Act and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

Administer assessments - Administer the following four FitnessGram assessments to the following grades in the second semester and each year thereafter:


- Aerobic Capacity– Grades 4-12 - PACER test (recommended) or Mile Run Test (alternate) or Brockport test (any of the adapted tests for aerobic functioning for students with disabilities). Note: If your district chooses the alternate Mile Run Test, student height and weight will need to be recorded in order to calculate healthy fitness zones.
- Flexibility – Grades 3-12 - Back-Saver Sit and Reach test (recommended) or Trunk Lift test (alternate) or Brockport test (any of the adapted tests for flexibility or range of motion for students with disabilities).
- Muscular Endurance – Grades 3-12 - Curl-Up test or Brockport test (any of the adapted tests for strength and endurance for students with disabilities).
- Muscular Strength – Grades 3-12 - Push-Up test or Brockport test (any of the adapted tests for strength and endurance for students with disabilities).

Collect and report assessment results - Collect the second semester aggregate data outlined below from its schools by date district establishes. The district in turn must report these results by school electronically to ISBE through the *Student Health Data – Physical Fitness* section in IWAS by June 30 of each year. The *Student Health Data – Physical Fitness* section will open for data entry in mid-April. Note: A district may allow each school to enter their own data, but it is ultimately the district's responsibility to ensure all data is submitted for grades 5, 7, and 10 for each of their schools housing these grade levels.



The data includes:

- Number of students tested by grade (5, 7, and 10 only) and gender;
- Number of students that achieved a healthy fitness zone by grade (5, 7, and 10 only) and gender for each assessment; and
- Number of students that were identified as needing improvement by grade (5, 7, and 10 only) and gender for each assessment.

For further assistance, including links to training manuals, training videos, and a free data collection spreadsheet, please visit the [Q & A document](#)  (/Documents/fitness-asmt-faq.pdf).

## Grant to Support Physical Fitness Education Programming

The Presidential Youth Fitness Program grant (PYFP), provided by the National Fitness Foundation, is an opportunity for eligible schools and districts to secure resources to support fitness education programming (including fitness assessment) in the physical education classroom. Supplemental resources include **fitness education teaching supports, testing equipment, and student recognition items**. The application for the spring 2018 grant is available until **11 a.m. on March 2**. To learn more about funding eligibility requirements and application criteria, visit the [PYFP funding page](https://foundation.us13.list-manage.com/track/click?u=359ae80f0777f1e0884a&id=644855ba2d&e=b43628e912) (https://foundation.us13.list-manage.com/track/click?u=359ae80f0777f1e0884a&id=644855ba2d&e=b43628e912).

## FUNDING & DISBURSEMENTS

### New Census Estimates for FY 2019 Title I Low Income

The U.S. Department of Education has released the Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) for income year 2016. These estimates will be used to calculate FY 2019 Title I allocations. A file of [2016 Poverty Data by Local Education Agency \(LEA\)](#) (/Pages/Census-Estimates-FY19.aspx)) is provided in an alphabetical listing of LEAs, Poverty Count, 5-17 Population, and Poverty Percentage.

LEAs can use this data to determine their potential eligibility for Basic, Concentration, Targeted, and Education Finance Incentive grants (EFIG).

**Basic Grant eligibility:** An LEA must have at least 10 children in poverty and the number of children in poverty must be greater than 2 percent of the LEA population of children ages 5-17.

**Concentration Grant eligibility:** An LEA must have at least 6,500 children in poverty or the number of those children exceeds 15 percent of the total 5-17 population.

**Targeted Grant and EFIG qualifications:** An LEA must have at least 10 children in poverty and that number must be at least 5 percent of the 5-17 population.

The [Census Bureau](https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saipe/about.html) (https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saipe/about.html) provides various aspects of the SAIPE count, including the data sources and methodology used to prepare these data. We will be using the 2016 data to calculate school year 2018-19 Title I, Part A allocations because they are the most recent available data.

Superintendents, business managers, and Title I directors should carefully examine the data for their LEA, as this will be the first indication as to whether your LEA may be gaining or losing in eligibility for Title I funds in FY 2018. ISBE neither controls nor generates the data.

The [challenge period](https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saipe/about/contact/challenges.html) (https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saipe/about/contact/challenges.html) for the 2016 estimates ends Feb. 28, 2018.

Note that this preliminary data does not include other non-census information, such as foster, neglected, or delinquent counts, that may be used to calculate Title I allocations.

If you have questions, please contact Beth Minder in the Division of Funding and Disbursements at [eminder@isbe.net](mailto:eminder@isbe.net) (mailto:eminder@isbe.net) or (217) 782-5256.

## IN BRIEF

### Student Recognition

- Congratulations to **Kennison Adams and Rosalea Colucci** for being named Illinois' top youth volunteers in the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual [Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program](https://spirit.prudential.com/) (https://spirit.prudential.com/)! Kennison is a senior at Edwardsville High School and Rosalea is an eighth-grader at Plum grove Junior High School. Great job, Kennison and Rosalea!

### Educator Recognition

- Congratulations to the following career and technical educators who were recognized during the 89<sup>th</sup> annual Illinois Association for Career and Technical Education Conference:
  - **Sally Lessen** - Carl Perkins Community Service Award, Delavan High School
  - **Don Malec** - Teacher of the Year, WILCO, Area Career Center
  - **Liz Harris** - New Teacher of the Year, Normal Unit #5
  - **Krista Paul** - Career Guidance Award, District 214
  - **Martha Eldredge Start** - Administrator of the Year, NSERVE
  - **Heidi Eaton** - Postsecondary Teacher of the Year, Elgin Community College

### Administrator Recognition

- Congratulations to Chicago Public School's CEO **Dr. Janice K. Jackson** for being named an [Education Week 2018 Leader to Learn From](https://leaders.edweek.org/profile/janice-jackson-chief-executive-officer-supporting-urban-schools/?cmp=eml-eb-sr-ltlf18+20180221&M=58387512&U=2425671) (https://leaders.edweek.org/profile/janice-jackson-chief-executive-officer-supporting-urban-schools/?cmp=eml-eb-sr-ltlf18+20180221&M=58387512&U=2425671)!
- Congratulations to **Andy Anderson, principal of Conrady Junior High School in Hickory Hills**, who was named 2018 Illinois Middle School Principal of the Year by the Illinois Principals Association!
- Congratulations to **Gloria Trejo, principal of Pioneer Elementary School in West Chicago**, who was named 2018 Illinois Elementary Principal of the Year by the Illinois Principals Association!
- Congratulations to **Amy Quattrone, assistant principal of Westmont Junior High School**, who was named 2018 Illinois Assistant Principal of the Year by the Illinois Principals Association!
- Congratulations to **Paul Kelly, principal of Elk Grove High School**, who was named 2018 Illinois High School Principal of the Year by the Illinois Principals Association!

### School Recognition

- Congrats to **Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences** for being recognized as a [National School of Opportunity](http://schoolsofopportunity.org/recipient-details/chicago-high-school-agricultural-sciences) (http://schoolsofopportunity.org/recipient-details/chicago-high-school-agricultural-sciences)!

### Professional Development Opportunities

- The Illinois Center for Specialized Professional Support is offering two **academic advising and counseling workshops**, one on March 6 at Tinley Park Conference Center and the other on April 12 at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield. Visit the [ICSPS page](http://icsps.illinoisstate.edu/2018/02/academic-advising-and-counseling-workshop/) (http://icsps.illinoisstate.edu/2018/02/academic-advising-and-counseling-workshop/) to register and learn more.

### Upcoming Events



- February is **Career and Technical Education Month®**. This is a great opportunity to highlight the work of students and teachers, and celebrate the value of career and technical education. Share your CTE stories by using #CTEMonth. Find [resources from the Association for Career and Technical Education](https://www.acteonline.org/general.aspx?id=2722#.WoRe8K6nFhH) (<https://www.acteonline.org/general.aspx?id=2722#.WoRe8K6nFhH>) here.
- The **Illinois Global Scholar Student Summit** will held on March 3 at the I Hotel in Champaign. The theme of the summit is "The Power of Perspective." Students and educators attending will have opportunities to develop global competencies, recognize the perspectives of self and others, and sharpen social-emotional learning skills. [Registration now available](http://global-illinois.org/champaignsummit/) (<http://global-illinois.org/champaignsummit/>). Contact Seth Brady at [sbrady@global-illinois.org](mailto:sbrady@global-illinois.org) (<mailto:sbrady@global-illinois.org>) with any questions.
- Plan something special for **School Lunch Hero Day (May 4)** and **School Nutrition Employee Week (May 7-11)** (<https://schoolnutrition.org/SLHD/SamplePressReleaseProclamation/>)!

## Recognition Opportunities

- The Illinois Department on Aging is accepting nominations for the **2018 Senior Illinoisans Hall of Fame**, an annual event recognizing exceptional individuals over 65 who have positively influenced Illinois communities. One of the four categories is Education. For more information and the nomination form, please visit Illinois Department on Aging's [Hall of Fame page](http://www.illinois.gov/aging/HallofFame/Pages/default.aspx) (<http://www.illinois.gov/aging/HallofFame/Pages/default.aspx>).

## ISBE Employment Opportunities

Watch for ISBE career opportunities and find instructions for applying at [Careers at ISBE](http://www.isbe.net/Pages/Careers-at-ISBE.aspx) (<http://www.isbe.net/Pages/Careers-at-ISBE.aspx>).