

# MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

May 8, 2018



Hello,

More than 50 Apple Distinguished Schools from around the world attended the Apple Global Summit last week, where they collaborated with and learned from each other. Several of Illinois' Apple Distinguished Schools – River Trail School in Gurnee School District 56, Heritage Middle School in Berwyn South School District 100, GEMS World Academy Chicago, Iroquois Community School in Community Consolidated School District 62, and Oak Lawn Community High School – showcased their work with Apple to engage students and educators in new ways and connect learning with the real world.

Apple Distinguished Schools are centers of leadership and educational excellence that demonstrate Apple's vision for learning with technology. Apple Distinguished School leaders use iPad and Mac products to inspire student creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking and cultivate environments in which students are excited and curious about learning.

It is amazing to see the work students are doing at our 32 Apple Distinguished Schools in Illinois. Technology helps students demonstrate what they know in ways that are personalized and relevant to their strengths and interests. Students are filming and editing videos; engaging in creative STEM learning opportunities, such as robotics clubs; taking new approaches to exploring art; and using the community as a landscape for learning. These tech tools also help educators collaborate and reimagine teaching and learning inside and outside of their classrooms. [Learn more about Apple Distinguished Schools here](https://www.apple.com/education/apple-distinguished-schools/) (https://www.apple.com/education/apple-distinguished-schools/).

Distinguished Schools look at the ecology of the entire school environment, creating the conditions for teachers to excel in doing work they love. In that context, we need to appreciate how special teachers are and honor and recognize the unique role teachers play in our communities.

Teacher Appreciation Week, which we are observing this week, is not simply a time to say thank you.

If we unpack the word “appreciate,” we see an opportunity to understand the tremendous impact teachers have on our communities. Showing appreciation means thinking about where we would be without teachers preparing our young people for the world that is and the world that is coming.

Our teachers are protective agents. They are using trauma-informed practices, working to understand where every one of their students is situated and how they can best support the learning and growth of that student. They show our young people that they are valued as members of the school community, that their voices matter, and that they have abundant talent. Teachers care for our students, help students heal, and get them thinking about all that is possible for them.

## Quick Links

- [Nutrition Programs](#)
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The activities of teachers are what make it possible to have a healthy democracy. Democracy is an activity, not an accomplishment. Teachers build the capacity of our young people to participate civically and economically by engaging our young people in provocative and thoughtful ways. In doing so, our teachers are responsible for preparing our future. This is no small responsibility! I truly believe that healthy public schools are the heart of healthy communities. Today and every day, I share my deepest appreciation for our teachers and the role they play in sustaining a healthy democracy.

We have kicked off Teacher Appreciation Week with a series of videos 🎥 (<https://vimeo.com/channels/appreciate>) from leaders in Illinois, including our recent Illinois Teachers of the Year and a 2017-18 Student Advisory Council member. We posed the question: “What teacher has had the greatest impact on your life and how?” Tag ISBE in your own video response on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/ISBEnews) (<https://twitter.com/ISBEnews>) and [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/IllinoisStateBoardofEducation/) (<https://www.facebook.com/IllinoisStateBoardofEducation/>).

I also encourage you to watch [this video featuring Ricky Castro, 2017 Illinois Teacher of the Year](https://www.univision.com/noticias/nuestros-maestros/from-gang-member-to-teacher-of-the-year-this-latino-educator-inspires-his-students-to-become-model-teachers-like-him-video) (<https://www.univision.com/noticias/nuestros-maestros/from-gang-member-to-teacher-of-the-year-this-latino-educator-inspires-his-students-to-become-model-teachers-like-him-video>). The [National PTA](https://www.pta.org/home/events/PTA-Teacher-Appreciation-Week) (<https://www.pta.org/home/events/PTA-Teacher-Appreciation-Week>) and the [National Education Association](http://www.nea.org/grants/teacherday.html) (<http://www.nea.org/grants/teacherday.html>) both offer resources and ideas for how to #ThankATeacher.

In closing, I want to share the sad news that Brian Whiston, the State Superintendent in Michigan, passed away last night. Brian was a friend and longtime champion for children. Prayers and condolences to his family and community. [Learn more about Brian here](https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0%2c4615%2c7-140--468223--%2c00.html) (<https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0%2c4615%2c7-140--468223--%2c00.html>).

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) (<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/ISBE-Meetings.aspx>) or call the Illinois State Board of Education at (866) 262-6663.

**May 7-11:** Teacher Appreciation Week

**May 10:** [Deadline to submit application for ISBE's School Nutrition Advisory Council](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ADVCOUNCIL)

(<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ADVCOUNCIL>)

**May 15 & 16:** [The Learning Technology Center Future Ready Workshops](http://ltcillinois.org/frillinois/)

**May 15:** [Deadline to verify School Year 2018 Spring Enrollment Counts](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/ebfenrollment.aspx)

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

**May 16:** [Illinois State Board of Education meeting](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-State-Board-of-Education-Calendar.aspx)

**May 19:** [Illinois Network of Charter Schools Spring Charter Startup Workshop](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/spring-charter-startup-workshop-tickets-44924737098)

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

(<https://nbc.illinoisstate.edu/firsttime/index.php>)

**May 25:** [Deadline to submit 2018-19 Student Advisory Council applications](https://www.isbe.net/Documents/Student-Advisory-Council-Application-2018-19.pdf)

(<https://www.isbe.net/Documents/Student-Advisory-Council-Application-2018-19.pdf>)

**May 28:** ISBE offices closed for Memorial Day

**May 31:** Deadline for final amendments for state and federal grants with a project end date of June 30, 2018

**June 4 (postmarked); June 7 (if emailed):** [Deadline to submit Those Who Excel applications](https://www.isbe.net/Documents/03-10-those-who-excel.pdf)

(<https://www.isbe.net/Documents/03-10-those-who-excel.pdf>)

**June 13:** [Illinois State Board of Education meeting](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-State-Board-of-Education-Calendar.aspx)

(<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Illinois-State-Board-of-Education-Calendar.aspx>)

**June 25:** [“Team Up for School Nutrition Success” Training](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TEAMUP18)

(<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TEAMUP18>)

**June 30:** [Deadline to apply for USDA's HealthierUS School Challenge](#)

(<https://www.fns.usda.gov/hussc/healthierus-school-challenge-smarter-lunchrooms>)

**June 30:** [Deadline to submit application for Community Eligibility Provision](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Guidance-for-HHFKA.aspx) (<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Guidance-for-HHFKA.aspx>)

**Aug. 1:** Deadline for final amendments for state and federal grants with a project end date of August 31, 2018

**Aug. 6-7:** [School Nutrition Programs \(SNP\) Back to School Conference](#)

(<https://www.isbe.net/Documents/SNPB2S-agenda-2018.pdf>)

## NUTRITION PROGRAMS

### School Nutrition Champion Award Winner Announced

Congratulations to Sandy Voss, director of Food and Nutrition Services at Marquardt School District 15, for being named ISBE's 2018 School Nutrition Champion! Sandy has been the director of Food and Nutrition Services in Marquardt District 15 since 2008. She also directs the nutrition programs in Glen Ellyn District 41, Queen Bee District 16, and St. Matthew School. The schools she represents participate in the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, After School Snack Program, and the Seamless Summer Option Program. Her role as the director of Food and Nutrition Services requires her to coordinate more than 4,000 lunches, 2,000 breakfasts, and 200 after-school snacks daily.

Sandy started a Young Chefs Club to teach middle school students cooking skills in order to plan and prepare healthy meals. This popular club has given students multiple opportunities to share their knowledge and skills at district events. She has hosted Young Chefs competitions, where students create and assemble their own recipes to be sampled and voted on by students, parents, and staff members. The winning recipe is included on the middle school lunch menu the following school year. Last year's winning fruit salad recipe is now the top-selling salad at the middle school.

For more information and to view nominees, visit the [School Nutrition and Wellness Champions webpage](#) (</Pages/School-Nutrition-and-Wellness-Champions.aspx>).

## EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT

### Site-Based Expenditure Reporting – New Video to Assist District Leaders

ISBE recently shared a [Suggested District Implementation Timeline](#) ([/\\_layouts/Download.aspx?SourceUrl=/Documents/District\\_Implementation\\_Timeline.xlsx](/_layouts/Download.aspx?SourceUrl=/Documents/District_Implementation_Timeline.xlsx)) that lays out recommendations for implementing Site-Based Expenditure Reporting for fiscal year 2019. Included in that timeline are a number of actions that district leaders can be taking now in order to significantly lighten their load when reporting starts next year. ISBE and the Illinois Association of School Business Officials, with support from the Illinois Principals Association, have produced a new [video that explains some of these immediate recommended actions](#)  ([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QBq\\_s7L2y08](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QBq_s7L2y08)). Tune in to learn accounting tips and tricks that may be useful.

## ENGLISH LEARNERS

### Illinois Advisory Council on Bilingual Education

Pursuant to [105 ILCS 5/14C-13](#), (<http://ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/fulltext.asp?DocName=010500050K14C-13>) the State Superintendent appoints members to the Illinois Advisory Council on Bilingual Education (IACBE). IACBE currently has two vacancies and the terms of five additional members will be expiring on June 30, 2018. All individuals interested in being considered for appointment on IACBE may submit a letter of interest and resume to Samuel Aguirre at [saguirre@isbe.net](mailto:saguirre@isbe.net) (<mailto:saguirre@isbe.net>) by **June 15**.

For inquiries, please contact ISBE's Samuel Aguirre at [saguirre@isbe.net](mailto:saguirre@isbe.net) (mailto:saguirre@isbe.net) or call (312) 814-3058.

## FUNDING & DISBURSEMENTS


### Title I Excess Carryover


Federal regulations for Title I require that states limit the amount of funds carried over to a subsequent fiscal year. Local Education Agencies (LEAs) may only carry over 15 percent of the current year allocation, including funds transferred into Title I through the local Transferability Authority, for grants of \$50,000 or more. Carryover exceeding 15 percent is considered excess and will be reduced from total funds available.


#### Reasons for excess carryover:

- a. The LEA has excess carryover in the current year project based on ACTUAL expenditures over a 15-month period (final expenditure report from current year plus first-quarter expenditure report of next year).
- b. The LEA has potential excess carryover into the next year's project based on unbudgeted funds within the current year application.

#### There are three options available if you have potential excess carryover:

1. Funds can be relinquished. (These funds are used for reallocation to other LEAs.)
2. An [excess carryover waiver](http://www.isbe.net/Documents/carryover_waiver.pdf)  ([http://www.isbe.net/Documents/carryover\\_waiver.pdf](http://www.isbe.net/Documents/carryover_waiver.pdf)) can be requested. A waiver request must be submitted prior to the project end date. LEAs may only request a waiver once every three years.
3. An amendment can be submitted for the total funds available and expenditure of these funds can be completed. Amendments must be submitted at least 30 days prior to the project end date.

Maximum 2018 carryover amounts for LEAs with greater than \$50,000 current year allocation, along with information showing whether your LEA has requested a waiver in the last three years, are available in the [maximum carryover and waiver history document](/Documents/title_I_carryover.pdf)  ([/Documents/title\\_I\\_carryover.pdf](/Documents/title_I_carryover.pdf)). If there is an x in any of the last three years, you cannot request a waiver to carry over excess funds into 2019.

**It is the LEA's responsibility to be aware of the total funds available and if there is a possibility of excess carryover into the next fiscal year.** The LEA should monitor its grant to ensure that all available funds have been budgeted and that funds are being spent so that the maximum carryover amount is not exceeded. The [Title I Carryover Calculation worksheet](/_layouts/Download.aspx?SourceUrl=/Documents/Title_I_Carryover_calc_worksheet.xlsx)  ([/\\_layouts/Download.aspx?SourceUrl=/Documents/Title\\_I\\_Carryover\\_calc\\_worksheet.xlsx](/_layouts/Download.aspx?SourceUrl=/Documents/Title_I_Carryover_calc_worksheet.xlsx)) can help you determine if there could be a potential excess issue.

ISBE will notify the LEA if it has unbudgeted funds or when it has exceeded carryover, but the LEA should monitor the grant to ensure that if the potential for excess carryover exists that action is taken before the funds are lost.

Please contact your program consultant for information regarding your Title I program. If you have questions on the Title I excess carryover process, please contact the ISBE Funding and Disbursements Division at (217) 782-5256.

### Deadline for Final FY 2018 State & Federal Grant Amendments and End Date Extensions

Many state and federal grant projects are approaching a June 30 end date for obligating FY 2018 grant funds. All state and federal project end date extension requests and final budget amendments must be received at ISBE no later than 30 calendar days prior to the end date of the project.

As a reminder, please be advised of the following regarding the need for a project end date extension:

- An end date extension past June 30 is NOT needed for regular term staff salaries paid on a 12-month salary schedule.
- An end date extension past June 30 is NOT needed to pay obligations (e.g., purchase order for supplies) incurred June 30 or prior.

- An end date extension past June 30 IS NEEDED for new activities and obligations incurred July 1 or later (e.g., summer school, professional development).

ISBE must receive final amendments for state and federal grants with a project end date of June 30, 2018, no later than **May 31**. **Aug. 1** is the last day amendments will be accepted for grants with a project end date of Aug. 31, 2018. However, budget increases for state-funded grant projects must be received by June 30, even if the project end date has been extended. The deadline for grant applications in the electronic Grants Management System is also referenced on the Program Overview page under “Amendment Due Date.”

**Note to Special Education and Education for Employment Cooperative Administrators:** Member district amendments need to be submitted to the Cooperative/EFE Administrator in a timely fashion to accommodate a final review for accuracy and approvability before acceptance and approval to ISBE on or before the May 31/Aug. 1 deadlines.

## 2017-18 Final Public School Calendars Now Available

The Final Public School Calendar for the 2017-18 school year is available via the Public School Calendar system in IWAS. Please complete and submit the Final Calendar to the appropriate Regional Office of Education (ROE)/Intermediate Service Center (ISC) by the last day of school.

**A Final Public School Calendar must be submitted and approved prior to filing the 2017-18 claims for Pupil Transportation and 18-3 Regular Education Orphanage.** The document type *Final Calendar* must be submitted even if the district has previous approval on a document type *Amended Calendar*. If a document type *Amended Calendar* is in *Draft* status (i.e., has not been submitted to an RCDD administrator or ROE/ISC for approval), leave it in draft status and proceed by entering the *Final Calendar*. If an Amended Public School Calendar has a *Submitted* status, it must complete the process (i.e., receive approval from the ROE/ISC before a *Final Calendar* may be accessed).

**Reminder:** The unused proposed emergency days (calendar code XED) that are coded at the end of the school calendar must be removed. One option to do this is by correcting the **Regular School End Date** to the last day of actual school activity. Once the Regular School End Date has been corrected, the calendar codes after that date will be omitted.

Questions not addressed in the Public School Calendar [guidelines](#) (/Documents/ps\_guidelines.pdf) or [checklist](#) (/Documents/calendar\_checklist.pdf) may be directed to the ROE/ISC office or the Division of Funding and Disbursements at the Illinois State Board of Education at (217) 782-5256. If you encounter technical issues with the Public School Calendar in IWAS, please contact the ISBE Call Center at (217) 558-3600 during business hours: 7a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

## Employer's TRS Contribution on Federally Funded Salary for Summer Activities

The Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) requires earnings for summer work to be reported on an accrual basis. Earnings for work performed in June 2018 must be reported on the 2017-18 TRS Annual Report, even if the member is not paid for the June work until July or August. The 2017-18 TRS and Teachers' Health Insurance Security (THIS) contribution rates apply to accrued earnings for work performed in June, regardless of when the June earnings are paid to the teacher.

Earnings for work performed in July and August 2018 must be reported on the 2018-19 TRS Annual Report. The 2018-19 TRS and THIS contribution rates apply to accrued earnings for work performed in July and August, regardless of when the July and August earnings are paid to the teacher.

Several questions from the field regarding what federal TRS rate to use for summer salaries have prompted [TRS](https://www.trsil.org/) (https://www.trsil.org/) to instruct LEAs to use the new employer TRS contribution on federally funded salaries that are providing services AFTER the start of the new fiscal year (July 1, 2018). Below are three scenarios and what federal TRS rate to use in each scenario:

1. FY 2018 -- Federally funded staff/teachers that have completed their assignments by June 30, 2018, but being paid after July 1: The CURRENT RATE (FY 2018) applies (10.10 percent).
2. FY 2018 -- Federally funded staff/teachers providing services and being paid after July 1: The NEW RATE (FY 2019) applies (9.85 percent). (Please note that an FY 2018 amendment may be needed in this scenario.)
3. FY 2019 -- Federally funded staff/teachers: The NEW RATE applies (9.85 percent).

More information is available on the [TRS website](https://www.trsil.org/employers/payments/contribution-rates_earnings-limitations) ([https://www.trsil.org/employers/payments/contribution-rates\\_earnings-limitations](https://www.trsil.org/employers/payments/contribution-rates_earnings-limitations)). Further questions can be directed to the TRS Employer Services Division at [employers@trsil.org](mailto:employers@trsil.org) (<mailto:employers@trsil.org>) or (877) 927-5877.




## DATA REPORTING

### Physical Fitness Assessment Data Reporting System Now Available

Starting in the second semester of this school year, schools were to begin administering physical fitness assessments using either FitnessGram or, for students with disabilities, the Brockport Physical Fitness Test in the following four areas: Aerobic Capacity (grades 4-12), Flexibility (grades 3-12), Muscular Endurance (grades 3-12), and Muscular Strength (grades 3-12).

By June 30 of each year, districts must ensure the aggregate results of these assessments (number of students meeting Healthy Fitness Zone or Needs Improvement by gender in grades 5, 7, and 10 only) are submitted electronically to ISBE through the *Student Health Data - Physical Fitness* system. This system is now available in IWAS.

For assistance with:

- Gaining access to this system and submitting this data, please refer to the *User Guide for Entering Student Health/Physical Fitness Data into IWAS*  (/Documents/PhysicalFitness\_IWAS\_User\_Guide.PDF).
- Designating account levels for whomever will be entering and/or approving data, reference the *IWAS User Guide*  (<ftp://help.isbe.net/webapps/iwas/pdf/IWASUserGuide.pdf>).
- General questions related to the physical fitness assessment requirements, please refer to the *Q&A on Physical Fitness Assessment and Data Reporting Requirements*  (/Documents/fitness-asmt-faq.pdf).

Contact Marjorie Ribeiro at [mrribeiro@isbe.net](mailto:mrribeiro@isbe.net) (<mailto:mrribeiro@isbe.net>) or (312) 814-2220 if you have data system questions. If you still require technical assistance after reviewing the online help, please contact ISBE's Call Center at (217) 558-3600 during business hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

## IL-EMPOWER

### Call for Reviewers: IL-EMPOWER Learning Partner Applications

ISBE is looking for district, school, and teacher leaders to review applications submitted by vendors that wish to work in IL-EMPOWER as a Learning Partner (Partner). IL-EMPOWER, which was approved as part of the Illinois Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) State Plan, is the statewide system of accountability and support that empowers schools with greater choice and voice in the school improvement process. IL-EMPOWER is focused on capacity development for statewide school support and it is required for those schools identified to receive comprehensive services. Schools that receive services will complete a needs assessment process using multiple data sources. The findings will guide the identification of priority areas to address in collaboration with Partner(s).

ISBE anticipates receiving between 50-60 applications in late May 2018. Each application must be read by three reviewers within a 15-day time frame.

If you are interested, please submit a summary of professional experience to Henri Fonville at [hfonvill@isbe.net](mailto:hfonvill@isbe.net) (mailto:hfonvill@isbe.net). Contact Jason Helfer at [jhelfer@isbe.net](mailto:jhelfer@isbe.net) (mailto:jhelfer@isbe.net) or (217) 782-4123 with questions.

## GRANT ACCOUNTABILITY TRANSPARENCY ACT

### FY 2019 Fiscal and Administrative Risk Assessment Now Available

The Fiscal and Administrative Risk Assessment Internal Control Questionnaire (ICQ) for FY 2019 is now available in the [GATA Grantee Portal](https://grants.illinois.gov/portal/) (<https://grants.illinois.gov/portal/>).


All entities seeking or planning to seek FY 2019 funding should complete and submit the 2019 ICQ as soon as possible. ISBE will not approve FY 2019 grant applications, nor will awards be made, without the completed 2019 ICQ.

The ICQ is required once per fiscal year and all state agencies utilize results to assess conditions of risk. The ICQ should be completed by someone with financial or accounting experience. For reference, the portal provides access to prior year ICQ responses.

Please direct any GATA-related questions to [GATA@isbe.net](mailto:GATA@isbe.net) (mailto:GATA@isbe.net) or (217) 782-5630.


## COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

### Accelerated Placement Act Guidance

[New guidance](#)  ([/Documents/Accelerated\\_Placement\\_Act\\_Guidance.pdf](/Documents/Accelerated_Placement_Act_Guidance.pdf)) is available regarding the new [Accelerated Placement Act](#) (<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name=100-0421>), which supports ISBE's mission, vision, and goals and equitable education for all students. The Accelerated Placement Act expands opportunities for all students, *not only those identified as gifted and talented by local policy*, who demonstrate high ability and who may benefit from accelerated placement. The act requires the development of local policy to identify such students through a fair and equitable decision-making and multiple measure assessment process.

Additional information and guidance is available on the [College and Career webpage](#) (</Pages/Academics.aspx>) or contact the Division of College and Career Readiness at (217) 524-4832 with questions.

### Upcoming Professional Learning Opportunities

The [Classrooms in Action website](http://www.ilclassroomsinaction.org/) (<http://www.ilclassroomsinaction.org/>) has an abundance of K-12 resources for teachers, including monthly newsletters, various listserv signups, and professional learning opportunities. We encourage educators to take advantage of the low-cost, no travel, online-facilitated professional learning offerings below. Also, be sure to check out the summer version of the [Classrooms in Action Teachers' Newsletter](#)  ([http://www.ilclassroomsinaction.org/uploads/2/6/0/8/26089560/all\\_5\\_18\\_6\\_8.pdf](http://www.ilclassroomsinaction.org/uploads/2/6/0/8/26089560/all_5_18_6_8.pdf))! This issue focuses on the Best Suggestions from the Past Year.

**ISBE Virtual Math Community:** Participate in the second meeting of #ILMathCom from 3:30-4:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 10. Discussion focuses around how to keep students actively engaged in May. Jackie Weinstein (Hawthorn Elementary South in Vernon Hills) and Laura Kaplan (Chicago Academy for the Arts) will present and then attendees will have the opportunity to share ideas, frustrations, or questions. Log in fifteen minutes early in order to complete a systems check. [Registration is now available](#) ([https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdjnQHxzHY3e3BSV9BpgijZr\\_jt8Cs1k4hIUoLSrM9-XKdZag/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdjnQHxzHY3e3BSV9BpgijZr_jt8Cs1k4hIUoLSrM9-XKdZag/viewform)).

**IL Math Teachers in Action Lesson Study Project:** The deadline to register is **May 18**. [To pre-register your team, click here](#) ([https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd2wCE0PkRPxLdmaoQuKva2fpQC5TumziU-daW0\\_6PVHQDsSQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd2wCE0PkRPxLdmaoQuKva2fpQC5TumziU-daW0_6PVHQDsSQ/viewform)). Experience virtual professional learning via a [lesson study](#) (<http://www.mathteachersinaction.org/professional-learning.html>)! Bring a team of three to 10 educators from your district with similar grade-level interests to work on one lesson and experience this summer's lesson study.

Beginning in June, the lesson study will consist of eight synchronous, recorded, virtual meetings every Tuesday and Thursday from 9-10:30 a.m. In fall 2018, each team will meet in-person on the day of your team's research lesson to observe, collect data on the lesson, and to have a post-lesson discussion immediately following the research lesson. (Date and location to be determined by the team.) The content specialists will also share the final lessons with reflections on the [Math Teachers in Action webpage](http://www.mathteachersinaction.org/lesson-study.html) (<http://www.mathteachersinaction.org/lesson-study.html>). Cost is \$100 per team of three to 10 participants from one district working on one lesson. Travel to and from the research lesson, if necessary, will be the responsibility of the participants or their district. For more information, visit the [Math Teachers in Action webpage](http://www.mathteachersinaction.org/lesson-study.html) (<http://www.mathteachersinaction.org/lesson-study.html>).

**Online Impact:** Check out the [Summer Online Workshops](http://www.ilclassroomsinaction.org/uploads/2/6/0/8/26089560/online_summer_workshops_final.pdf) 

([http://www.ilclassroomsinaction.org/uploads/2/6/0/8/26089560/online\\_summer\\_workshops\\_final.pdf](http://www.ilclassroomsinaction.org/uploads/2/6/0/8/26089560/online_summer_workshops_final.pdf)) starting in May! [Registration is now open](https://bit.ly/2fhzTGJ) (<https://bit.ly/2fhzTGJ>).

**Transitional Math Webinar:** In case you missed it, "[Transitional Math: Where We Are and Where We're Going](https://register.gotowebinar.com/recording/605979731465652481)"

(<https://register.gotowebinar.com/recording/605979731465652481>)" is now available online. This webinar provides state level updates and information on resources, course development, professional development, and more.

**IMSA NGSS Professional Development:** The Illinois Math and Science Academy (IMSA) is pleased to provide Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) professional development to K-3 science teachers across the State of Illinois at no cost. Teachers will participate in a two-day immersive experience engaging in model science lessons, the significant shifts with NGSS, and a deeper understanding of three-dimensional teaching. All teachers will receive the needed supplies and manipulatives to immediately implement these lessons. Springfield sessions run May 8-11; Aurora sessions are May 15-18. Additional details are provided on the [registration form](https://campscui.active.com/orgs/IllinoisMathematicsandScienceAcademy#/selectSessions/2422001) (<https://campscui.active.com/orgs/IllinoisMathematicsandScienceAcademy#/selectSessions/2422001>). (mailto:)Please contact Liz Martinez at [emartinez@imsa.edu](mailto:emartinez@imsa.edu) (mailto:emartinez@imsa.edu) with questions.

## IN BRIEF

### Upcoming Events

- **The Elevate Teaching Summit: Ensuring an Excellent Educator for Every Illinois Classroom** is taking place from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. on June 2 at Irving Elementary School, 1125 Cuyler Ave, Oak Park. The Joyce Foundation and Advance Illinois are hosting the Summit. Join national and state PreK-12 teachers, principals, advocates, and policymakers for a dialog on teacher quality in Illinois. By the end of the Summit, participants will leave with new objectives and refreshed momentum toward elevating the teaching profession in Illinois. [Registration is now available](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/elevate-teaching-summit-ensuring-an-excellent-educator-for-every-classroom-tickets-45603391973) (<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/elevate-teaching-summit-ensuring-an-excellent-educator-for-every-classroom-tickets-45603391973>). For more information, contact [Jim O'Connor](mailto:joconnor@advanceillinois.org) (mailto:joconnor@advanceillinois.org) via email or at (312) 235-4537.
- The Tourette Syndrome Camp Organization will host the **25th annual Tourette Syndrome Camp USA** (<http://www.tourettecamp.com>) from June 24–June 30 at YMCA Camp Duncan in Ingleside.

### Funding Opportunities

- The U.S. Department of Education has announced the next round for the **Education Innovation and Research Program**.



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- **Applications for the Innovative Approaches to Literacy (IAL) Program** (<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2018/04/18/2018-08093/applications-for-new-awards-innovative-approaches-to-literacy-program>) are now available for FY 2018. The IAL program supports high-quality programs designed to develop and improve literacy skills for children and students from birth through twelfth grade in high-need local educational agencies and schools. The deadline for submissions is May 18.
- Funding opportunities for **Fuel Up to Play 60** are available to K-12 schools enrolled in Fuel Up to Play 60. The competitive, nationwide funding program is designed to support schools that implement Plays from the 2018-19 edition of the Fuel Up to Play 60 Playbook. Funding opportunities for Fuel Up to Play 60 are competitive. Funds are awarded based on the quality of the application and the suitability of the specific request. To download a PDF of the application and find instructions to apply for funding, visit [FuelUpToPlay60.Com](https://www.fueluptoplay60.com/funding/general-information) (<https://www.fueluptoplay60.com/funding/general-information>). The deadline to apply is June 13.

## Educator Resources

- **Computer Banc** is currently offering faculty/business grade computers for a discounted price. The computers include a one-year warranty. For more information, visit [Computer Banc's webpage](http://www.computerbanc.org/) (<http://www.computerbanc.org/>).

## Professional Development Opportunities

- The Illinois Geographic Alliance, in partnership with the Geographic Society of Chicago and the Geographic Alliance of Iowa, is pleased to announce three **Exploring the Geo-Inquiry Process workshops** for middle school educators beginning in June. [View the flyer](https://www.smores.com/tv7g2) (<https://www.smores.com/tv7g2>) for additional details.
- University of Illinois' School of Information Sciences K-12 program is hosting a professional development opportunity for school librarians. This year, the **Summer Getaway conference** (<https://publish.illinois.edu/summergetaway/>) will be from July 12-14. Conference attendees will receive six professional development hours for each full day of attendance.
- **The Brookfield Zoo** will be hosting three Professional Development "Mini-Conferences" on June 2, Aug. 15, and Oct. 6. Join engaging sessions about inquiry-based learning, engineering, NGSS, differentiation, meaningful classroom conversations, accommodations for English Learners, phenomena-based instruction, and more! [Registration for the mini-conferences is now available](https://www.czs.org/Brookfield-ZOO/Learning/School-Group-Teacher-Programs/PDDay) (<https://www.czs.org/Brookfield-ZOO/Learning/School-Group-Teacher-Programs/PDDay>).

## Student Recognition

- The Serve Illinois Commission recently named the **2018 Governor's Volunteer Service Award recipients** (<https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/serve/Pages/GVSA2018.aspx>). Congratulations to the five students honored with the Youth Award!
- Congratulations to **Hannah Young** for winning first prize in the **Illinois Bicentennial Realtor Essay Contest** (<https://www.illinoisrealtors.org/events/bicentennial/bicentennial-essay-contest/>)! Also, congratulations to all second- and third-prize winners!

## Educator Recognition


- Congratulations to **Michael Havener, Library Media Specialist at Springfield High School**, for receiving the 2018 American Association of School Librarians' Ruth Toor Grant for Strong Public School Libraries!

- Congratulations to **Jitu Brown, national director for the Journey for Justice Alliance**, for receiving a [2018 Community School Leadership Award](http://www.cvent.com/events/community-schools-national-forum-2018/custom-22-82171a50f2dc46578f8c395ba07b07b6.aspx) (<http://www.cvent.com/events/community-schools-national-forum-2018/custom-22-82171a50f2dc46578f8c395ba07b07b6.aspx>) from the Coalition for Community Schools!

## School Recognition

- Congratulations to **Elgin and Hampshire High Schools** (<http://www.nwherald.com/2018/04/12/renovated-elgin-high-school-welding-lab-certified-as-accredited-testing-facility/a1pwbwv/>) for receiving national accreditation by the American Welding Society and being awarded the Accredited Test Facility Designation! Great work!

## Community Resources

- The **Institute for Parents of Preschool Children Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing** is a free one-week program for parents of children ages 5 and under who have a significant hearing loss. It takes place on the campus of the Illinois School for the Deaf in Jacksonville from June 10-15. Participating families receive support and information on topics including child development, types of hearing loss, language development, communication choices, deaf culture, and school programming. See the [institute's brochure](https://dsc.uic.edu/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/PSDI-Information-Brochure-2018.pdf)  (<https://dsc.uic.edu/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/PSDI-Information-Brochure-2018.pdf>) for more details and registration information.

## 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>).