



DuPage County  
Regional Office  
of Education

# Annual Report

2015-16

Dr. Darlene J. Ruscitti  
Regional Superintendent  
DuPage County Schools



Dear Community,

As I was recently contemplating the state of our nation, I thought that never before in our history has civic education been more critical. I now amend that to say that civic education has always been of the utmost importance to the safety, security and success of the United States and now is no exception. Our forefathers instituted public education for the expressed purpose of having an educated electorate who could make informed decisions about their leaders. From the founding of our nation to today, the importance of that concept has never wavered.

Civic engagement is a learned skill just like reading, math, science, and art, and, as such, civic skills must be practiced regularly in order to develop proficiency, confidence, and an understanding of how to harness civic power. Students need to be taught the techniques of a healthy democracy - participation, consensus building, compromise, civility and rational discourse. They need to know what it means to be a citizen of this great land - being informed, volunteering, speaking out, asking questions, writing letters, signing petitions, joining organizations, building consensus - working in small and large ways to improve our communities and to enrich the quality of life for all of us.

I began my journey as Regional Superintendent of Schools with a commitment to bring civics education back to prominence in our schools. Over the years we have facilitated Civic Summits (2007, 2008, and 2009) to engage schools and communities; created a Summit in a Box Tool Kit in support of local districts hosting their own summits; created surveys that provided data to support the importance of civics in our schools; partnered with the League of Women Voters, Election Commission, Illinois Civic Mission of Schools, McCormick Foundation, Constitutional Rights Foundation and others; drafted position papers which were sent to federal and local government leaders; sponsored student civics contests; and collaborated with former Illinois District Attorney James Ryan on multiple presentations and civic opportunities.

The DuPage ROE partnered with the McCormick Foundation leading the initiative to pass HB 4025 requiring a civics course in all Illinois high schools. Governor Rauner signed the bill into law on August 21, 2015 and it took effect on July 1, 2016. We were proud to support this effort to bring quality civic learning to all students across our state. We now begin the important work of implementing the legislation effectively, with strong support for our teachers who will lead the work where it counts – in the classroom. While we have a lot of work ahead of us, this was a milestone for civic life in Illinois.

The Illinois Global Scholar Certificate, HB 4983, was passed into law in August 2016. The law provides recognition for graduating seniors who demonstrate global skills and competencies through their coursework, service, interaction with global peers, and completion of a capstone project demonstrating their applied knowledge. The Illinois Global Scholar research suggests that future careers will depend upon students' ability to work and collaborate in a multi-cultural world. Supported by educators and businesses alike, the DuPage ROE assisted in the passage of the Illinois Global Scholar Certificate recognizing that our future leaders need a global understanding of politics, language, economics and culture.

DuPage County boasts the highest number of Democracy Schools in the State of Illinois. Democracy Schools share a commitment to expanding and improving civic learning experiences across the curriculum. As research demonstrates, this commitment improves school climate and reduces drop-out rates. Support for Democracy Schools has been an important initiative of the ROE. We are well on our way to meeting our goal of every high school in DuPage carrying the Democracy School banner and are turning our attention to middle schools.

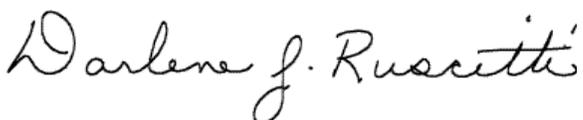
The Illinois Task Force on Civic Education called for a revision to the current Illinois Social Science Standards which were last updated in 1997. I was proud to be a member of the Social Science Standards Revision Task Force which included classroom practitioners representative of the various social studies disciplines, grade levels, and geographic regions of Illinois; universities; and Illinois-based social studies organizations. With guidance from the National Council for the Social Studies College, Career, and Civic Life (C3) Framework, the Illinois Social Science Standards are designed to ensure that students across Illinois focus on a common set of standards and have the opportunity to develop the knowledge, dispositions, and skills necessary for success in college, career, and civic life in the 21st century. The vision supporting this design is to produce Illinois graduates who are civically engaged, socially responsible, culturally aware, and financially literate. The new Illinois Social Science Standards contain a civics strand across the K-12 continuum. The grade-banded strand for high school will help inform the design, teaching and learning, and student outcomes in the newly required civics course.

Generations Serving Generations is an intergenerational initiative that supports a life-long view of education and responsibility to community. As a member of this coalition, the ROE assisted in the Year of Civic Engagement and Volunteerism along with our own Giving DuPage initiative. In partnership with Lieutenant Governor Evelyn Sanguenetti, the Illinois Secretary of Education and others, the DuPage ROE was host to the Impact and Influence of Volunteers. This ongoing initiative supports the impact of older adults on society as they not only improve the well being of the elderly, but address the critical needs of society as a whole.

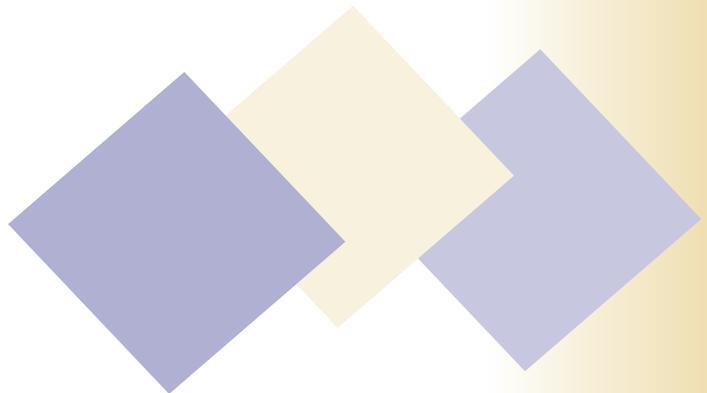
2015-16 was a banner year for Civics Education in Illinois. Please see the remainder of this report for many of the DuPage ROE's other successes and our plans for the future.

As always, please contact us with comments, suggestions and any ways in which we can be of service to you.

Thank you,



Dr. Darlene J. Ruscitti  
Regional Superintendent of Schools  
DuPage County





## Diana Rauner Visited DuPage County Early Learning Programs

In May, the Regional Office of Education, Wheaton-Warrenville District 200, West Chicago District 33 and Metropolitan Family Services of DuPage welcomed Illinois' First Lady Diana Rauner to DuPage County to learn more about the expansive early childhood education programming in DuPage County. Dr. Rauner is the President of the Ounce of Prevention Fund which helps children from low-income families and advocates for early childhood education.

Dr. Rauner toured both the West Chicago District 33 Early Learning Center and District 200's Jefferson Early Childhood Center. Both schools offer early learning opportunities for students with special needs, developing peers and students who come from at-risk backgrounds. While on the tours, Dr. Rauner heard from educators in both districts, spoke to parents, observed various classrooms and participated in a science experiment.

Research demonstrates that the highest rate of brain development occurs during the first five years of a child's life which lays a foundation for later success in cognitive functioning, self-regulation, social skills, behavior, and physical health. For every \$1 invested in early childhood education, \$7 to \$10 is saved on remedial education, health and criminal justice expenditures. Investing in early learning produces great returns to individuals and society in better education, health, economic and social outcomes.

Dr. Darlene Ruscitti was proud to share with Dr. Rauner the increased early learning program offerings in DuPage. "Schools and education have a profound, long-lasting impact in the lives of children," she said. "We know that early learning is critical to overall educational success. I'm proud that we are starting to make an impact for our children at an early age in DuPage County. I serve on many committees, including one that oversees alternative learning programs for high school students. I see and hear the challenges facing many of our teenagers, and they are profound. Increasing educational opportunities from an even earlier age will open doors and give our children more opportunities to be successful, because they got a great start in school. We welcomed Dr. Rauner to observe our work and invite her to continue participating in our conversation and work in early childhood education."

# Health/Life Safety and Compliance

## School Construction

The Regional Office of Education issues building permits for all school building projects subject to the requirements of 23 IL Administrative Code Part 180. ROE staff review the documentation submitted to verify proper handling by the architect and the school district.

During the 2015-16 school year, the ROE reviewed and issued:

- 8 building addition permits
- 135 major and miscellaneous renovation permits
- 143 total building permits

## Health/Life Safety Protocols

As specified in Illinois School Code 105 ILCS 5/2-3-12, each public school building in DuPage County must be inspected to verify the adequacy and efficiency of each facility. ROE staff verify that districts are maintaining their buildings in compliance with these state standards.

During the 2015-16 school year:

- 318 buildings were inspected
- 667 violations were found and corrected

## Compliance Review

Each of DuPage County's 42 school districts is visited every four to five years, on a rotating schedule, by ROE staff to verify they are compliant with the 23 IL Administrative Code Part 1, Operational Requirements. Licensed personnel files are reviewed to verify that assignment requirements are being met. School board responsibilities, policies and procedures, budget records, curriculum and other mandates are also reviewed for compliance.

During the 2015-2016 school year, eight districts were reviewed:

- 6 elementary/middle school districts
- 1 high school district
- 1 unit school district
- 2 special education facilities

## Bus Driver Training

Each Regional Office of Education is responsible for conducting two types of Bus Driver courses. The eight-hour initial training is required for all new school bus drivers prior to getting a bus permit, and the annual two-hour refresher workshop is required in the 12 month period prior to renewing their school bus permit. Experienced drivers must take a two-hour refresher course annually, and all new drivers must take an eight-hour course in school bus driver safety and first aid, as prescribed by the Illinois State Board of Education and administered by the ROE.

145 Total Initial & Refresher classes were provided in 2015-16

- Delivered training for 2,918 drivers to renew certification
- Delivered training for 972 drivers to obtain certification

# Regional Safe Schools – Partners for Success

Partners for Success (Pfs) is an alternative school setting offered by the ROE in lieu of expulsion or for multiple suspensions for middle and high school students. In 2015-16, 73 students were served at Partners for Success.

- 24 middle school and 49 high-school students participated
- 8 high school and 9 middle school students graduated
- 23 students returned to their home school in good standing
- 1 middle school student was identified with special needs and obtained services
- 3 high school students received other educational placements
- 17 high school and 3 middle school students are continuing at Pfs
- All middle school students took the PARCC testing; high school students in Algebra II and English III took PARCC
- 65% of students tested in mathematics maintained or improved math concepts
- 100% of students participated in social work service - individual, group or both
- 100% of students participated in at least one service learning project
- 14 students completed Washington Aggression Interruption Training (WAIT)
- 95% of all students participated in Teen Health Connection
- 5 high school students participated in Certified Alcohol and Drug Counseling (CADC) group
- 11 high school students participated in Career Technical Education class
- Middle school students earned 167 of 189 credits attempted
- High school students earned 432 of 511 credits attempted
- 6 career speakers addressed juniors and seniors throughout the school year
- Culinary and art classes were offered second semester to meet students' academic, social and emotional elective needs

# Partners for Success . . .

## ... Student Updates

“We are fortunate to hear from prior student’s about the paths they have taken since leaving PfS. It is always rewarding to hear their successes and about the positive steps they have made to achieve their goals,” said Linda Downey, PfS Principal. “Recently, we have heard from four of our past students, from various districts, who really make us at PfS proud!”

- a male student from Fenton High School passed the entrance exam to enter the union for welding
- a female student from Fenton High School is academically successful at College of DuPage
- a male student from Lake Park High School is at COD pursuing Culinary Arts
- a female student from Waubonsie High School is attending Kishwaukee College and working as a certified caregiver

We celebrate these examples of the collaborative work of families, Districts and ROE services in action!

## Parents as Teachers (PAT)

Parents as Teachers is a research-based prevention initiative serving children prenatal to age three. Parents as Teachers provides home visits that include health and developmental screenings and researched-based information on development.

In the 2015-16 school year, the ROE Parents as Teachers program provided in-home parenting support focused on school readiness to 37 families. Of those:

- 91% were low income
- 12% were teen parents
- 15% were homeless
- 85% were low education
- 79% were Hispanic children

In the Keeneyville program 22 families were served. Of those families:

- 59% were low income
- 23% were teens
- 9% were homeless
- 36% were low education
- 64% were Hispanic

These efforts have resulted in the early identification of many developmental delays that often go undiagnosed prior to the child entering preschool. These delays can be treated much more effectively when caught early.

# DuPage Alternative Learning Opportunities Program (ALOP)

The DuPage Alternative Learning Opportunities Program (ALOP) is designed for students who are at risk of academic failure and/or who are struggling with attendance. Referrals to ALOP DuPage are made through the student's home school. Each student receives an individualized success plan with strong social emotional skill support. ALOP DuPage supplies the following instructional and support venues:

- credit attainment through engaging virtual instruction and meaningful direct instruction
- high school equivalency programming
- smaller learning communities
- life and work readiness skills
- college/career planning and counseling

## DuPage ALOP Student Success Stories

"V" was referred to the ALOP program as she was more than a year behind in credits due to issues with homelessness. "As a student who wanted to get my education situated, my life on track, and be able to meet my goals and expectations, I am so happy that I was able to attend this program. I had the most amazing support from everyone here. I am so thankful and appreciate everything this program has brought me because even now that I have my GED and am ready to leave, they have prepared me for what is still to come in the real world!"

"When I started at ALOP I hadn't been in school since seventh grade. I struggled with all of my subjects, especially math. I was at ALOP for a year and a half, and I wouldn't have my GED if it wasn't for Ms. Hana, Ms. E. and Mr. Kirk. They never gave up on me. I would not be in college without them."

"A" was referred to ALOP due to extended stays in juvenile detention and rehabilitation programs. He was a bright young man who was struggling to find where he fit in the world.

"I actually liked coming to ALOP because I always learned something new and the teachers were always there to help in any way. It was a very great privilege and experience being in the ALOP program. They helped me prepare for the GED, jobs and college."

"J" had frequent absences and as he fell farther behind, his motivation continued to wane. He felt socially isolated at his school which contributed to his pattern of non-attendance.

"I started to hate school - finding every way possible not to go and by junior year I had about two hundred absences. I knew that what I was doing was so bad for me but I got pushed to the point I felt helpless and not welcomed. Once I started the program, I walked into a class of about nine students and everyone was so welcoming. This program brought back the effort and commitment I lost last year during school. I need this to be successful and nothing is going to stop me."

# General Education Development (GED)

For the time period July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016:

- 758 individuals participated in GED testing
  - o 359 completed all four parts of the test
  - o 313 of those individuals passed all four parts
- 287 individuals were certified (Passed all four parts and the Constitution Test)
- 272 sets of Initial Documents (Certificate/Transcript) were issued to Newly Certified individuals
- 1065 total duplicate transcript/certificate/verification requests were completed

## McKinney-Vento Act Homelessness Programming

The Regional Office of Education employs a homeless student advocate, funded through federal McKinney-Vento grant dollars, to assist homeless families, schools, and community service providers to understand homeless education law and work together to help these families in need.

The State of Illinois began tracking the number of homeless students in the 2005-06 school year. At that time there were 269 homeless students identified and served in the county. In the 2015-16 school year there were 1,687 pre-K through 12th grade homeless students identified by DuPage County Schools.

Over \$19,000 worth of goods and services such as tutoring and after school programming were paid for by the grant to give homeless students a hand-up as they strive for a better future.

With such hardship comes occasional moments of unexpected joy and generosity. This spring a young lady who has been homeless and under-resourced for years was blessed by a local community group with funds allowing her to attend prom. A simple ask for a used dress was met with offers of a new dress, shoes, hair, nails and makeup! This high school student enjoyed a rare experience of being pampered and feeling like a princess thanks to this wonderful group of “fairy godmothers.”

It is our hope that no child or person should ever be homeless. But as long as this issue exists we will do everything in our power to protect and equip students for a brighter tomorrow.

## 2016 Back to School Fair

In collaboration with the DuPage Credit Union, Catholic Charities, Humanitarian Service Project and Golden State Foods, the DuPage ROE distributed over 3,000 backpacks loaded with school supplies to low-income children in DuPage County so each child is ready to start the new school year prepared to learn. This would not have been possible without the generous support of donors throughout DuPage County.

## Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM)

- A total of 175 educators (teachers and administrators) representing more than 48 different schools, districts or educational institutions enrolled in the four STEM-related workshops offered during the 2015-16 school year. Topics included computer science, coding, and the shift to Next Generation Science Standards with a focus on assessment shifts, engineering practices, inquiry-based learning, and serving a student population with increasingly diverse needs.
- A total of 10 after-school STEM workshops for students were held at two area middle schools. In total, the workshops involved nearly 400 students in STEM-related activities.
- On December 4, 2015, 75 female middle school students, their parents, and several teachers attended Pathways to STEM, the annual STEM career exploration event at Argonne National Laboratory. AAUW volunteers assisted at the event.
- In partnership with the Technology Center of DuPage (TCD), nearly 20 exhibitors engaged over 160 students in grades five through eight and their parents in hands-on STEM learning experiences at the President's Day STEM Open House on February 15, 2016. AAUW members and TCD students supported the event through volunteer efforts.
- In support of the seventh grade career fair sponsored by Technology Center of DuPage (TCD) in March 2016, the ROE STEM Team provided welcome bags and pencils to the nearly 1,300 students in attendance.
- The STEM Team partnered with AAUW to sponsor STEM gift bags at the Tech Savvy event held in April 2015. The event was attended by nearly 200 female middle school students.
- The STEM Team published five STEM newsletters.
- The ROE STEM Team maintained the STEM website, [stemdupage.com](http://stemdupage.com).
- The STEM team supported the IIT Engineers Week Event at the Wheaton campus by sponsoring a STEM activity booth on February 27, 2016.

# CASEL/DuPage Regional Office of Education Partnership

For the past six years the Collaborative for Academic, Social and Emotional Learning (CASEL)/ROE partnership has supported the Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) implementation process in one therapeutic day school and 16 school districts educating over 66,200 students in 115 schools. Though each district has tailored their program to meet their needs, some common elements are shared among the districts and include:

- a commitment by district leadership to support the implementation process
- participation in the SEL network to learn, share resources and improve practice
- a leadership team that has attended an SEL CASEL training and has the capacity to lead the implementation process at the building level
- enhancing adult SEL competencies to foster relationships among staff and students and ensure a safe, caring learning environment
- using the CDI rubric to monitor the SEL implementation process annually
- demonstrating social and emotional learning implementation as a school improvement strategy that supports closing achievement gaps
- using traditional metrics, such as collecting discipline office referral data, attendance data, graduation rates, and academic growth as data points to measure the quality of program implementation and skill development

CASEL and the DuPage ROE Partnership supports the school districts by providing resources and coaching and creating opportunities to share success stories and implementing a new partnership SEL website (<http://dupagesel.org/>).

## Gifted Education

The ROE offered a Gifted Network Meeting in spring 2016. The purpose of the meeting was to determine the topics for professional development in 2016-17, with a focus on Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) alignment.

Additionally, numerous on-line Gifted Education Seminars (GES) were offered as graduate level courses. The GES is the state training module for classroom teachers to support their efforts to identify and serve highly able/gifted students through differentiation.



## 2016 Spelling Bee

ComEd and the DuPage Regional Office of Education sponsored the 2016 Scripps National Spelling Bee program for DuPage County schools. Student finalists from 67 public and private schools participated in this annual event. ComEd sent the DuPage County champion speller to Washington D.C. to compete in the 2016 Scripps National Spelling Bee. Additional prize sponsors included Samuel Louis Sugarman, Merriam-Webster, Encyclopedia Britannica and Scripps National Spelling Bee.

The ROE's Dr. Darlene Ruscitti and Bill Black received "Homeland Security Certification" from the International Association of Airport & Seaport Police. The certificate reads, "...th(ese) individual(s) and organization for the last few years have shown a significant commitment in advanced trainings in Homeland Security, School Safety, Public Safety, and has been instrumental in promoting such programs in DuPage County, Illinois, including partnering in Counterterrorism Education and Best Practices in the United States of America."

## Superintendent and Principal Collaboratives

Superintendent and principal collaboratives were designed to give participants the chance to work with other leaders in job-alike groups to discuss common challenges and develop new approaches to school leadership. The programs were redesigned in 2015-16 to develop ongoing professional learning communities for school and district leaders.

Dr. Shelby Cosner, Associate Professor, Department of Educational Policy Studies at the University of Illinois Chicago, worked with the facilitators to design collaborative session content based on the cycles of inquiry and identifying root causes.

In 2015-16, 22 individuals were involved in the Superintendent's cohort's and 65 were involved in the Principal's cohort.

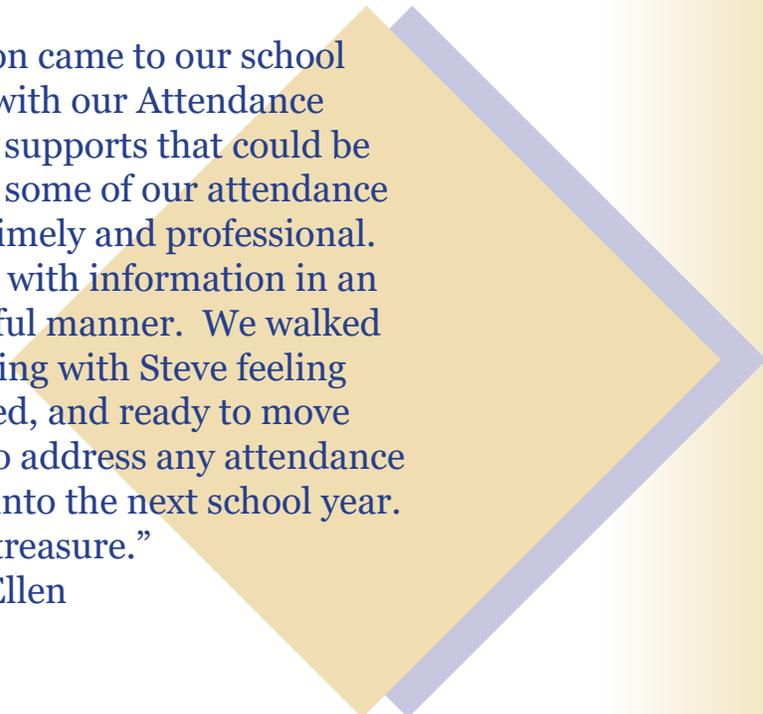
# Cultural Competency

Cultural competence is critical to increasing academic and social success and is respectful of and responsive to the needs of diverse students. When developed and implemented as a framework, cultural competence enables educators to function more effectively to understand the needs of all students. With continuous demographic changes, we at the ROE are building a cadre of diverse professionals that will be available to you to address:

- how to draw talent
- discipline issues
- special education issues and diversity
- parent-teacher conferences and diverse parents
- motivation and engagement,
- interventions needed to increase engagement

On June 2nd, Dr. Deidre Farmbry, CASEL Leader and retired Superintendent of the Philadelphia School District, facilitated two half-day focus groups with DuPage superintendents. The purpose was to engage them in activities designed to gather feedback on Leadership for Diversity by analyzing four phases of the journey: anticipation, preparation, implementation and validation.

Information gleaned from the focus groups was compiled into a report that will serve as a guide regarding next phases of work to support district leaders in assessing, designing, and implementing appropriate changes to practice to be responsive to changing student demographics to educate all students responsibly and well.



“Mr. Steve Garlington came to our school yesterday to meet with our Attendance Committee regarding supports that could be offered by the ROE for some of our attendance concerns. Steve was timely and professional. He provided our team with information in an engaging yet meaningful manner. We walked away from our meeting with Steve feeling empowered, informed, and ready to move forward with our plan to address any attendance concerns this year and into the next school year. What a treasure.”  
– Ellen

## TIDE

TIDE (Teacher In-service for DuPage Educators) provides quality university coursework at below-market costs to licensed DuPage County educators. During the 2015-16 school year, the DuPage Regional Office of Education's TIDE program:

- continued its focus on expanding teacher skills and qualifications by offering a variety of graduate courses leading to additional teaching endorsements
- operated as a financially self-sustaining program while presenting 85 graduate courses serving 1,179 teachers from July 2015 to June 2016
- collaborated with multiple DuPage County school districts to offer on-site endorsement-linked courses to their staffs
- partnered with five local universities to deliver a selection of cost-effective endorsement programs
- in addition to four district sites for the ESL endorsement program, TIDE and its university partners offered reading, special education courses (CPL and District 204), director of special education courses (Maercker District 60), early childhood special education courses (CPL) and instructional technology (three sites)

In 2016-17, TIDE staff will continue to investigate opportunities for DuPage and area educators to develop their professional capacities.

“I have been meaning to write you and thank you for the opportunity on Institute Day. Dwayne and I had an amazing time getting to know you and your staff. You were kind and caring. More important, you provided for us the perfect environment to succeed in our presentation. We are looking forward to a successful professional relationship with the DuPage ROE in the years to come.”

-Javier

Thank you for having us to your regional office yesterday for our IAA presentation. Many of the participants were from outside of the DuPage area and when we asked them why they had chosen to drive to DuPage instead of attending their local office, they said they always choose to come to DuPage because the quality of the presentations is so much better. That says a lot about you and your staff. Thank you again.

-Anita and Susan

“The time you provided us to learn and plan was invaluable. So often we attend seminars that fall below expectations, so it was empowering for our team to have one that exceeded expectations!”

-Tim

# Licensure

The ROE is a local office, easily accessed by our constituents. We provide service and answers and research licensure issues for applicants. We also cut through bureaucratic red tape and have direct access to the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) in Springfield.

Almost 32,000 people accessed ROE certification services in 2015-2016. The office staff:

- responded to 18,167 phone calls, 10,535 emails, 3,298 walk-in customers
- fingerprinted 2,050 applicants for employment
- welcomed four new National Board Certified Teachers

“Thank you again for all your help with (my license), I know you went above and beyond and I greatly appreciate your communication, guidance, and advocacy.”

-Keath

“I wanted to take this time to write to you to let you know what an asset Lori Ladesic is to your office. I reached out to (your office) in February and I was lucky enough to get Lori on the phone. She was incredibly professional, helpful, understanding, and calming. I thank my lucky stars that day I called your office and was fortunate to hear Lori. She didn't just “do her job” that day. She made me feel valued, important, and she reassured me when no one else could. Thank you for all that you do for education.”

-Carole

“I would like to acknowledge the fantastic service I received today from Maureen. She was patient, courteous, and very helpful. Please pass along my congratulations.”

-Patricia

# Learning Technology Center

The mission of the DuPage Learning Technology Center (LTC) is to provide technological resources to improve academic achievement and to provide all learners with technology-rich learning opportunities. The LTC supports all DuPage County school districts in the development and implementation of their technology plans.

## Technology Coordinators

The LTC conducts monthly meetings of technology coordinators for all DuPage County school districts and other learning agencies. These meetings focus on providing a shared learning environment for the coordinators to network regarding various issues of interest.

## Technology Facilitators Group

The DuPage LTC coordinates four annual sessions for DuPage technology specialists. These sessions focus on learning with technology for those who support learning technologies in the classroom on a daily basis. Each session is hosted by a district whose staff leads the session and share strategies, tools, and implementations relative to their experiences. Sessions were hosted by DuPage High School District 88, Elmhurst Community Unit School District 205, Fenton Community High School District 100, and Maercker District 60.

## Instructional Coaches Network

Per a request generated at a Technology Facilitator Group session, the DuPage ROE has initiated an Instructional Coaches Network to allow those individuals to share strategies, tools, and implementations relative to their experiences. Sessions were hosted by Downers Grove Grade School District 58 and Fenton Community High School District 100.

## Online Learning

The ROE offered the “Educational Technology – Black Hole or Bright Light” Administrator Academy in February and May. Although this academy met face-to-face, an on-line learning management system and other technology tools were utilized for its successful completion. The DuPage ROE plans to continue the on-line development and adaptation of academies.

## Common Core Assessments

The LTC supports districts in their technology preparations for the common core assessments by serving as a communication link between ISBE and district technology coordinators. Assessments included the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC), the Illinois Science Assessment (ISA), among other state-wide tests.

## Newsela

The LTC collaborated with Newsela to offer group pricing to DuPage County school districts on Newsela Pro. Fourteen districts expressed an interest in participating in this program.

## Other Professional Development

Throughout the year a total of 24 technology-related professional development sessions were supported, serving over 625 participants. The LTC maintains a shared folder for the DuPage Technology Coordinators to allow for their professional sharing and learning to be ongoing.

# The Regional Board of School Trustees

The Regional Board of School Trustees is an elected board comprised of seven members. This elected board hears petitions for annexations, detachments and changes in school district boundaries. The Regional Superintendent acts as Ex-Officio Secretary to the Board. The Regional Office maintains all records of petitions filed in the region. The main responsibilities of the Regional Board of School Trustees are:

- hearing and disposal of petitions for change of school district boundaries
- hearing and disposal of petitions by school districts to withdraw from Joint Agreements/ Cooperatives
- appointment of appraisers and approval of final settlements in the division of assets when new districts are formed

Regional Board of School Trustees meetings are regularly held the first Monday of each quarter; special meetings are scheduled when needed.



## Regional Office of Education DuPage County, Illinois Activity Measures

| Activity   | 2013   | 2014   | 2015   | 2016   |
|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| No. of Certificates Renewed                        | 14,400 | 10,118 | 13,258 | 12,872 |
| No. of School & Administration Bldgs Inspected     | 309    | 317    | 317    | 318    |
| No. of School Bldg Violations Found & Corrected    | 621    | 569    | 560    | 687    |
| No. of Criminal Background Checks & Fingerprinting | 1592   | 1845   | 1858   | 2227   |
| No. of Families Served through Truancy Prevention  | 169    | 872    | 875    | 682    |
| No. of GED Diplomas Issued (In-house only)         | 1221   | 997    | 970    | 1057   |
| No. of ALOP Students                               | 87     | 136    | 109    | 110    |
| Bus Driver Training Initial & Refresher            | 3024   | 3052   | 3502   | 4149   |
| People Assisted at Certification Counter           | 5210   | 4726   | 4872   | 3957   |
| No. of Phone Calls Served                          | 14,608 | 16,338 | 19,397 | 18,492 |
| PD Workshops Offered (In-house only)               | 229    | 185    | 82     | 82     |
| PD Workshop Attendees (In-house only)              | 4177   | 4012   | 2813   | 2813   |
| No. of Students Took GED Test                      | 788    | 1339   | 1316   | 2114   |
| GED Verifications Processed                        | 305    | 618    | 459    | 1051   |
| TIDE Graduate Courses Offered                      | 106    | 116    | 116    | 108    |

# Fiscal Responsibility Teacher Institute Fund

This is a restricted fund to support educator licensure and professional development opportunities for the purpose of increasing student academic achievement. (Illinois School Code 105 ILCS 5/3 -12).

BEGINNING FUND BALANCE (AUDITED) July 1, 2015 \$1,915,908.46

### Revenue

Certification \$375,277.40

Interest \$3,541.27

Total Revenue (+) \$378,818.67

### Expenditures

Purchased Services \$65,507.29

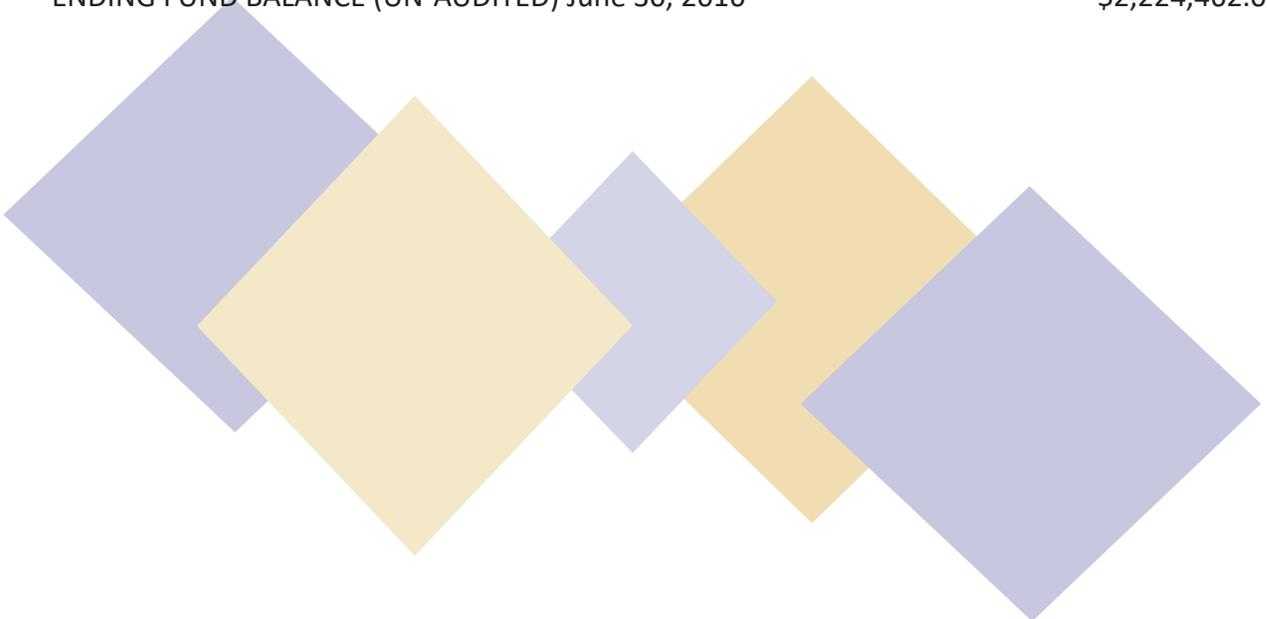
Supplies and Materials \$0.00

Capital Outlay \$0.00

Non-Capitalized Outlay \$4,757.77

Total Expenditures (-) \$70,265.06

ENDING FUND BALANCE (UN-AUDITED) June 30, 2016 \$2,224,462.07



# DuPage Regional Office of Education

## Administrative Team

Dr. Darlene J. Ruscitti, Regional Superintendent 630 407-5770  
Joan Glotzbach, Assistant Regional Superintendent 630 407-5772  
Dr. Olga Rammer, Director of Administrative Services 630 407-5771

## Administrative Assistants Team

Kelly Kozerka, Administrative Assistant 630 407-5773  
Raquel Wadsworth, Division Assistant 630 407-5774

## School District Compliance Team

William Black, Compliance/Health Life Safety Officer 630 407-5773  
Fred Munding, Compliance/Health Life Safety Officer  
John Patterson, Compliance/Health Life Safety Officer  
Thomas Romano, Compliance/Health Life Safety Officer

## Educator Licensure Team

Amy Asta, Licensure Specialist 630 407-5800  
Liz Bryers, Licensure Specialist  
Lori Ladesic, Licensure Leader  
Shelli Mueller, Receptionist, Licensure Specialist, GED

## Finance Team

Jeremy Dotson, CSBO, Finance Director 630 407-5777  
Maureen Black, Accts Receivable/Payable 630 407-5778  
Carolyn Webber, Human Resources/Payroll/Finance 630 407-5779

## Parents as Teachers Team

Magdalena Rivota, EC Coordinator 630 407-5800  
Gabriela Cruz, Bilingual Parent Educator  
Mari Mendez, Bilingual Parent Educator

## Truancy Prevention Team

Stephen Garlington, Truancy and Equity Coordinator 630 407-5812  
Karen Cipriano, Behavior Interventionist 630-407-5781  
Maurizio Jimenez, Behavior Interventionist 630 407-5805  
Annie Jones, Behavior Interventionist 630 407-5811  
Angie Tijerina, Senior Staff Assistant 630 407-5813

## Alternative Learning Opportunities Program (ALOP) Team

Kathy Ekstrand, Program Coordinator 630 495-6080

## Safe Schools - Partners for Success Team

Linda Downey, Principal 630 543-4222  
Emily Henske, Social Worker  
Terese DiSilvestro, School Secretary



**DuPage Regional Office of Education**

**Dr. Darlene Ruscitti**

**Regional Superintendent of Schools**

**421 N. County Farm Rd.**

**Wheaton, IL 60187**

**630.407.5800**

**[www.dupageroe.org](http://www.dupageroe.org)**