



Dr. Darlene J. Ruscitti
Regional Superintendent of Schools

ANNUAL REPORT 2016 2017



“Our mission has always been to provide all DuPage County students with a quality education that will ensure their future employability, quality of life and capability to strengthen our nation.”
-Dr. Darlene Ruscitti



One county, many connections

“GOVERNOR BRUCE RAUNER HAS APPOINTED DARLENE RUSCITTI, THE REGIONAL SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS IN THE DUPAGE REGIONAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION, TO ILLINOIS BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION.”



DEAR EDUCATION STAKEHOLDERS,

It is always an honor and a privilege to provide you with the DuPage County Regional Office of Education’s Annual Report. It reflects both the work that we engage in at the Regional Office as well as the many partnerships that we share services with on behalf of the children of DuPage.

I want to take a moment to reflect on the tremendous success of the 2016-2017 school year. While it has been a year of monumental change paired with an equal amount of uncertainty, the daily dedication by educators, parents, students, board and community members continues to make DuPage County an exceptional environment which allows our students to grow, learn and succeed.

I have been exceptionally proud of our school and district teachers and leaders who have

all faced adversity this year but showed up 1,000% each and every day committed to the educational excellence for our students.

And when I say ‘our students’ I truly mean it. Each DuPage student representing the Class of 2017 moves on to college and career with the support of an entire county of educators and stakeholders cheering them on as they enter the next chapter of their lives.

As we recharge for the 2017-2018 school year, we will continue to focus on how we can collectively continue to provide the best educational experience for our students in DuPage County. Thank you for your support and commitment.

Sincerely,

Dr. Darlene Ruscitti

“Dr. Ruscitti – I would like to thank you for the wonderful event, New Administrator’s Breakfast, you put on at the DuPage ROE on September 22. I was so impressed with the level of professionalism, detail, and simply desire for administrative growth you promoted through this event. I have had the wonderful pleasure of serving different regions both within and outside of our state, and I believe that the DuPage ROE is second to none!”

“Dear Darlene – Thank you so much for your participation in our Children’s Safety Expo. The event was a success, and we couldn’t have done it without your help!

We are fortunate to have such great community support to help us provide this fun and informative family activity for our constituents.”

Sincerely,
Christine Radogno
41st District Senate Minority Leader
Jim Durkin
82nd District House Minority Leader
David S. Olsen
State Representative, 81st District



“Dr. Ruscitti – I am pleased to inform you that the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has approved your grant application proposal in the amount of \$250,000 for the FY 17 Illinois Mathematics and Science Partnerships (IMSP).

–Congratulations on the approval of your grant proposal.”



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Alex, Class of 2016, visited his former PfS instructors to share that he is working in construction and pursuing a Union construction job!



Regional Safe Schools — Partners for Success

PfS Student Updates

Former students visit and report their success:

- 2014 student attending COD
- 2015 student graduated and enlisted in the Army
- 2015 graduate is working in union construction and loving it
- 2015 student graduated in June as a medical assistant
- 2016 student currently at Triton College pursuing EMT career

Student survey summary:

- Students perceive improvements in both their behaviors and academics
- Students identified the small class sizes as a contributing factor to their success
- Students identified journaling and note taking as the most important tools that they can use moving forward

Parent survey comments:

- “Communication was great, we got updates every week.”
- “Thank you to the staff at Partners for Success for helping my son complete his eighth grade. We really appreciate your hard work.”
- “His attitude toward school changed in a positive way.”

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 2016-2017, 83 students were served at Partners for Success.

2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR

- 32 middle school and 51 high school students participated
- 11 high school and nine middle school students graduated
- 29 students completed the PfS program
- Four students were identified with special needs and obtained services
- 11 high/middle school students received other educational placements
- 16 high school and 8 middle school students are continuing at PfS
- 90% of high school students and 88% of middle school students showed gains in mathematics
- 60% of high school students and 65% of middle school students showed gains in reading
- 100% of students participated in social work service - individual, group or both
- 95% of students participated in at least one service learning project
- 13 students completed Washington Aggression Interruption Training (WAIT)
- Eight middle school students participated in Structured Psychotherapy for Adolescents Responding to Chronic Stress (SPARCS)
- 17 high school students were hired as part of the Career Technical Education class
- Eight career speakers spoke with juniors and seniors addressing career options including military service, police and fire service, nursing, robotics, electronics and entrepreneurship
- Juniors and seniors took part in four field trips to explore post-high school options

Through Parents as Teachers, families receive regular home visits that include: parenting education and support, health and developmental screenings and research-based information.

Parents as Teachers

Parents as Teachers (PAT) is an internationally recognized evidence and research based home visiting program designed to support parents as their child's first and best teacher. The overall goal of the program is to support families and improve kindergarten readiness in young children.



Program efforts support families facing many challenges by providing:

- **increased connection to community resources**
- **early identification of developmental delays that often go undiagnosed**
- **support navigating the early childhood system and a smoother transition to preschool**

Through Parents as Teachers, families receive regular home visits that include: parenting education and support, health and developmental screenings and researched-based information on child development. In addition, all families are invited to participate in monthly Group Connections programs.

Group Connections offers families an opportunity to come together, build social connections, engage in parent-child interaction and increase their knowledge of ways to support their child's development. During the 2016-2017 school year, the PAT program offered a total of 16 Community Group Connections and nine High School Group Connections for teen

parents. Topics included art and literacy, life skills/budgeting, fire and holiday safety, health and nutrition and community resources.

In the fall of 2016, the DuPage Regional Office of Education received a Prevention Initiative Expansion Grant from the Illinois State Board of Education. The grant allowed the program to expand from three to eight staff members. This increase allowed the program to triple its capacity from 32 to 105 at-risk families.

In the 2016-2017 school year, the ROE Parents as Teachers program provided in-home parenting support focused on school readiness to 63 families. Of those families:

- 95% were low income
- 66% were uninsured or underinsured
- 63% were low education
- 11% were homeless
- 7% were teen parents

In the Keeneyville program, 17 families were served. Of those families:

- 82% were low income
- 65% were uninsured or underinsured
- 59% were low education
- 12% were homeless
- 18% were teen parents

Overall our services ensure that families have all the supports and resources they need to be safe, healthy and eager to learn.



DuPage Alternative Learning Opportunities Program

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 served 62 students and 85% completed the GED/HSE.

Student profiles include:

- The need for alternative setting to support academic and social-emotional skills – short term transitional – “Launch,” or


- Upperclassmen who are credit deficient and require an alternative setting to successfully complete graduation requirements, or
- Mathematically unable to earn required credits for graduation, or personal/life circumstances that impact diploma completion

ALOP DuPage Parent, “Flexibility and wisdom are two characteristics at ALOP making them awesome at what they do. I can’t express how much we appreciate their help & care with M.”



General Education Development

DuPage Regional Office of Education is available to assist those who have not graduated from high school and are interested in the opportunity to earn the High School Equivalency Certificate. For the time period July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017:

- 9,624 paper copies of GED's were scanned electronically into the ROE database
 - 818 individuals participated in GED testing
 - 423 individuals completed all four sections of the test
 - 337 individuals passed all four sections of the test
 - 296 individuals were certified (passed all four sections and the Constitution Test)
 - 493 official documents were requested from certified individuals
 - 1,130 total duplicate transcript/certificate/verification requests were completed
- 



*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.*

McKinney-Vento Act Homelessness Programming

The Regional Office of Education employs a McKinney-Vento Advocate, funded through federal McKinney-Vento grant dollars. The Advocate serves as a resource to homeless families as they navigate the law; to the schools as they strive to provide the best education for students; and to community service providers as they work together to help these families in need.

The State of Illinois began tracking the number of homeless students in the 2005-2006 school year. At that time there were 269 homeless students identified and served in the county. In the 2016-2017 school year there were 1,794 pre-K through 12th grade homeless students identified by DuPage County Schools.

Over \$20,000 was earmarked in the grant to provide services such as tutoring and after-school programming, giving homeless students a hand-up as they strive for a better future.

In addition to the grant funding, our community partners help in providing positive experiences for families going through a tough time. This past holiday season, a mother who was homeless expressed a wish that her family could be together

on Christmas morning. As is the case in many homeless situations, she and her children were staying in separate locations to keep a roof over everyone's head. When this desire was brought to the attention of one of our partners, the money was donated to pay for a hotel room for that family. Christmas morning was sweet because some very special children got to wake up in the same room with their mom and spend quality time together as a family.

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.



Truancy Services

In 2016-2017 a major focus of the Truancy Department was on preventative programs and services. The department offered services to schools, parents and students to promote positive school attendance and student/parent engagement.

Students struggling with attendance issues were identified for participation in an Attendance Intervention Mentoring (AIM) Group. The ROE offered AIM to schools as a proactive and preventative intervention for students who were struggling with attendance issues. The program was piloted at two elementary schools in District 61 where approximately 15 students participated in the groups run by a behavior interventionist during the student's lunch period. The Why Try curriculum used in the groups provides extra supports to motivate students, help increase their decision-making skills and improve overall school success.

The ROE truancy department finished the 2016-17 school year with 335 active/open cases. Service totals by cases for the year:

- Academic Counseling..... 253
- Life Skills Training..... 138
- Personal Counseling..... 170
- Monitoring..... 335
- Home Visits 138
- Support Services for Parents/Families 157
- Referral for Social/Academic Services 123

Students struggling with attendance issues were identified for participation in an Attendance Intervention Mentoring (AIM) Group.

Rebound, a Suspension Intervention Program

In response to SB 100, “students who are suspended out-of-school for longer than four school days must be provided appropriate and available support services during the period of their suspension” (105 ILCS 5/10-22.6 b-25), DuPage school

administrators and DuPage Regional Office of Education administrators designed a suspension intervention program for students in grades 6-12. The program is named Rebound and was piloted second semester of the 2016-2017 school year.

Rebound supports students with academic continuity while promoting restorative practices teaching conflict resolution and strengthening social emotional skills. Students benefit from a satellite site as it places distance between potential triggers that exacerbate impulsivity, anxiety and/or aggression while the student explores, reflects and works on the needed self-regulation and prosocial skills to successfully return to their school setting.

Student Excerpts

Reason - “I wasn’t in control of my actions.”

Consequences of behavior - “Affected mom’s work schedule and school family.”

Plans for improvement - “Ask for help when I need it.”

Physical cue - “Feel my legs shaking.”

Supports - “Find someone to talk with like Mr. S.”

The Illinois State Deans’ Association (ISDA) invited the DuPage Regional Office of Education to present on Rebound at their annual Spring Conference.

Parent and Teacher Workshops



During the 2016 – 2017 school year, the DuPage County Regional Office of Education hosted workshops to provide support to parents and teachers who were supporting students who were experiencing school anxiety and refusal.

Parents were offered the opportunity to attend the workshop, *School Anxiety and School Refusal – How do I get my kids to go to school?* presented by Jackie Rhew, LCPC, Assistant Director of the School Anxiety/Refusal Program at Amita Health Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital. The workshop, held in April and May, was offered at no cost to DuPage County parents. Seventy parents and twelve education professionals attend the programs. Parent comments included:

- “This was a great program with both general concepts and specific techniques to walk away with - an action plan and places to go for answers.”
- “Work on managing my own anxiety when dealing with my child.”
- “Never power struggle. Set expectations.”
- “I wish it could have continued. Very helpful! Thanks!”

In March, 100 counselors, social workers, school psychologists, nurses, teachers and administrators attended the workshop, ‘Understanding and Working with School Anxiety and Refusal Impacting Student Attendance’ by Dr. Patrick McGrath. Dr. McGrath is the president of the Anxiety Centers of America and the co-director of the School Anxiety/School Refusal Program at Amita Health Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital.

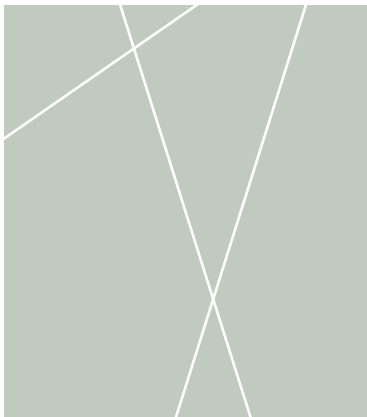
Dr. McGrath’s presentation was noted as an enlightening framework with hands on strategies to enhance student anxiety intervention. The following are just a snippet of participants’ thanks:

- “It was especially helpful to reinforce that research tells us that best practice is to help kids manage their anxiety instead of to avoid it.”
- “You can’t talk people out of anxiety but you can train them to work with it and overcome it.”
- “One benefit for me was learning that there is an assessment tool available (Chris Kearney) that identifies the four domains of school anxiety/refusal which then determines the best interventions for that particular domain.”
- “I learned strategies I can utilize with a student who was just referred this afternoon.”
- “One of the best presentations I have ever attended in over 20 years of education.”

The workshop, School Anxiety and School Refusal - How do I get my kids to go to school? was presented in April and May.

Licensure Issues & Remedies

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 30,000 people accessed ROE licensure services in 2016-2017.

The office staff:

- responded to 13,649 phone calls, 10,914 emails, 1,794 walk-in customers
 - fingerprinted 3,451 applicants for employment
 - welcomed one new National Board Certified Teacher
- In June of 2016, the ROE was asked to assist the ISBE in notifying educators of the need to register licenses to prevent lapsing.
- 735 educators on the list needed to be notified
 - 456 educators responded and registered their license
 - ROE mailed 342 letters via the USPS
 - ROE sent out five separate email reminders for lapsed certificates totaling 685 emails

The Regional Board of School Trustees

The Regional Board of School Trustees is an elected board comprised of seven members. This 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; this year included Midwest Club Petition 2017PDA01. In May 2017, two new Trustees were elected and one was appointed to the Regional School Board; a new Board President was also appointed in June 2017.

The main responsibilities of the Regional Board of School Trustees are to:

- hear and dispose of petitions for change of school district boundaries
- hear and dispose of petitions by school districts to withdraw from Joint Agreements/ Cooperatives
- appoint appraisers and approve final settlements in the division of assets when new districts are formed



Back row: Laura Pollastrini (retired board member), Mary Ellen Young and Mary Aherne Young. Front row: Paula Bowling (Board President), Paula McGowen, John Huff and Catherine Hanzelin (Vice President).

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

2017 Spelling Bee

ComEd and the DuPage Regional Office of Education sponsored the 2017 Scripps National Spelling Bee program for DuPage County schools. Student finalists from 48 public and private schools participated in this annual event. The Regional Spelling Bee included 27 finalists from the DuPage County area. Going into round seven, Aditya Badlani, an 8th grader from Butler Junior High, won the 2017 DuPage County Spelling Bee (also in 2016) with the word “yawmeter.” ComEd sent the DuPage County champion speller to Washington D.C. to compete in the 2017 Scripps National Spelling Bee. Additional prize sponsors included Merriam-Webster Encyclopedia Britannica and iStar Financial.



Congratulations to Aditya Badlani, an eighth grader from Butler Junior High, on winning the 2017 Spelling Bee. This is Aditya's second consecutive win.

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 members review the documentation submitted to verify proper handling by the architect and the school district.

During the 2016-2017 school year, the ROE reviewed and issued:

- Five building addition permits
- One new building construction permit
- 109 major and miscellaneous renovation permits
- 115 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 members verify that districts are maintaining their buildings in compliance with these state standards.

During the 2016-2017 school year:

- 277 buildings were inspected
- Of the 42 districts inspected, the following had NO violations:
Keeneyville 20, Salt Creek 48, Cass 63, CCSD 89, CHSD 94 and CCSD 180
- 272 violations were found and corrected

Compliance Review

Each of DuPage County's 42 school districts is visited every four years, on a rotating schedule, by ROE staff members 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 2016-2017 school year, eight districts were reviewed:

- Six elementary/middle school districts
- One high school district
- One unit school district
- One special education facility





DuPage ROE hosted the Third Annual Kindergarten Symposium: Building Social-Emotional Competencies in partnership with the Addison and Wheaton/Warrenville Early Childhood Collaborations.



Professional Development Offerings

Teacher In-service for DuPage Educators

TIDE (Teacher In-service for DuPage Educators) provides quality university coursework at below-market costs to licensed DuPage County educators. During the 2016-2017 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 276 graduate courses serving 1050 teachers
- 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
- offered courses in reading, special education, the director of special education endorsement, and instructional technology endorsement

In 2017-2018, TIDE staff will continue to investigate opportunities for DuPage and area educators to develop their professional capacities.

The DuPage Regional Office of Education provides Professional Development through a variety of methods and opportunities. A significant number of workshops cover a wide range of topics. Two of the workshops offered by DuPage ROE Assistant Regional Superintendent of Schools, Joan Glotzbach, are highlighted below.

During the 2016-2017 school year, Joan Glotzbach, DuPage ROE assistant regional superintendent of schools, presented two workshops. The first, "Attendance, Truancy, Suspension, Oh My - What DuPage Regional Office of Education resources are available to support your students in need," was presented to counselors, social workers, deans assistant principals and student resource officers.

A second workshop, "Effective Strategies for Working with Students Who Have Experienced Adverse Trauma" was presented at the Center for Success in High-Need Schools Summer Institute. The audience included teachers from DuPage and surrounding counties. The event was facilitated by Dr. Jan Fitzsimmons, executive director of the Urban Education Laboratory at North Central College and day's keynote speaker was State Superintendent, Dr. Tony Smith.

Other offerings included:

- ReStore DuPage – presented by Daniel Smith, Senior Probation Officer/Balanced and Restorative Justice Coordinator
- Legislative Update – presented by Jennifer Mueller, Attorney for Hodges, Loizzi, Eisenhammer, Rodick and Kohn, LLP
- Understanding Mindfulness as a School Counselor – presented by Jean Osborne and Jenny Franz, School Counselors
- How Can We Help Students and Parents Develop a Practical Plan to Pay for College? – presented by Frank Palmasani, school counselor and author of *Right College, Right Price*



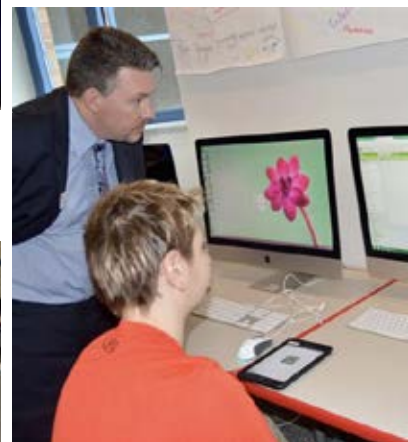
Superintendent and Principal Collaboratives

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 2015-2016 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 2016-2017, 11 participants were involved in the Superintendent's cohort's and 43 were involved in the Principal's cohort.



CASEL/DuPage Regional Office of Education Partnership

For the past seven years the Collaborative for Academic, Social and Emotional Learning (CASEL)/ DROE partnership has supported systemic implementation of Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) in 17 DuPage districts and one therapeutic day school serving over 72,290 students. Though each district has tailored the program to meet their needs, some common elements are shared among the districts including:

- a commitment by district leadership to support the implementation process
- participation in the SEL network to learn, share resources and improve practice
- creation of a leadership team that has attended an SEL CASEL training and has the capacity to lead the implementation process at the building level
- a commitment to enhancing adult SEL competencies to foster relationships among staff and students and ensure a safe, caring learning environment
- using the collaborating districts initiative 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 and measure the quality of program implementation and skill development

The partnership supports DuPage districts by providing resources, coaching and creating opportunities to share success stories. More information about the partnership and individual district SEL work can be found at <http://dupagesel.org/>.

The partnership supports DuPage districts by providing resources, coaching and creating opportunities to share success stories.

Throughout the year a total of 21 technology-related professional development sessions were supported, serving over 400 participants.



Learning Technology Center

The DuPage Learning Technology Center (LTC) provides support and guidance to the Regional Office of Education (ROE) operations and professional development opportunities while also implementing the Illinois State Board of Education K-12 technology initiatives. The mission of the LTC is to provide technological resources to improve academic achievement and to provide all learners with technology-rich learning opportunities. The ROE/LTC supports all DuPage County school districts to develop and implement their technology plans.

Technology Coordinators

The ROE/LTC conducts monthly meetings of technology coordinators for all DuPage County school districts and other learning agencies. Based on input from coordinators, the format of these meetings is designed to focus on providing a shared learning environment as an opportunity for the coordinators to network regarding various issues of current and future interest to them.

Technology Facilitators Group

The DuPage ROE/LTC also coordinates four annual sessions for DuPage technology facilitators/coaches/integration specialists. These sessions focus on learning with technology by sharing strategies and tools with district

staff who support learning technologies in the classroom on a daily basis. Each of these sessions is hosted by DuPage school district staff who lead discussions on strategies, tools and implementations relative to their district experiences. Sessions this past year were hosted by Bloomingdale School District 13, Indian Prairie School District 204, Lake Park Community High School District 108 and Community High School District 99.

Blended Learning

The ROE offered a blended workshop series entitled “Literacy in the Content Areas” for teachers in kindergarten through eighth grade. This professional learning opportunity was created to demonstrate how to weave the instruction of reading, writing, speaking, listening, science and social sciences together. From November through April, thirty-eight participants met face-to-face at the CPL on several occasions, with their ongoing learning between these sessions supported by the ROE’s learning management system. The DuPage ROE plans to continue the development of blended professional learning opportunities on topics of current interest to area educators.

Common Core Assessments

One of the roles of the ROE/LTC is to support districts in their technology preparations for the common

core assessments by serving as a communication link between ISBE and DuPage school district technology coordinators. Support was provided for assessments including the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC), the Illinois Science Assessment (ISA) and other state-wide tests.

SMART MAP-E

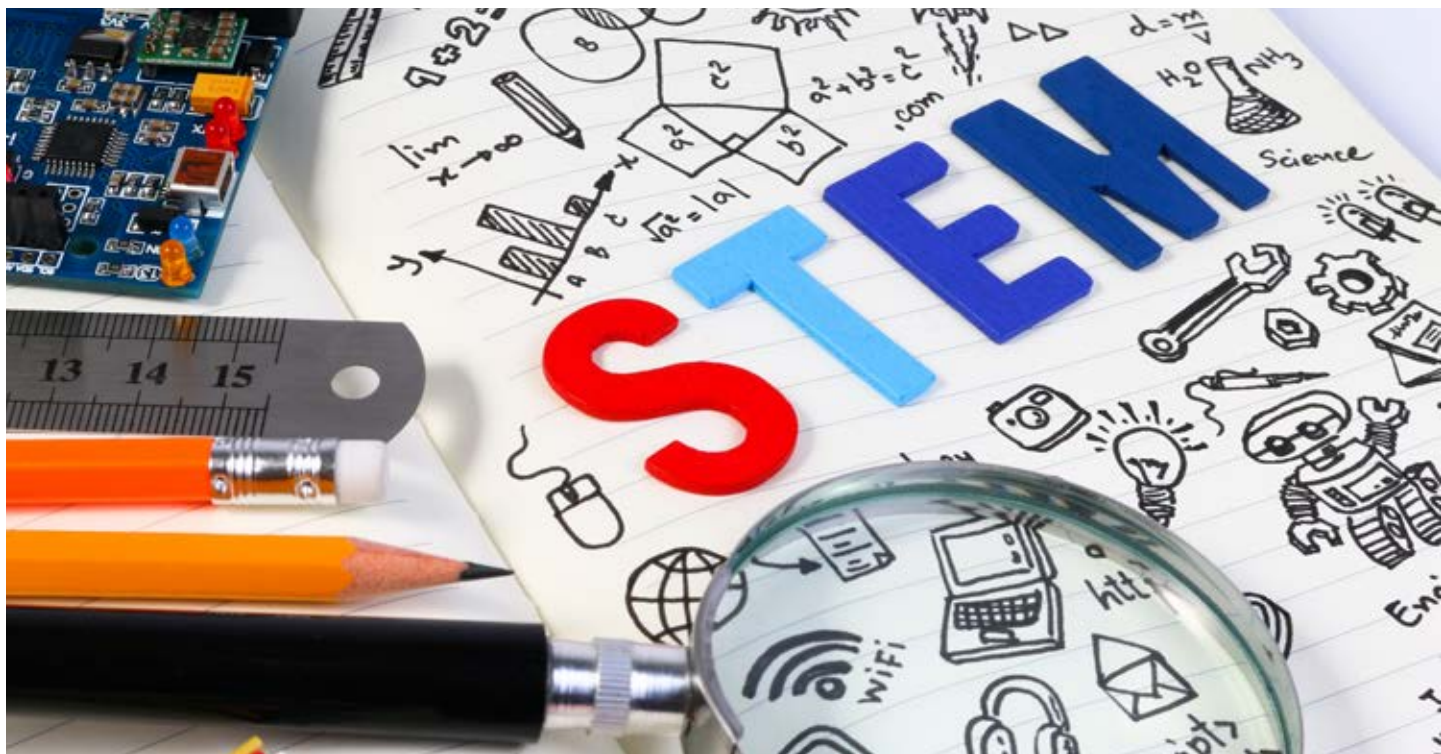
The LTC coordinates the SMART Major Account Program for DuPage County. This program provides reduced pricing on interactive whiteboards, interactive flat panels and other products from SMART Technologies and is open to all public school districts in the county. On October 21, 2016 the ROE hosted a “SMART Technology Solutions” showcase to share information regarding the newest SMART products available.

Apple Professional Learning

The ROE collaborated with Apple, Inc. to offer four professional learning opportunities this past school year. These workshops were facilitated by Apple staff and included “Reaching All Learners: Apple Tools for Special Needs” on September 22, “Enhancing Teaching & Learning in Language Arts” on January 19, “Enhancing Teaching & Learning in STEM” on April 26 and “Everyone Can Code” also on April 26. A total of 97 educators participated in these learning opportunities.

Other Professional Development

Throughout the year a total of 21 technology-related professional development sessions were supported, serving over 400 participants. Additionally, the ROE/LTC maintains a shared folder for the DuPage Technology Coordinators to allow for ongoing professional sharing and learning.



Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics

STEM is the integrated application of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. First introduced in 2001, the four subject areas are combined into a single, interconnected discipline. This requires a significant shift from a teacher-focused classroom to one that requires students to be actively engaged in inquiry, exploration, and problem-solving. STEM learning goals closely align with the Common Core State Standards for ELA/Literacy and Mathematics and the Next Generation Science Standards. In 2016-2017, ROE STEM provided a wide variety of programming for students, parents and teachers.

- A total of 180 educators (teachers and administrators) representing more than 40 different schools, districts or educational institutions enrolled in the five STEM-related workshops offered during the 2016-2017 school year. Topics included creating and using makerspaces, coding, engineering, NGSS, NGSS-aligned assessment and STEM.
- A total of 12 after-school STEM workshops for students were held at five different DuPage middle schools. In total, the workshops involved nearly 400 students in STEM-related activities.
- In December, 50 female middle school students, their guests, and several teachers attended Pathways to STEM, the annual STEM career exploration event at Argonne National Laboratory. Volunteers from the American Association of University Women (AAUW) assisted at the event.
- The STEM team supported the IIT Engineers Week Event at the Wheaton College campus by sponsoring a STEM activity booth on February 25, 2017.
- The seventh-grade career fair sponsored by Technology Center of DuPage (TCD) in March 2016 was supported by the ROE STEM Team by providing welcome bags to nearly 1,000 students in attendance.
- The STEM Team assisted the Greater Oak Brook Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Partnership in coordinating a program in which 40 area high school students were mentored by industry professionals as they worked on real-world work math, marketing, engineering and construction projects.
- The STEM Team partnered with AAUW to provide STEM gift bags at the Tech Savvy event held in March, 2017. The event was attended by nearly 200 female middle school students.
- The STEM Team published six STEM newsletters and maintained the STEM website: www.stemdupage.com.

STEM learning goals closely align with the Common Core State Standards for ELA/Literacy and Mathematics and the Next Generation Science Standards.



Cultural Competency

In the past two decades, the demographics of DuPage County, as well as the entire United States, has changed dramatically. As educators, we see a greater number of nationalities, races, cultures, languages and religious beliefs within our classrooms. Our classrooms also include United States citizens, legal residents and undocumented immigrants. While some students are raised in affluence others live in poverty and have dramatically different levels of language acquisition and acculturation.

One of the leading indicators of academic achievement is the quality of classroom instruction and Dr. Charlotte Danielson, educator, author and consultant, has been one of the thought leaders in describing and providing examples of quality classroom instruction. Based on her research, the quality of teacher instruction has been placed at the center of school improvement efforts in Illinois.

Inspired by Dr. Danielson's work, the DuPage Regional Office of Education has

gone a step further and will continue work around Equity and Excellence to ensure ALL students can compete in our global society.

According to Dr. Danielson, "In order to ensure student learning, therefore, teachers must know not only their content and its related pedagogy but also the students to whom they wish to teach that content."

Over the past year, the ROE facilitated focus groups and created a shared service task force to create a countywide action plan with the goal to:

- Increase the number of teachers and administrators from a diverse background
- Build capacity among mainstream teachers and administrators to

successfully increase the academic achievement of students from diverse backgrounds

- Provide students and parents from diverse backgrounds the knowledge and skills to successfully navigate the American Educational System.
- Provide teachers and support staff with the insight, knowledge and skills they need to provide quality instruction to an exceptionally diverse student body.
- Provide board members and administrators the background they need to appropriately support this instruction.

The ROE is depending on educators to tap into the strength that student diversity brings to our school systems. The modern classroom is only truly a single learning community when all of its members are valued and their differences are teaching resources used to benefit all.

A 2017 DuPage County classroom is likely to have Asian, Black, Hispanic and White students of Christian, Hindu, Jewish or Muslim faiths just to name a few possibilities.



Gifted Education

In 2016 - 2017, three Gifted Network meetings were scheduled. Topics included: identification protocols and resources, supporting underserved students in gifted/talented programs and differentiating mathematics for high ability students.

Meeting highlights included:

- Acceleration: Exploring Options Beyond Grade Skipping, provided gifted educators and administrators an opportunity to collaboratively explore current research on the Countywide
- Institute Day: A workshop, facilitated by Dr. Michele Kane, Supporting the Social Emotional Needs of High Ability Learners, was held in April. Educators attending received two texts and the GES Counseling the Gifted Module content. Attendees at all events included public and private school teachers and administrators from DuPage and surrounding counties.

Gifted Network meetings will continue in 2017-2018 focusing on topics including Creativity, Social-Emotional Learning, Twice-exceptional Learners and Talent Development. Workshops to be scheduled include:

- Differentiating ELA Instruction for High Ability/High Potential Learners
- Supporting Gifted/Talented Learners Academic, Social and Emotional Needs through Multi-tier System of Supports (MTSS)



- MTSS and Student Growth - Evidence-based Differentiation Practices for High Ability Learners

Finally, several Gifted Education Seminar Companion Module workshops will be offered throughout the year. These include an Administrators Academy, RtI and Gifted, and Counseling the Gifted.

Gifted Network meetings will continue in 2017-2018 focusing on topics including Creativity, Social-Emotional Learning, Twice-exceptional Learners and Talent Development.

2017 Back to School Fair

In collaboration with the DuPage Credit Union, Catholic Charities, Humanitarian Service Project and Golden State Foods, Fleet Solutions, SCARCE and the Rotary Club in Wheaton, the DuPage ROE distributed over 3,000 backpacks to low-income

children in DuPage County. The backpacks help prepare each child to start the new school year prepared to learn. This would not have been possible without the generous support of donors throughout DuPage County.



Fiscal Responsibility

Teacher Institute Fund

This fund concerns itself with teacher licensure and development workshops. During the last six months the customer service satisfaction survey was filled out by 471 people that were assisted by the ROE. Of the 471 responses, 442 or 93.84% of the respondents were extremely satisfied with the customer service that they received.

BEGINNING FUND BALANCE (UNAUDITED)

7/1/2016 - Note (A)\$2,224,256.69

Revenue

Certification.....\$374,277.40

Interest.....\$4541.27

Total Revenue (+)\$378,818.67

Expenditures

Purchased Services.....\$65,507.29

Supplies and Materials.....\$0.00

Capital Outlay.....\$0.00

Non-Capitalized Outlay / Transfers *\$4963.15

Total Expenditures (-)\$70,470.44

ENDING FUND BALANCE (UN-AUDITED)

June 30, 2017\$2,532,604.92

Note (A) Includes a FY16 year-end transfer expense in the amount of \$205.38

Regional Office of Education Activity Measures

Activity	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Number of Licenses Renewed - licensure	14,400	10,118	13,258	12,872	14,118
Number of School & Administration Bldgs Inspected	309	317	317	318	277
Number of School Bldg Violations Found & Corrected	621	569	560	687	272
Number of Criminal Background Checks & Fingerprinting	1,592	1,845	1,858	2,227	3,451
Number of Families Served Through Truancy Prevention	169	872	875	682	335
Number of GED Diplomas Issued (In-house only) - initial	1,221	997	970	1,057	493
Number of ALOP Students	87	136	109	110	62
Number of Bus Driver Training Initial & Refresher	3,024	3,052	3,502	4,149	3,173
Number of People Assisted at Licensure Counter	5,210	4,726	4,872	3,957	1,794
Number of Phone Calls Served	14,608	16,338	19,397	18,492	13,649
Number of PD Workshops Offered (In-house only)	229	185	82	82	61
Number of PD Workshops Attendees (In-house only)	4,177	4,012	2,813	2,813	1,616
Number of Students Took GED test	788	1,339	1,316	2,114	818
GED Verifications Processed	305	618	459	1,051	1,130
TIDE Graduate Courses Offered	106	116	116	108	276
Number of Licensure Emails Served (Data Collected in FY17)					10,914

DuPage Regional Office of Education

Administrative Team

630 407-5800

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Dr. Jeremy Dotson, Assistant Regional Superintendent of Business, CSBO jdotson@dupageroe.org

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