



DuPage Regional Office of  
**EDUCATION**  
Excellence in Education

“The DuPage Regional Office of Education collaboratively builds and sustains a high quality County educational community for all youth.”

– Darlene J. Ruscitti

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#### **Latest News from Dr. Ruscitti**

### **Happy New Year!**

I would like to take this opportunity to wish a Happy New Year to all of our new and returning educators in DuPage County. Though this phrase is usually uttered on January 1, I find there is no better time than a new school year to make and focus on resolutions. I believe that together, we will create a year of excellence for our children as we focus on new challenges to meet, mandates to fulfill, goals to achieve and students who are relying on us to inspire and motivate them to reach their full potential. We do this with high expectations – for our teachers, students, administrators, staff, parents and community. Working together we will continue to raise the bar for all of our students.

Please join me in offering congratulations and welcome to the four individuals named below who will take on the role of superintendent in their respective districts:

Fenton High School District 100 - Dr. Gayle Wahlin  
Downers Grove High School District 99 - Dr. Henry Thiele  
Community Consolidated District 89 - Dr. Emily Tammaru  
Maercker School District 60 - Mr. Sean Nugent

## **Registration Website Update**

Based on the invaluable input provided by so many of our educators, the DuPage ROE has modernized our online professional development registration system. This year-long endeavor has resulted in a clearer, faster, more user-friendly process. To take advantage of the many professional development opportunities that the DuPage ROE has to offer, users will be required to fill out a new profile. Click [HERE](#) to register for a class or to see the list of coming events.

We are grateful for all that you do! Our intent is to continually strive to improve our service to best meet your needs as an educator. For your convenience, [this PDF](#) will provide a quick overview of the new registration process. If you need more information or assistance, please contact Olga Rammer or Kelly Kozierka at [630-407-5800](tel:630-407-5800).

## **New This Year at the ROE**

Each new school year brings exciting opportunities to address current needs and to create greater efficiencies. The staff of the ROE is eagerly anticipating partnering with you on our new 2016-17 initiatives outlined below.

- This year at the ROE we are working with the ISBE to better support **Early Childhood Education** in DuPage County. Through additional grant funds we now have a full-time Early Childhood Coordinator that will assist the 45 Early Childhood Programs in DuPage, assisting in the implementation of ESSA goals and in building regional collaboratives.
- You asked for it, and we listened! This year the ROE will provide greater opportunities for staff to learn about the new **Social Science, Health, Science and Fine Arts standards**. The ROE will provide opportunities for administrators and teachers to unpack the standards, learn from each other, share best practices and develop formative assessments. We are also excited about our **Integrating Literacy into Science and Social Sciences: Tools and Resources Initiative**. This is a blended, on-line/face-to-face course that will provide the necessary tools and resources to facilitate instruction across disciplines.
- Always on the minds of all our educators is the question of how to meet the needs of all our children. Senate Bill 100 restricts the authority of school districts to suspend and/or expel students and imposes new requirements in those cases where removal of students is allowed. The ROE is committed to **reducing suspensions and expulsions** and working with school districts to provide alternatives to exclusionary discipline.
- Development of **Culturally Responsive Teaching Strategies** is currently under way with the support and guidance of THE Charlotte Danielson!
- Good is never good enough and this is evident in working with a team of experts currently retooling the **Principal Evaluation Instrument** developed and adopted by DuPage and the IPA over seven years ago. Watch for this new evaluation instrument in the spring!

- With a **change from ACT to SAT**, we will be working with our high schools to better understand the alignment similarities and differences and where gaps exist between these two important assessment instruments so we can better meet the needs of our students.
- ESSA, ESSA, **ESSA!!** What an opportunity for DuPage to assist in the shaping of the new federal legislation. We continue to work with the ISBE, host focus groups for input, write white papers and assist in what we believe is good for children. This law will be with us for at least the next 10-15 years, so it is incumbent upon us to get it right!
- While we do everything we can to make sure we graduate every child and they are prepared for college and or a career, we sometimes fail. New this year is an opportunity for the ROE to work in conjunction with the College of DuPage to provide 18-21 year olds with **internships, career skill building, high school equivalency and a path to college or career.**

As always, we look forward to partnering with all DuPage districts to collectively do all we can to provide the best possible educational experience for the students of DuPage County.

## ROE Update

### The ROE Welcomes Joan Glotzbach

The ROE is pleased to announce that Joan Glotzbach has taken on the role of DuPage Assistant Regional Superintendent of Schools. She has worked as an educator for 34 years and has filled many roles in her career including music teacher, counselor, principal (both at a middle school/high school alternative education campus and at a middle school), director/assistant superintendent of human resources and assistant superintendent of leadership development. Glotzbach holds a Master's Degrees in Counseling Psychology and Educational Administration, as well as a Professional in Human Resources (PHR) certification.

Joan has led implementation of the Performance Evaluation Reform Act (areas related to professional practice and student growth) and was instrumental in implementing the U.S. Department of Education IL-PART (Illinois Partners Advancing Rigorous Training) grant. The IL-PART grant works threefold: preparing effective principals and assistant principals to positively impact student learning, developing effective district/university partnerships and supporting a sixteen week principal internship immersion.

Joan has presented at TURN (Teacher Union Reform Network), LUDA (Large Unit District Association), Triple I (IASB/IASA/IASBO) and IASPA (Illinois Association of School Personnel Administrators) conferences. Please join us in welcoming Joan to the ROE team.

### Congratulations to the ROE's Jeremy Dotson

DuPage ROE Finance Director Jeremy Dotson recently achieved the Certified Administrator of School Finance and Operations® certification by the Association for School Business Officials International.

SFO Certification is granted to highly qualified individuals who fulfill multiple requirements, including proving eligibility (through work experience and education), passing a comprehensive two-part exam that tests competency in accounting and school business management topics, and adhering to the ASBO International Certification Code of Conduct.

SFO Certification demonstrates a commitment to high standards and ethical practice in school business management. School business officials who earn this credential commit to ongoing professional development, renew the certification each year, and undergo recertification every three years.

Congratulations to Jeremy Dotson on this significant career accomplishment!

## Notable

### **2016-17 Immunization Requirements**

As students head back to school, the DuPage ROE encourages parents and guardians to ensure their children's immunizations are up to date.

Changes to school immunization requirements for the 2016-2017 school year include:

- Students in kindergarten, second, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, 10th, and 11<sup>th</sup> grades must show proof of having received two doses of varicella. Students in all other grades must show proof of one dose of varicella. The two-dose rule formerly applied only to students entering kindergarten, sixth, seventh, ninth, and tenth grades.
- Students entering sixth, seventh, and 12<sup>th</sup> grades must show proof of immunization for meningococcal. This immunization formerly was required only of sixth- and 12th-graders.

These vaccination revisions are supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. IDPH's [Immunization Quick Reference Guide](#) provides additional details about the 2016-17 requirements.

### **Language Access Resource Center**

The Language Access Resource Center (LARC) offers high-quality interpretation and translation services to health, education, legal and human service organizations. Interpreters are a necessity in providing adequate means of communication with the limited English population. These services are offered via telephone and face-to-face interpretation.

LARC also offers training for bilingual individuals to become interpreters. The LARC program requires 100 hours of formal training, including a 40-hour supervised externship in a health care, education or human service organization.

LARC is a program of the DuPage Federation on Human Services Reform, and the ROE is represented on its Board. For more information, contact Lourdes Lonergan at 630-782-7544 or visit [www.dupagefederation.org](http://www.dupagefederation.org).

### **Safety Always a Top Concern**

The senseless attack in Orlando reminds us of the volatile and unpredictable nature of our world. It is incumbent upon us to be continually vigilant and proactive in our efforts to protect the students we serve. Said Illinois Emergency Management Director James K. Joseph, "The recent tragic events are a sober reminder that we can never rest on our past accomplishments. Instead, we must diligently seek ways to continually address current threats to enhance our readiness."

The DuPage ROE will continue to offer safety programming and partner with the IMEA to address safety concerns in our schools.

## DuPage Health Department Highlights

### 1 in 4: Bring Mental Health Out of the Shadows

Mental health is the foundation of a person's well-being and equally as important as physical health. People of all occupations, incomes and cultures, regardless of their education or level of success, are affected by mental health issues/illness. 1 in 4 people will struggle with anxiety, depression, eating disorders, mood disorders and other types of mental illness at some time in their life.

**Learn.** By learning more about mental health/illness one can alleviate common fears, improve the quality of life for those who are experiencing mental health conditions, and help reduce the stigma associated with mental health. Education is critical in learning the signs and symptoms of mental illness.

**Measure.** Brush up on your mental health basics and take a minute to test your mental fitness using the mental health meter and taking the stress test.

**Get Help.** There are a wide variety of treatment and wellness options available for those coping with mental health issues whether it is for you, a family member or friend. Find local resources by going to <https://1in4mentalhealth.com> and schedule your free confidential one-on-one assessment.

**Take Action.** Better mental health begins with you. There are simple steps that you can take to make that difference, including practicing mental fitness in your life, volunteering, advocating, talking more about mental health issues and participating in Mental Health First Aid training. Mental disorders are among the leading causes of ill-health and disability worldwide. Early engagement and support are crucial to improving outcomes and increasing the promise of recovery.

If you or someone you know is in crisis contact 1-800-273-8255 or call 911 for help. Go to <https://1in4mentalhealth.com> for more information.

## Recommended Reads

### Inside the Every Student Succeeds Act: The New Federal K-12 Law

By Education Week Press, 2016 (E-Book)

For the first time in more than a decade – and a half-century after enactment of the country's main k-12 law – Congress has redefined the federal role in elementary and secondary education. But what does the Every Student Succeeds Act actually mean for schools and the communities they serve? And how does the new law differ from its predecessor, the No Child Left Behind Act?

In this essential guide to ESSA, Education Week explains what the law will mean for:

- Accountability and testing
- Teacher quality
- Early-childhood education
- Special education
- Academic standards, including the Common Core
- English-language learners
- Teacher evaluation

Inside ESSA gets to the heart of a law set to reshape our education system and the people it serves for many years to come.

<http://www.edweek.org/ew/marketplace/inside-essa-the-new-federal-k-12-law.html?cmp=eml-eb-ewp-20160806&override=web>

## **A Guide to Twenty-One Trends for the 21st Century: Out of the Trenches and Into the Future**

By Gary Marx, 2015

Whether we look at rapidly shifting demographics, emerging technologies, environmental challenges, or innovations in the way we learn and lead, the world is changing faster and more dramatically now than at any time in human history. None of us can afford to be left behind.

This energizing book from noted scholar and futurist Gary Marx offers essential takeaways from groundbreaking original research on the future direction of education. Providing resources for professional development and strategic planning, the Guide proves a valuable tool for educators to prepare students and schools for the most important trends reshaping society today.

In this Guide, author Gary Marx gives us the essential research on:

- Education and learning in the 21st century
- Energy and environmental challenges
- Demographic shifts
- Public and personal leadership
- Economic pressures
- Work-life balance
- International realities

<http://www.edweek.org/ew/marketplace/books/a-guide-to-twenty-one-trends-for-the.html?cmp=eml-eb-ewp-20160806&override=web>

### **Links**

[McCormick Foundation Civics Programs](#)  
[First Division Museum at Cantigny](#)  
[SCARCE Environmental Education](#)  
[Forest Preserve District of DuPage County](#)

### **Dates to Note**

#### **September**

5 Labor Day; a legal school holiday

### **Quotable**

“Children must be taught how to think, not what to think.”

~ Margaret Mead

## Professional Development Opportunities

The DuPage Regional Office of Education provides Professional Development through a variety of methods and opportunities. The Center for Professional Learning (CPL) has a group of highly qualified educators who share their experience and expertise with local educators. To learn about the wide array of high-quality professional development opportunities, go to <https://register.dupageroe.org/Public/Courses.aspx>.

[Home](#) | [Community](#) | [Teachers & Administrators](#) | [Mission](#) | [Directions](#) | [Contact](#) | [Links](#) | [Sitemap](#)

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