



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

#Thank a Teacher

Teachers are real life superheroes. They educate, innovate, encourage and support. Every day they touch the lives of millions of children and their work and impact extends far beyond the boundaries of the classroom.

Take the time to celebrate these real life superheroes during **PTA Teacher Appreciation Week, May 2-6, 2016.**

Presidential Candidates Views on Education

As the race to the White House continues, we need to hear more from all the candidates on K-12 public education. As a public education advocates, the following National School Board Action Commission (NSBAC) resources can be helpful to you.

- [Presidential Candidates' Positions on Public Education](#)

Every Student Succeeds Act Implementation

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was signed by President Obama on Dec. 10, 2015. This bipartisan measure reauthorizes the 50-year-old Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), the nation's education law and longstanding commitment to equal opportunity for all students.

The new law builds on key areas of progress in recent years and ongoing efforts to improve educational opportunities for all students in Illinois. The majority of the law does not take effect until the 2017-18 school year, with implementation occurring over the next year and a half. ISBE staff continue to review the nuances of the 1,000-page law and will engage in deliberate stakeholder involvement throughout this process.

On Thursday, April 21, the DuPage ROE hosted one of the first listening tours on the ESSA Act. Almost 90 educators, school board members, and parents were in attendance and provided input on the following questions:

- What do we value and how would that be translated into a State Plan to improve student achievement for all students?
- How should student growth factor into the accountability system?
- What do you want to see in a State Plan to improve coordinated services to schools and districts?
- What do you want to see in a State Plan to improve program and services?

If you would like to provide input, written comments can be provided at essa@isbe.net

Check out the Illinois State Board of Education ESSA webpage at <http://www.isbe.net/essa/> for updates.

Important Facts about Underage Drinking – A Message for Parents

With prom and graduation season upon us, this is an exciting time for students, as well as family and friends. Celebrations and parties are customary surrounding these memorable events in a teenager's life, but unfortunately, these celebrations can easily turn to a time of tragedy due to the increased prevalence of underage drinking. It is important for parents to understand the underage drinking laws in Illinois and the importance of talking to teens about the dangerous and costly effects of underage drinking.

- It is illegal to provide alcohol to minors and/or allow anyone under the age of 21 to drink alcohol in your home.
- It is a \$500 minimum fine (maximum \$2,500 fine and up to one year in jail) to knowingly allow underage drinking to occur at a private residence. If serious injury or death occurs because of this activity, individuals are subject to a Class 4 felony (up to three years in prison and fines up to \$25,000).
- If teenagers under the legal age drink or use drugs in your home—with or without your permission—you are legally responsible for their actions even after they leave your home.
- If someone is injured on your property as a result of underage drinking or illegal drug use, you could be sued and your homeowners insurance will not protect you. In fact, you may lose your homeowner's coverage.

- If an underage teen drinks or uses illegal drugs in your home and afterwards is injured, causes an injury to someone else, or damages someone's property, you will be legally responsible.

Data shows that the number one influencer on a child's decision making process when it comes to drugs and alcohol is their parents. Talk early and often about your expectations when it comes to your teens behavior.

For more information on underage drinking laws in Illinois please visit,
<https://www.illinois.gov/ilcc/Education/Pages/Under21Laws.aspx#drink>.

DuPage ROE Update

A Note of Thanks to Dr. Smith Regarding KIDS

The DuPage ROE would like to communicate our appreciation to Dr. Tony Smith, State Superintendent of Education, for listening extensively to the concerns from educators across the state related to the Kindergarten Individual Development Survey (KIDS).

Dr. Smith recognized the need to revise the requirements and improve communication related to the survey in order to make it "doable" and be valuable to both the state and local districts.

Dr. Smith met consistently with the KIDS Advisory Committee to determine an appropriate compromise and still keeping KIDS data reliable. Highlights of a draft compromise include the following:

- Reduced the number of indicators that Kindergarten teachers will be required to assess from 51 to 14
- The assessment can be from KIDS or an appropriate assessment currently used in the district
- Some modification to the scoring continuum for the indicators will be determined
- Results will be reported to ISBE only once - within the first 40 days of the kindergarten year

Kudos to Dr. Smith for listening and brokering a compromise draft plan.

DuPage Health Department Highlights

Zika Risk Very Low in DuPage County

The DuPage County Health Department, along with regional partners the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), are carefully monitoring the Zika virus cases in the United States and elsewhere in the world.

The Health Department wants all DuPage County residents to be aware that the risk of Zika virus is very low in DuPage County. The mosquito that carries Zika virus is rarely found here or elsewhere in northern Illinois. Most cases within the United States have been travel-related.

Zika virus cases are being reported in Central and South America, the Caribbean, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Africa and elsewhere. Zika virus is spread by mosquito bites. People living in or traveling to those areas are at risk for infection. Symptoms of Zika virus are usually mild and last for several days; hospitalization is rare. Contact your healthcare provider if you have plans to travel to those areas.

Student Opportunity

ISBE's Student Advisory Council Seeks Applicants

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) is seeking high school students to share their input on state education issues as part of its Student Advisory Council (SAC). Students who will start the upcoming school year as a sophomore, junior, or senior in an Illinois public high school are eligible to apply for one of 12 open spots by May 27. Applications are available [online](#).

The SAC, which was established in 1975, represents a diverse group of students who work with the State Board and State Superintendent to provide student perspectives on ISBE's existing and proposed programs, policies, and regulations. Applicants undergo a competitive review process that looks for strong interpersonal skills and the ability to think creatively, work well in groups, and develop innovative solutions.

Each year, SAC members select a year-long research project and present their findings and recommendations to the State Board. This school year's council focused on the importance of students' feedback in efforts to improve teacher quality and build a more collaborative school community. On March 16, the Board heard the SAC's presentation and approved its recommendation to pursue ways to increase the level of communication between students and teachers and school leaders.

Questions about the SAC should be directed to Vincent Camille at vcamille@isbe.net or (217) 782-5396.

Links

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

Dates to Note

May

- 1 Last day to file required Statement of Economic Interests with the county clerk. (5 ILCS 420/4A-105)
- 2-6 Teacher Appreciation Week
- 2-6 Illinois Law Week
- 3 National Teacher Day
- 4-6 Illinois Association of School Business Officials Spring Conference, Schaumburg
- 30 Memorial Day observance; a legal school holiday

Quotable

"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."
~ Dr. Suess

Professional Development Opportunities

Event ID	Title	Date(s)	Category
W4641-16	Dealing with Difficult Parents- Revised 2011 (AA# 1174)	May 4, 2016	Administrators' Academy
L3167-16	Eight Elements for Success *JUST ADDED	May 9, 2016	Technology
W4644-16	Using Protocols to Guide Professional Learning Conversations (AA #1544)	May 11, 2016	Administrators' Academy
L3127-16	DuPage Technology Coordinators Meeting	May 12, 2016	Technology
W4681-16	Formative Assessment: A Process for Connecting PERA Student Growth and Teacher Practice (AA #1667) *JUST ADDED	May 13, 2016	Administrators' Academy
L3170-16	Rtl Roundtable	May 17, 2016	Special Events
W4675-16	Educational Technology - Black Hole or Bright Light - Revised 2014 (AA #987)	May 24, 2016	Administrators' Academy
W4660-16	Leveraging Emotional Awareness for Effective School Administrators (AA #1583)	May 25, 2016	Administrators' Academy
L3169-16	Culture Competency	May 25, 2016	Special Events
L3118-16	DELL (District Directors of English Language Learners)	May 27, 2016	Networks/Sharing

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