



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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- **A Time to be Thankful**
- **Message on Behalf of ISBE's Division of Specialized Instruction, Nutrition, and Wellness**
- **No Idling Video**
- **Applications to Participate in TECH 2017 Now being Accepted**
- **American Heart Association Service Learning Programs**
- **Many Benefits from Quitting Smoking**
- **University of Illinois Children of Veterans Tuition Waiver**
- **Links**
- **Dates to Note**
- **Quotable**
- **Professional Development**

Latest News

A Time to be Thankful

All of us at the ROE would like to wish all of you a very Happy Thanksgiving. We thank all the teachers, administrators and staff of our DuPage County schools for your tireless efforts on behalf of students. We thank all of the students and their families for your dedication and support. We thank school board members for the time, expertise and devotion they bring to responsibly govern our districts. We are thankful for our communities and businesses who support public education in so many ways. We are thankful for the high quality public education in DuPage County that challenges our students to achieve to their greatest potential.

The list of things and people for which to be thankful is deep and rich. Let us all use this uniquely American holiday to focus on our many blessings. May we internalize our gratitude and carry with us the warm feelings of appreciation each and every day.

Message on Behalf of ISBE's Division of Specialized Instruction, Nutrition, and Wellness

The Illinois Department of Public Health updated its "Illinois Certificate of Religious Exemption to Required Immunizations and/or Examinations Form" last year. This form now reflects changes to Illinois law which require the Certificate of Religion Exemption to be signed by a student's healthcare provider and submitted to the local school authority prior to the student entering kindergarten, sixth grade, and ninth grade. This law does not require the certificate to be completed annually.

Districts may, at their discretion for the purposes of consistent record keeping, request that students and families use this form to document religious exemptions to immunizations and/or examinations on an annual basis, but the fully completed form is only mandatory at the grade levels required by statute. Therefore, a student should not be excluded from school because his/her form was not completed and submitted in grades other than kindergarten, sixth grade, and ninth grade.

No Idling Video

While law does not address idling cars waiting at a school, the students and staff of Community Consolidated School District 93 made a video to educate parents about the negative health implications of idling car emissions. Follow this link <https://youtu.be/UojStoy1qws> to view the video.

Notable

Applications to Participate in TECH 2017 Now Being Accepted

Each year, hundreds of students and teachers from across the state come together at the Capitol Building in Springfield to speak with legislators about the innovative ways in which they use technology to enhance student learning. The window to submit an application is now open and closes on Friday, February 3, 2017.

Find out more information, including how your district can be one of the 100 schools representing Illinois' classrooms, at <http://www.iceberg.org/tech/>.

American Heart Association Service Learning Programs

The American Heart Association (AHA) partners with schools on free service learning programs for grades k-12. Their programs have three main components: Service, Education & Physical Activity. They are designed to align with and enhance the curriculum already in place within schools. Below is a message from an AHA representative for DuPage.

"Hi! My name is Emilie Gill. I am one of the American Heart Association Representatives for the DuPage County school districts. We currently work with many of your schools with our youth programs and we hope to engage many more this year. This generation of students is the FIRST in human history to be expected to live 5 years shorter than their parents' generation. It is up to us to change that and teach students healthy habits while they are still young. I would kindly appreciate it if you could please contact me to set up a meeting with the American Heart Association to learn more about how your

district is currently involved as well as how they can become further engaged. Please contact me at Emilie.Gill@heart.org or 815-823-4455.”

DuPage Health Department Highlights

Many Benefits from Quitting Smoking

Most smokers want to quit. Do you know of a smoker who wants to quit? Do you smoke and are you ready to quit?

There are immediate and long-term benefits from quitting. Smoking affects nearly every organ in the human body and reduces the health of smokers. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), these are just a few of the health benefits you can obtain by quitting: one year after quitting smoking, your risk for a heart attack drops sharply; within two to five years after quitting smoking, your risk for stroke could fall to about the same as a nonsmoker's; your risk for cancers of the mouth, throat, esophagus, and bladder drop by half within five years; 10 years after you quit smoking, your risk for lung cancer drops by half.

Visit http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/quit_smoking/how_to_quit/index.htm to get information and hear stories from former smokers. Also, call the Tobacco Quitline at 1-866-784-8937.

Student and Teacher Opportunities

University of Illinois Children of Veterans Tuition Waiver

The application for the 2017-2018 Children of Veterans (COV) Tuition Waiver is now available. The COV Award is a four-year tuition waiver at the University of Illinois awarded to the natural, step-, or legally adopted children of service members. Please see the [COV application form](#) for eligibility requirements and additional details. The priority deadline to apply for the COV Tuition Waiver is **January 3, 2017**.

Please refer any questions to the Financial Aid Administrators at 217-333-0100.

Links

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

Dates to Note

December

- 3 Illinois Statehood Day
- 7 Commemorative holiday honoring Pearl Harbor veterans
- 12 First day to file nominating papers for candidates for the April 4, 2017 Consolidated Election with the county clerk or county board of election commissioners in which the principal office of the school district is located

- 12 Last day for the school board to adopt resolutions putting public policy questions on the ballot at the February 28, 2017 Consolidated Primary Election
- 19 Last day to file nominating papers for school board candidates for the April 4, 2017 election with the county clerk or county board of election commissioners in which the principal office of the school district is located
- 22 Last day for the board secretary to certify public policy questions to the election authority for referendum at the February 28, 2017 Consolidated Primary Election
- 24-Jan.1 Hanukkah
- 25 Christmas Day; a legal school holiday

Quotable

“Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself.”

~ John Dewey

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>.

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