



## County Services Committee Minutes

Lee County, Illinois

Dec 12, 2023 at 9:00 AM CST

Old Lee County Courthouse, Third Floor Boardroom, 112 E 2nd St, Dixon, IL 61021

### I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m., by Chair Jack Skrogstad.

### II. Committee Member Roll Call: Chair Jack Skrogstad, Vice Chair Dean Freil, Katie White, Ron Gascoigne, Reed Akre, Ali Huss

Ron Gascoigne was absent. Jack Skrogstad, Dean Freil, Katie White, Reed Akre, and Ali Huss all attended in person.

Keane Hudson and Mike Koppien (Board Members), Dave Anderson (County Engineer/Highway Department), Jennifer Boyd (Assessor), Jeremy Englund (Incoming Administrator), Greg Gates (LOTS), Angie Garza (Director of Professional Learning and Educational Services, Regional Office of Education #47), Paul Gorski (IT Director), Alice Henkel (Renewable Energy Coordinator), Jeff Hilden (Facilities Director), Laura Mangrum (Deputy Zoning Administrator), Nancy Petersen (County Clerk and Recorder), Wendy Ryerson (Current Administrator), and Becky Brenner (Board Secretary) all attended in person. No one attended the meeting via Zoom video conferencing.

#### Discussion on topics not on the agenda included the following:

Jeremy Englund gave a shout out to the Lee County Health Department, LOTS, Lee County Board, and Department Heads for putting together and distributing, for the second year, holiday food basket to Lee County Families. Donations for the baskets were received from individual donors, local businesses, and renewable energy companies. 26 baskets were delivered last year and 57 are ready to be delivered later this month. Jeremy went on to gently remind the committee that Wendy Ryerson and Dee Duffy (Zoning Administrator) would be retiring at the end of the year. A retirement party, honoring both ladies, is scheduled for January 12, 2024. Formal invites will be sent out.

Board Members and Department Heads took time during the meeting to acknowledge and thank Wendy for all the help she provided and countless contributions she made to the County for the last 37 years, not only as the Lee County Assessor and Lee County Administrator, but as an invested and loyal friend.

### III. Public Attendees

There were no members of the public in attendance.

### IV. Approval of the Minutes from the Previous Meeting - (November 13, 2023)

Minutes from the November 13, 2023, County Services Committee Meeting were approved as presented without modification.

V. Transportation/Solid Waste

A. Monthly Report

Dave Anderson walked the committee through the report that he submitted. The full report will be attached to the minutes and included in the December County Board agenda packet.

VI. Assessor's Office - GIS Department

A. *Assessor's Office*

Jennifer Boyd walked the committee through the report that she submitted for the Assessor's Office and GIS. The full report will be attached to the minutes and included in the December County Board agenda packet.

B. *GIS Department*

The GIS report was included in the report that the Assessor submitted because Sami Elarifi had been on vacation.

VII. County Board

A. Administrator Report

Wendy Ryerson reported that there would be a revised copy of the Lee County Financial Policy presented to the Board Members at the December County Board Meeting. Changes included: responsibilities delegated to the newly hired Financial Director; specific direction and instruction regarding year-end budget adjustments; and clarification regarding County match dollars from the general fund for grant writing.

VIII. County Clerk's Office

A. Monthly Report

Nancy Petersen walked the committee through the report that she submitted. The full report will be attached to the minutes and included in the December County Board agenda packet.

IX. IT Department

A. Monthly Report

Paul Gorski walked the committee through the report that he submitted. The full report will be attached to the minutes and included in the December County Board agenda packet.

X. LOTS

A. Monthly Report

Greg Gates walked the committee through the report that he submitted. The full report will be attached to the minutes and included in the December County Board agenda packet.

XI. ROE

A. Monthly Report

Angie Garza walked the committee through the report submitted from the Regional Office of Education. The full report will be attached to the minutes and included in the December County Board agenda packet.

XII. Veterans Assistance

There was no report from Veterans Assistance.

XIII. Zoning / Planning

A. *Monthly Report*

Alice Henkel walked the committee through the report that she submitted. During her report, Alice introduced Laura Mangrum to the committee as the new Deputy Zoning Administrator. The full report will be attached to the minutes and included in the December County Board agenda packet. One item discussed, that was not in the report, was an appeal that was filed with the Zoning Office regarding the Maple Road Solar Project. The company is contesting the County's position on screening. The appeal will be heard by the ZBA in January.

B. *Petitions Going To the Zoning Board of Appeals - 1 Petition*

1. Petition No. 23-P-1617 by Petitioner Steward Creek Solar, LLC, regarding PINs that are located in Alto and Willow Creek Townships:

**Motion** to move Petition 23-P-1617 to the Executive Committee for inclusion on the December County Board agenda. **Moved** by Dean Freil. **Second** by Reed Akre. **Motion** passed unanimously by voice vote.

C. *Petitions Coming From the Zoning Board of Appeals - None*

D. *Petitions Going To the Planning Commission - None*

E. *Petitions Coming From the Planning Commission - None*

XIV. Unfinished Business

There were no items under Unfinished Business on the agenda.

XV. New Business

A. Employee Handbook Revisions - Draft

Wendy Ryerson reported that the major revisions to the Employee Handbook dealt with the Paid Leave for All Workers Act adopted by the State of Illinois. Following are the highlights:

- ALL employees earn a minimum of 40 hours of paid leave in a 12-month period. Employees that work less than 40 hours per week earn 1 hour for every 40 hours worked.
- Employees are not required to provide a reason for the leave, therefore sick time does not count towards minimum hours of paid leave.
- The act includes full-time, part-time, temporary, and seasonal workers.
- Salaried, exempt employees are “deemed” to work 40 hours in each work week.
- Lee County must “comply with the requirements of this Act or provide benefits, rights, and remedies that are greater than or equal to the benefits, rights, and remedies afforded under this Act.”
- Bargaining contracts need to explicitly waive PLAW provisions.

Wendy also reported that Jeremy Englund was working on a social media policy. Knowing that this will be forthcoming, some language from the Employee Handbook has been deleted, but will be addressed as part of the new policy.

Jeremy Englund reported that he is working on a personal sensitive information policy for the County.

**Motion** to move the proposed Employee Handbook Revisions to the Executive Committee for inclusion on the December County Board agenda. **Moved** by Dean Freil. **Second** by Reed Akre. **Motion** passed unanimously by voice vote.

B. Resolution: Setting Election Judge Daily Compensation

Nancy Petersen reported that Governor Pritzker signed HB3871, effective July 1, 2023. The bill, in part, amends election Code 10 ILCS 5/13-10, increasing the portion of an election judge's daily compensation reimbursement by the State Board of Elections by an additional \$20.00, provided the increase is used to increase each judge's compensation. The act may not be used by the County to reduce its portion of a judge's compensation. Nancy went on to report that she is asking the Board to approve an additional \$25.00 per day, per judge, to compensate them for the long days they are required to work. The final compensation for the judges, if the Board approves the additional \$25.00, would be \$165.00 per day.

**Motion** to move the Resolution Setting the Election Judge's Daily Compensation to the Executive Committee for inclusion on the December County Board agenda. **Moved** by Katie White. **Second** by Dean Freil. **Motion** passed unanimously by voice vote.

C. Resolution: Establishing the Regular Meeting Schedule for FY 2024 for the Lee County Zoning Board of Appeals

**Motion** to move the Resolution Establishing the Regular Meeting Schedule for FY 2024 for the Lee County Zoning Board of Appeals to the Executive Committee for inclusion on the December County Board agenda. **Moved** by Dean Freil. **Second** by Reed Akre. **Motion** passed unanimously by voice vote.

D. Resolution: Establishing the Regular Meeting Schedule for FY 2024 for the Lee County Regional Planning Commission

**Motion** to move the Resolution Establishing the Regular Meeting Schedule for FY 2024 for the Lee County Regional Planning Commission to the Executive Committee for inclusion on the December County Board agenda. **Moved** by Ali Huss. **Second** by Dean Freil. **Motion** passed unanimously by voice vote.

XVI. Executive Session

There was no request for an Executive Session.

XVII. Adjournment

**Motion** to adjourn at 9:51 a.m. **Moved** by Reed Akre. **Second** by Katie White. **Motion** passed unanimously by voice vote.

The next County Services Committee Meeting is scheduled for  
9:00 a.m., on Tuesday, January 9, 2024

Respectfully submitted by:  
Becky Brenner - Board Secretary

Lee County Highway Department  
Report to the County Services Committee – DECEMBER 2023

The following represents a report of notable Highway Department activities and explanations of requested board actions:

**Status of Current Projects**

- 2023 Construction projects are complete.
- Efforts are ongoing to set up and design 2024 projects for both the County and the townships. Bid lettings for these projects will likely take place from January through May.

**Other:**

- Maintenance crews have all the equipment prepared for the snow and ice removal season.
- Maintenance crews will cut brush/trees and clean/grade ditches throughout the winter as the weather and ground conditions permit.

**Board Action Items:**

- None this month.

**Solid Waste**

Electronics collection is closed for the season and will reopen again in April. The contract is in place with Dynamic Lifecycle Innovations for recycling E-waste in 2024.



**MONTHLY ASSESSMENT OFFICE REPORT**  
**December 11, 2023 – County Services Committee**

The Assessment Office has been very busy since Publication and mailing of Change of Assessment Notices on November 22, 2023. Notices were mailed to all quadrennial reassessment township parcels and any other parcel that had a change to their assessment other than the township factor applied.

The deadline to Appeal to the Board of Review is December 22, 2023 and we will begin preparing for the Board of Review to meet in January.

As we discussed last month, the GIS web portal on the new server launched in November and Sami has been communicating with Vendors working on getting some of the links redirected but overall it was a very smooth transition. Sami was finally able to take vacation time and has been out of the office. He is due back on December 11<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Boyd, CIAO  
Chief County Assessment Officer/  
GIS Supervisor



**COUNTY CLERK & RECORDER**  
REPORT FOR DECEMBER 12TH COMMITTEE MEETING

December 20<sup>th</sup> is the first day to apply for a vote by mail ballot for the 2024 General Primary Election in March. Mailing of the ballots will not begin until Thursday February 8, 2024. **General Primary in March 19, 2024.**

The election office received 9 FREE Voting Booths from Winnebago County. Jeff Hilden was helpful in retrieving these booths from Rockford. These booths are in great condition and were no longer needed in Winnebago County.

Governor Pritzker signed HB3871 effective July 1, 2023, which, in part, amends the Election Code 10 ILCS 5/13-10 increasing the portion of an election judge's daily compensation reimbursement by the State Board of Elections by an additional \$20 provided this increase is used to increase each judge's compensation. I am looking for the county to add a match of \$25/day to the \$20/day increased compensation reimbursement by the State Board of Elections. This makes the state reimbursement to \$65.00 for each election judge. Please see the Resolution and I would like your vote to move this on to County Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Petersen  
Lee County Clerk & Recorder





*IT Department*  
*Paul Gorski, IT Director*  
[www.leecountyil.com](http://www.leecountyil.com)

December 8, 2023

## IT Board Report

1. Current IT projects include:

- Deploying computers to Zoning, Assessor, and EMA/EOC offices.
- Developing a Cybersecurity Incident Response Plan, pursuant to state statute.
- Upgrading certain data file servers in Old and New Courts.
- Obtaining quotes for some IT technology related to court grant application.
- Assisting with temporary relocation of Treasurer's office during office renovation.

2. Upcoming projects include:

- Coordinating IT upgrades to New Courts 4<sup>th</sup> room build outs with Courts staff, SAO and Maintenance.
- Assisting with LEC Body Cam upgrades due in February 2024.
- Assisting with LEC security camera PC software upgrades, due April-May 2024
- Organizing Cybersecurity response team and response team plan.
- Planning new computer rollouts to various county departments.

Let me know if you have any other questions.

Thank you.

Paul Gorski  
IT Director  
Lee County, IL  
815-285-8166  
[pgorski@countyoflee.org](mailto:pgorski@countyoflee.org)



**Report to County Services Committee of Lee County Board**  
December 12, 2023 | 9:00 AM

**1) ROLLING 3-MONTH RIDE DATA FOR SFY 2024**

	September, 2023	October, 2023	November, 2023	Total for Period
<b>RIDES</b>	<b>8,217</b>	<b>8,713</b>	<b>8,061</b>	<b>24,991</b>
<b>SERVICE HOURS</b>	<b>2,522</b>	<b>2,704</b>	<b>2,787</b>	<b>8,013</b>
<b>MILES OF SERVICE</b>	<b>64,587</b>	<b>72,976</b>	<b>69,291</b>	<b>133,951</b>
<b>FUEL COST</b>	<b>\$19,444.60</b>	<b>\$19,112.29</b>	<b>\$17,960.25</b>	<b>\$56,517</b>

**2) DEVELOPMENTS**

**a) Reagan Mass Transit District**

- i) The Definitive Agreement, which outlines the transition of assets to RMTD, has been returned from IDOT and currently under review by the Lee County State’s Attorney’s Office and the legal team representing RMTD for final changes.
  - (1) The Definitive Agreement will be presented to the Lee County Board and Ogle County Board for their consideration tentatively in January.

**b) Rural Winnebago County Transit Services**

- i) The Winnebago County Board is continuing to work toward the launch of rural public transportation services on July 1, 2024.
  - (a) The next step in the process is to complete an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Winnebago County for the provision of transportation services.
  - (b) The formal request from Winnebago County for three (3) vehicles to be used in that county will be made in the coming weeks.

**c) Architectural/Engineering Firm / Oregon facility construction**

- i) Pre-award concurrence has been received from IDOT. Larson and Darby, an architectural firm out of Rockford, has been secured for the A&E process.
- ii) Architectural and Engineering firm has provided us with a 90% complete design of the Oregon facility.
- iii) This project is part of LOTS application under REBUILD Round 1

**d) Architectural/Engineering Firm / Addition to Dixon Facility**

- i) An architectural and engineering firm – Willett Hoffman – was selected for the addition project on to the Reagan Transit Center.
- ii) Project includes development of new offices at Reagan Transit Center and secured file room/storage room. Geothermal and Solar technologies will be incorporated into complex
- iii) This project is part of LOTS application under REBUILD Round 2

**e) City of Rochelle Feasibility Study / Technical Assistance Grant (Awarded) from IDOT**

- i) Lee County / LOTS is awaiting Pre-Award Concurrence from IDOT to officially award RLS and Associates the contract to complete the Rochelle Feasibility Study.
  - (1) The expected timeframe for completion of this Technical Assistance/Feasibility Study 6-9 months with completion anticipated by late summer of 2024.
  - (2) Focus of the Feasibility Study is to consider the development of a fixed route for public transportation in the City of Rochelle.

**f) City of Dixon Feasibility Study / Technical Assistance Grant (Awarded) from IDOT**

- i) Lee County / LOTS is awaiting Pre-Award Concurrence from IDOT to officially award RLS and Associates the contract to complete the Dixon Feasibility Study.
  - (1) The expected timeframe for completion of this Technical Assistance/Feasibility Study 6-9 months with completion anticipated by late summer of 2024.

- (2) Focus of the Feasibility Study is to consider the development of a fixed route for public transportation in the City of Dixon.

**g) LOTS Awarded Funding to Complete SPR Funding on Transportation Needs**

- i) In September, LOTS/Lee County received word from IDOT/State Planning and Research of funding it has been awarded \$243,594 to complete a two-year study on transportation needs of residents of Lee and Ogle Counties.
  - (1) LOTS will partner with Northern Illinois University's Center on Governmental Studies to complete this study.

**h) Hydrogen Fuel Feasibility Study**

- i) In partnership with the University of Illinois (Urbana/Champaign), LOTS has submitted a feasibility study proposal to the Illinois Center for Transportation to assess the potential use of hydrogen (and its local production) in public transportation vehicles.
  - (1) This 18-month proposal is requesting \$360,000 to consider the use (and production) of hydrogen in rural public transportation vehicles.
  - (2) This application is similar to the application submitted to the Rural and Tribal Assistance Pilot Grant program of the Build America program from the US DOT.
    - (a) Award announcements for this funding are expected by December.

**i) Budget/Contracts for FY 2024 (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024)**

- (1) Executed contracts for State Fiscal Year 2024 are as follows:
  - (2) Contractual amounts for FY 2024 are as follows:
    - (a) 5311 Contract: \$282,700 \*
    - (b) 5311F Contract (I-88): \$1,100,000 \*
    - (c) 5311F Contract (I-39): \$929,606 \*
    - (d) DOAP Contract: \$1,555,840
- \*These are being combined into a single contract by IDOT

**j) Vehicle Procurement**

- (1) LOTS collaboration with IDOT on a federal proposal to the Low/No Emission Grants.
  - (a) LOTS will procure two (2) electric buses via this proposal
- (2) LOTS has submitted the order for two (2) electric vehicles to the Michigan Department of Transportation. IDOT promoted this relationship, as it does not currently have electric vehicles on its state vehicle contract, although they will likely add EVs in the near future.
- (3) LOTS will also likely be the recipient of several "standard" fuel vehicles via a second federal grant – Buses and Bus Facilities – that IDOT wrote and were awarded funding for.

**3) OPERATIONAL AND CAPITAL RELATED DEVELOPMENTS**

**a) Capital Funding / REBUILD Round 1**

- i) Application includes Construction of new Oregon location
- ii) Furnishings and equipment for Oregon facility
- iii) Implementation of video surveillance cameras into 17 of LOTS' buses and minivans (completed)
- iv) Three (3) new buses (Ford transit type vehicles)

**b) Capital Funding / REBUILD Round 2**

- (1) Notice of State Award being processed by IDOT
- (2) LOTS Proposal will allow for the following:
  - (a) Two electric vehicles for use in the LOTS system
  - (b) Three (3) new offices at Reagan Transit Center and secured file room/storage room
  - (c) Develop new Conference Room between Reagan Transit Center and Mechanical Bay
  - (d) Geothermal and Solar technologies will be incorporated into complex

**c) Capital REBUILD Round 3**

- i) IDOT announced that Lee County/LOTS will receive \$62,500 for the purchase of 2 service vehicles
- ii) The original proposal included the following:
  - (1) Add 72-feet onto the existing bus barn at Reagan Transit Center,
    - (a) This will provide for an additional twelve (12) slots for buses
  - (2) Add another bay onto the existing mechanical building
  - (3) Purchase service vehicles including one for maintenance



## Regional Office of Education Report

December 2023

### Health Life & Safety

Each of the 4000 public school buildings and school related buildings in the state is inspected annually to assure compliance with the minimum standards necessary to ensure the health and safety of public school students in Illinois, according to Building Specifications for Health and Safety in Public Schools. By law, school districts must maintain public schools to the minimum standard. Annual inspection results from each building are available at the Regional Office of Education. A summary report is filed annually with the Illinois State Board of Education as required by law. ROE #47 has completed our inspections on 62 of our 74 buildings as of December 1, 2023. The final 12 building inspections will all be completed by December 22, 2023. Every 10 years all public school buildings must be resurveyed by an architect licensed by the State of Illinois. All work necessary to bring the building into compliance with minimum standards is noted. Upon completion of outlined work, compliance is verified by the district and architect in a report filed with the Regional Office of Education.

### Professional Learning & Educational Services

<b>Current Programs - Office of Professional Learning &amp; Educational Services</b>
Induction & Mentoring
Community Partnership Grant/IDPH Trauma Grant
Education Pathway Endorsement
Manufacturing, Health Science & Agriculture Endorsement Programs

Elevating Special Educators
School Improvement & Strategic Planning
School Improvement Cooperative (instructional coaching, training, networking)
Social Emotional Learning/Trauma/Youth Mental Health First Aid/TRS I-A
Early Childhood Professional Learning
Family Education & Engagement
NEXUS Family Support Services
Student Attendance

**Office of Professional Learning & Ed Services: Professional Learning & School Improvement**

- A full schedule of Professional Learning is available on our website: [www.roe47.org](http://www.roe47.org)
- The ROE 47 annual Early Childhood Summit was held at Sauk Valley Community College on Friday, November 17th, 2023, with over 40 early childhood educators in attendance. Allison McDonald served as the keynote for the day of professional learning. McDonald is the founder of “No Time for Flashcards” and the author of “Raising a Rock Star Reader” and “Setting The Stage for Rock-Star Readers”.
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**Office of Professional Learning & Ed Services: Parent Engagement & Community Outreach**

- Team members continue to facilitate 2-3 community outreach events per month. Watch for our staff at seasonal sights & sounds events in Lee, Ogle & Whiteside counties.
- A family play event was hosted at Build A Pet in Sterling on Saturday, November 4th. 31 children and 17 families were in attendance. Our next scheduled event is Blockfest at the Oregon Park District on January 20, 2024.
- Our family educators have been trained in facilitating Parent Cafes. These will begin virtually in January 2024.

- Letters have been sent to businesses, agencies, and community organizations in Lee, Ogle & Whiteside counties seeking donations to support our School Supply Closet, Christmas basket support, family events, and events for students
- Blockfest, Mindful Trails and Slumberkins resources are available for check out to schools and agencies
- Looking for volunteer opportunities? Our family educators are seeking volunteers to help in assembling approximately 1,000 community outreach bags each month. Outreach bags are distributed to ROE 47 schools and families and contain an activity, information
- The next Community Partnership Advisory meeting is scheduled for Friday, December 15th from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. at Sauk Valley College. School districts, community agencies, and government officials are welcome to attend.

### Office of Professional Learning & Ed Services: Social Media

The department's social media presence continues to grow. Like our page on Facebook (Regional Office of Education #47) and download our ROE47 App for weekly teacher talks, instructional tips, news, giveaways, updates & more! Follow us on Twitter @RegionalOffice47

Want to hear from educators & students in the classroom? Check out our Teacher Talks on YouTube!

### Office of Professional Learning & Ed Services: In the News

#### [Gov. Pritzker, IDPH Announce \\$3.5M to Boost Mental Health Services for Youth Across Illinois](#)

News – Friday, November 3, 2023

*Funding Intended to Aid Post-COVID-19 Mental Health Services for Illinois Children and Adolescents*

**CHICAGO** – Governor JB Pritzker and the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) announced today that the State of Illinois has awarded \$3.5 million in funding to 19 different applicants across the state to support post-pandemic child and adolescent health. The size of the grants ranges from \$92,000 to \$200,000. The new round of grants follows \$9.5 million in grants that were primarily federally funded to 40 organizations around the state announced last week.

Of the new round of grants, 41% are awarded to behavioral health treatment centers, 21% to schools, 21% to healthcare groups, 11% to local health departments and 5% to colleges. The grants are funded by the state of Illinois and are intended to strengthen post-COVID-19 recovery efforts for school-based health needs and for preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences in the post-pandemic era.

“The last few years have been a difficult time for all of us, and this is especially true for our youth,” Governor Pritzker said. “The state of Illinois is stepping up and providing this vital support that will strengthen school-based programs and local agencies that serve the mental health needs of young people across Illinois.”

“IDPH is dedicated to addressing the mental health needs of children and young people who

have been through a very challenging and disruptive time as a result of the pandemic,” said IDPH Director Dr. Sameer Vohra. “We are very pleased to be able to support these thoughtful and innovative strategies to strengthen child and adolescent health.”

The funding opportunity was overseen by IDPH’s Office of Women’s Health & Family Services. More than 50 percent of the applicants for the funding opportunity are receiving funding.

As the result of a successful competitive proposal, ROE 47 Professional Learning & Educational Services department was awarded \$200,000.

## Upcoming Events

### 2023 VIRTUAL SUMMIT FOR TRANSITIONAL ELA

**SUMMIT HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:**

- **KEYNOTE:**  
Artificial Intelligence (AI) is reshaping the educational landscape for English teachers paving the way for more engaging and efficient classroom experiences. Discover how AI can revolutionize your teaching methods and streamline your daily tasks. Explore AI's role in personalized learning, content creation, instant feedback, content generation, lesson adaptations, and real-time assessments.
- **BREAKOUTS:**  
Break out sessions include:
  - What you need to know about portability
  - Placement
  - Implementing Transitional English
  - State resources to support transitional English implementation
  - Leveraging your Local Advisory Panel
  - What are we preparing students for?
  - Cultural responsiveness and text selection

*Keynote: Ben Sondgeroth, Illinois LTC*

### Harnessing the Power of AI in the English Classroom

All High School English teachers, administrators and counselors, post-secondary English Faculty, Local Advisory Panel members should plan to join Sauk Valley Community College's PASS Initiative and Regional Office of Education #47

**Friday, December 1**  
Virtual Connection  
8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Register by November 24 @ [roe47.org](http://roe47.org) and select the Professional Development tab.  
Zoom link provided to registered participants the week of the Summit

Questions? Please contact Janis Jones:  
[janis.a.jones@svcc.edu](mailto:janis.a.jones@svcc.edu) • 815.499.1944

### Universal Design for Learning (UDL) Series

As teachers, we understand that our students have diverse needs and each has their own unique mix of strengths and areas for growth. Join us as we dig deeper to explore and discuss how to identify and predict barriers to engagement, representation, action & expression through the Universal Design for Learning (UDL). This training will be provided by Novak Education and is targeted to help **all teachers** meet the needs of **all students** in the general education classroom.

1  
DEC

Registration from 8:00-8:30

**Diving Deeper into UDL** 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Examine the UDL guidelines in more depth & experiment with what they look like in practice.

2  
FEB

**Putting UDL into Practice** 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Learn how to proactively incorporate voice, choice, & scaffolds into goals, methods, materials & assessments to help learners overcome barriers.

**SAUK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

ROOM 1K04  
173 IL Rte. 2  
Dixon, IL 61021

Earn 6.5 PD Hours each day!

Lunch is included!

These events are FREE

The contents of this flyer were developed under a grant from the U.S. Department of Education #H323A200914. However, those contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the U.S. Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government. Project Officer: Jennifer Coffey

## Office of Professional Learning & Ed Services: Professional Learning Events

Check out ALL of our opportunities [HERE](#)  
December Schedule of Events

DECEMBER	
12/1/2023	<a href="#">2nd Annual Transitional English Summit</a>
12/1/2023	<a href="#">Diving Deeper into UDL</a>
12/5/2023 - 4/9/2024	<a href="#">Targeted Improvement to Meet the Need of Diverse Learners</a>
12/13/2023	<a href="#">Communities of Practice (Special Educators Cohort)</a>
12/19/2023	<a href="#">Interventionists Teaching and Learning Networking Session</a>



## **November Participants - 211**

Wednesday, November 1

New Teacher Cadre @ 3:30 p.m.

Friday, November 3

Transitional ELA Fall Networking Session @ SVCC

Tuesday, November 7

Ed Pathways Cohort 4 @ 3:15 p.m.

Thursday, November 9

Administrator Networking Session @ 9:0 a.m.

Tuesday, November 14

Developing Leadership in Special Education (Year Two) @ ROE #47

Ed Pathways Cohort 2 & 3 @ 3:15 p.m.

LETRS Training @ 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, November 15

Deanery School Improvement Networking Session @ Newman Catholic High School

Thursday, November 16

Developing Leadership in Special Education (Year One) @ ROE #47

Librarians & School Library Media Specialist Networking Session @ 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 17

Early Childhood Summit @ SVCC

Wednesday, November 29

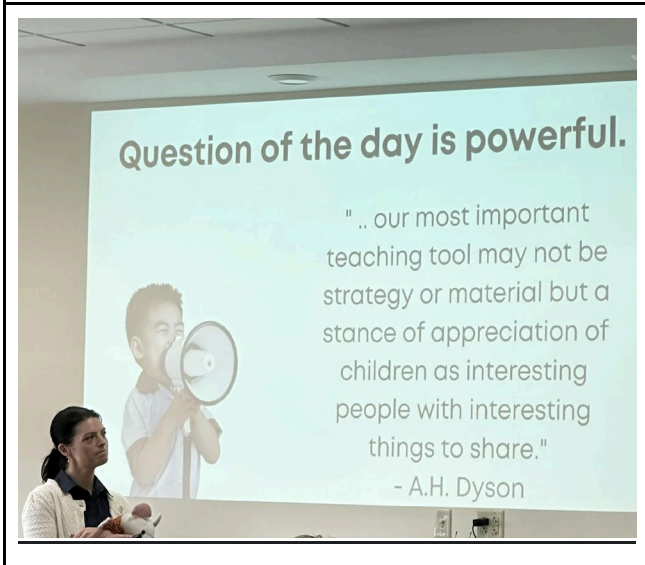
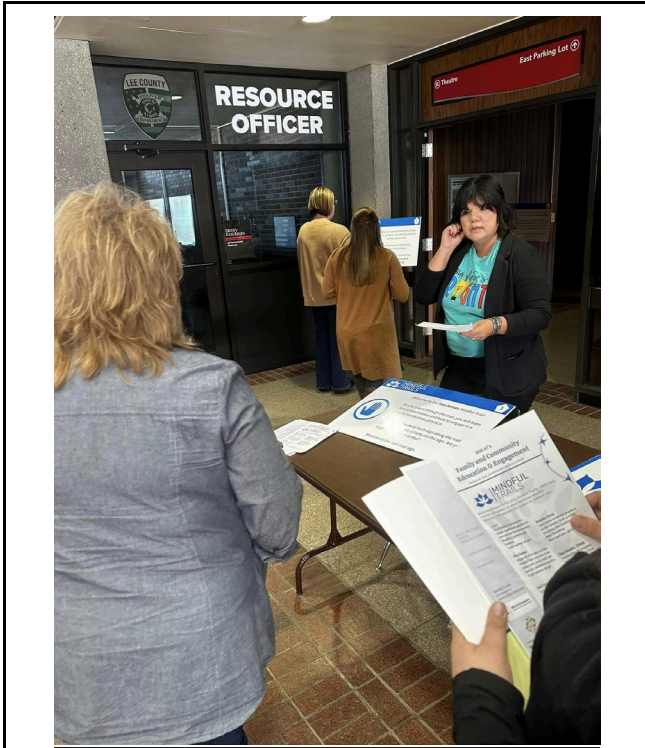
Social Science Quarterly Networking Session @ ROE #47

Preschool Family Support Specialist Networking Session @ 9:00 am

Thursday, November 30

Transformational Leadership Academy Series @ SVCC

**November in Photos:**



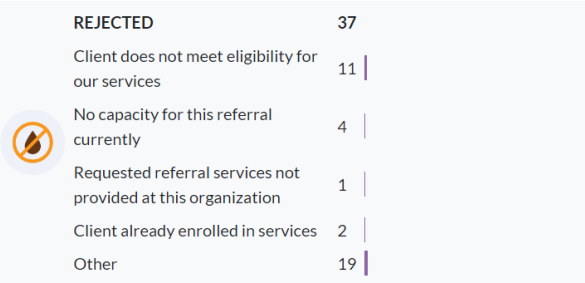
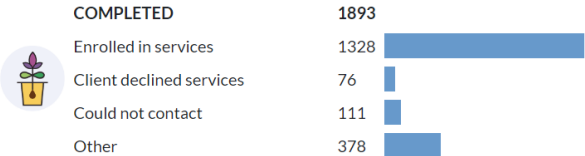


**Office of Professional Learning & Ed Services: NEXUS**

This Thanksgiving, we had a local family that reached out to us to offer our Nexus program to offer families a cooked Thanksgiving dinner to 10 families.

For our IRIS referral system we have the following data to date from the start of the referral program.

Status of 2177 referrals as of 11/30/2023



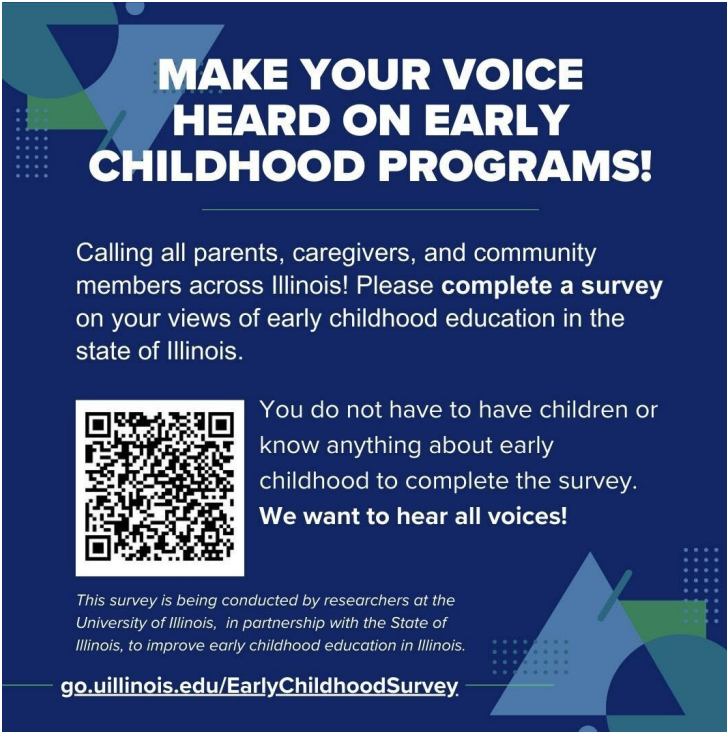
**Office of Professional Learning & Ed Services: Student Attendance Support**

Our Attendance Team has been busy meeting with our students and families this school year; we have worked with over 200 students. We are working heavily with our staff and the schools to correctly identify which students and families are genuinely truant and which students and families simply need some additional supports to address absenteeism. We see that parents are

facing so many challenges and need support. They often will turn to the schools for that supports, but often, school districts may need more resources to work with those parents directly. That is what is great about our Nexus and Attendance Programs working together in partnership. We can address the family's needs and see if we can intervene in a more supportive manner.


## Parents as Teachers First Years

In November, our home visitors presented at the Early Childhood Summit at Sauk Valley Community College. They had the opportunity to expose other early childhood practitioners to what Parents as Teachers is all about – using examples of home visit activities and parent handouts and showing how learning objectives for children from Birth to age 3 are individualized and tied to the Illinois Early Learning Standards. It was a great opportunity for the home visitors to demonstrate their professional educator skills to other educators.



**MAKE YOUR VOICE  
HEARD ON EARLY  
CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS!**

Calling all parents, caregivers, and community members across Illinois! Please **complete a survey** on your views of early childhood education in the state of Illinois.



You do not have to have children or know anything about early childhood to complete the survey.  
**We want to hear all voices!**

*This survey is being conducted by researchers at the University of Illinois, in partnership with the State of Illinois, to improve early childhood education in Illinois.*

[go.uillinois.edu/EarlyChildhoodSurvey](https://go.uillinois.edu/EarlyChildhoodSurvey)

## Education Outreach Program

The Education Outreach Program has been working diligently at filling our classrooms and helping our students have their needs met. With colder temperatures, comes more barriers for many and we are preparing to support our students in any way we can! We could not do it

without the help from our community. We have to thank Whiteside County Public Transportation for the opportunity to provide FREE bus rides to some of our students in need.

On December 13th the Education Outreach Program along with Parents as Teachers, First Years is hosting our first Holiday Party. We look forward to celebrating and offering lots to do with Greeting Cards to mail, Festive Decorating activities and Games and Goodies for the students and kids we service.

Our numbers are climbing but we are still accepting new students everyday. For 2023-2024 we currently have 3 Graduates, 60 Active students, 20 in Follow up services that have either secured employment or are looking and 9 in the Enrollment process.

## **McKinney Vento Homeless Program**

The National McKinney- Vento Homeless Education Conference took place in New Orleans this past month. There was a record attendance at this year's conference. It is wonderful to talk with people from all over the United States that have their focus on Homeless children and their educational success and stability. Two of the main presenters personally experienced homelessness while growing up and have overcome this. Their stories are extremely motivational and inspiring. They clearly remind you that it only takes one person to make a difference in the educational success of a student.

## **Regional Center for Change**

Students and staff from C4C enjoyed their annual Thanksgiving Feast on Monday, November 20th! Many of our students don't receive a Thanksgiving meal. The gratitude and joy expressed by students and staff made all the hard work and effort worth it!





At C4C, we celebrate student of the month! Our first-quarter students of the month at C4C are Jaylah and Matthew. Jaylah comes to us from Sterling High School, and Matthew is one of our few students from Eastland. Way to go, Jaylah and Matthew! You are the antithesis of our C4C motto, "Center for Change, NOT Center for Staying the Same." We have yet to select our nominee for November. There are several students who have been nominated!

C4C total student enrollment = 60



**MONTHLY ZONING AND PLANNING REPORT**  
December 12, 2023 – County Services Committee

**ACTIONS COMING FROM THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - None**

**ACTIONS GOING TO THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

1. Petition No. 23-P-1617 by Petitioner Steward Creek Solar, LLC, regarding the following PINs that are located in Alto and Willow Creek Townships:

01-06-28-300-001	01-06-13-100-003	01-06-22-200-002	21-12-02-100-001
01-06-35-400-001	21-12-12-100-005	21-12-15-400-001	21-12-02-400-001
21-12-02-200-004	21-12-12-200-002	21-12-22-200-001	21-12-11-200-004
01-06-15-200-007	21-12-05-200-002	01-06-22-100-002	01-06-33-100-007
01-06-15-200-008	21-12-05-400-001	01-06-22-300-001	01-06-27-100-002
01-06-12-400-006	01-06-33-100-002	01-06-22-400-001	01-06-27-200-001
01-06-12-400-005	01-06-32-400-006	21-12-16-100-005	01-06-27-200-003
01-06-12-400-004	01-06-32-400-002	01-06-28-300-004	01-06-32-400-005
01-06-15-200-009	01-06-32-200-004	01-06-35-300-008	21-12-15-200-048
01-06-29-400-006	01-06-32-200-002	01-06-35-100-001	21-12-15-200-033
01-06-01-100-001	01-06-12-200-001	01-06-35-300-005	21-12-15-200-037
01-06-13-100-006	01-06-12-100-001	01-06-35-300-006	21-12-15-200-041
21-12-12-400-001	01-06-12-100-002	21-12-01-300-001	21-12-15-200-044
21-12-15-200-032	21-12-15-200-036	21-12-15-200-040	21-12-15-200-045
21-12-15-200-029	21-12-15-200-031	21-12-15-200-035	21-12-15-200-039
21-12-15-200-043	21-12-15-200-047	21-12-15-200-028	21-12-15-200-030
21-12-15-200-034	21-12-15-200-038	21-12-15-200-042	21-12-15-200-046

The parcels are currently zoned Ag-1, Rural/Agricultural District. Petitioner is requesting a Special Use Permit for a Commercial Solar Energy Facility.

**ACTIONS COMING FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION – None**

**ACTIONS GOING TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION – None**





**OTHER ACTIONS FROM THE ZONING OFFICE –**

The Zoning Department has been busy working with County Administrator Jeremy Englund and LOTS Executive Director Greg Gates on a grant application that would assist the County with the adoption of building codes. We have submitted the initial required documents, and I will keep you apprised of our progress with this grant opportunity.

The Zoning Department is currently in transition as we prepare for Mrs. Duffy's retirement in the coming weeks. Deputy Zoning Administrator Laura Mangrum has started her position and has eagerly jumped into her training. We are in the process of rearranging the layout of the office and would ask that you please excuse our mess as it is a work in progress. I would like to thank both the Maintenance Department and the IT Department for their help and patience with this endeavor.

The Zoning Office has processed 32 building permits for the month of November.

Total permit fees collected in November: \$ 4,426.40.