Regional Office of Education Report

April 2024

Alternative Learning Opportunities Programs (ALOP)

Article 13B of the School Code (105 ILCS 5/Art. 13B) recognizes that in order to achieve high standards, some students will need educational supports and other support services that are not currently provided by their regular school programs. In order to address these needs, Article 13B enables school districts to develop and implement Alternative Learning Opportunities Programs (ALOPs) that offer a broader range of academic, behavioral, and social/emotional interventions designed to increase the academic achievement levels of these students so that they are able meet the Illinois Learning Standards and complete their education in a safe learning environment. ROE 47 will be applying for an additional ALOP program next year in partnership with Amboy School District. If awarded, The pilot program will be structured with 2 full-time ROE employees working full-time in the Amboy school district with their students that need additional support. If the pilot program goes well, we anticipate opening it up to any of our districts that would be interested.

Professional Learning & Educational Services

Current Programs - Office of Professional Learning & Educational Services
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
- ROE 47 Early Childhood team, ROE 47 Pathways team, Sauk Valley Community
 College and Head Start are continuing conversations related to support for incumbent
 workforce and future educators who may need additional support and networking to
 promote persistence and degree/credential completion.
- Our annual Education Symposium will be held Friday, April 19th at Sauk Valley College in Dixon. Currently, over 110 freshmen - senior students interested in the field of education are registered to attend.
- ROE 47 School Improvement team staff members are working intensively with six districts on continuous school improvement.
- Trauma 101 and Youth Mental Health First Aid Training is available for registration on our website. This training is available to ALL - educators, community members, agencies, and businesses.
- ROE 47 community partnership delivered 5,000 informational brochures in acrylic displays to schools and area businesses related to understanding childhood trauma. A QR code is included on the back of the trifold to link directly to our community resource directory.
- 90 educators and community partners attended the 6th annual Social Emotional Learning summit held at Sauk Valley College on Thursday, March 14th. The day featured a keynote by Dr. Alonzo Kelly, as well as breakout sessions to provide additional information on trauma, implicit bias, attendance, and brain architecture.
- Upcoming and ongoing professional learning opportunities through our office include: Librarians Networking, School Counselor & Social Worker Networking, Social Studies training, Targeted Improvement to Meet the Needs of Diverse Learners (Special Education), monthly networking for special education teachers, 2 cohorts of Developing Special Education Leaders, Transformational Leadership Academy, new teacher cadre, quarterly administrator meetings, quarterly pathway implementation sessions, and more!
- Professional Learning is excited to share that we are launching a third Science of Reading cohort and a new Science of Math cohort for the fall of 2024. Science of Math

- training is provided through a subgrant from Math for ALL with funding from the US Department of Education.
- ROE 47 Professional Learning co-hosted a Cultivating Connections in Agriculture Workshop for administrators and counselors at Tettens Grain in Dixon, Illinois. The group got to hear from ILCAE Chair Allyn Buhrow on the importance and impact of agricultural education. Two agricultural teachers Mr. Seth McMillan and Mrs. Donna Page presented agricultural curriculum. Student panel talked about their SAEs and the impact it has had on their future plans. Illinois FFA State Treasurer Ben Bremmer presented opportunities for leadership and career development that FFA provides all students. Finally, we got to visit with a variety of industry personnel that make up our agricultural industry. Big thank you to Katie Pratt Lee co. Ag In the Classroom, Ashleigh Erbes Lee Co Farm Bureau Manager and Stacey Dinges from ROE 47 for partnering with us to put on this great event.
- Our spring book study is "Whole Child, Whole Life" by Stephanie Malia Krauss. This is a
 hybrid course with Google Classroom and live zoom meetings to discuss the content
 and takeaways.
- Two sessions remain in our Empowered Educators Series
 - April 14: Educating Children with a Trauma Informed Lens and the Power of YOU
 - May 15: Classroom Wrap Up: 10 Things to Take with You

Office of Professional Learning & Ed Services: Parent Engagement & Community Outreach

- To date, ROE 47 has 133 partners on its IRIS referral platform. There have been 2492 referrals and 1405 families served.
- ROE 47 hosted a successful first annual Student Leadership Summit on Friday, March 15th at the McCormick Event Center in Rock Falls. There were 127 freshmen attendees representing 11 schools from Lee, Ogle & Whiteside counties. Dr. Alonzo Kelly led students in critical thinking activities that challenged them to change their thinking and be open to new ideas.
- Family Educators and the Coordinated Intake Specialist have attended over 36 community events and reached over 10,000 families with parent-child activities, educational materials, and links to EC programs and community services through our IRIS referral platform. In FY24, from July 1 March 31, 2024, the office has hosted or participated in community events that facilitated parent-child interaction and heightened awareness of EC opportunities, including:
 - Lee County Baby Shower (8 families)
 - Sterling Hot Dog Days (400 participants)
 - Back to School Bash (125 participants)
 - Paw Paw Back to School Bash (100 participants)
 - Taste of Fiesta (Sterling) (500 participants)
 - Prophetstown BlockFest (11 children)
 - Polo Library October 3 (12 families)
 - Ogle County Baby Shower (75 families)

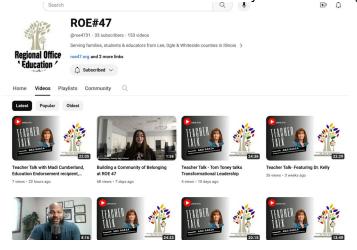
- Polo Library October 24: (12 families)
- o Trunk or Treat Sterling (October 25): 500 children
- o Trunk or Treat Dixon (October 25): 475 children
- Build A Pet Clubhouse November 4: 31 children
- PLT Preschool Parent Education Event November 6: 27 parents
- Polo Christmas December 2: 190 children
- Sterling Sites & Sounds December 1: 450 children
- Blockfest (Sterling Public Schools Early Childhood): 18 families
- o Blockfest (Oregon) January 20: 12 families, 25 children
- Empowered Parents Session 1 January 22: 15 caregivers
- Virtual Baby Shower January 24: 8 new & expectant mothers; 9 community organizations
- Build A Pet Clubhouse February 10: 33 children
- Empowered Parents Session 2 February 12: 12 caregivers
- Rochelle Hub Family Engagement Night February 15: 75 children and caregivers
- Blockfest Amboy March 1: 22 children
- Amboy PFA & Kindergarten Family Night: 50 caregivers and children
- Byron for Parent University March 12: 11 caregivers
- Empowered Parents Session 3 March 18: 14 caregivers
- Blockfest Riverdale Preschool March 18-21: 60 caregivers
- AFC Family Connections Night: 15 caregivers and children
- Our family educators have been trained in facilitating Parent Cafes. These will begin virtually in April 2024. (see flier below)
- A social emotional lending library has been established that contains Blockfest, Mindful Trails, family engagement activities and Slumberkins resources. These items are available for check out to schools and agencies. We have 10 Mindful Trails, 15 Slumberkins StoryWalks, 15 Slumberkins Big Books, and Slumberkins books with stuffed animals, as well as a number of games and activities. To date, materials have been used for school wide student learning opportunities, staff professional development, community/school events, and school/community family engagement events.
- Family educators have consulted with school staff to help design engagement events, provide support before events, and supply materials to be used at events.
- A monthly digital family newsletter has been developed and deployed through Mail
 Chimp on a monthly basis. Newsletters include parenting information, community family
 events, early childhood programming and service information, and other important links.
 Parents/caregivers can subscribe to the ROE Family Newsletter at
 https://mailchi.mp/2cde621b466f/family-sign-up
- Over 1,400 community outreach bags have been distributed to area schools, preschools, food banks, and shelters. Outreach bags include a personal care item, information on family events and community resources, community agencies, a parent-child activity card, and an activity for parents and children to do together that is focused on social emotional learning, self-care, math, and/or literacy. Parent/child conversation starters,

- learning activities, and other materials are compiled covering a variety of age ranges and needs.
- Early Childhood and Family Education team members have assisted with spring early childhood screenings in partnership with our ROE 47 school districts.

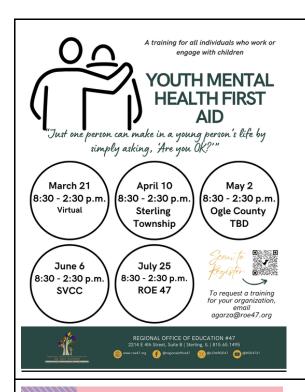
Office of Professional Learning & Ed Services: Social Media

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! We have an extensive library of 153 videos (and growing) in our collection!

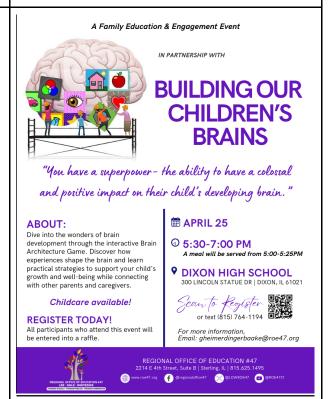


Upcoming Events









A Family Education & Engagement Event



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ABYRON

BUILDING OUR CHILDREN'S **BRAINS**

"You have a superpower- the ability to have a colossal and positive impact on their child's developing brain."

ABOUT:

Dive into the wonders of brain development through the interactive Brain Architecture Game. Discover how experiences shape the brain and learn practical strategies to support your child's growth and well-being while connecting with other parents and caregivers.

Childcare available!

REGISTER TODAY!

All participants who attend this event will be entered into a raffle.

APRIL 23

○ 5:30-7:00 PM A meal will be served from 5:00-5:25PM

BYRON PUBLIC LIBRARY



For more information, Email: gheimerdingerbaake@roe47.org



REGIONAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION #47 2214 E 4th Street, Suite B | Sterling, IL | 815.625.14 47.org 🕞 @regionaloffice47 🔉 @LOWROE47 💿 @ROE473

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APRIL 22

⊙ 5:30-7:00 PM A meal will be served from 5:00-5:25PM

9 STERLING TOWNSHIP 505 W LYNN BLVD. | STERLING, IL 61081





For more information, Email: gheimerdingerbaake@roe47.org



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www.roc47.org

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I AM A SUPER-PARENT STRONG & FLEXIBLE

Our Parent Cafés are FREE!

JOIN US



Register by scanning the QR code or text 815.764.1194

APRIL 8

⊙ 7:00 PM

ONLINE (ZOOM)

Parent Cafés are events that encourage positive community connections and empower parents.



Free Birth to Five **Developmental** Screening

1st Thursday of each month!

What is a developmental screening? A developmental screening is a tool that takes a closer look at how your child is developing.

- Why is it important?
 Screenings help families understand their child's development.
- Screenings show important milestones and identify possible concerns as early as possible. Research tells us that the sooner a developmental concern is identified, the better. Early identification leads to early support and services that can improve a child's development and help them be their best.

- Improve a child's development and help them be their best.

 It's recommended! The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends all children
 be screened at least once a year.

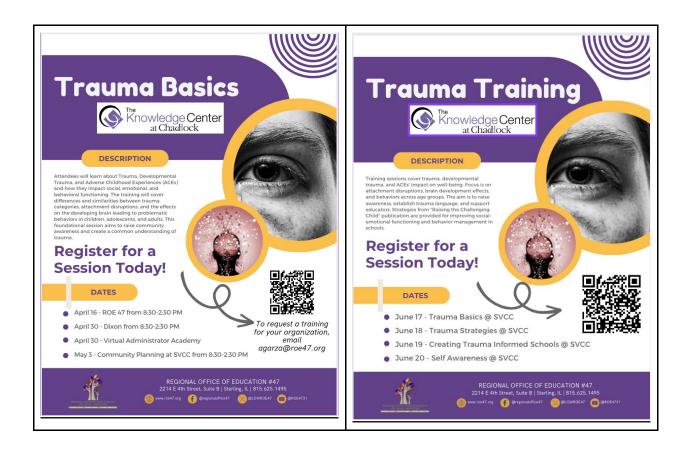
 Screenings are a great way to make sure that your child is developing on track
 for their age. You can learn about your child's strengths and ways to support
 their healthy development.

 Screenings can also help determine if your child needs extra help or further
 evaluation. Our staff specializes in helping families who have concerns about
 their child's development. They can answer your questions and connect you to
 local resources.

Schedule a developmental screening Scan the QR code and complete the registration form or call (815) 625-1495 and ask for Aimee.







Office of Professional Learning & Ed Services: Professional Learning Events

Check out ALL of our opportunities <u>HERE</u> **April 2024 Schedule of Events**

APRIL		
2/6/2024 - 4/9/2024	Targeted Improvement to Meet the Need of Diverse Learners	ROE #47 (In- person)
4/10/2024	Special Educators Cohort	Online (Zoom)
4/10/2024	Youth Mental Health First Aid	Sterling Township (In- person)

4/16/2024	Trauma Basics	ROE #47 (In- person)
4/17/2024	Empowered Educator Series	Online (Zoom)
4/24/2024	New Teacher Cadre	Online (Zoom)
4/30/2024	Creating a Trauma-Informed School Culture (Admin Acad)	Online (Zoom)

March 2024 Participants - 188

Tuesday, March 5

LETRS Cohort @ ROE #47

Developing Leadership in Special Education (Year One) @ ROE #47 LETRS Training @ 3:30 p.m.

Friday, March 8

Transitional Math Fall Networking Session @ SVCC

Tuesday, March 12

New Teacher Cadre @ 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 13

Librarians & School Library Media Specialist Networking Session @ 3:00 p.m. Whole Child, Whole Life (Spring Book Study) @ 3:30 p.m. Special Educators Cohort @ 3:30 pm

Thursday, March 14

Social Emotional Learning Summit @ SVCC

Wednesday, March 20

Empowered Educators Series @ 3:30 pm

Thursday, March 21

Youth Mental Health First Aid Training @ 8:30 a.m.

February 2024 in Photos:



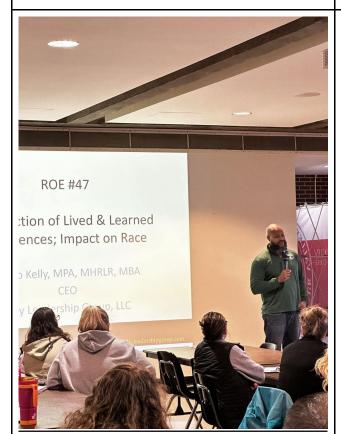






















Office of Professional Learning & Ed Services: NEXUS

	HOW WE SUPPORT YOUR DISTRICT Nexus Program April 2024
159	Families Supported
384	Children Supported
81	McKinney Vinto
522	Goals Met
5317	Family Contacts

Office of Professional Learning & Ed Services: Student Attendance Support

	HOW WE SUPPORT YOUR DISTRICT Attendance Program April 2024
358	Families Supported
406	Children Supported
27	McKinney ∀into
190	Goals Met
3091	Family Contacts

Parents as Teachers First Years

As we approach the last quarter of the year, we have been looking at enrollment statistics and thought you might be interested in our work with families so far this year:

Total Enrollment:

- o Families: 65
 - Total Families that received visits prenatally: 15
- Adults: 71Children: 86

Children/Prenatal Babies Enrollment by School District:

WHITESIDE

- · Sterling: 19
 - Rock Falls District 13: 8
- Morrison: 7Montmorency: 2River Bend: 2
- · Prophetstown-Lyndon-Tampico: 1
- Erie: 6
 - East Coloma-Nelson: 1

LEE

Dixon: 13Amboy: 1

OGLE

- Rochelle: 14Oregon: 6
- · Forrestville Valley: 1
- Polo: 1
 Meridian: 4
- Children identified as Homeless: 20
- Children who are Child Welfare Involved: 18
- Children dually enrolled in Early Intervention: 6

Languages Other Than English Spoken by Families:

Spanish: 17Portuguese: 1Chuj: 1

Family Experiences and Stressors Present:

(Families may be counted in more than one category)

- Young parents (under age 21): 11
- Child with disabilities/chronic health conditions: 10
- Parent with disabilities/chronic health conditions: 17
- Parent with mental health issues: 30
- · Parent with no high school diploma or GED: 14
- · Low income: 57
- Recent immigrant or refugee family: 4
- Substance use disorder: 3
- Foster care or other temporary caregiver: 2
- · Child abuse/neglect: 11
- Parent incarcerated during child's lifetime: 3
- · Housing instability/Homeless: 17
- Very low birth weight/preterm birth: 2
- Death in the immediate family: 1
- · Intimate partner violence: 15
- Military deployment: 0

Education Outreach Program

For the Education Outreach Program, March brings transitions! Many of our students are preparing to find employment over the summer. With our program, and the support from our friends with BEST, Inc. we have the opportunity to prepare our students for the workforce through Leadership Opportunities, Employability training, Resume preparation and Work Experience or Job Shadowing.

In March alone we have had 8 students build resumes, 7 students participate in Job Shadowing opportunities, 2 Work Experiences and 4 students complete our Career Readiness Course. We look forward to having our students participate in Sauk Valley Community College's Job Fair and Career & Trades Expo in April!

EOP also would like to recognize **Annastasia** for earning her Illinois High School Diploma! Congratulations Graduate in completing your testing in just 3 short months. Annastasia has already accepted a position with Sterling Main Street and plans to pursue a certification program either in Nursing or Reality.

The Education Outreach Program staff also worked hard to submit our competitive Grant requesting funds to continue for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year. It was a humbling experience as we had selected students to submit letters representing the services they received and speak to the efforts of those involved in the program. The numbers for our program are as follows to date:

Active Enrolled = 72

Whiteside County = 38 + 5 graduates

Lee County = 13 + 3 graduates

Ogle County = 9 + 4 graduates

Follow Up Services = 23 New Enrollments (2023-2024) = 18 Intakes Pending = 7 Earned Illinois High School Diploma (7/2023 - 3/2024) = 9

McKinney Vento Homeless Program

March is the State McKinney Vento Conference. It had the best attendance ever. It is a wonderful time for staff all over the State to share ideas, concerns and needs. Services continue to flow to our Districts with the hopes of keeping our students engaged and supported with their educational struggles. With the end result being, educational success. Support for a wide range of educational needs continues to be needed and provided to the best of our ability. Each student and family have unique needs and concerns. Work continues with our grant funding but also with the local community resources as well. Our families have a lot of uphills to walk and we hope to support them to the fullest extent possible.

Regional Center for Change

The theme for March is "March into Spring." C4C students and staff are on Spring Break the week of March 25th. A much-needed and well-deserved break for our entire C4C family! The third quarter ended on Tuesday, March 19th! Students have been working hard to complete their current enrollments and setting goals for the 4th quarter. We had 5 new students start in the month of March, and our safe school classrooms are officially full for the first time this school year. Twenty-six students achieved Phoenix Rising status in March, a new record for our students!

WHAT'S NEW AT C4C THIS SPRING

C4C and State Testing

State testing is an essential component of our educational system, providing valuable insights into our students' academic progress and the effectiveness of our curriculum. In the past, students returned to their homeschool for testing. We decided to complete all state testing at C4C this year to alleviate the anxiety that often occurs when our students return to their homeschool for testing. We are excited for this opportunity!

Testing Dates:

April 9th and 10th: Grades 6 through 8 [Illinois Assessment of Readiness]

April 11th: Grades 8 and 11 [Illinois Science Assessment]

April 12th: Grades 11 and 12 [PSAT and SAT]

Guest Speaker April 26th

We have finalized our motivational speaker Kenneth Yogi Godbolt III, for April 26th. The Juvenile Justice Council is sponsoring this dynamic and motivational speaker. Here's what you'll take away from our presentation:

Balance: Learn how to balance sports and personal life and develop a schedule that allows you to excel in both areas.

Leadership: Become a leader on and off the field, and learn to lead by example.

Winning Mindset: Develop a winning mindset to help you achieve your goals on and off the field.

Discipline: Increase discipline and self-control to help you stay focused and motivated.

Conflict Management: Learn practical skills to manage internal conflict and maintain healthy relationships with teammates and coaches

Mental Toughness: Build mental toughness to overcome obstacles and setbacks and become a more resilient athlete.

<u>Important Dates in March</u>

March 6th - Half Day and 30-minute staff meeting at 11:30

March 7th and 8th: ICEARY
March 10th: Daylight Savings!

March 19th: End of the 3rd Quarter

March 22nd: Half Day and early dismissal for staff at 11:30 - you deserve it!

March 25th - March 29th: SPRING BREAK

April 1st: School in Session for ICEARY make-up day