

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

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
- 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 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 • 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

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.

Bring your technology device to get access to the shared resources

SAUK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ROOM 1K04
173 IL Rte. 2
Dixon, IL 61021

Registration from 8:00-8:30

Earn 6.5 PD Hours each day!

Lunch is included!

These events are FREE!

REGISTER BY NOVEMBER 27, 2023 AT [ROE47.ORG](http://roe47.org)

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE REACH OUT TO SHAUNA DINGES AT SDINGES@IESENNETWORK.ORG

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

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

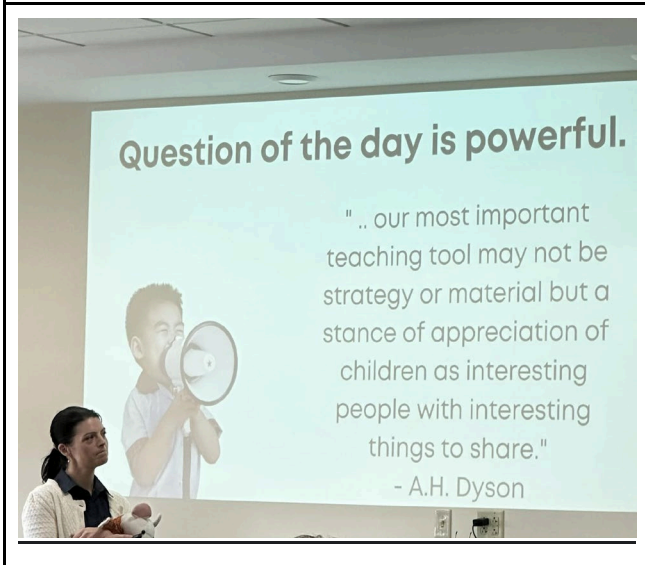
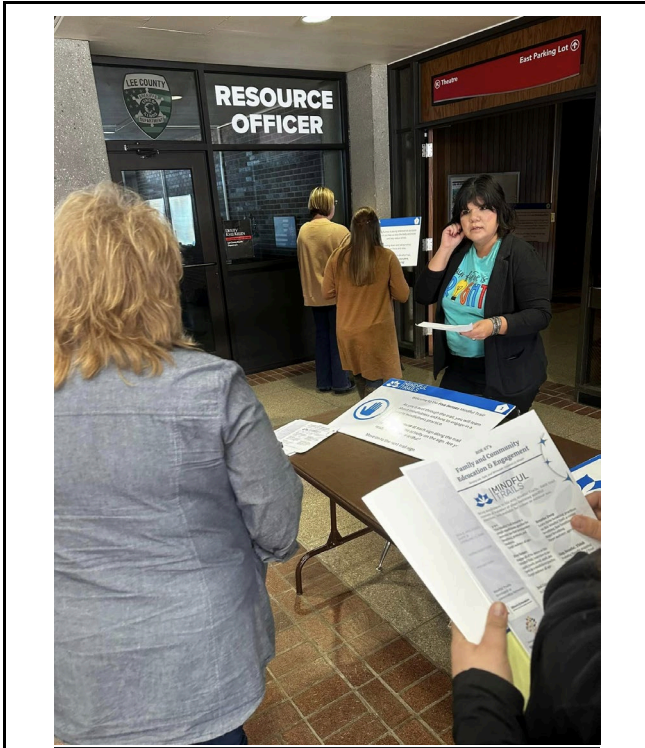
Social Science Quarterly Networking Session @ ROE #47

Preschool Family Support Specialist Networking Session @ 9:00 am

Thursday, November 30

Transformational Leadership Academy Series @ SVCC

November in Photos:



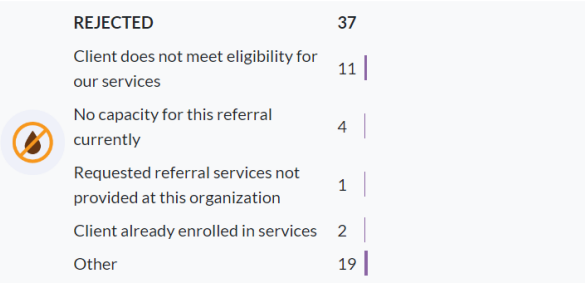
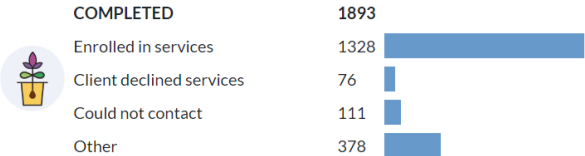
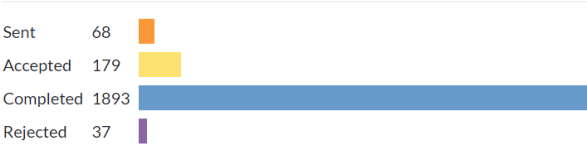


Office of Professional Learning & Ed Services: NEXUS

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



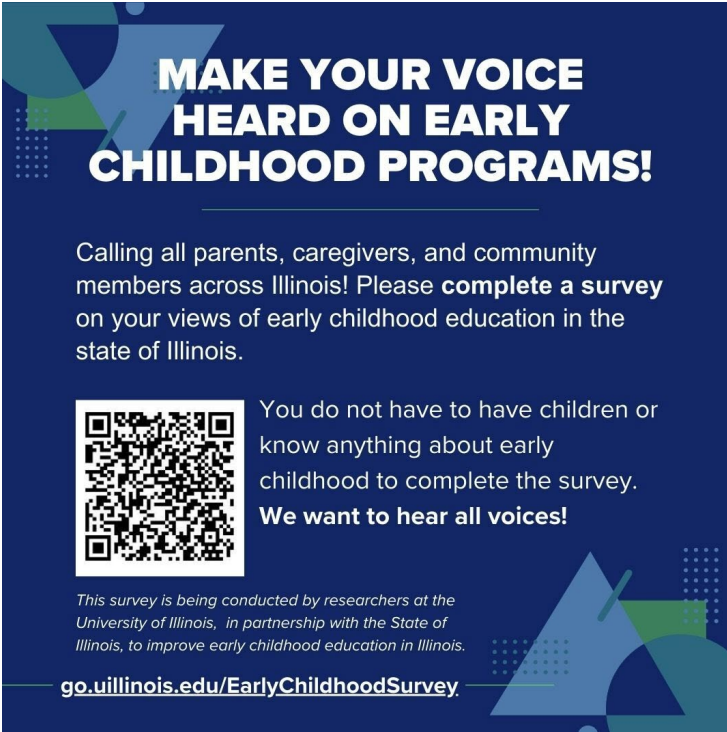
Office of Professional Learning & Ed Services: Student Attendance Support

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

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