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INDIANA  
DEPARTMENT of  
EDUCATION

## An Update From the Indiana Department of Education for February 3, 2023

Indiana Department of Education sent this bulletin at 02/03/2023 07:00 AM EST



Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

### A Message from Dr. Katie Jenner

Being surrounded by students always fills my bucket...even in the stressful moments, going into classrooms and being with students has always been my go-to. So on Tuesday, it was exactly what I needed to join about 20 kindergarten students for World Read Aloud day at [Global Prep Academy](#).

A work friend suggested *Ada Twist, Scientist* for the read aloud, and if you haven't read this book yourself, I highly recommend it! Since I was a high school teacher and now have middle school daughters, I've seen this series many times on the shelves at Barnes and Noble but hadn't read it yet. It's a book that encourages students, particularly young girls, to be inquisitive and use STEM to explore/engage in the world around them. Much like the book's leading character, Ada Marie Twist, the students had a lot of excellent insights/questions and even learned a new word: *hypothesis*!





This week also included the February State Board of Education meeting. In addition to hearing from Indiana's teacher of the year, Mrs. Tara Cocanower, and getting an [Indiana GPS](#) update, IDOE shared with the board results from a statewide survey aimed at better understanding parents' perceptions in order to continue improving K-12 education in the state of Indiana.

You can read the full results [here](#), and/or you can check out the summarized, key findings below:

- **The vast majority (88%) of Indiana parents are *satisfied with the quality of their child's school*.** Satisfaction is even higher among those whose child is enrolled in elementary school (90%) and those in rural and small-town areas throughout the state (96%).
- **Most parents *know and approve of the subjects and topics taught at their child's school*.** Only 2% of parents indicate they are both knowledgeable of the subjects and topics being taught and disapprove of those subjects and topics.
- ***Concerns about child safety are highest among lower-income parents in micro- and metropolitan areas.*** About half (47%) of lower-income parents in micro- and metropolitan areas say they worry about their child's safety at school, compared with 33% of all parents.
- **Parents see *post-high school education as available in Indiana but not affordable*.** Most (72%) parents say education after high school is available in the state to those who need it. However, only 27% say that post-high school education is affordable.
- **Awareness of the Indiana 21st Century Scholars program is *inconsistent across parents of students who might benefit the most*.** About six in 10 parents of middle school students (64%) are aware of the Indiana 21st Century Scholars program.
- **Awareness of the Indiana 21st Century Scholars program is *not related to perception of higher education affordability*.** Even among parents who are aware of the Indiana 21st Century Scholars program, only 27% agree that education beyond high school is affordable to anyone in the state of Indiana who needs it.
- **About one-third of parents of seniors say their child is *not prepared for life after high school*.** Among parents of freshmen, roughly half say their child is not prepared for life after high

school.

- **According to parents, seven in 10 high school students *plan to pursue further education or training after high school*.** This includes the six in 10 who plan to attend a four-year university or two-year college and the one in 10 who say they will pursue training to learn a skill or trade.

As our team has visited schools throughout the state, we have seen evidence of positive working relationships between educators and families, and the results of this survey *confirm* this. This data also provides additional insight into areas where we can continue improving, as well as opportunities to raise awareness for our students and families.

As always, thank you for your ongoing collaboration with our team and for your commitment to family engagement. Together, let's continue to do all that we can to "keep making it better" for Indiana students!

## Office of Accountability

### **NEW: Attendance Reporting - Exempt Days**

While reviewing the 2022-2023 attendance data submissions, it is clear that the "Exempt" attendance code is likely being overused. The "Exempt" attendance code has very specific reasons spelled out in statute and should not be used for expulsions, field trips, or unexcused absences. Please see [this memo](#) for the specific allowable reasons to utilize the "Exempt" code. Contact [Cathy Danyluk](#) with any questions.

## Office of Student Assessment

### **NEW: ILEARN Biology End-of-Course Assessment (ECA) Winter 2023 Testing Window Opens Monday, February 6**

The paper-and-pencil and digital testing windows for the ILEARN Biology ECA Winter 2023 assessment open Monday, February 6, and close Friday, February 17, for paper testing, and Friday, February 24, for online testing. Refer to the [ILEARN Biology ECA Test Window Checklist](#) for an overview of tasks prior to operational testing. Contact the Indiana Department of Education's (IDOE's) [Office of Student Assessment](#) with any questions.

### **NEW: ILEARN Biology ECA Winter 2023 Monitoring**

IDOE's Office of Student Assessment will conduct onsite monitoring visits during the ILEARN Biology ECA Winter 2023 assessment window will begin Monday, February 6, to ensure fidelity of test administration and test security requirements. Additional information can be found in [this memo](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Assessment](#) with any questions.

### **NEW: Apply for the I AM Practitioner Panel by Thursday, February 16**

IDOE is establishing the I AM Practitioner Panel to evaluate Indiana's Alternate Measure (I AM) to make recommendations for improvements and the potential redesign of the alternate assessment program. This panel will meet twice this spring (full day in-person and after school virtually) and again after school virtually this fall. IDOE seeks current educators and administrators familiar with students with significant cognitive disabilities (SWSCDs), the Indiana Content Connectors, and/or the administration of I AM. Substitute reimbursement is provided for the full day, in-person meeting, and stipends are available for virtual meetings. Indicate your interest in this committee via [Jotform](#) by Thursday, February 16. IDOE will consider all applications to ensure the committee has diverse representation. Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Assessment](#) with any questions.

### **REMINDER: Applications for Spanish Visiting Teacher Program**

Details for the 2023-2024 school year (SY) Spanish Visiting Teacher Program can be found [here](#), or districts can express interest by completing the application form [here](#). The application deadline is Friday, March 17. Contact [Rebecca Estes](#) with any questions.

### **REMINDER: Spotlight on Educator Pipeline Strategies**

The Office of Educator Talent is collecting information about existing Grow Your Own, Teacher Residency, and Registered Teacher Apprenticeship partnerships across the state. If your school has an established program or would like to learn more about how to get started, please complete the following [survey](#). Contact [eel@doe.in.gov](mailto:eel@doe.in.gov) with any questions.

### **NEW: Cybersecurity Resources Available**

New cybersecurity education guides and resources available below are designed to help school leaders direct discussions and provide next steps to improve cybersecurity at their school(s):

- The Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (MS-ISAC), recently hosted a free [webinar](#) discussing the newly released [K-12 Cybersecurity Assessment Report](#).
- [This guide](#) provides a visual overview of the services available for K-12 schools through MS-ISAC.
- The [K-12 Report, Protecting Our Future: Partnering to Safeguard K-12 Organizations from Cybersecurity Threats](#) from the Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA).

Contact [Brad Hagg](#) with any questions.

### **REMINDER: School Health Report**

The new School Health Report application can be accessed via the [LINK portal](#). Once in the portal, navigate to the **School Health Report** tile. Note that beginning Monday, February 6, in order to have access to the School Health Report tile, a **School Health** role is required. Please work with your Security Coordinator to make sure that this role is configured for the nurses who will need access to the School Health Report. For more information on how to access the school health report via the LINK Portal, click [here](#). Please note that the legacy School Health Report from DOE Online will be discontinued as of Monday, January 30. Contact [link@doe.in.gov](mailto:link@doe.in.gov) with any questions regarding assigning necessary roles. Contact [Jolene Bracale](#) with any questions about the school health report.

### **REMINDER: Your Input is Needed**

IDOE and our partner, Resultant, are seeking educators, school administrators, and interventionists to complete a short survey regarding student performance data and how they are used locally. The information gathered via this survey will help IDOE in the development of an innovative Early Warning Indicator tool that can predict and identify students at risk of not graduating high school on time or achieving postsecondary success. You can access the survey [here](#).

In addition to this survey, IDOE is hosting a series of virtual, one-hour focus groups throughout January. If you would like to participate, please sign up [here](#). If you wish to participate but cannot make any of the scheduled times, please reach out to [mthielmeyer@resultant.com](mailto:mthielmeyer@resultant.com) to schedule a meeting.

### **REMINDER: E-Rate Match for Fiber Construction Now Available**

IDOE is participating in the E-Rate Match Program for special construction projects. Available to any Indiana public school for fiscal year (FY) 2023 (July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024), the program increases the discount rate for special construction charges for high-speed broadband that meets the FCC's long-term connectivity targets up to an additional 10% to match the state funding on a one-to-one dollar basis. Full application details are available [here](#). Contact [Brad Hagg](#) with any questions.

### **REMINDER: Important Data Reporting Change - Student Academic Record Collection to Replace Course Completion Collection**

These changes being implemented for reporting course enrollments and outcomes will impact all schools that report course level data to IDOE. These updates are occurring to improve the completeness of academic records for each student, to support metrics on the Graduates Prepared to Succeed dashboard, and to monitor progress on Graduation Pathways. The full memo is available [here](#) and the related frequently asked questions (FAQ) document is available [here](#). Contact IDOE's [Data Exchange Team](#) with any questions.

## Office of School Finance

### **NEW: Period 2 (February) Membership**

The initial copy date for Period 2 (February) membership is Monday, February 6. Beginning Tuesday, February 7, membership moves to the certification and sign-off phase. Please pay attention to membership data reporting deadlines. Tickets requesting assistance regarding a [membership](#) issue must be submitted by close of business on Monday, February 13, to be addressed. Contact IDOE's [Office of School Finance](#) with any questions.

### **REMINDER: Summer School Estimates**

The window to submit the Estimated Cost Report for Summer School 2023 will open on Wednesday, February 1. Please read this [memo](#) and [FAQ document](#) for information regarding eligible courses, important dates, and financial provisions. Detailed information about the summer school program and how to report is included in [this presentation](#). Contact [Teresa Hemmerle](#) or [Joe Engelstad](#).

### **REMINDER: Full-Time Teacher Benefit Survey**

Please read [this memo](#) regarding collection of full-time teacher benefit data between Friday, December 16, and Friday, February 17, for inclusion in the fiscal year (FY) 2023 Full-Time Teacher Salary and Benefits Report. Contact IDOE's [Office of School Finance](#) with any questions.

## Office of School Support and Transformation

### **NEW: Formulaic School Improvement Planning/Implementation Grants**

IDOE's School Support and Transformation team is now accepting applications for Formulaic School Improvement Planning/Implementation Grants (SIG). A list of eligible schools can be found [here](#). Schools must submit the SIG [application](#) and [budget template](#) to IDOE's [Office of School Support and Transformation](#). All applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and the application closes on Friday, March 31, and the rolling review process will last approximately 10 business days. Project periods are listed below:

- **Newly identified schools:** Date of notification through Saturday, September 30
- **Schools in year two and beyond:** October 7, 2022, through Saturday, September 30

For information from the webinar, click [here](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of School Support and Transformation](#) with any questions.

## NEW: Annual 1003 Flexibility Waivers

IDOE's Office of School Support and Transformation is now [accepting applications](#) for 1003 flexibility waivers. Flexibility through waivers is offered to help support schools in their design efforts to improve student performance and outcomes, help to improve efficiency of school operations, and to help promote innovative educational approaches to student learning. Interested officials can read more about the opportunity in [this memo](#) and in the [Flexibility Guide for Indiana's K-12 Schools](#) document. Applications are now open and will be accepted on a rolling basis through Friday, June 2.

Applications will be reviewed in three rounds:

	Review period	Request for information timeline	Recommendation sent to the State Board of Education
Round One	Friday, February 10 through Friday, March 17	Monday, March 13, through Wednesday, March 29	May
Round Two	Monday, March 20, through Friday, April 28	Monday, April 24, through Wednesday, May 10	June
Round Three	Monday, May 1, through Friday, June 2	Tuesday, May 30, through Wednesday, June 14	July

Contact [Georgia Watson](#) with any questions.

Office of Student Pathways and Opportunities

## NEW: February McKinney-Vento Liaison Webinar

IDOE's Student Pathways and Opportunities team will host the February McKinney-Vento webinar on Tuesday, February 14, from 11 a.m. to noon ET via Microsoft Teams. Please use this [link](#) to join. Contact

[Mckinneyventopoc@doe.in.gov](mailto:Mckinneyventopoc@doe.in.gov) with any questions.

## **NEW: High Ability Coordinator Collection**

High ability coordinators can access a collection of resources and information with a free account in the [Indiana Learning Lab](#). The collection will continue to grow as new resources are developed. The [High Ability Coordinator Collection](#) can be used for reference or as professional development for high ability teams. Contact [studentpathways\\_highability@doe.in.gov](mailto:studentpathways_highability@doe.in.gov) with any questions.

## **REMINDER: February High Ability Webinar**

IDOE's Student Pathways and Opportunities team will host the February High Ability webinar on Wednesday, February 8, from 3 to 4 p.m. ET via Microsoft Teams. Please use this [link](#) to join. Contact [studentpathways\\_highability@doe.in.gov](mailto:studentpathways_highability@doe.in.gov) with any questions.

## **REMINDER: February Alternative Education Webinar**

IDOE's Student Pathways and Opportunities team will host the February Alternative Education webinar on Thursday, February 9, from 10 to 11 a.m. ET via Microsoft Teams. Please use this [link](#) to join. Contact [studentpathways\\_alted@doe.in.gov](mailto:studentpathways_alted@doe.in.gov) with any questions.

Office of Student, School, and Family Engagement

## **NEW: Diploma Seals Order Form**

The online form to order diploma seals for the 2023 Cohort is now live. Please see [this memo](#) for additional information. Contact [Rebekah Frazer](#) with any questions.

Office of Student Support and Accessibility/Special Education

## **NEW: Alternate Diploma Requirements**

Indiana's new alternate diploma for students with significant cognitive disabilities has been approved by the State Board of Education and may be awarded to eligible students graduating in spring 2023. A student is eligible to earn the alternate diploma if:

1. The student has been identified as a student with a significant cognitive disability by their Case Conference Committee (CCC);
2. The student's CCC has determined the alternate diploma is appropriate, as indicated in the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP); **and**
3. The student took the I AM alternate assessment.

Contact IDOE's [Office of Special Education](#) with any questions.

## **NEW: Register for Get Your Teach On Virtual Sessions - February**

IDOE's Office of Student Support and Accessibility in partnership with [Get Your Teach On](#) continues to provide additional professional development opportunities to Indiana educators through free virtual workshop sessions in the [Indiana Learning Lab](#). Register for February sessions by clicking *Learning* and

selecting *Live* to access the calendar of events. All sessions are available on-demand after the live sessions. This month's sessions are:

- Thursday, February 9: Building Vocabulary & Comprehension Through Content Areas - Lower Elementary Educators
- Thursday, February 9: Building Vocabulary & Comprehension Through Content Areas - Elementary Educators
- Thursday, February 9: Data + Progress Monitoring: Part II - Leadership Teams
- Thursday, February 16: Building Vocabulary & Comprehension Through Content Areas - Middle School Educators
- Thursday, February 16: IEP Checklists - Special Education Educators
- Thursday, February 16: Data + Progress Monitoring: Part II - Instructional Coaches

Please contact IDOE's [Office of Student Support and Accessibility](#) with questions.

### **NEW: English Learner (EL) 101 Video Series Now Available**

The 11-part EL 101 series is now available on the [Office of Student Support and Accessibility Moodle course](#) and IDOE's [English Learning and Migrant Education webpage](#). This series takes an in-depth look at what comprises an EL program along with federal requirements. Please contact IDOE's [Office of Student Support and Accessibility](#) with questions.

### **NEW: Prove Input on Statewide Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Review (APR) for Indicator 3B High School Cohort**

Indiana transitioned from ISTEP+ to SAT for the high school statewide assessment in spring 2022, and IDOE's Office of Special Education is now seeking feedback on whether Indicator 3B baseline and targets should be subsequently revised. Individuals may apply for this opportunity via [Jotform](#) by Friday, February 17. Contact IDOE's [Office of Special Education](#) with any questions.

### **REMINDER: Indicator 13 Proposed Secondary Transition Checklist Change**

IDOE's Office of Special Education requests feedback on proposed changes to language within the checklist used to monitor Transition IEPs. The proposed changes would allow for coursework, Career and Technical Education (CTE) Pathways, and other similar activities to be allowable as stand alone Transition Services and Activities within an IEP. Please complete the short [Jotform](#) to submit your feedback by Friday, February 10. Contact IDOE's [Office of Special Education](#) with any questions.

### **REMINDER: Indiana Medicaid Advisory Committee (Indiana MAC) Random Moment Time Study (RMTS) Webinars**

Register for upcoming webinars for information to assist school staff participating in the Indiana MAC RMTS in obtaining a better understanding of how the quarterly time studies work and how best to ensure responses comply with the timeliness requirements.

- [Indiana MAC RMTS Help Session #1: Thursday, February 9, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. ET](#)
- [Indiana MAC RMTS Help Session #2: Tuesday, February 14, from 2 to 3 p.m. ET](#)



Contact IDOE's [Office of Special Education](#) with any questions.

## REMINDER: PATINS Project Opportunities and Resources for Indiana Educators

The PATINS Project offers opportunities and resources for educators across the state to access Accessible Education Materials. View new opportunities and resources [here](#). Contact the [PATINS Project](#) or IDOE's [Office of Student Support and Accessibility](#) with any questions.

## NEW: IEP TA Center Special Education Directory and Upcoming Live Workshops

The IEP TA Center, formerly known as the Indiana IEP Resource Center, updated their Indiana Special Education Directory. The [directory](#) can be accessed via the [IEP TA Center webpage](#). In addition, a [downloadable PDF](#) is available. [February workshops are now available](#) via the [training catalog](#). Register [here](#) for upcoming workshops. Contact [Felicia Houston](#) from the IEP TA Center or IDOE's [Office of Student Support and Accessibility](#) with any questions.

## REMINDER: Save the Date - Virtual EL Leadership Meeting on Thursday, February 16

IDOE's Office of English Learning and Migrant Education will host the next virtual EL Leadership Meeting from 10 a.m. to noon. ET on Thursday, February 16. This interactive meeting intended for Indiana K-12 EL leaders and administrators will cover a variety of topics from WIDA ACCESS to funding and programming resources. Registration is not required. Visit the [Indiana EL Professional Development Opportunities Calendar](#) for the link. Contact IDOE's [Office of English Learning and Migrant Education](#) with any questions.

Offices of Teaching and Learning, Digital Learning, and Kindergarten Readiness

## NEW: On-Demand Professional Development (PD) with IDOE

IDOE hosts *PD with IDOE* every Wednesday at 4 p.m. ET on a variety of topics in the Indiana Learning Lab. January's workshops are all available on-demand:

- [Grab a Cup of Coffee and Let's Discuss Compassion Fatigue vs Burnout](#)
- [What You Need to Know About Accommodations for Spring 2023 Assessments](#)
- [Why We Stay: A Fireside Chat with Some of Indiana's Top Teacher Talent](#)
- [New Year, New You: Tech Tools for 2023](#)

Attend [future live sessions](#) and view [other on-demand content](#) in the Indiana Learning Lab. Contact IDOE's [Office of Digital Learning](#) with any questions.

## REMINDER: Register for Indiana STEM and Literacy Cadre Informational Webinars

IDOE and the Center of Excellence in Leadership of Learning (CELL) at the University of Indianapolis are working to highlight the importance and support the work of foundational literacy and STEM skills through

the [Indiana Literacy Cadre](#) and [Indiana STEM Cadre](#). Learn more about both of these opportunities on [Thursday, February 9, from noon to 1 p.m. ET](#) at the informational webinar hosted by CELL. Contact IDOE's [Literacy Center](#) with any questions.

## **REMINDER: February PD with IDOE**

February PD with IDOE continues next week with *Test Security in a Digital World: Part 2*. View a full list of the February sessions [here](#). To register for workshops, or view on demand sessions, create a free Learning Lab account by visiting the [LINK Portal](#) or the [Indiana Learning Lab website](#) directly and use your school email to log in. Contact IDOE's [Office of Digital Learning](#) with any questions.

## **REMINDER: #INLovesReading Through Purposeful Play**

Join IDOE in the Indiana Learning Lab for [#INLovesReading Through Purposeful Play](#), a kindergarten readiness series from January through March. The next session is Tuesday, January 31, from 4 to 5 p.m. ET with Purdue speech pathologists Anne Grit and Kaylie Standish. This series explores principles for the science of reading through purposeful play in early learning environments. A full schedule can be found in the [Indiana Learning Lab](#). Please plan to join this live event to learn more about the brain, comprehension, phonics, vocabulary, writing, and diverse learners and their families. All sessions will be recorded for later viewing. Contact IDOE's [Office of Kindergarten Readiness](#) with any questions.

## **REMINDER: Kindergarten Readiness Community in the Learning Lab**

The Kindergarten Readiness Community is now available in the [Indiana Learning Lab](#). This group will support educators and administrators in preparing children birth to age five in all domains of early learning. Contact IDOE's [Office of Kindergarten Readiness](#) with any questions.

## **REMINDER: Indiana Course Access Portal (iCAP) Reimbursement Deadline Extension**

IDOE's Office of Digital Learning is offering an opportunity for schools to receive reimbursement for students enrolling in the Indiana Course Access Portal (iCAP) for the 2023-2024 school year. [Indiana Code 20-30-16](#) currently offers over 180 course options from seven course providers. [Applications are open](#) through Friday, March 3. Please see this [memo](#) for more information. Contact IDOE's [Office of Digital Learning](#) with any questions.

## **REMINDER: Week of the Young Child (WOYC) Public Visual Photography and Artwork Display**

In recognition of the WOYC Saturday, April 1, through Friday, April 7, IDOE's Office of Kindergarten Readiness is organizing a public, visual display at the Indiana Statehouse reflecting the work of early learning educators and students across the state. Find out more about participating [here](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Kindergarten Readiness](#) with any questions.

Office of Title Grants and Support

## **REMINDER: Title Grants and Support Quarterly Meeting**

The IDOE Title Grants and Support Team will host its third quarterly meeting for federal program administrators on Wednesday, February 8, at 10 a.m. ET. Topics will include important updates and resources regarding equitable services process, ESSER data reporting, and Title Con 2023. Please join the meeting using [this link](#). Contact [title@doe.in.gov](mailto:title@doe.in.gov) with any questions.

## **REMINDER: Title Con 2023 - Requests for Questions from the Field**

One of Title Con's keynote sessions will include a moderated discussion and those planning to attend Title Con are encouraged to submit questions they have for IDOE in areas such as academics, finance, student pathways and opportunities, and technology. The Title Con planning committee will include a selection of these questions for the moderated discussion. Please submit questions to [title@doe.in.gov](mailto:title@doe.in.gov).

## News From Our Partners

### **NEW FROM INSPIRE SUCCESS: Annual School Counselor Survey**

IDOE, in collaboration with Inspire Success, invites all Indiana School Counselors to fill out the [2023 Annual Indiana School Counselor Survey](#). This survey is designed to gather the latest details on Indiana school counselor demographic data, roles and responsibilities, most significant day-to-day challenges, professional development needs, and other areas. Please complete by Monday, February 20. Results will be shared with school counselors once they are compiled. Contact [Inspire Success](#) with any questions.

### **NEW FROM INVESTED: Helping Indiana Students Fund Education Beyond High School**

INvestEd is a nonprofit created by state law that provides financial aid advising and other services relating to student loans. It is critical that students and families know the optimal way to plan for successful education after high school and understand the state and federal financial aid options available. INvestEd's experts are available to answer questions and connect students with [free resources](#) that often make the cost of education more manageable.

Last year, INvestEd partnered with nearly 250 schools at over 700 events and helped over 10,000 Hoosier students with education funding questions. The recently released [parent survey](#), conducted by IDOE, highlights the need for additional awareness regarding the state's generous financial aid programs. School counselors are encouraged to contact INvestEd at 317-715-9007 or [outreach@investedindiana.org](mailto:outreach@investedindiana.org) to connect with an education funding specialist and learn more about how INvestEd can support your students and families.

### **NEW FROM THE INLEARNING PARTNERSHIP: Digital Learning Day Double Down**

Celebrate Digital Learning Day with the INLearning Partnership for [Digital Learning Day Double Down](#) on Thursday, February 23, from 2 to 3 p.m. ET live in the Indiana Learning Lab. What better way to celebrate than with those who are most important to our work - students! Join the live panel of students from across the states to share their digital learning success stories. Registration is available now on the Indiana Learning Lab. Contact IDOE's [Office of Digital Learning](#) with any questions.

### **NEW FROM THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (IDHS): Get ShakIN' Video Contest**

The [Get ShakIN' video contest](#) gives students in kindergarten through grade 12 the chance to win their class or group a Raspberry Shake® RS3D seismograph for a year to track seismic activity around the world! Groups can enter by submitting a student-produced video focused on earthquake preparedness and/or safety. A panel of judges from IDHS will select the top 10 videos to win a seismograph, and an overall winner will be selected to receive a seismograph plus the grand prize: an "Indiana Earthquake Day" event with their school, including a visit by the [Quake Cottage](#) simulator (if available)! The deadline for submissions is Thursday, August 31, at 4:30 p.m. ET. Click [here](#) for more information. Contact [pio@dhs.in.gov](mailto:pio@dhs.in.gov) with any questions.

## **NEW FROM KEEP INDIANA LEARNING: STEM Synergy School Certification Bootcamp**

STEM Synergy, powered by Keep Indiana Learning, will be offering a five-part bootcamp for schools interested in STEM School Certification or recertification. School-level STEM leadership teams will receive ongoing, comprehensive support to identify STEM gaps, support the development of an improvement plan, and assist teams in preparing a successful certification application. 15 Professional Growth Plan (PGP) points are available with additional optional ongoing STEM certification support and progress monitoring available through STEM Synergy. [Register here](#). Contact [Keep Indiana Learning](#) with any questions.

## **NEW FROM THE INDIANA CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICERS (CTO) COUNCIL: ChatGPT Resources Now Available**

The Indiana CTO Council recently hosted a webinar to provide more information and resources about ChatGPT. You can use the links below to view the recorded webinar and access other resources they have made available:

- [ChatGPT Webinar Link](#)
- [ChatGPT's Panelist Answers and Resources](#)
- [Pete Just's Blog Post on ChatGPT](#)

Contact [Indiana CTO Council](#) with any questions.

## **NEW FROM THE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTERS (ECS) OF INDIANA: Unpack Updated K-8 Indiana Academic Computer Science Standards with your Regional STEM Team**

ECS of Indiana are partnering with STEM Synergy and Keep Indiana Learning to provide professional development in a statewide hybrid learning event. Join your regional ESC on Tuesday, March 7, for a full-day workshop designed to explore content, curriculum, and pedagogy for designing instruction of the 2022 K-8 Indiana Academic Standards for computer science. The workshop is free to educators and lunch is provided. For more information on workshop details in your region, contact your ESC. Workshop details, regional registration links, and ESC contacts can be found [here](#).

## **NEW FROM NEXTECH: Stats Showdown Competition Returns for 2023**

Registration is open for student teams to compete to answer the question, "What team in the NCAA Tournament Field is going to win the most games throughout March Madness?" Using past tournament data (2013-2022) student teams have until Friday, March 10, to create an algorithm that most accurately determines the top 10 most winning teams in the NCAA tournament bracket. More information on this

opportunity to engage students in data science is located [here](#). Contact [Stephanie Zircher](#) from Nextech with additional questions.

## **REMINDER FROM LILLY ENDOWMENT, INC. AND INVESTED: Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Filing Help at College Goal Sunday**

Financial aid professionals from across Indiana will be volunteering at [37 sites](#) to help collegebound students and their families open the door to financial aid during College Goal Sunday on Sunday, February 26, at 2 p.m. local time. FAFSA is required for students to be considered for federal and state grants, scholarships, and federal student loans at most colleges, universities, and vocational/technical schools nationwide. The FAFSA **must** be filed by the state of Indiana priority deadline of Saturday, April 15, to guarantee state aid for those that qualify. A checklist of items that will aid in filing the FAFSA can be found [here](#). Find a College Goal Sunday location near you [here](#). Contact [Bill Wozniak](#) at INvestED with any questions.

## **REMINDER FROM THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT: New and Improved Indiana Career Explorer**

Indiana Career Explorer is still free to all schools, but is now more user friendly and easier to onboard students. [Learn more](#) about all the useful new features, including student case management, and a digitized graduation plan, on Thursday, February 16, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. ET at the Indiana Career Explorer Onboarding Webinar. Secure your spot today by registering [here](#). Contact [INCEHelp@dwd.in.gov](mailto:INCEHelp@dwd.in.gov) with any questions.

## **REMINDER FROM THE ADVANCED PLACEMENT TEACHER INVESTMENT PROGRAM (AP-TIP): Mock Exam Training**

AP-TIP's annual mock exam training will be held on the campus of IUPUI Thursday, March 9, Friday, March 10, and Friday, April 14. The event provides mock exams (using previously-released AP exams from the College Board) to implement training on scoring in a format similar to the College Board AP Scoring. AP teachers can read about event procedures and view their subject's mock exam training dates [here](#). Registration is available [here](#) and is open until Friday, February 17, or until all seats have been filled. Contact [AP-TIP](#) with any questions.

## **REMINDER FROM THE INDIANA COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION: Application Deadline for Teacher Scholarships Approaching**

Students in high school or college who are planning to teach or work in school administration in the state of Indiana have until Tuesday, January 31, to apply for three scholarships – [Next Generation Hoosier Educators Scholarship](#), [Earline S. Rogers Student Teaching Scholarship for Minorities](#), and [Student Teaching Scholarship for High-Need Fields](#). The Indiana Commission for Higher Education is encouraging students to act quickly, as there is limited funding available. All three financial aid opportunities can be applied for at [ScholarTrack.IN.gov](#). For questions about state financial aid, students can contact the Indiana Commission for Higher Education by phone at 888-528-4719 or via email at [awards@che.in.gov](mailto:awards@che.in.gov).

## **REMINDER FROM TEACH INDY: 2023 Educators Conference**

To ensure high-quality educators continue to receive the support and recognition they deserve, Teach Indy is proud to present the 3rd Annual Teach Indy's Educators Conference taking place Saturday, February 25, at Butler University from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. ET. The past few years have transformed education in many ways, and it is essential for educators to have the space to collaborate, learn, grow and bring real-world solutions back to their classrooms. Leaders in education across Indianapolis will be joining together at #TeachIndyEdCon23 to discuss the future of #IndyEducation. Learn more about #TeachIndyEdCon23 [here](#). Contact [Sara Marshall](#) at Teach Indy with any questions.

## REMINDER FROM AP-TIP: Remote Teacher Collaborative

The Advanced Placement Teacher Investment Program (AP-TIP) at the University of Notre Dame invites AP teachers to attend the next round of Remote Teacher Collaboratives on Thursday, February 16, at 7:30 p.m. ET. These one-hour, online sessions offer a convenient space for AP math, science, computer science, English, and history teachers to connect, share, and learn from AP leaders. Learn more, see the full schedule, and register online [here](#). Contact [AP-TIP](#) with any questions.

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## Weekly Updates

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