An Update From the Indiana Department of Education for April 21, 2023

Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

A Message from Dr. Katie Jenner

Last Friday morning, several superintendents across the state received an email message threatening the use of explosive devices that had allegedly been planted on various school campuses. While this is the type of day we plan for with school safety trainings, it is also something we hope to never have to implement. Our local school leaders worked directly with local law enforcement partners…while our IDOE team immediately worked with the Indiana Department of Homeland Security and the Indiana State Police to allocate all intelligence resources to investigate the validity of the threat. While no suspicious or explosive devices were found in any of our schools, I cannot thank our superintendents, principals, educators, and law enforcement partners enough for their collaboration to ensure that our students were taken care of…academically and physically. THANK YOU!

If you have been exploring Indiana GPS recently, you may have noticed some additional features, including **one big enhancement** for schools… the ability to view student-level data. This latest iteration of the dashboard allows local leaders to easily view the data that was used to calculate each indicator. As a reminder, this data is not available to the public and is only available to superintendents, principals, and their locally-determined designees.

Once you have logged in – either via Indiana GPS directly or via the LINK Portal – you will be able to view student-level data for the following indicators: 3rd Grade Literacy, 6th Grade Math Growth, Advanced Coursework Prior to Grade 9, Attendance, College & Career Coursework, Diploma Strength, Graduation Pathways Completion, ILEARN, and SAT Performance. Our team continues to work with our agency partners on how this might be expanded in the future to include indicators for which IDOE is not the primary data source (e.g. FAFSA Completion Rate, 21st Century Scholar data, etc.). For more information on how to access this student-level data, click here!

I also wanted to take a moment to share more about some of the other recent updates you may have seen on the dashboard. This includes:

- Providing additional context around the **green and red arrows**, including adding the associated percentage point change year over year - This was one area where we received significant feedback. Thank you for helping us to make this better!;

- A new **Goal badge** which appears when schools or corporations have reached the statewide goals set for 3rd Grade Literacy, 6th Grade Math Growth, College & Career Credentials, and Graduation Pathways Completion;

- The ability to narrow your **search criteria** by school, code, corporation, or network; and

- The addition of a **162-enrollment filter**, which allows you to toggle back and forth between data showing students who were enrolled at each school or corporation for the majority of the year and those enrolled for 162 days or more.

You may recall, in addition to the indicators currently displayed on Indiana GPS, we also previously identified a number of aspirational indicators in collaboration with various stakeholder groups. Over the next several months, IDOE will continue to engage stakeholders as we further define these indicators, including how we measure **Kindergarten Readiness**, **PreK-Grade 2 Literacy**, as well as **Work-Based Learning**. If you would like to be a part of these conversations, and are not already, please reach out to our team at any time!

As always, thank you for your input and collaboration which continues to help us improve Indiana GPS, and ultimately, re-envision how we strategically measure school and student performance in Indiana!

Office of Student Assessment

NEW: ILEARN Spring 2023 Testing Windows Now Open
The ILEARN 3-8, Biology End-of-Course Assessment (ECA), and optional U.S. Government ECA testing windows are now open. ILEARN 3-8 testing will close on Friday, May 12, and ILEARN Biology and U.S. Government ECA testing will close on Friday, May 19. Students in grades three through eight must participate in the appropriate content areas. Refer to this guidance regarding participation in the ILEARN Biology and U.S. Government ECA. Test Administrators (TAs) will use the following resources for testing:

- ILEARN 3-8 Test Administrator's Manual (TAM) | Spanish Scripted Instructions

- ILEARN Biology ECA TAM | Spanish Scripted Instructions

- ILEARN U.S. Government ECA TAM | Spanish Scripted Instructions

Additional guidance regarding scheduling and timing can be found here. Contact the Indiana Department of Education's (IDOE's) Office of Student Assessment with policy and participation questions and the Indiana Assessment Help Desk with technical issues.

NEW: Helping Students Understand SAT Scores Webinar on Friday, May 12

College Board is hosting a free webinar, *Helping Students Understand SAT Scores,* to provide an overview of the SAT student score report and resources schools can use to support their students in accessing, reviewing, and understanding all aspects of their score report. All school leaders and counselors are encouraged to register to attend the live session on Friday, May 12, at 9 a.m. ET. A recording will be made available later in May. Contact College Board with any questions.

NEW: Preparing for the New Fall 2023 Digital PSAT/NMSQT

College Board is hosting a free webinar to help schools prepare for the new Digital PSAT 8/9 and Digital PSAT/NMSQT. The webinar will provide steps to prepare for the upcoming fall administration, including requesting accommodations in Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) Online for PSAT 8/9, using the updated SAT Suite Ordering System, and ensuring general technology readiness. School administrators and testing coordinators are encouraged to attend one of the live sessions. A recording will be available for those unable to attend.

- Tuesday, May 9, at 1 p.m. ET
- Thursday, May 11, at 9:30 a.m. ET

Contact College Board with any questions.

NEW: First Glimpse at the New Digital SAT for Spring 2024

College Board is hosting a free webinar to provide schools an overview of the new Digital SAT School Day for spring 2024. The Digital SAT is shorter, adaptive, and more secure. School administrators, educators, counselors, and test coordinators are encouraged to attend one of the these live sessions. A recording will be available for those unable to attend.

- Tuesday, May 16, 9 to 10 a.m. ET
- Tuesday, May 23, 4 to 5 p.m. ET
- Wednesday, May 24, 10 to 11 a.m. ET

Contact College Board with any additional questions.

Office of Educator Talent

NEW: Learn More About the Next Phase of the Nimble Supply and Demand Marketplace

This month, Indiana's 55 educator preparation programs began to engage future educators in creating candidate profiles that will be accessible to all schools that opted into the full applicant tracking system (ATS). Nimble and IDOE are offering additional opportunities to learn more about the supply and demand marketplace, ATS, and additional features available to schools that have fully opted in.

- Nimble Overview of IDOE/Nimble Partnership: Wednesday, April 26, at 9:30 a.m. ET
- Nimble Advanced: Thursday, April 27, at 9:30 a.m. ET

Register for these opportunities here. Districts ready to opt-in to the full ATS can complete the following Jotform. For more information, contact Rebecca Estes.

NEW: Teacher of the Year Nominations

The Indiana Teacher of the Year program works to inspire, rejuvenate, and celebrate the teaching profession by recognizing outstanding teachers from across the state. Local schools are encouraged to participate in an annual selection process and local Teacher(s) of the Year are encouraged to complete the state application process by Friday, July 7. More information on the 2024 Indiana Teacher of the Year selection process can be found here. For more information, contact intoy@doe.in.gov.

REMINDER: Nominations Open for Distinguished Educators Recognition

IDOE's Office of Educator Talent is looking for confidential recommendations of teachers representing the very best educators in Indiana. These emerging leaders must have between five and 15 years of experience, demonstrate leadership beyond the classroom, and positively impact school culture and student achievement. Superintendents and principals may submit recommendations here. Nominations must be submitted by Friday, May 26. Contact Rebecca Estes with any questions.

REMINDER: Nominations Open for the Indiana History Teacher of the Year Award

In partnership with IDOE, the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History awards the Indiana History Teacher of the Year title each year in its effort to promote the study and love of American history. State winners are then considered for the National History Teacher of the Year award. For more information about the nomination process and to nominate an Indiana history teacher, click here. Nominations must be submitted by Sunday, April 30. Contact Anne Marie Milligan with any questions.

REMINDER: Additional Opportunities to Recognize Indiana Educators

Throughout the year, numerous opportunities arise nationwide to acknowledge the incredible work of Indiana educators. IDOE's Office of Educator Talent has developed this document which will be updated periodically with external opportunities to recognize educators. To submit an educator recognition opportunity not listed, contact Anne Marie Milligan.

Office of Information Technology

NEW: School Financial Reports Now Available Through EdData

Schools can now access seven school financial reports, including the *Summary of Receipts* and *Expenditures and Expenditures by Object* reports via IDOE's EdData platform. The reports are available under the Finance Dashboard tile. Please note, the content of these reports has not changed. Contact form9@doe.in.gov with any questions.

REMINDER: Learning Connection to Be Retired

IDOE's new EdData platform (available through the LINK Portal) is now online and replaces the functionality offered by the Learning Connection. The Learning Connection will be retired and taken offline on or after Wednesday, June 7. Contact link@doe.in.gov with any questions.

REMINDER: 2023 School Tech Plan Survey Due Friday, May 5

The 2023 School Tech Plan Survey is now open through Friday, May 5, to be completed by all Indiana school corporations, charter schools, and optionally for non-public schools. Completion of this survey is a requirement for all public schools to qualify for the connectivity formula grant, the common school fund, and grants from IDOE's Office of Academics. While not required, non-public schools are encouraged to complete the survey to help other schools identify best practices. The survey can be found here. Previous year public data may be found in the Digital Readiness Dashboard or through EdData. Contact Brad Hagg with any questions.

REMINDER: EdData Releases New Student-level Reports

IDOE presents additional student-level reports available behind the LINK Portal via the IDOE's new EdData platform. These reports are available to superintendents, assistant superintendents, principals, assistant principals, counselors, and data administrators. In addition, security coordinators may assign the following roles to provide access: "School Administrator," "LEA Administrator," or "Data Viewer."

- **IREAD-3 and ILEARN Report -** This report displays IREAD-3 and ILEARN data for currently enrolled students.

- **WIDA Report -** This report displays WIDA data for currently enrolled students.

- **PSAT Report -** This report displays PSAT data for currently enrolled students.

The EdData platform is available for all authenticated users and also contains some publicly available reports as those that require secure authorization. Additional EdData reports will be released in the future. Contact your LINK Security Coordinator with questions regarding roles to access EdData reports. Security coordinators may email link@doe.in.gov for assistance. Contact IDOE's Office of Student Assessment with any questions regarding assessments.

REMINDER: Student Academic Record Collection

Changes implemented for reporting course enrollments (student academic record replacing course completion collection) 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 Indiana Graduates Prepared to Succeed dashboard, and to monitor Graduation Pathways progress. 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.

REMINDER: Graduation Report Now Released in EdData

An updated Graduation Report can now be found in the LINK Portal via IDOE's EdData platform. This report contains the Four- and Five-Year Cohort Status reports as well as a Historical Graduation Report. The Graduation Report is available to key staff including superintendents, assistant superintendents, principals, assistant principals, counselors, and data administrators. Each organization should only have one designated superintendent or principal. Security coordinators may designate the following additional roles to provide access: "School Administrator," "LEA Administrator" (for public/charters), or "Data Viewer." Contact your LINK Security Coordinators with questions regarding roles to access EdData reports. Security coordinators may contact link@doe.in.gov for assistance. Contact IDOE's Office of Accountability with any data questions regarding the Graduation Cohort report.

Office of School Building Physical Security and Safety

NEW: National School Nurse Day is Wednesday, May 10

Wednesday, May 10, is National School Nurse Day – a day to honor school nurses as they consistently make a difference in the lives of students. As this school year comes to a close, please recognize and honor your school nurses for all of the extraordinary work they have done to care for your school community.

School Celebration Ideas

1. Recognize the school nurse with mementos of appreciation (i.e. - gift card, flowers, lunch).
2. Have students make cards for the school nurse.
3. Include information about School Nurse Day in school communications.
4. Have the school principal present the school nurse with a Certificate of Appreciation.
5. Provide year-round support to the school nurse for accessing professional development opportunities.

Office of School and Community Nutrition

NEW: Healthy Meals Incentives Grants for Small/Rural Schools

As part of a cooperative agreement to develop and implement the USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) Healthy Meals Incentives Initiative, Action for Healthy Kids is offering competitive grants (up to $150,000) for small and/or rural schools to support efforts to improve the nutritional quality of their school meals. The deadline for submitting a grant application is 5 p.m. ET, on Friday, May 26.

Eligibility Criteria:

- SFA Must participate in the National School Lunch Program and/or School Breakfast Program
- SFA must meet the following definitions of small and/or rural:
  - Small SFA: SFA with an enrollment of less than or equal to 5,000 students.
  - Rural SFA: The majority of students within the SFA are enrolled in a rural school as defined by a locality code of 41, 42, or 43, according to the National Center for Education Statistics online tool.

Need assistance with writing or implementing this grant? The Healthy Schools Action Team (HSAT) would love to help schools using their network and resources. Reach out to the HSAT Chair, Elizabeth Sons.

Office of School Finance

REMINDER: April State Tuition Support Payment

Please read this memo regarding the April tuition support payment distributed today, Friday, April 14. Contact IDOE's Office of School Finance with any questions.

REMINDER: Common School Loan Applications Due Today, Friday, April 14

Today, Friday, April 14, is the last day for school corporations to apply for a common school construction and/or technology loan. Please read this memo for more details. Additional information can be found in Moodle Finance in the Common School folder. Contact commschofund@doe.in.gov with any questions.

REMINDER: Application for FY 2024 Indirect Cost Rates

The window to submit an application for FY 2024 Indirect Cost Rates closes Monday, May 1. School corporations and charter schools that provided Form 9 financial information for FY 2022 are eligible to apply for a restricted and unrestricted rate for FY 2024. New charter schools are eligible to apply but will be subject to the median rate. This memo includes the application instructions. Contact icr@doe.in.gov with any questions.

Office of Student Pathways and Opportunities

NEW: Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 High Ability Program Grant

High Ability Program Grant applications for FY 2024 (school year 2023-2024) will open on Thursday, June 1, and will close Saturday, July 1. Applicants must include their High Ability Program Plan Template, as well as two SMART goals, based upon high ability program elements. All grant budget requests must align with the goals set. Contact studentpathways_highability@doe.in.gov with any questions.

NEW: May McKinney-Vento Liaison Webinar

IDOE's Student Pathways and Opportunities team will host the May McKinney-Vento webinar on Tuesday, May 9, from 11 a.m. to noon ET via Microsoft Teams. Please use this link to join. The topic of May's webinar is End-of-Year Reporting. Information that was originally planned to be shared at the April webinar will also be included in the May webinar. Contact Mckinneyventopoc@doe.in.gov with any questions.

NEW: May High Ability Webinar

IDOE's Student Pathways and Opportunities team will host the May High Ability webinar on Wednesday, May 10, from 3 to 4 p.m. ET via Microsoft Teams. Please use this link to join. The topic of May's webinar is End-of-Year Reporting. Information that was originally planned to be shared at the April webinar will also be included in the May webinar. Contact Studentpathways_highability@doe.in.gov with any questions.

NEW: May Alternative Education Webinar

IDOE's Student Pathways and Opportunities team will host the May Alternative Education webinar on Thursday, May 11, from 10 to 11 a.m. ET via Microsoft Teams. Please use this link to join. The topic of May's webinar is End-of-Year Reporting. Information that was originally planned to be shared at the April webinar will also be included in the May webinar. Contact studentpathways_alted@doe.in.gov with any questions.

REMINDER: April Graduation Pathways Webinar

IDOE's Student Pathways and Opportunities team will host the April Graduation Pathways webinar on Thursday, April 27, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. ET via Microsoft Teams. Please use this link to join. Contact DOEGradpathways@doe.in.gov with any questions.

Office of Student Support and Accessibility/Special Education

NEW: Educator & Parent Stakeholder Meetings for Special Education Graduation Rate, Dropout Rate, and Transition Individualized Education Programs (IEPs)

IDOE's Office of Special Education will hold multiple upcoming stakeholder meetings to analyze data and identify improvement strategies for Graduation Rate (Indicator 1), Dropout Rate (Indicator 2), and Transition IEPs (Indicator 13). Participants may choose one session either on Tuesday, May 9, from 10 to 11 a.m. ET or Thursday, May 11, from 2 to 3 p.m. ET.

A separate meeting will also be held specifically for parents to analyze Indicators 11, 12, and 13. This meeting will be held on Monday, May 15, from 6 to 7 p.m. ET. Registration is not required for these meetings. Contact IDOE's Office of Special Education with any questions.

NEW: Dual Language (DL) Office Hours - Curriculum Mapping Roundtable

Join IDOE for the last DL Office Hours of the school year to discuss approaches to creating curricular units that optimize instructional time and ensure alignment with the Indiana Academic Standards. Hear dual language leaders in Indiana, who have begun mapping curriculum, share their lessons learned along the way. Visit the Indiana EL Professional Development Opportunities Calendar for more information, as well as a meeting link. Registration is not required. Contact IDOE's Office of English Learning and Migrant Education with any questions.

NEW: DL Grant Application Walk-through on Thursday, April 27

IDOE will host a DL Grant application walk-through on Thursday, April 27, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. ET. This meeting will review the updated grant application process and provide an update on state DL funding. Access to the meeting can be found on the EL Professional Development Opportunities Calendar. This meeting will be recorded for those unable to attend. Contact IDOE's Office of English Learning and Migrant Education with any questions.

REMINDER: June EL Leadership Meeting - EL Plan and Title III Review

IDOE will host an additional virtual EL Leadership meeting on Thursday, June 16, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. ET to provide an update on state EL funding and a walkthrough of the EL Plan of the pre-application and the Title III application process. Access to the meeting can be found on the EL PD Opportunities Calendar, and the meeting will be recorded. Contact IDOE's Office of English Learning and Migrant Education with any questions.

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

NEW: STEM Certification Office Hours Begin Tuesday, April 25

IDOE will offer office hours to support schools seeking STEM Certification beginning Tuesday, April 25, at 11 a.m. ET. The first session will provide a high-level overview of the Essential Elements in STEM Certification followed by time to address questions. Join IDOE's STEM specialists each week to learn more about key components of STEM Certification and best practices for the application process. Contact IDOE's Office of Teaching and Learning with any questions.

NEW: 2023-2024 STEM Integration Grant Application Now Open

Applications for the 2023-2024 STEM Integration grant are now open. This competitive grant opportunity is designed to improve elementary and secondary student achievement and participation in STEM learning experiences and is available to all public school corporations, charter schools, and accredited non-public schools. More information regarding the application process can be found here. The application deadline is 4 p.m. ET on Wednesday, May 10. Contact IDOE's Office of Teaching and Learning with any questions.

NEW: Tips from the Field - Digital Learning Leadership Cadre Series

The Digital Learning Leadership Cadre's series *Tips from the Field*, featuring educators across the state, continues next week. On Thursday, April 27, at 4 p.m. ET, teachers will present ideas for intentionally setting up synchronous, virtual environments. Join this session to learn how teachers can ensure students succeed on synchronous virtual days. Contact IDOE's Office of Digital Learning with any questions.

NEW: Virtual Learning in Kindergarten

Join kindergarten teachers from Lawrenceburg Community School Corporation on Monday, May 1, at 2:30 p.m. ET for a session discussing virtual learning days in kindergarten. These educators will share how they prepare kindergartners and their families, types of assignments, and ways they have improved their virtual learning days. Contact IDOE's Office of Digital Learning with any questions.

REMINDER: Final Day for Public Comment on Early Learning Standards

Pursuant to Indiana Code (IC) 20-31-3-1, IDOE convened committees (e.g. educators, higher education representatives, family members with developmental and subject matter expertise) to review the Early Learning Standards for children birth to age five in alignment to the K-12 standards. These standards were reviewed to ensure that student proficiency is a reasonable expectation and all are essential by the end of the age level. Public comment is open for all content standards until the end of the day today, Friday, April 21. Access this Jotform for more details and links to view the prioritized standards. Contact IDOE's Office of Kindergarten Readiness with any questions.

REMINDER: 2023-2024 Reading Plan and Dyslexia Reporting Submissions Due Friday, June 30

511 Indiana Administrative Code (IAC) 6.2-3.1 requires all public and accredited non-public schools with students enrolled in kindergarten through grade three to complete and submit an elementary reading plan to IDOE by close of business on Friday, June 30. IDOE's Literacy Center released the new Reading Plan Guidance to assist with this requirement.

- Public schools will use this form.
- Accredited non-public schools will use this form.

In addition to the reading plan, IC 20-35.5 requires all public schools to report dyslexia screening data from the current 2022-2023 school year. Accredited non-public schools are not required to submit data, but have the option to report. Charter schools will use this form for dyslexia reporting dyslexia screening data. The submission window is open today, Friday, April 14, through Friday, June 30. Contact IDOE's Literacy Center with additional questions or for additional guidance.

REMINDER: April PD with IDOE

April PD with IDOE continues with *Introduction to Specialized Populations* led by IDOE Office of Special Education Technical Assistance Specialist, Maggie Hampton and IDOE Specialized Populations Technical Assistance Specialist, Meg Amarante. View the list of April sessions here. To register for workshops, create a free Learning Lab account by visiting the LINK Portal or the Indiana Learning Lab and use your school email to log in. Contact IDOE's Office of Digital Learning with any questions.

REMINDER: Digital Learning Coach Grant Application Now Open

Applications for the 2023-2024 Digital Learning Coach Grant are now open. This grant supports the professional development of individuals who spend at least half of their contracted time in a digital learning coaching role. The application window closes at 5 p.m. ET on Wednesday, April 26. See this memo for additional information. Contact IDOE's Office of Digital Learning with any questions.

REMINDER: Register Now for Coach Edcamp on Friday, May 5

Digital learning coaches are invited to join IDOE for Coach Edcamp on Friday, May 5, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. ET at the Center Grove Innovation Center. This professional learning opportunity, specifically for those in educational technology coaching and leadership roles, is a round-table style, one-day conference. This event is free, and participants will be released for a break at lunch. Register for this opportunity here. Contact IDOE's Office of Digital Learning with any questions.

News From Our Partners

NEW FROM INDIANA FAMILY AND SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (FSSA): Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (PEBT) Eligibility

Families who meet certain income requirements and have chosen home or virtual school for their children due to the COVID-19 pandemic may be eligible for PEBT (federal food assistance), but they must act quickly. Families must apply for this benefit before Monday, May 15. Families who meet the qualifications below are encouraged to visit FSSA's PEBT webpage to apply. (Scroll down the page to find the green button to apply.) The PEBT Home or Virtual School Program provides benefits for:

- Students in kindergarten through grade two
    - Who are attending home or virtual school for COVID-related reasons
    - Who are determined to be eligible for free/reduced price meals due to their family's income
- Students in grades three through 12
    - Who were enrolled at an NSLP (free/reduced lunch) eligible school and switched to home/virtual school after the Federal Public Health Emergency began on January 27, 2020, and
    - Who are attending home or virtual school for COVID-related reasons
    - Who are determined to be eligible for free/reduced price meals due to their family's income

Families can find the application and other information about PEBT here. More information about FSSA and all its divisions and programs is available at www.IN.gov/FSSA.

NEW FROM FSSA: Child Care Expansion Grant Applications Now Open

FSSA's Child Care Expansion Grant program is now open through Friday, May 12, to help early education providers expand access to high-quality early education for Hoosier families. This opportunity extends to all school districts, with priority consideration given to those serving children on child care and development funds (CCDFs) or planning to. A currently licensed or regulated CCDF program may apply for "existing program expansion." Any district wishing to create a new program may apply for "new program creation," with the expectation that the early learning program will be on Paths to Quality Level 3 in 18 months or sooner. This grant opportunity includes intensive support to achieve the goals of the application for all recipients. This is a competitive grant, and not all who apply will receive funding. An overview of the grant opportunity, including supporting resources and links to the application and upcoming informational webinar, is available here. For questions or support, contact the SPARK Help Desk via phone at (800) 299-1627 or via email.

NEW FROM SCHOOLHOUSE.WORLD: June SAT Bootcamp

Registrations for the Schoolhouse.world June SAT Bootcamps in preparation for the Saturday, June 3, SAT administration open on Monday, April 24. Sessions take place twice a week (75 minutes per session) and students have the flexibility to select the dates and times that best fit their schedule based on available sessions. Students and their parents can sign up at this link until Wednesday, May 3. Bootcamps are 100% free and have proven highly effective. Students who participated in previous bootcamps experienced a 50+ average score increase across both sections vs non-bootcamp participants. Contact Schoolhouse.world with any questions.

NEW FROM THE ADVANCED PLACEMENT TEACHER INVESTMENT PROGRAM (AP-TIP): 2023 Summer Institute

AP teachers are invited to register for the AP Summer Institute sponsored by the University of Notre Dame's Advanced Placement Teacher Investment Program (AP-TIP). At AP-TIP's Summer Institute, teachers will engage in hands-on workshops and labs focused on exemplary instructional strategies ready to be implemented in their own classrooms. The 2023 AP Summer Institute will be held Tuesday, July 11 through Friday, July 14, at Pike High School in Indianapolis. Sessions will be held daily from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET. To view the full list of sessions and to register, click here. Contact Karen Morris with any questions.

NEW FROM INDIANA CONNECTED EDUCATORS: Turning Education Upside Down Conference

The Indiana Connected Educators Conference is back after a three-year hiatus. Join Turning Education Upside Down on Thursday, October 5, at Franklin Central Junior High School. Keynote speaker, Tyler Tarver, and spotlight speakers Matt Miller, Holly Clark, and Desiree Alexander will engage and inspire teachers, coaches, and administrators. Early Bird registration is available until Monday, May 1, so register your team today. Contact ice@iceindiana.org with any questions.

NEW FROM THE SCHOOL NUTRITION ASSOCIATION: Friday, May 5 is School Lunch Hero Day

Join the School Nutrition Association (SNA) and schools around the country to celebrate the school lunch heroes in your life. View School Lunch Hero Day ideas, resources, and materials here.

NEW FROM COVERING KIDS AND FAMILIES: Indiana School Health Network Conference

Covering Kids & Families invites school leaders to attend the Indiana School Health Network Conference. This is an opportunity to attend stimulating breakout sessions on a variety of school health topics and to connect with fellow educators and school health professionals from across the state. Please use this link to register. Contact Sarah Thompson with questions or for more information on scholarships to attend.

NEW FROM THE SOCIETY OF INDIANA PIONEERS: Grant Opportunities for the 2023-2024 School Year

The Society of Indiana Pioneers offers $500 field trip grants and $1,000 classroom activity grants to encourage the study of Indiana pioneer-era history. Applications for field trip grants for the fall semester are due on Thursday, June 1, and activity grant applications for the 2023-2024 school year are due on Saturday, September 30. Educators may submit a grant request on behalf of any public, private, or charter school, and any not-for-profit organization. Teachers of Indiana history, U.S. History, Indiana Studies, and pioneer-related content in any discipline (literature, music, art, etc.) are encouraged to apply. Contact Andrea Neal at (317) 440-7844, or email Sally Fadely with any questions.

NEW FROM THE INDIANA YMCA YOUTH AND GOVERNMENT CLUB: Scholarships Available for the 2023-2024 School Year

The Indiana YMCA Youth and Government Club is a civic engagement student-led program that provides realistic simulations that help students better understand Indiana state government and the democratic process. The Lilly Grant in partnership with the YMCAs of Indiana will be offering scholarships up to 75% off conference fees for schools with students in grades six through 12 to participate in the Indiana YMCA Youth and Government Club. See this flier and this brochure for more details. Interest forms for the 2023-2024 fall semester are due by Thursday, August 31. Interested educators can complete the form here. Contact Iesha Grove at (252) 626-7754, or iesha@indianaymcas.org with any questions.

REMINDER FROM TEACH PLUS INDIANA: Policy Fellowship Application

Teach Plus Indiana is accepting applications for the 2023-2024 Indiana Policy Fellowship through Sunday, April 23. This highly selective leadership opportunity is a paid fellowship for outstanding Indiana teachers looking to expand their influence without leaving the classroom. It spans the 2023-2024 school year and offers selected teachers a generous stipend for their time and effort. For more information, contact Kimberly Nguyen

Weekly Updates

View previous weekly updates from Dr. Katie Jenner here.

Stay Informed

Did you miss a message? View previous weekly emails here. Want daily updates? Be sure to follow the Department on Twitter and Facebook.

The Weekly Update from the Indiana Department of Education is created by the Office of Communications, and is distributed every Friday morning.

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