



Dr. Jenner's Weekly Update

Weekly Newsletter from the Indiana Department of Education

June 26, 2026

A Message from Dr. Katie Jenner

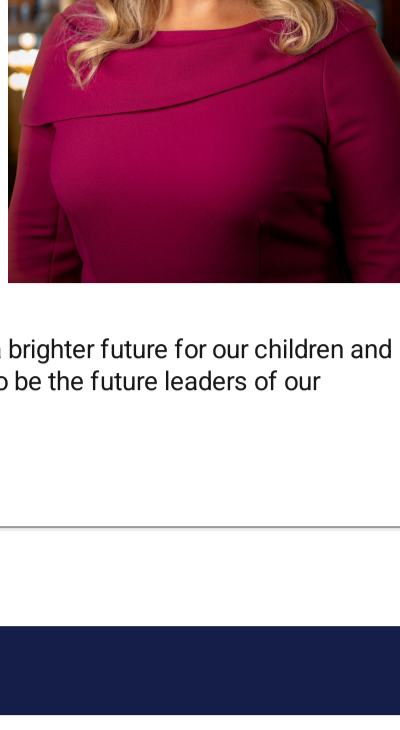
As we approach the 4th of July – America's 250th anniversary – it seems like you can find just about anything in red, white, and blue. I am so proud to be an American, and this year's historic milestone only strengthens that patriotism.

Something I have really enjoyed over the past couple of weeks is getting to experience the U.S. through the eyes of soccer fans from across the globe, as they've traveled here for the World Cup. Watching them explore all that our beautiful country has to offer has been a good reminder of the little things we sometimes take for granted...whether it's friendly neighbors, safe communities, good barbeque...or even ranch dressing!

Next week, as we pause to celebrate America 250, I encourage us all to reflect on the sacrifices that built this country. Not only is this an opportunity to honor our history, but also to celebrate the people, culture, and values that continue to shape our nation today. Whether you are attending a parade, a firework display, a family cookout, or in my case, the Madison Regatta, I hope that you'll take a moment to pause and reflect on the freedoms and opportunities you're most grateful for as an American.

I am grateful every day for the opportunity we have as educators to build a brighter future for our children and our nation. Thank you for all that you do each day to prepare our children to be the future leaders of our communities, our state, and the United States of America.

Have a safe and happy 4th of July, and God Bless America!



The next edition of Dr. Jenner's Weekly Update will be Friday, July 10.

Legislative Guidance

REMINDER: 2026 Legislative Guidance

Following the close of each legislative session, the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) immediately begins working to implement newly-enacted legislation impacting K-12 education, which includes compiling [guidance for schools and educators](#). This guidance is a product of robust cross-agency collaboration and partnership with countless stakeholders. This is an iterative document that will continue to be updated and improved in collaboration with educators.

Office of Accountability

REMINDER: 2026 Cohort Locking Soon

The 2026 cohort will lock on Tuesday, June 30. Please check your cohort reports for accuracy and pay special attention to any students with an Unknown cohort status. The Unknown cohort status is a dropout status and counts against the graduation rate. Many Unknown cohort statuses can be fixed by the school/corporation via data entries. Additional cohort-specific details can be found in the [Cohort & Graduation Rate](#) section of the [School Accountability & Accreditation Community](#) on Moodle. The case-sensitive enrollment key for the Moodle community is AccountabilityCommunity. Contact IDOE's [Office of School Accountability](#) with any questions.

Office of Assessment

NEW: Fall 2026 PSAT/NMSQT Administration Memo and Ordering Guidance

IDOE provides funding for grade 10 and 11 students to participate in the fall 2026 administration of the PSAT/NMSQT. See the guidance provided in [this memo](#). The PSAT/NMSQT testing window is Thursday, October 1, through Friday, October 30. Schools may now place orders for the fall 2026 PSAT/NMSQT administration within the [SAT Suite Ordering and Registration \(SSOR\) System](#). Schools will notice that a cost is indicated in SSOR when completing orders. College Board will invoice this displayed amount to IDOE and schools/corporations will not be billed for grade 10 and/or 11 students participating in this PSAT/NMSQT administration. Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Assessment](#) with funding questions and [College Board](#) with any questions regarding ordering PSAT/NMSQT materials.

College Board hosted the Fall 2026 SAT Suite Ordering and Registration webinar on Tuesday, June 16, for PSAT/NMSQT ordering and registration support. You can access the webinar recording and associated slide deck [here](#).

NEW: 2026-2027 Advanced Placement (AP) Exam Subsidy Memo and Guidance

Indiana's biennial budget provides funding to cover the fees for AP and Cambridge International exams taken by Indiana students in grades nine through 12 who are enrolled in an accredited public or non-public school. A maximum of two exams per student, per year, may be funded. Find additional information and guidance in [this memo](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Assessment](#) with any questions.

Office of Curriculum and Instruction, Digital Learning, and Kindergarten Readiness

NEW: High-Quality Curricular Materials (HQCM) Guidance for Curriculum Providers Now Available - K-12 Mathematics

This fall, IDOE will accept core curricular materials for eligible K-12 mathematics grade levels and high school courses that align with the 2026 Indiana Academic Standards for K-12 Mathematics. Application details and the project timeline for IDOE's upcoming HQCM evaluation process are outlined in [this memo](#). Curricular materials approved during the upcoming review cycle will be included on IDOE's HQCM Advisory List for K-12 STEM for use beginning in the 2027-2028 school year. Prospective curriculum providers are strongly encouraged to attend IDOE's live vendor training session on Tuesday, July 14 (see memo for details). Please contact IDOE's [Office of Curriculum and Instruction](#) with any questions.

NEW: Internet Safety Month Speaker Series - On-Demand Workshops

The first three workshops in the Internet Safety Month Speaker Series are now available on demand on the Indiana Learning Lab:

- [Cyberbullying and Digital Media Use: What Educators Need to Know](#)
- [Digital Behavior, Oversharing, and Responsible Tech Use](#)
- [Managing Cyberbullying and Other Problematic Online Behavior: Strategies for Supporting Students](#)

Future workshops in the series are open for registration [here](#). Live sessions from expert speakers and curated resources in the Indiana Learning Lab align directly with [Indiana Code \(IC\) 20-30-6.1-4](#) to provide educators, families, and students internet safety education. Contact IDOE's [Digital Learning Team](#) with any questions.

Office of Educator Talent and Literacy Center

REMINDER: Nominations for the 2027 Indiana Teacher of the Year Due by Friday, July 3

The Indiana Teacher of the Year Program works to inspire, rejuvenate, and celebrate the teaching profession by recognizing outstanding teachers from across the state. Schools are encouraged to participate in the state's annual selection process which is now open and concludes in fall 2026. Local schools and Teacher(s) of the Year are encouraged to complete [this application](#) by 5 p.m. ET on Friday, July 3, as the first step in the application process. More information regarding the Indiana Teacher of the Year selection process can be found [here](#). Contact info@doe.in.gov with any questions.

REMINDER: 2026-2027 Annual K-8 School Reading Plan

[IC 20-32-8.5](#) and [511 Indiana Administrative Code \(IAC\) 6-2-3.1](#) require all public, charter, and non-public schools, including choice scholarship eligible schools, with students enrolled in kindergarten through grade eight to submit an annual reading plan to IDOE by Tuesday, June 30. The 2026-2027 annual K-8 reading plan guidance can be found [here](#). Contact IDOE's [Literacy Center](#) with additional questions.

REMINDER: No Cost Professional Development for Early Literacy Endorsement - New Registration Window Opening Soon

Keys to Literacy registration opens on Wednesday, July 1, for current, eligible Indiana educators who hold a valid professional educator license and teach in a content area that involves literacy instruction for PK-5 students. Eligible licensed Indiana educators may participate, at no cost, in Keys to Literacy. Space is limited. Only first-time enrollees are eligible. Click [here](#) to register beginning Wednesday, July 1. Contact IDOE's [Literacy Center](#) with questions.

Office of School Finance

NEW: School Finance Form 9 Office Hours

IDOE's Office of School Finance will host Form 9 Office Hours to answer questions and provide guidance on completing the January-June Form 9 financial data submission due Friday, July 31. Office hours will be held on Monday, July 13, from 10:30 a.m. ET. We look forward to answering your questions. Click [here](#) to join.

REMINDER: Fund Transfers Resulting from House Enrolled Act 1210-2026

Please see [this memo](#) that details the accounting procedures for school corporations that are opting to allocate the effect of the supplemental homestead credits across the property tax funds. Please contact IDOE's [Office of School Finance](#) with questions about the procedures.

REMINDER: School Technology Advancement Account (STAA) Applications

School corporations may file an application for an STAA through Friday, July 17. The STAA application can be completed [online](#) and must be completed in one session. A sample application and certification page can be found in [Moodle](#). Contact commonschoollund@doe.in.gov with any questions.

Office of Innovation

NEW: Indiana's Mastery-Based Pilot

Indiana's Mastery-Based Pilot (MBP), authorized under House Enrolled Act (HEA) 1515 (2025), supports Indiana schools in shifting from traditional seat-time progression to competency-based advancement. Students advance by demonstrating mastery of knowledge and skills evidenced attainment of rigorous learning objectives aligned to Indiana Academic Standards, rather than how long they sit in a classroom. An informational webinar will be held on Tuesday, June 30, at 12 p.m. ET. The pilot is designed with a planning phase in 2026-2027, and full implementation in 2027-2028. Learn more [here](#), and click [here](#) to apply.

Office of Student Pathways and Opportunities

REMINDER: Hoosier Launch Initiative

Indiana will release a Request for Information (RFI) for any platform interested in partnering with the state on Hoosier Launch. As schools continue to share feedback on the resources and supports that would be most helpful in implementing Indiana's new diploma requirements and readiness seals, one message we have heard on repeat is the opportunity to leverage existing local partnerships, while simultaneously improving how we support students in achieving their unique future goals. Hoosier Launch directly reflects this feedback, providing a coordinated approach to expanding and strengthening college and career readiness tools across the platforms many schools already use today. For more information, click [here](#) or contact engagement@doe.in.gov.

Office of Special Education, English Learning, and Migrant Education

NEW: Summer Spotlight - Good Cause Exemptions for English Learners (ELs) and Multilingual Learner Data Reporting

IDOE's English Learning team is hosting a virtual session on Monday, July 6, at 10 a.m. ET to spotlight Good Cause Exemption details for eligible ELs and data reporting reminders for the Multilingual Learner Report in Data Exchange. Time will be reserved for live questions and answers from the field. Visit the [Indiana EL Professional Development Opportunities Calendar](#) for the meeting link. Contact IDOE's [Office of English Learning and Migrant Education](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: ELA Praxis Vouchers Available for English Learner (EL) Teachers

An opportunity is now available for EL-licensed educators to apply for a voucher to take the English Language Arts: Content Knowledge (5038) Praxis assessment. This voucher covers the full cost of the exam and provides a streamlined pathway for EL teachers to add the ELA 5-12 content area to their existing license without additional coursework. ELA licensure enables EL educators to teach credit-bearing secondary ELA courses, expanding access to high-quality instruction for English learners. Complete [this Jotform](#) to request a voucher and get started. Recipients must take the assessment within six months of receiving the voucher. Contact IDOE's Office of [English Learning and Migrant Education](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Good Cause Exemption Documentation Template for ELs

A fillable [Good Cause Exemption \(GCE\) documentation template](#) for ELs is available to support the transition from the Indiana Individual Learning Plan (ILP) to IDOE Special Programs following the summer retest. While use of this form is optional, it is available to streamline documentation during this transition. To use the form:

- Download and open it in a PDF editor.
- Complete a separate form for each student for whom a GCE meeting is held.
- Maintain documentation and upload the completed forms to IDOE Special Programs once the system is live.

Contact IDOE's [Office of English Learning and Migrant Education](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Save the Dates - 2026-2027 Annual EL Directors' Meetings

IDOE's English Learning team will be hosting their Annual EL Directors' Meetings virtually for the 2026-2027 school year. The first day will feature content for new EL directors and will take place on Wednesday, August 12. The second day is geared toward all EL directors, both new and returning, and will take place on Wednesday, August 19. Both days will have morning and afternoon sessions. More details will be forthcoming, and the meeting times and links can be found on the [Indiana EL Professional Development Opportunities Calendar](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of English Learning and Migrant Education](#) with any questions.

Office of Title Grants and Support

REMINDER: Ed-Flex Waiver 2 and Waiver 4 Application Available Now

The following applications for ed-flex waivers are due by Friday, July 31:

- Ed-flex waiver #2, for Title I instructional paraprofessional requirement flexibility in the 2026-2027 school year, and
- Ed-flex waiver #4, for increased flexibility in Title IV funding requirements for the FFY26 Title IV budget application.

Applications must be submitted annually, regardless of previous approval. More information about paraprofessional requirements and the application may be found [here](#).

For questions about ed-flex waiver #2, please contact bkronmiller@doe.in.gov.

For questions about ed-flex waiver #4, please contact TitleIV@doe.in.gov.

REMINDER: Risk Assessment Pending Questions

If you have any outstanding questions regarding your recently published Risk Assessment, please submit them to FederalMonitoring@doe.in.gov. We want to ensure that all inquiries are received and appropriately addressed.

REMINDER: Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 Pre-Application

The Federal FY 2026/2027 Pre-Application is available through the [Title Grants Pre-Application Collection](#) in the Indiana Learning Lab. All instructions, forms, and submission information can be found within the collection. A registered [Learning Lab account](#) is needed to access the collection.

Please note that reimbursement eligibility for FY 2027 begins Wednesday, July 1, or the date on which the Pre-Application is submitted in reviewable PDF format—whichever is later. The recording from the Thursday, April 30, Quarterly Meeting is also now available in the collection.

Please contact Title@doe.in.gov with any questions.

Office of Educational Options and Quality

NEW: Quality Counts II Cohort 4 Application - Coming Soon

The Charter School Programs Quality Counts II (QCII) Cohort 4 application is coming soon! This is a federal, competitive grant that provides funding to high-quality expanding, replicating or opening schools. The application will open on Wednesday, July 1. The link to apply will be shared here and in the [Charter Weekly Updates](#).

REMINDER: Choice Onboarding

Onboarding is a three-hour training designed as an in-depth introduction to the Choice Scholarship Program. The training will go over the 2026-2027 payment schedule, student/school application process, special education, and more!

While this training is required for new schools, it is optional for any new personnel at existing Choice schools or for any Choice administrator who would like detailed information about the Choice Program. All who are interested in this training opportunity can register [here](#).

- Indiana Government Center South session: Tuesday, July 14
- Online session: Tuesday, July 28

REMINDER: Annual Conference for Choice Schools

The 2026 Annual Conference for Choice Schools will be held in Indianapolis on Wednesday, July 15, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. ET. The conference will include customized presentations from IDOE specifically for non-public and participating Choice schools in preparation of the upcoming school year. This year's content includes information from IDOE's Assessment, Accountability, Special Education, Data Reporting, Ombudsman, and Attendance teams.

The conference will be located in the auditorium in the Indiana Government Center South. Sign-in begins at 8 a.m. ET and presentations will begin at 9 a.m. ET. If you have not yet registered, you can complete the form [here](#).

REMINDER: Updating Banking Information

Participating Choice schools that have updated their banking information should begin the process of submitting those changes to the Indiana State Comptroller's Office as soon as possible.

The required forms to complete are available in the Non-Public School Community in Moodle. After the forms are completed, please send them to both accountspayable@doe.in.gov and choiceschool@doe.in.gov.

REMINDER: Alternative Education Applications

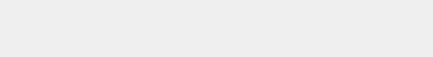
- Alternative Education **Renewal Applications** for the 2026-2027 school year are being accepted through Tuesday, June 30.
- Alternative Education **New Program Applications** for the 2026-2027 school year are being accepted through Tuesday, June 30, and will be reviewed on Wednesday, July 8.

The alternative education program webinar presented on Thursday, May 14, "End of Year Reporting & Program Renewal Process," includes information regarding the reporting and grant process timeline. Data used in these programs is certified in the July certification cycle. Use this [link](#) to access the May webinar.

News from Our Partners

NEW FROM KEEP INDIANA LEARNING (a department of CIESC): July Professional Development Opportunities

Keep Indiana Learning invites educators to prepare for the 2026-2027 school year with a comprehensive lineup of professional development sessions throughout July. To accommodate summer schedules, the options feature a blend of interactive, in-person workshops at CIESC, located at The Pyramids in Indianapolis, as well as virtual options. Specific sessions are tailored for grade three through eight English/language arts teachers, K-12 math educators, instructional coaches, school counselors, and building administrators. The sessions are quickly approaching, so visit [our website to explore the full calendar and register today](#). Please contact [Keep Indiana Learning](#) with questions.



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