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INDIANA
DEPARTMENT of
EDUCATION

An Update From the Indiana Department of Education for September 1, 2023

Indiana Department of Education sent this bulletin at 09/01/2023 07:00 AM EDT



Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

A Message from Dr. Katie Jenner

We've had a good start to the year—thank you for all of your work to make that happen!

With a three-day weekend ahead, let's all take a moment to rest, relax, and recharge so we are ready to keep at it for kids.

As always, thank you for all that you do, and enjoy your long weekend!



Important Legislative Update

UPDATE: Legislatively-Required and Other Guidance Surrounding Newly-Enacted Legislation

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 educators. Guidance is a product of robust cross-agency collaboration and partnership with countless stakeholders. Any future updates will be added to [this comprehensive guidance document](#) and shared via the weekly newsletter.

Office of Accountability

NEW: School Performance Report Requirements

In lieu of issuing letter grades for the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 school years, HEA 1591 requires IDOE to develop a school performance report for public and state accredited non-public schools to post on their websites by Sunday, October 15, 2023. IDOE is also required to provide the Indiana General Assembly with future accountability recommendations by December 1, 2024. The school performance reports will provide additional transparency around key data points, helping parents, families, and communities to better understand the work happening in our schools. Initial guidance was shared earlier this summer via [this memo](#).

In response to this legislation, IDOE has developed a school performance report for each public and state accredited non-public school, which will be available beginning Friday, September 15, via [Indiana GPS](#). Additional guidance, including instructions for schools to embed the school performance report on their school website, will also be released on this date. Schools will have one month to post their performance report on their school website in order to meet the statutory deadline of Sunday, October 15, 2023. Contact the Indiana Department of Education's (IDOE's) [Office of Accountability](#) with any questions.

NEW: Mandatory and Voluntary Graduation Rate Audit

All schools that are subject to the mandatory graduation rate audit of the 2023 cohort have been notified by email. If you did not receive an email and/or are unsure if your school was selected, please check the [list of mandatory audit schools](#) (Enrollment key: “**AccountabilityCommunity**”).

Every high school should review their 2023 cohort. If there are students in the 2023 cohort with an incorrect (non-graduate) cohort status, please submit those students on the [voluntary graduation rate audit](#). All schools are welcome to participate in the voluntary graduation rate audit and it is the *final opportunity to request a change to the 2023 cohort*. The mandatory and voluntary graduation rate audits will be open from Wednesday, October 4, through Friday, October 27. Contact IDOE's [Office of Accountability](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Third-Party Accreditation Petition Window is Open

Accrediting organizations for K-12 schools that are interested in being recognized by the Indiana State Board of Education (SBOE) may submit a petition to IDOE for review. A petition must be submitted by November 30 prior to the school year for which the organization seeks recognition. Pursuant to statute, IDOE will provide a recommendation to SBOE within six months of receipt of a petition. Additional information and the [third-party accreditation petition](#) can be found on IDOE's Accreditation [webpage](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Accountability](#) with any questions.

Office of Student Assessment

NEW: Join I AM Office Hours on Wednesday, September 6

Join IDOE for the first I AM Office Hours session of the 2023-2024 school year from [3 to 3:30 p.m. ET on Wednesday, September 6, via Webex](#). IDOE will review timely updates and deadlines as staff prepare for spring I AM testing. The session recording and presentation slides will be available for those unable to attend. Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Assessment](#) with any questions.

NEW: Free SAT Bootcamps Available for October SAT

Schoolhouse, from the founder of Khan Academy, is excited to share registration for free October SAT Bootcamps in preparation for the SAT administration on Saturday, October 7. Students should [sign up](#) prior to the registration deadline on Wednesday, September 6, to receive free, remote access to SAT preparation tutoring. Students looking to prepare for the SAT Suite of Assessments on a more flexible schedule may also consider the [Official SAT Practice at Khan Academy](#). Contact [College Board](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: IREAD-3 Good Cause Exemption (GCE) Reporting Due Today, Friday, September 1

Schools must report GCEs granted following the IREAD-3 Spring and Summer Retest 2023 administrations via the [GCE Intervention Plan Jotform](#) by Friday, September 1, to ensure that necessary remediation is in place for the 2023-2024 school year. The form allows for multi-entry and single student entry options. An Excel template is provided [here](#) and within the form for a data upload option. Schools can download the template, add entries, and submit it through the [Jotform](#) once complete. Schools should allow two weeks for the GCE submission status to appear on the EdData IREAD-3 and ILEARN report in the [LINK Portal](#). IDOE will begin reviewing corporation and school GCE submissions after today, Friday, September 1, and following up as needed. Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Assessment](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: PSAT/NMSQT Preparation Timeline

The PSAT/NMSQT testing window will be held from Monday, October 9, through Friday, October 27. Schools must complete associated tasks by the identified deadline that correlates to their planned testing within that window. Refer to the following reminders and College Board's [Best Practices Timeline](#) for additional guidance.

- Requests in [Services for Students with Disabilities \(SSD\) Online](#) should be made seven weeks prior to testing, schools should complete this action if they have not done so to ensure timely testing.
- Submit test orders in the [SAT Suite Ordering and Registration \(SSOR\) system](#) by Tuesday, September 5, to begin testing Monday, October 9. View the recorded SSOR training from College Board [here](#).
- Schools should submit initial registration files four weeks prior to testing and validate registrations three weeks prior.
- Schools may provide PSAT/NMSQT opportunities to homeschool students or students enrolled in non-accredited schools as a community service. All associated costs will be billed to the school.

Refer to IDOE's [PSAT/NMSQT Milestones resource](#) and College Board's [PSAT/NMSQT webpage](#) for additional guidance. Contact [College Board](#) with any questions.

UPDATE: Applications for Purple Star Schools Close Today, Friday, September 1

[Applications](#) for the 2023-2024 Purple Star Designation Program close today, Friday, September 1. The Purple Star Designation Program recognizes Indiana schools for their significant display of commitment to our service members, veterans, and families connected to the nation's military. Purple Star designations are available for three years. Additional information regarding application requirements and the award notification timeline can be found [here](#). Contact [Emily Black](#) with any questions.

NEW: Application Center Reporting - Educator Evaluation Rating (ER) 2023

The ER2023 data reporting guidance layout for educator staff employed in the 2022-2023 school year is posted to the [Data Exchange Moodle Community](#) under resources and in the [Data Exchange Knowledge Hub](#) at School Support Hub > Reporting Guides > Staff Employment > References > ER (Educator Rating) Data Layout 2023. ER data will be submitted via the STN Application Center. The Application Center reporting window is now open and will close Friday, October 27, at 4 p.m. ET. Contact IDOE's [Office of Educator Talent](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Register Now for Indiana Educator Talent Marketplace Webinars

Learn more about how you can use Indiana Educator Talent Marketplace to find great candidates for your open roles. This webinar will walk through the marketplace's newest offering, share tips about how to attract the best talent, and answer your questions.

- Tuesday, September 12, at 3 p.m. ET
- Tuesday, September 26, at 3 p.m. ET

Click [here](#) to register. Contact IDOE's [Office of Educator Talent](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Staff Performance Evaluation Plan Submission

[Senate Enrolled Act 486](#) (2023) requires each school corporation to develop or adopt a plan for annual performance evaluations for each certified employee. Staff performance evaluation plans must be submitted via JotForm by Friday, September 15. **Evaluation plan cover sheets are no longer required as part of the submission.** For more information, click [here](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Educator Talent](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Teacher Appreciation Grant (TAG) Policy Submission Required

Information regarding the TAG policy submission can be found [here](#). Local educational agencies (including charter and virtual charter schools) must submit the TAG policy for approval via JotForm by Friday, September 16, to be eligible to receive TAG funding. Contact tag@doe.in.gov with any questions.

REMINDER: Indiana STEM (I-STEM) Educator Expansion Program Registration Now Available

IDOE is partnering with Educational Service Centers (ESCs) of Indiana to launch the I-STEM partnership. I-STEM provides support for both currently licensed teachers in non-STEM areas and prospective teachers who are not licensed and hold a bachelor's degree to become licensed to teach in a STEM content area. IDOE has identified eligible STEM content areas as life science, chemistry, earth/space science, physics, physical science, computer science, technology education, and mathematics. Click [here](#) for more information and registration. Contact IDOE's [Office of Educator Talent](#) with any questions.

Office of Information Technology

NEW: Cybersecurity for Education Toolkit 2.0 Now Available

Developed by the Indiana Executive Council on Cybersecurity (IECC), with support from IDOE, the Cybersecurity Infrastructure and Security Agency (CISA), and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (USDHS), the updated [Cybersecurity for Education Toolkit 2.0](#) is filled with a wide range of cybersecurity best practices, resources and tips for everyone in your K-12 school community. Visit [Indiana's Cybersecurity Hub webpage](#) for additional resources for inside and outside of the classroom.

REMINDER: CISA Offers Free Cybersecurity Resources for K-12 Schools

As shared in early February, CISA released "Partnership to Safeguard K-12 Organizations from Cybersecurity Threats," with an accompanying toolkit to provide schools targeted resources to improve their cybersecurity posture. These resources call out very specific actions that schools can take to drastically reduce their cybersecurity risk. Schools are strongly encouraged to review and implement these recommendations as we begin the 2023-2024 school year. Also, the Free Cybersecurity Services and Tools link below provide access to many great resources that will assist schools as they implement the recommended actions.

- [Online Toolkit: Partnering to Safeguard K-12 Organizations from Cybersecurity Threats](#)
- [Free Cybersecurity Services and Tools](#)
- [Secure by Design, Secure by Default](#)
- [CISA Releases Updated Cybersecurity Performance Goals](#)

REMINDER: Resolution of Conflicts for Membership 2023

Beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, IDOE will no longer be brokering the resolution of conflicts after the certification date. If, after the certification date, schools are unable to resolve an outstanding conflict, schools may petition the State Board of Education for an adjustment in their average daily membership (ADM) count by providing the Board with evidence supporting an adjustment in their membership claim. The process for petitioning the Board will be made available this fall and communicated in Dr. Jenner's Weekly Update. IDOE wants to make sure each school receives full funding for the students they are serving and completes the Membership count within two to three weeks of the count date. This process will help achieve both of these goals. See this [memo](#) for a more complete explanation of this change. Contact the [Data Exchange Team](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: LINK Portal Setup and Review of Security Coordinators

The [LINK Portal](#) is able to recognize all public, charter, and accredited non-public schools' local Google G-Suite or Microsoft 365 accounts. IDOE configures the organization's leader as the first account, and the organization leader must log in to designate up to two security coordinators responsible for overseeing the setup of roles for others in the organization. All superintendents and leaders of non-public schools should log in to the LINK Portal and review/update their security coordinator information.

- Instructions for organization leaders on how to review/designate the security coordinators can be found [here](#).
- New public and Choice schools registration process for the LINK Portal can be found [here](#).
- New superintendents or organization leaders of non-public schools who need the first account configured should email link@doe.in.gov.

REMINDER: Designation of Key Contacts

Security coordinators for all traditional public, charter, and accredited non-public schools are responsible for ensuring their organization's key contacts for the 2023-2024 school year are set. Key contacts including the roles of Superintendent, Financial Contact, Special Education Director, Principal, Data Exchange Contact, etc. are needed for the 2023-2024 school year even if those contacts were provided last school year.

For school corporations that have an Ed-fi student information system (SIS), key contacts and other staff role assignments should be entered and managed in the local SIS and then provided to Data Exchange/LINK for the new school year. However, all three options below are available:

1. Provide staff classifications in the local SIS per vendor's instructions,
2. Add a staff type manually for the 2023-2024 school year via the Security Portal, or
3. Upload [templates](#) 008_StaffAssociation_StaffEdOrgAssignmentAssociation and 0009_StaffOrganizationContactAssociation into Data Exchange.

Schools utilizing options two and three may cause overriding or loss of data. Schools should connect with their SIS vendor to better understand how to avoid data loss when providing data via multiple methods.

IDOE will recognize active staff assignments/roles during the summer months from the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 school years and will begin recognizing only the 2023-2024 school year assignments beginning **Friday, September 1**. Security coordinator instructions can be found [here](#). Contact the [Data Exchange Team](#) with any questions.

Office of School Finance

NEW: Preparing for Post-ESSER Operating Budgets

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Congress appropriated three rounds of financial relief through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER). ESSER regulations provided greater flexibility than those of the last major federal stimulus program in 2009, allowing more opportunity to supplant existing funding sources, not just supplement them. As a result, there is now a greater risk of a "fiscal cliff" where ESSER dollars spent on ongoing operations will need to be replaced by other funding sources when the project period ends for ESSER dollars on September 30, 2024. [This memo](#) provides

additional information to help schools develop financial forecasts to project revenues, expenditures, and cash balances beyond the life of ESSER. Contact indicators@duab.in.gov with any questions.

NEW: Collective Bargaining Notices of Estimated Education Fund from State Tuition Support

The Office of School Finance anticipates providing parties with a certification of the estimated Education fund revenue available for collective bargaining from state tuition support on Friday, September 8. The state tuition support estimate will be based on calculations that reflect estimated membership counts currently used in the formula. If there have been changes in the administration office, please make sure contact information has been updated in the Link Portal. Contact IDOE's [Office of School Finance](#) with any questions.

NEW: School Year 2023-2024 Average Daily Membership (ADM) Count Dates

The fall 2023 ADM count date of the eligible pupils enrolled in each school corporation and charter school is Monday, October 2. Please read this [memo](#) regarding the count date. Contact IDOE's [Office of School Finance](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Teacher Compensation Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Please see this updated [Teacher Compensation FAQ](#) which provides guidance to assist school corporations with review and implementation of the provisions regarding teacher compensation, funding floor, and minimum expenditures. Definitions may differ between teacher compensation, funding floor, and minimum expenditures, so please review questions specific to each category of question. All changes are effective beginning July 1, 2023, for school year 2023-2024 expenditures. Contact IDOE's [Office of School Finance](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Teacher Compensation Waiver Form

If your school corporation does not believe it can comply with the 62% expenditure requirement for teacher compensation for 2023-2024, the school corporation shall file a [waiver](#) with IDOE. The deadline to file the [waiver form](#), [memo/letter](#), and supporting documentation for the 2023-2024 school year is Friday, September 15. Contact IDOE's [Office of School Finance](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Membership and Enrollment

As the membership census date approaches, enrollment questions have increased. Please read the following memos regarding [residency requirements](#), [out of state enrollment](#), and [enrollment denial](#). Contact [Cathy Danyluk](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Summer School Final Cost Report

The Summer School Final Cost Report submission window is now open. Information regarding the summer school program can be found in [Moodle](#). Contact [Teresa Hemmerle](#) or [Alex Waite](#) with any questions.

Office of School Support and Transformation

REMINDER: School Improvement Plans

The submission window for Comprehensive Needs Assessment/School Improvement Plans (CNA/SIP) is now open. Use of the state CNA/SIP template fulfills all requirements under state law and ESSA for schools identified for CSI, TSI, and/or Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ASTI). Submissions are due by Friday, October 6. This [memo](#) provides additional information, including links to the CNA/SIP Google doc and CNA/SIP template. Contact IDOE's [Office of School Support and Transformation](#) with any questions..

Office of Student Pathways and Opportunities

NEW: Updated Definitions for Work-Based Learning Course Codes

IDOE has partnered with the Indiana Commission for Higher Education's Office of Career and Technical Education (CTE), Department of Workforce Development, and the Office of Work Based Learning and Apprenticeship to revise the work-based learning definitions published in the 2023-2024 Course Titles and Descriptions. The updated definitions can be found in this [document](#). As a reminder, schools are required to begin using the employability skills course codes on the transcript this school year. Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Pathways and Opportunities](#) with any questions.

Office of Student Support and Accessibility/Special Education

NEW: Special Education Excess Cost (SEEC) Invoice Office Hours

IDOE's Office of Special Education will hold office hours to support schools in navigating the SEEC invoice process. Office hours allow schools to receive guidance on submitting invoices, required documentation, and direct questions. No registration is needed, you may join any of the sessions below.

- [Monday, September 18, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. ET](#)
- [Wednesday, October 4, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. ET](#)
- [Wednesday, October 18, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. ET](#)

Contact IDOE's [SEEC team](#) with additional questions.

NEW: Auditory Verbal Allocation (AVA) Funding Updates

AVA funds allotted to IDOE to assist school corporations with the cost of educating students who require auditory verbal education services have been fully allocated, and applications submitted during the 2023-2024 academic school year will not be considered or funded. To fund AVA services, school districts must utilize additional funding streams, such as Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part B 611 and 619 awards or SEEC funds. Contact IDOE's [Office of Special Education](#) with any questions.

NEW: Special Education Resource Guide for Special Education Directors

IDOE has partnered with Technical Assistance for Excellence in Special Education (TAESE) to provide a new special education resource guide for local educational agency (LEA) special education directors.

View the TAESE [LEA Director Resource Guide here](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Special Education](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Register Now for Elevating Education: Improving Outcomes for All Statewide Conference

Registration is open for [Elevating Education: Improving Outcomes for All](#), a new statewide conference from IDOE and the IEP Technical Assistance (TA) Center. The conference is intended for general educators, special educators, and administrators and will take place at the Hyatt Regency Indianapolis and the Indiana Convention Center on Tuesday, November 28, and Wednesday, November 29. For more information on presenters and session descriptions, view the [registration brochure](#). Register [here](#), as space is limited. Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Support and Accessibility](#) or the [IEP TA Center](#) with any questions.

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

NEW: Educators Needed: High-Quality STEM Curricular Materials Review Committee Applications Now Open

IDOE seeks qualified educators (including accessibility representatives) and other stakeholders to serve on high-quality curricular materials review committees in the areas of K-8 Science/Engineering, 9-12 Science, K-8 Technology (Computer Science), and K-12 Mathematics. View [this flier](#) for more information and apply using the [educator JotForm](#) or [community member JotForm](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Teaching and Learning](#) with any questions.

NEW: 2023-2024 Digital Learning Parent and Family Support Grant Success Stories

Applications for the 2023-2024 Digital Learning Parent and Family Support Grant are open through Friday, September 15, at 5 p.m. ET. This grant allows school corporations to design a plan to support parents with topics related to educational technology and blended/virtual learning environments. See [this memo](#) for additional information and to apply. Check out the [information session](#) or the [success stories session](#) for more support. Contact IDOE's [Office of Digital Learning](#) with any questions.

NEW: September Professional Development (PD) with IDOE

IDOE has new sessions for September's PD with IDOE series! Join IDOE's Office of Digital Learning as they start the month on Wednesday, September 6, at 4 p.m. ET with *New Virtual Courses: A Walkthrough*. View a full list of the September 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](#) directly and use your school email address to log in. Contact IDOE's [Office of Digital Learning](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Interest Form for Science of Reading Module Course

Educators and school leaders who serve students in preschool through third grade (including administrators, classroom teachers, reading interventionists, English language teachers, and special education teachers) are invited to participate in a self-paced professional development course focused on what the science of reading is and how it informs the application of research-based instructional practices using a Structured Literacy approach through effective teaching and assessing foundational reading skills.

This self-paced course will be hosted in the [Indiana Learning Lab](#) and will take approximately 20 to 25 hours to complete. Participants are required to complete knowledge checks following each module with a minimum score of 80%. After successfully completing all six modules, participants will receive a certificate of completion, 25 Professional Growth Plan (PGP) points, and a one-time stipend of \$1,200 as compensation for their time and dedication to Hoosier students. Please [complete this form](#) to indicate your interest in taking the science of reading module course in the Indiana Learning Lab. Completing an interest form does not guarantee enrollment in the science of reading modules. Next steps will be communicated to respondents in late fall. Contact IDOE's [Literacy Center](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Digital Learning Leadership Cadre Member Application

IDOE invites leaders to apply for the Digital Learning Leadership Cadre, a group designed to discuss important topics relevant to virtual and blended learning environments. This opportunity is open to any public corporation or public charter school educator passionate about digital learning. [Applications](#) are open through Friday, September 8. See this [memo](#) for more information. Contact IDOE's [Office of Digital Learning](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Constitution Day Programming

In accordance with federal law and Indiana Code (IC) 20-30-5-1 it is required that any educational institution that receives federal funds must hold programming over the U.S. Constitution for their students. Constitution Day commemorates the creation and signing of the U.S. Constitution on September 17, 1787. Refer to the U.S. Department of Education's [Constitution Day and Citizenship Day webpage](#) for valuable information and resources to assist with this programming in your school. Contact IDOE's [Office of Teaching and Learning](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Required Cursive Writing Survey Due Sunday, October 1

Pursuant to IC 20-19-3-30, IDOE shall conduct a statewide survey to determine whether and in which grade levels schools are providing cursive writing instruction. A designee from each public school, public charter school, and state accredited non-public school must complete [this survey](#) by 11:59 p.m. ET on Sunday, October 1. If a school corporation maintains consistent cursive writing instruction across schools within the corporation, then only one submission for the corporation is required. Note that the results of this survey will be used for informational purposes only, and responses will not result in any punitive measures. Contact IDOE's [Office of Teaching and Learning](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Imagination Library Family Resources

Each month, Imagination Library mails participating children ages birth to five a free book. To support a love of reading and increase enjoyment, these [family resources](#) provide music, activities, vocabulary, and connecting book and read-aloud ideas. To access these resources, register for a free account to the [Indiana Learning Lab](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Kindergarten Readiness](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Fostering Early Literacy PD Session in the Indiana Learning Lab

Join representatives from the state library, Imagination Library, and IDOE's Office of Kindergarten Readiness in a session on the role of read-alouds in the Indiana Learning Lab. Families are invited to attend Wednesday, September 20, from 4 to 4:30 p.m. ET. Educators are encouraged to join the session

on Wednesday, September 27, from 4 to 4:30 p.m. ET. To register, please create a free account to the [Indiana Learning Lab](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Kindergarten Readiness](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Dyslexia Screening Office Hours

IDOE's Literacy Center and Office of Student Assessment are offering office hours to support schools with completing universal dyslexia screening for students in kindergarten through grade two within the 90 calendar days of the start of the school year. The requirements and list of approved screeners can be found in Appendix A of the [2023-2024 Dyslexia Programming Guidance for Schools](#). The sessions will start with a brief overview of the screening process followed by time for individual questions. Join one of the sessions below:

- [Tuesday, September 12, 10 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. EST](#)
- [Thursday, September 21, 4 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. EST](#)

Please contact IDOE's [Literacy Center](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Artificial Intelligence (AI)-Powered Platform Pilot Grant Application Deadline Extended

IDOE's Office of Digital Learning invites school corporations and charter schools to apply for a one-time competitive grant opportunity to fund a pilot implementation of an AI-powered platform of their choosing. Corporations will select a vendor that meets the criteria outlined in the memo. Applications will be accepted until 5 p.m. ET on Friday, September 8. See this [memo](#) for more information and join the grant support session [here](#) on Tuesday, August 15, at 2 p.m. ET. Contact IDOE's [Office of Digital Learning](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Future-Focused Learning Series Regional Summits

The Future-Focused Learning Series, a collaborative effort with IDOE and the Educational Service Centers of Indiana (ESCI), was developed to support Indiana educators in the implementation of the streamlined and prioritized 2023 Indiana Academic Standards, Early Learning Standards, and Integrated STEM Standards. The series kicks off with regional, one-day summits taking place in September. Visit the [Future-Focused Learning Series website](#) for more information and to register. Contact IDOE's [Office of Teaching and Learning](#) with any questions.

Office of Title Grants and Support

REMINDER: FFY2021 (FY2022) General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) Waiver - Public Comment Sought

IDOE intends to apply for flexibility to allow LEAs to more effectively encumber their FFY21 federal funds. Specifically, IDOE is requesting the following requirement be waived: 1) Section 421(b) of GEPA to extend the period of availability of FFY21 funds for programs in which the state education agency participates under its approved consolidated state plan until September 30, 2024. Please provide any comments via this [JotForm](#) no later than Friday, September 22. Contact Titlet@doe.in.gov with any questions.

REMINDER: 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) Multistate Conference Registration Now Open

The annual 21st Century Communities Learning Centers Multistate Conference will be hosted this year at the Galt House in Louisville, Kentucky, Monday, October 2, through Wednesday, October 4. For more details and registration information please visit the [21st CCLC Conference](#) site.

Contact OSTProgram@doe.in.gov with any questions.

News From Our Partners

NEW FROM THE CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP OF LEARNING (CELL) AT THE UNIVERSITY OF INDIANAPOLIS: Cultivating Skilled Readers - Unlocking Success and Leveraging Neuroscience to Build Strong Foundations for Students

Join CELL on Thursday, September 14, from 3:30 to 5 p.m. ET, to hear from special guest keynote, Dr. Elizabeth Norton, Associate Professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. Dr. Norton directs the Language, Education and Reading Neuroscience ([LEARN](#)) Lab which uses behavioral and brain measures to understand reading, language, and neurodevelopmental disorders. Attendees will learn about reading and the brain including information about research-based effective practices that support developing readers. Register [here](#). Contact [Peyton Royeca](#) with any questions.

NEW FROM KEEP INDIANA LEARNING: Opportunity for Instructional Coaches

A fall and spring cadre is now forming to support new and veteran instructional coaches in strengthening their coaching practices. Learn more about this opportunity and register [here](#). Contact [Keep Indiana Learning](#) with any questions.

NEW FROM INDIANA CONNECTED EDUCATORS: Fall Coach Edcamp

Coaches, IT gurus, and tech integration rockstars are invited to an unmissable learning jam – [Fall Coach Camp](#), on Wednesday, October 4, at Franklin Central Junior High! Let's innovate, share, and grow together. Stay over and join the [Indiana Connected Educator Conference](#) the next day at this same location. Contact [Indiana Connected Educators](#) with any questions.

NEW FROM THE INSTITUTE OF WORKFORCE EXCELLENCE'S WORK AND LEARN (WLI) PROGRAM: EARN Indiana

The Institute for Workforce Excellence's WLI program, in partnership with the Indiana Commission for Higher Education, is introducing a statewide rollout of high school EARN Indiana. [EARN Indiana](#) funds are being made available to employers across the state that offer high-quality work-based learning experiences to high school students. Employers can post their internships on the WLI site, apply for EARN approval and connect with students. Learn more about this opportunity [here](#).

NEW FROM THE ADVANCED PLACEMENT TEACHER INVESTMENT PROGRAM: AP-TIP Fall Conference

AP-TIP's annual Fall Conference returns in September. The conference is entirely online and many subjects feature a combination of plenary and collaborative sessions. The Fall Conference runs from Tuesday, September 12, through Thursday, September 14, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. ET. See which subjects are offered each day, check the current list of topics, and register [here](#).

NEW FROM THE CENTRAL INDIANA CORPORATE PARTNERSHIP (CICP): See Yourself IN Summit

Join CICP and its five talent and industry sector initiatives for the [See Yourself IN Summit](#) on Thursday, November 16, or Friday, November 17. High school students and educators will learn about job and career opportunities across CICP's advanced industry sectors: agbiosciences, life sciences, advanced manufacturing and logistics, and technology, as well as gain insight about job resources and support programs. Educators can also earn credit during a special professional development and research session. Hear from these 21st century industries and the companies and people who power them. Learn more at [CICPIndiana.com](#).

NEW FROM THE DISTRESSED UNIT APPEAL BOARD (DUAB): Fiscal Indicators Dashboard Updated

DUAB has refreshed the data on its [fiscal indicators dashboard](#). All superintendents (or their designee) are required by [IC 5-13-7-8](#) to submit a written report to their local school board assessing the financial condition of the school corporation based on these indicators. Although the statute refers to the annual board of finance meeting in January, DUAB suggests presenting this information sooner rather than later so it is more timely. Contact indicators@duab.in.gov with any questions.

NEW FROM ACT OUT SOCIAL ISSUES THEATER: Evidence-based Prevention Programs

ACT Out Social Issues Theatre offers evidenced-based prevention programs that engage students and help them to develop valuable conflict resolution and coping skills. It is an easy one-hour program and easy for teachers to implement. In partnership with IDOE and Title IV technical assistance funds, we cover preventing school violence, bullying and teasing, learning loss anxiety, or a combination of these topics. These programs are free to a limited number of schools in central Indiana for the 2023-24 school year. The ACT Out ensemble of actors use scripted scenarios generated to meet students' needs and transforms it into improvisational, interactive theater. In the 30- to 45-minute show, the action often freezes in the midst of an issue and students are asked to provide suggestions on how to resolve the current conflict before the play resumes. Students will have active participation in identifying issues and triggers and learning skills to deal with conflicts and handling emotions. Contact [Gail Marcopulos](#) if you are interested in bringing ACT Out Social Issues Theatre to your school.

UPDATE FROM THE PATINS PROJECT: Virtual Office Hours & No-Cost Training

Meet with many [PATINS Project](#) staff during virtual office hours on Zoom to chat about Accessible Educational Materials (AEM), Assistive Technology (AT), and Universal Design for Learning (UDL). Find the full calendar and registration details on the [PATINS Virtual Office Hours Site](#). Register for no-cost training from the [PATINS Project](#). Please visit our [training calendar](#) for all upcoming, no-cost training or view the [PATINS Professional Development Guide](#) for offerings by request. Please contact IDOE's [Office of Student Support and Accessibility](#) or the [PATINS Project](#) for additional support.

REMINDER FROM VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS (VFW), DEPARTMENT OF INDIANA: Youth Scholarship Opportunities

The VFW, Department of Indiana is dedicated to promoting patriotism and investing in classrooms across the state. The VFW essay contests encourage young minds to examine America's history through their own experiences and expressing their views based on an annual patriotic theme. Over \$2.5 million dollars were presented last year to winners at the local, state, and national levels. These contests provide great opportunities to discuss themes of democracy and prepare to commemorate Patriot Day or Constitution Day in your classroom. To learn more about these VFW Youth Scholarship opportunities and find a participating post, click [here](#). To learn more about how the VFW can partner with schools and teachers in the classroom, click [here](#). Any questions about these scholarship opportunities can be directed to [Bryan Lineberry](#), Indiana Patriot Pen Chairman.

REMINDER FROM THE IEP TA CENTER: Upcoming No-Cost Trainings

The IEP TA Center has a variety of upcoming, no-cost [workshops](#) for Indiana educators in Indianapolis. Review upcoming opportunities on the [training catalog](#). Contact [Marcee Wilburn](#) from the IEP TA Center with any questions.

REMINDER FROM THE LILLY ENDOWMENT: Renewal Grants for Indiana K-12 Educators

The Lilly Endowment is pleased to announce the 37th round of its Teacher Creativity Fellowship Program (TCFP). This program supports educators throughout Indiana by providing resources for them to take time for meaningful renewal. The Endowment believes that through new experiences, exploration, and reflection educators can generate renewed energy in their careers, innovative approaches to teaching and educational leadership, and thoughtful ways to encourage students' creative thinking. The Endowment expects to award approximately 100 grants, each totaling up to \$15,000, in 2024. The application deadline is 5 p.m. ET on Monday, September 11. Contact Lilly Endowment staff at teachercreativity@lei.org with any questions.



Weekly Updates

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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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