



# News 4 You

**Keeping ROE 40 districts and staff informed**

**OCTOBER 2023**

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—STAY TUNED FOR UPDATES—  
Carlinsville ROE office will be moving  
across town within the next few  
weeks.



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*Still need 2023  
hours ??  
Look no further*



## Teacher Leader Coaching Series

In-person workshop series! 4 1/2 day sessions:  
12:30 pm-3:30 pm - **October 23, January 8, April 8**  
Jerseyville ROE (12 PD Hours)

**FREE** for all ROE 40 SDA participating districts (limited to 15 participants)  
Non-SDA districts \$300

Are you a veteran teacher and/or looked to as a leader in your building? Do you need support so that you can help others? Our new coaching for Teacher Mentors Program is designed to build teacher leaders in schools, providing knowledge, skills, tools, and resources necessary to help support you so you can help support your colleagues that are new and novice educators.

Meetings Coaching meetings (1/2 day) are scheduled each quarter (August, October, January, April) for mentoring teacher leaders.

Discussion items include the following:

- \*Teacher Duties
- \*Allocation of resources
- \*Daily Schedule
- \*Pedagogical strategies
- \*Benefits and TRS
- \*Student engagement
- \*Mentor/mentee rapport building
- \*The learning climate
- \*Communication
- \*Teacher disposition
- \*Support

Text messages and emails will be sent regularly to our teacher mentors to share reminders, inspiration, encouragement, support, accountability, resources, and LOVE! A folder for mentoring teachers will be provided that will include all meeting slide decks, agendas, and resources. This will allow for easy access and a place where mentoring leaders can share strategies and resources as well. Lori and Scott Hopkins will lead this workshop series and serve as the coaches for our teacher leaders. They will be available to answer questions and provide support at all times throughout the year.

## Upcoming ROE 40 Professional Development

Director of School Improvement  
Ryan Wamser, [rwamser@roe40.com](mailto:rwamser@roe40.com)

Tues Oct 3 - Level Up Your IEP/ Understanding Behavior

Mon Oct 16 - Mindful Monday (Virtual)

Thurs Oct 26—Tech Roundtable

Mon Oct 30—Mindful Monday (Virtual)

Thurs Nov 2—Math Strategies and Resources K-8

Mon Nov 6—Mindful Monday (Virtual)

Mon Nov 13 -Co-Teaching Relationships & Strategies

Wed Nov 15 - 3D Printing FUNdamentals—Hands On

Thurs Nov 16 - SEL, Trauma and Student Success

Mon Nov 20 - Mindful Monday (Virtual)

Tues Nov 28 - Reading Strategies & Resources K-8

Thurs Nov 30— The Science of Reading

TO REGISTER

FOR CLASSES

PLEASE VISIT

OUR WEBSITE



## **Strong Tutor-Student Relationships and Enhanced Tutor Efficacy Drive Success with the Illinois Tutoring Initiative**

The Illinois Tutoring Initiative recently released a report on its high-impact tutoring program, revealing that more than 70% of tutored students exhibited expected or better growth in reading and math. High-impact tutoring is deliberately designed with several crucial components, and research consistently shows that positive student-teacher relationships significantly boost academic success. To achieve this, the initiative prioritized providing well-trained tutors who engage students individually or in small groups at least three times a week for a minimum of 30 minutes, focusing on building strong connections.

Julia White, a tutor at Carruthers Elementary School in Murphysboro CUSD 186, shared her sentiments about tutoring: "Seeing a student improve in reading is such a joy. I believe if you can read, you can do anything. My student has gone from a reading level of 1.5 to 3.6, according to her teacher. She was just finishing multiplication by 2's and is now on 9's. Her math has improved, and she isn't 'scared of math anymore,' as she puts it."

The program places a strong emphasis on tutor training, ensuring tutors have the necessary resources and support. Tutors saw substantial improvements in their confidence and effectiveness as they assisted students during the 2022-23 academic year. Training covered critical thinking, assessment of student comprehension, and diverse teaching methods. This boost in self-efficacy is crucial for tutors as it positively impacts their ability to set goals and excel in their work with students.

The initiative made strategic adjustments after January 30, 2023, as the need for continuous improvement. Tutors underwent intensive training to enhance session fidelity, leading to a significant increase in tutors introducing session topics and setting clear learning objectives at the beginning of each tutoring session. These improvements provide students with a better under-

## **NEW! CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

### **New Entity Profile Contacts**

ISBE has added new Entity Profile Contacts into the Entity Profile System (EPS). Please go into EPS and enter your contacts for Title IX Coordinator, 504 Coordinator, and FAFSA Coordinator. The Office of Civil Rights requires each district to identify a Title IX Coordinator and a 504 Coordinator. By having this list, ISBE will be able to communicate with these coordinators and provide technical assistance and resources for your districts. For detailed instructions on how to add or change contacts, see the EPS Guide. If you have any questions, please contact [EPSchange@isbe.net](mailto:EPSchange@isbe.net) or 312-814-9192.

All FAFSA Coordinators entered into the EPS system will have their registration fee waived for the 2023 FAFSA Symposium. To accommodate the level of interest, the Illinois Student Assistance Commission is offering the 2023 FAFSA Symposium at two locations this fall.

**MORE ISBE INFORMATION ON PAGE 5**

## **NEW! SAFE & HEALTHY CLIMATE**

### **Resources to Protect Youth from E-Cigarettes**

The CDC's Office on Smoking and Health (OSH) recently launched the Empower Vape-Free Youth™ campaign to empower middle and high school educators to speak with youth about the risks of e-cigarettes and nicotine addiction and to encourage youth to avoid and/or quit vaping.

### **Indoor Air Quality Staff Training**

The Center for Green Schools and the U.S. Department of Energy, in coordination with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, are hosting a free in-person training session for K-12 school staff focused on developing or strengthening district Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) management plans and sharing the most up-to-date best practices for continuous IAQ monitoring. The training will

### **School Alert About Bat Exposures – A Message from IDPH**

In the last few weeks, two schools have reported finding a rabid bat in their buildings. Other bats have also been collected from schools and have tested negative for rabies. The main bat species positive for rabies in Illinois is the big brown bat. Since this bat is colonial (lives in groups) and prefers to live in man-made structures, such as schools, humans can be exposed to these bats that form a colony in the school. This also means that seeing one bat may indicate that a colony of bats may be present in the building, typically in the upper areas of the building.

For more information, please contact your local health department.

## **NEW! SPECIALIZED INSTRUCTION**

### **Help Wanted: Finding Migratory Families**

Do you have new students this year? It takes only a couple of minutes to fill out the Illinois Migrant Education Program (MEP) family referral program for new students who might have family in agriculture/seasonal farmworker employment. Title I Part C provides funds to Illinois to find, identify, and then serve such students. MEP will contact the family to determine eligibility and then connect them with available resources. Please help us by submitting referral for a student who has a family member working in agriculture as a seasonal farmworker.

# VFW Scholarship Programs



Superintendents and Principals,

Since 1947, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) has been partnering with schools across the country by offering scholarship programs such as the **Patriot's Pen** contest (Grades 6-8) and the **Voice of Democracy** contest (Grades 9- 12). Both programs are approved by the National Association of Secondary School Principals. The Veterans of Foreign Wars believes all students can benefit from participating in these programs.

These programs can fit into any classroom – including Language Arts, History, Civics, and other areas of study. We believe this opportunity will challenge students to consider the freedoms they inherit and their role in maintaining them as well as encourage patriotism in their years to come. There are prizes awarded at the entry level (Post), second level (District), third level (State), and final level (National). In Illinois, we invite the top four Patriot's Pen winners and all seventeen of the District Voice of the Democracy winners to attend a scholarship banquet in their honor. The entire weekend is dedicated to their accomplishments. They receive overnight accommodations for Friday and Saturday as well as a tour of the capitol city before the banquet begins. We have hundreds of veterans and their families join us while we award each student with their scholarship. The awards range from \$300 to \$2,500.

If the student is selected to compete at the National level, the prize awarded for Patriot's Pen range is \$500 to \$5000 scholarship. The minimum prize for Voice of Democracy is a \$1000 scholarship and the first place recipient receives a \$35,000 scholarship to the college of their choice. Every State/Department Voice of Democracy winner and family will receive an all– expenses paid trip to Washington D.C.

This year the theme for the Patriot's Pen Program is *"How are You Inspired by America?"* and the Voice of Democracy theme is *"What are the Greatest Attributes of Our Democracy?"* If you would like more information, it can be found at <https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships> - as well as an example of last year's winning essay entries.

To get involved with the Patriot's Pen or Voice of Democracy, please contact a local Veterans of Foreign Wars Post. A post locator is included in the link above. If you encounter any issues, please call our State Headquarters (217) 529-6688, and we will be happy to assist you!

We hope that you will consider making the Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy part of the curriculum in your schools. If you already planned on participating, the Veterans of Foreign Wars proudly salutes you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brett Nila".

Brett Nila  
State Commander