



DECEMBER 2021
Connection

Regional Office of Education #21

Franklin, Johnson, Massac, Williamson Counties

Safety. Support. Success

Regional Office of Education #21

Lorie LeQuatte - Regional Superintendent of Schools
Mandy Horn - Assistant Regional Superintendent of Schools

Franklin County Office

Alison Cross - Accounting/Internal Control
Suzanne Willmore - Administrative Assistant
Heather Russell - Administrative Assistant
Luke Saeger - Truancy Interventionist

Williamson County Office

Johna Schullian - Comptroller/Director McKinney-Vento
Lisa Drury - Regional McKinney-Vento Liaison
Mickey Sullivan - Regional McKinney-Vento Liaison
Kate West - Director Community Prevention Resources (CPR)
Samantha Lampley - Project Manager CPR
Jeff Bink - Truancy Interventionist/ Health Life Safety
John Cox - Truancy Interventionist
Crystal Newcomb MSW - School Social Worker
Christine Wiggs Ph.D. - Professional Development
Roxanna Alldredge - Professional Development
Brittany Grove - Regional Communications Manager
Michelle Sears - Administrative Assistant
Kenlee Smith - Administrative Assistant
Chad Milburn - Network Specialist

Johnson County Office

Massac County Office

Jan Barrett - Administrative Assistant

PROJECT ECHO/STAR Quest Academy

Eddy Henriksen - Principal
Courtney Hale - Assistant Principal

Franklin County Regional Delivery System for CTE

Jan Farkas - Director
Nancy Kinsey - Assistant Director

Lorie LeQuatte, Regional Superintendent
Mandy Horn, Assistant Superintendent

Dr. Steve Webb named Illinois Superintendent of the year!

Dr. Steve Webb, Superintendent of Goreville CUSD #1, has been named the 2022 Illinois Superintendent of the Year by the Illinois Association of School Administrators (IASA). As Superintendent, Dr. Webb has overseen numerous improvements that helped elevate student success and improve the quality of teaching and instruction in the district, which is located in deep southern Illinois.

Dr. Webb is also a national leader on school safety issues and is one of first Superintendents in the nation to become a certified police officer. He currently serves as Goreville CUSD #1's School Resource Officer (SRO).

"Dr. Webb has taken our school district and community to incredible new heights with his visionary leadership," said Steve Benard, Goreville CUSD #1 School Board President. "He does not see problems — he sees potential and he stops at nothing to figure out a way to make it benefit kids."

Congratulations to Dr. Webb on your outstanding accomplishments!



Raising Student Achievement Conference

The Regional Office of Education #21 is excited to announce FIVE conference scholarships awarded to educators in ROE #21.

The scholarships will allow FIVE of our educators to attend the Raising Student Achievement Conference (RSAC).

The RSAC conference will be held on December 13 & 14, 2021 in Schaumburg, IL

On behalf of ROE #21, the following educators will be attending the RSAC conference:

Kimberly Shoemaker - Cypress Grade School District
Tara Peas - Cypress Grade School District
Tara Sullivan - West Frankfort School District
Andrea Tester - Carterville School District
Kristin Ullmark - Carterville School District



RAISING STUDENT
ACHIEVEMENT CONFERENCE
2021
DECEMBER 13-14

Please visit us on the web at
www.roe21.org

Educator Licensure

Directory of Approved Programs

Want to be a teacher, administrator, or school support personnel in Illinois? Utilize the ISBE directory of approved programs [HERE](#) to find the Illinois Institutions of Higher Education (IHE) that offer approved preparation programs by institution name, program name or location. You can also find approved programs using the filter function on the page for specific grade levels. For questions about specific program requirements, please contact the Institution of Higher Education directly.



Community Resources

NEW! FAMILY AND COMMUNITY RESOURCE

FoodFinder App Available!

As the holiday season approaches, we are not only reminded of the joy this time of year brings to many families but also the stress it can bring to families that are struggling to put food on the table.

FoodFinder's free app and website display an interactive food assistance map, helping users find their nearest food pantry or other free food program anywhere in the United States. FoodFinder has partnered with the University of Illinois Extension SNAP-Ed program to create [Find Food IL](#), an Illinois-specific food resource tool. Families can use the [FindFood IL map](#) to find places in your community offering free food or meals, stores and markets that accept SNAP/LINK or WIC coupons, and the closest DHS or WIC office.



Student Loan Forgiveness and Repayment Programs

The State of Illinois offers help with student loan repayment for Illinois residents who qualify based on certain eligibility requirements. Typically, qualifying borrowers are those who have made an obligation to work in Illinois for a specific amount of time in a field that has experienced a shortage of workers (for example, teaching or nursing).

Illinois Loan Repayment/Forgiveness Programs

- [Illinois Teachers Loan Repayment Program](#)
- [John R. Justice Student Loan Repayment Program](#)
- [Nurse Educator Loan Repayment Program](#)
- [Veterans' Home Medical Providers' Loan Repayment Program](#)



In addition to these ISAC- administered programs, your entire student loan (or a portion of your obligation) may be cancelled (forgiven) by the federal government under certain circumstances. Federal programs include the Stafford Loan Forgiveness Program For Teachers and the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program (for Federal Direct loan borrowers).

Now HIRING

Seeking Employment?
You can now find up to date Employment Opportunities on our website at:

<https://www.roe21.org/jobs/>

ROE21
Safety. Support. Success

WISHING
EDUCATORS
EVERYWHERE A VERY
MERRY
CHRISTMAS!

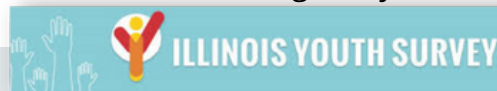
Use Your Cube Empowers Students Using Silly Faces and Balloons

In November, the Use Your Cube team engaged 6th, 7th & 8th grade students at three schools in an interactive activity. This activity involved many white balloons, silly faces, and a discussion about typical emotions that kids may feel and different ways that people manage their emotions. We highlighted the negative impact that drinking alcohol underage may have on emotions and we talked about healthy ways to increase positive emotions. Students were able to come up with something that made them feel happy, secure, and confident. Thanks to our fearless schools (Eldorado Middle School, Harrisburg Middle School, and Central Junior High in West Frankfort) for helping us to keep prevention interactive, to the school photographers for making fun memories out of this activity, and to AirGas in Benton for keeping things on the up and up by donating the helium!



Illinois Youth Survey

Thank you to all the schools who took initiative and signed up for the IYS early! For those who haven't, it's not too late. Take a moment now to register your school at iys.cprd.illinois.edu.



REMINDER:

- The Illinois Youth Survey (IYS) is a self-report survey administered in school settings and is designed to gather information about a variety of health and social indicators including substance use patterns and attitudes of Illinois youth.
- The IYS has been used since 1993 to survey the health and social indicators of Illinois youth.
- You can use the individualized reports to assess your school's needs, track progress towards physical, social and mental health goals, and evaluate student support services. This can help you identify current issues to target and compare trend data, which is particularly important with all the changes that Covid-19 has brought to our communities.
- Register now for the upcoming survey period (January-May 2022) for all 8th, 10th, & 12th grade students at your school. High schools who are interested in surveying other grades are welcome to, but should understand that they will not receive comparative data for 9th & 11th graders.
- **PRO TIP:** January and February usually have the least scheduling conflicts. Accurate data is at the heart of this survey, so it is important to schedule the survey during a time when all or most of the students are available. If a particular group of students are out for a field trip, then the data will not show the full picture of your school and may skew the data significantly.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Kate West or Samantha Lampley with Community Prevention Resources at the Marion branch of ROE #21 or cpr@roe21.org.

Upcoming Professional Development & Events

December 7, 2021
Short-Term Substitute Training
(In person)

December 8, 2021
Creating Interactive Video
Lessons with Edpuzzle
(Virtual)

December 9, 2021
ROE 21 SEL Roundtable
Luncheon
(In person)

December 13 & 14, 2021
Raising Student Achievement
Conference
(In-Person)

December 14, 2021
Holidays Aren't Happy for All
Remote Mentoring Session
(Virtual)

January 11, 2022
Short-Term Substitute Training
(In Person)

January 11, 2022
Writing the IEP
(Virtual)

January 12, 2022
Instructional Coaching
Cohort #4
(Hybrid)

January 13 & 14, 2022
3D Printing
(In Person)

January 21, 2022
Stewards of Children
(In Person)

December 4, 2021
Initial Bus Driver Training
(In-Person)
ROE #21 Training Center



Attendance Works Holiday Messaging



Attendance Works has developed messaging and letters for school leaders hoping to encourage good attendance around the winter holidays.

Helpful Hints:

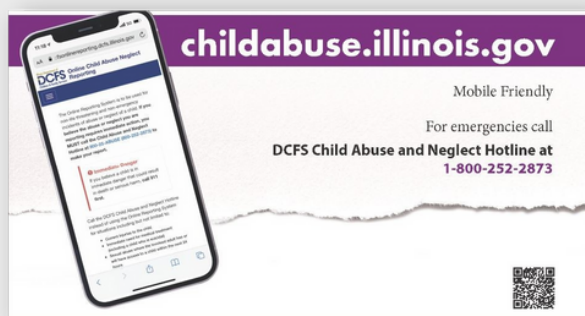
- Send a letter out the weeks before the longer winter break urging students and families to avoid absences.
- Include the name and contact information for people and organizations that can provide support to families if they need help.
- Let them know the date when school will resume.
- Stress that as long as children are healthy, they should be encouraged to show up to class when school is in session. Every day of school is an important opportunity for students to learn as well as connect to peers and their teachers.
- Plan a special event for the first day after the holiday break to welcome students and staff back. If the school or teachers are equipped to text parents, send a text right before school starts again to remind them of special plans.

Download a letter to send before the winter break holidays [HERE](#)

Online Child Abuse Neglect Reporting

Child abuse neglect reporting is now available online!
To report the suspected abuse or neglect of a child, select the "Make Report" link in the upper left of the navigation bar at:

<https://childabuse.illinois.gov/>



Classroom Resources

Earth Day in the Parks Applications Accepted Starting January 1, 2022

Earth Day in the Parks is a program of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to provide students with an opportunity to perform natural resources stewardship activities at an Illinois state park, historic site or museum. Planting native trees and wildflowers, building and installing nesting/roosting boxes, removing invasive exotic species and building brush piles for wildlife are some of the types of activities offered. Students will be helping the environment and wildlife, participating in activities to increase their fitness and learning that their actions can make a positive difference in the world. All activities are conducted outdoors with plenty of space for social distancing. Teachers must apply and be selected to have their class participate. A winner or winners are drawn for each park. See the details, the list of participating parks and download the application form at <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/education/Pages/EDITPinstruct.aspx>. Applications are accepted from January 1, 2022, through February 28, 2022.



Franklin Co. Office
901 Public Square
Benton, IL. 62812
P: 618-438-9711
F: 618-435-2861

Johnson Co. Office
111 South 5th Street
P.O. Box 96
Vienna, IL. 62995
P: 618-658-3381

Massac Co. Office
1102 West 10th Street
Metropolis, IL. 62960
P: 618-524-3736
F: 618-524-7784

Williamson Co. Office
502 West Jackson Street
Marion, IL. 62959
P: 618-998-1283
F: 618-998-9226



Please note all ROE #21 offices will be **CLOSED**

December 23, 2021
through
December 31, 2021
for Christmas Break