



MAY 2022
Connection

Regional Office of Education #21

Franklin, Johnson, Massac, Williamson Counties

Safety Support Success

Lorie LeQuatte, Regional Superintendent
Mandy Horn, Assistant Superintendent



Regional Office of Education #21

Serving Franklin, Johnson, Massac, and Williamson Counties

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
By Appointment Only
P: 618-800-3350

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

Franklin County EDGE Business Show

The Franklin County EDGE Program, Entrepreneurial Development Growth and Education, hosted their 2nd Annual Business Show April 27th! The EDGE Program is an entrepreneurial development organization that, in conjunction with Rend Lake College, invests in high school juniors and seniors across Franklin County interested in starting and developing their own businesses.

At the Business Show the students presented their business ideas and products. Mr. Lee Messersmith is the teacher for the program and this year's students are Karsyn Thrash, Bailee Kirk, Gavin Woodland, Delaney Laur, Stella Furlow, and Dayle Ruffino. The businesses are so unique and impressive! More information can be found on Facebook at Franklin County EDGE .



ROE #21 Annual Needs Assessment Survey FY 22

If you are an educator in our region, we invite you to complete the annual needs assessment for ROE #21. The focus of this needs assessment is to identify strengths of the current services and programs and also help to identify weaknesses, obstacles and barriers of the work we are providing. This survey will be used to help us plan for Professional Development and to help ROE #21 better assist educators and districts in our region. Please use the link below to complete the 2022 Needs Assessment Survey. We appreciate your feedback in advance.

<https://forms.gle/7snG4z9WhuU4gKWU6>

Teacher Appreciation Week May 2-6, 2022

Teachers change the lives of millions of children every day and in a year where instruction could be virtual, in-person or a mix of both, their immense work and impact have provided a much-needed sense of community and connection. Educators across America are working hard to ensure every student has the tools they need to reach their full potential. Find resources for teacher appreciation week [HERE](#)



Please visit us at
www.roe21.org

Licensure

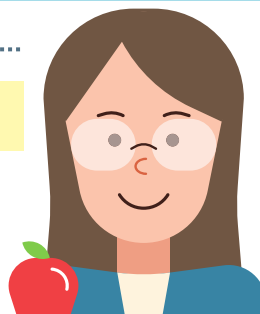
Renewal Time!

The 2022 License Renewal season opened on April 1. All educators whose licenses are set to expire on June 30, 2022, may renew now.

If your Professional Educator License is up for renewal this year, June 30, 2022, please do the following:

- Log in to your Educator Licensure Information System (ELIS) account.
- Click on "Renewal" in your Action Center. ELIS will lead you through the renewal steps, which includes answering legal background questions, selecting a region, and entering a credit/debit card to pay the applicable registration and handling fees.

Renewal resources can be found at <https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Professional-Development-for-Educators.aspx>. If you have questions, please call our office.



Attendance Works Creates the R.E.A.L toolkit for Communicating with Students and Families

Simply emphasizing the impact of days missed on learning does not adequately recognize the overwhelming stresses many students and families are faced with during the pandemic. Instead, we recommend highlighting that Showing Up Matters for R.E.A.L. because it offers an opportunity to:

- Build **R**outines
- Increase **E**ngagement
- Provide **A**ccess to Resources
- Support **L**earning



This toolkit is designed to help educators and their community partners integrate attention to attendance and engagement into school daily operations. The goal is not to add more work to school staff who are stretched thin, but to enhance the effectiveness of what they already do. Learn more at:

<https://www.attendanceworks.org/resources/toolkits/showing-up-matters-for-real>

26th Annual Science in the South Conference

Outdoors at Touch of Nature, May 12, 2022.

Let's learn about nature outdoors! We are moving the conference outdoors, exploring and learning about Southern Illinois at it's best! K-12 educators from across the region will join together and learn hands on about plants, herpetology, rock morphology, night sky astronomy, microbes in water and much more. Whether you are a first-year teacher looking for new ideas or a veteran teacher looking for ways to energize your classroom. The Science in the South Conference provides ample opportunities to: connect with other educators, explore, learn, earn PD credits, and to just have a great time! Don't miss this opportunity to walk away with ready-to-use, hands-on, activities and lesson plans for all grade levels! Earn up to 4.0 Professional Development Hours for attending and participating. For more information and registration visit: <https://conferenceservices.siu.edu/conferences/science-in-the-south.php>



Upcoming Professional Development & Events

May 3, 2022

Resilient Illinois - A Culture of Trauma & Awareness (Virtual)

May 5, 2022

Building Online Resilience (Virtual)

May 10, 2022

IEPs & the Law Remote Mentoring Session (Virtual)

May 12, 2022

26th Annual Science in the South Conference (In-Person - Touch of Nature Environmental Center)

May 16 & 17, 2022

AA #2001 Initial Teacher Evaluator 2-Day Training (In-Person)

May 20, 2022

SEL Roundtable Luncheon (In-Person)

May 25, 2022

AA #3835 Framework for Successful Technology Integration in Schools (In-Person)

May 25, 2022

Attendance Awareness Campaign 2022 (Virtual)



May 5, 2022

Bus Driver Refresher Training (In-Person)
Massac County High School
Metropolis, IL

Step up with Eldorado Middle School for National Prevention Week!

Area middle school students are stepping up and spinning away from substance misuse. To create awareness for National Prevention Week, Eldorado Middle School students and their Youth Advisory Committee want to show why most of their peers are choosing to stay substance-free. EMS has partnered with the Regional Office of Education #21, and Community Prevention Resources for SAMHSA's National Prevention Week May 8-14, 2022. EMS decided to make a difference by focusing on awareness days dedicated to Strengthening Community Resilience: Substance Misuse and Overdose Prevention (May 9) and Preventing Substance Use and Promoting Mental Health (May 10).

Students identified hanging out with friends as one of the top reasons that keeps them away from substance use, so Eldorado's Youth Advisory Committee showed their support by renovating the courtyard to create a gathering space for their school community. To build community resilience, students painted stepping stones and rocks that highlight positive alternatives to prescription and opioid misuse. Students also shared how they support positive mental health and why they spin away from underage drinking with large pinwheels and a pinwheel tunnel that all the students can sign to show their support.

To reach their parents and community, students helped choose related positive alternatives and facts that we will be posting on social media during the awareness days.

Support for this project has been a community effort! Thank you to these generous businesses: Raleigh Ready Mix in Raleigh, IL, Home Depot in Marion, IL, Casey's General Store in Eldorado, IL, Eldorado Hardware in Eldorado, IL, S.R.W. Inc. in Benton, IL, and Burkdell Mulch in Benton, IL

For more information, visit:
samhsa.gov/prevention-week/about
and whoiscpr.com.





May 8-14
National Prevention Week

May 9th: Strengthening Community Resilience: Substance Misuse and Overdose Prevention
Eldorado Middle School students are stepping up to share positive alternatives to prevent Rx and Opioid Misuse

May 10th: Preventing Substance Use and Promoting Mental Health
Eldorado Middle School students are sharing why they spin away from underage drinking

Join Community Prevention Resources on Facebook to learn more about National Prevention Week activities.



All educators in ROE #21 have access to a free professional membership to the Coalition of Schools Educating Mindfully (COSEM) Platform.

This membership includes:

- Professional learning events led by experts on mindfulness-based SEL topics.
- Personal development events such as mindfulness fundamentals and wellness series.
- Mentorship events where members share their experiences integrating mindful practices.
- Self-care sessions where members lead yoga and other mindfulness practices.
- School family supports such as mindfulness for parents, teens, and family wellness series.
- An online community to connect and learn about mindfulness-based resources.

Your free membership for the COSEM Platform is funded by the Area VI Social Emotional Learning and Trauma Response Grant.



If you are an educator in ROE #21 and would like to gain access to your free membership, please contact Dr. Christine Wiggs, Area VI SEL Culture & Climate Director, cwiggs@roe21.org.

If you have questions related to the COSEM platform, please contact Tracy Heilers at hello@educatingmindfully.org



Aligning Teaching to the New IL Computer Science Standards

May 3 @ 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm - Free

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has just released its finalized K-12 Computer Science learning standards. Now's the time to dig into the text of each standard and learn how these new learning requirements may impact your school or classroom. Join us for this workshop as we open up the new K-12 Computer Science learning standards and break them down into digestible and actionable segments. For more information and registration visit: <https://ltcillinois.org/>

LEARNING
TECHNOLOGY
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Illinois Department of Natural Resources Grant Applications Available

Applications are being accepted for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Historic Sites Field Trip Grant, Illinois Biodiversity Field Trip Grant, and Illinois Schoolyard Habitat Action Grant. You can access the instructions, application forms, and other relevant information for all three grant programs through <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/education/Pages/grants.aspx>. Start planning today!

Resources Trunks and Packs are Great Teaching Tools for Summer Camps and Programs

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources' trunks and packs are available for loan from locations throughout the state. Trunk topics include wild mammals, trees, prairies, aquatics, invasive species, birds, fossils, pollinators, amphibians and reptiles, state symbols, people and animals from Illinois' past and nature exploration for early childhood students. There is no charge to borrow the trunks/packs, although a refundable deposit may be requested. Visit <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/education/Pages/ItemsForLoan.aspx> to find the contact information to make a reservation and view the trunk/pack contents lists.

Get Ready for Summer with SI Families Connect!



SI Families Connect is the Coalition's outreach and education campaign. The purpose of the campaign is to connect families with information and resources that can help make their families stronger and their lives better. The [SI Families Connect website](#) is full of family friendly events, free resources, activities and lessons for kids and teens.

May is National Mental Health Month

Mental Health Month raises awareness of trauma and the impact it can have on the physical, emotional, and mental well-being of children, families, and communities. Mental Health Month was established in 1949 to increase awareness of the importance of mental health and wellness in Americans' lives, and to celebrate recovery from mental illness. Mental Health Month gives all of us a valuable opportunity to celebrate the tremendous strides this Nation has made in promoting mental health and increasing the public's knowledge that effective services and support are available. Learn more about National Mental Health Month at: <https://youth.gov/feature-article/may-national-mental-health-month>

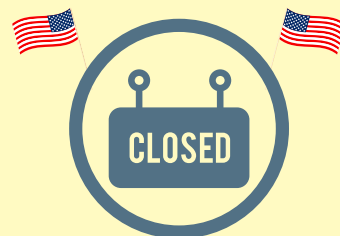


Do you have job openings?

You can now share employment opportunities on our website at:

www.roe21.org/jobs/

ROE 21
 Safety. Support. Success



Please note all ROE #21 offices will be **CLOSED** May 30, 2022 in observance of Memorial Day



MEMORIAL DAY

★ HONORING ALL WHO SERVED ★

