



SEPTEMBER 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  
Sandra Hubbard - Office Support  
Suzanne Willmore - Office Support  
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 Coord./Interventionist/ Health Life Safety  
John Cox - Truancy Interventionist  
Crystal Newcomb MSW - School Social Worker  
Christine Wiggs Ph.D. - Professional Development Coord.  
Roxanna Alldredge - Professional Development Coord.  
Brittany Grove - Regional Communications Manager  
Heather Russell - Administrative Assistant  
Michelle Sears - Administrative Assistant  
Chad Milburn - Network Specialist

#### Johnson County Office

Sheila Merideth - Office Support

#### Massac County Office

Jan Barrett - Office Support

#### PROJECT ECHO/STAR Quest Academy

Eddy Henriksen - Principal  
Cortney Hale - Assistant Principal

#### Franklin County Regional Delivery System for CTE

Jan Farkas - Director  
Nancy Kinsey - Administrative Assistant

*Connect with us!*



Please visit us on the web at  
[www.roe21.org](http://www.roe21.org)

Lorie LeQuatte, Regional Superintendent  
Mandy Horn, Assistant Superintendent

### September is Attendance Awareness Month

September is Attendance Awareness Month, a time for individuals and organizations to learn about attendance issues, absenteeism and the effects attendance can have on academic performance and success. Resources for Attendance Awareness month can be found [HERE](#)



### Meet the ROE #21 Partners Against Chronic Truancy (PACT) Team

We are pleased to introduce you to our Partners Against Chronic Truancy (PACT) Team. You will be seeing these friendly faces in your school buildings this year! Our PACT Team will work in cooperation with school staff members to help reduce chronic truancy and ensure children's success in school by supporting attendance.



Pictured: PACT Team Social Worker; Crystal Newcomb, Truancy Interventionists; Jeff Bink, Luke Saegar, John Cox

### ROE #21 has a new Professional Development Coordinator!!



Join us as we welcome Ms. Roxanna Alldredge to the ROE #21 Team. Roxanna will be housed in the Williamson County ROE #21 office and will assist with Professional Development by providing services to our districts and communities in Franklin, Johnson, Massac, and Williamson Counties.

## Professional Development

### Trees Create Habitats for Wildlife Professional Development

Location: Cache River Visitors Center, Cypress

Date: November 6, 2021 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

During this workshop, you will discover how trees provide important habitats for many wildlife species. They will discuss common trees in the area and how they provide benefits to specific animals. You will learn how you can use trees on your school grounds to help you study wildlife with your students. This session is targeted to teachers of Pre-K-grade 4, however, educators of other grade levels are welcome to attend.

Correlations to relevant Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and Illinois Early Learning and Development Standards will be provided and discussed. Professional Development Credit is available. Sponsored by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, this workshop is part of the ENTICE (Environment and Nature Training Institute for Conservation Education) program. | [Register for this Workshop](#) |

## Classroom Resources

### Beginning of the Year Relationship Building Toolkit

Designed for educators and school, district leaders, this tool gives insight into building intentional, thoughtful relationships at the beginning of the year to ensure that students have what they need for success. Whether students are entering school for the first time, transitioning to a new grade, or navigating distance learning during a pandemic.

Click [HERE](#) for more info!

### Back-to-School Resources

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources' Division of Education offers numerous resources that support teaching about the state's natural heritage. Professional development workshops, lessons, publications, grants, video podcasts and trunks and packs for loan are just some of the options. [Visit https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/education/Pages/default.aspx](https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/education/Pages/default.aspx) to find the details. Looking for resources to support a specific topic? Start with the "A to Z" button.



### Illinois Department of Natural Resources Historic Sites Field Trip Grants

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources' Division of Education offers grants to support taking students of grades prekindergarten through 12 on field trips to visit select Illinois state historic sites. Applications are being accepted now. Visit <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/education/Pages/GrantsIHSTFG.aspx> to access the application form and instructions. The application deadline for the 2021-2022 school-year grants is September 30, 2021. Funding is provided through donations.

# 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*



**WE'VE**  
*Moved!*

The Williamson County  
Regional Office of  
Education #21  
is now located at  
**502 West Jackson Street**  
(Corner of Jackson and Holland)  
**Marion IL, 62959**  
**P: 998-1283 F: 998-9226**



## Educator Licensure

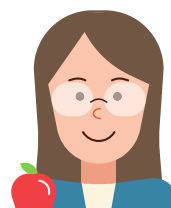
### Licensure Registration

In order to be valid for employment all educator licenses must be registered in ELIS. The fee is \$10 per year per license. Additional regions may be added at no cost.

When do you register your license?

1. When your license is first issued - your license is not valid until it is registered.
2. When you complete your renewal cycle and enter your professional development. This will occur every 5 years for most licenses. Make sure you are aware of your validity period as it is the license holder's responsibility to maintain their license properly.

If you are a teacher or a substitute teacher in Franklin, Johnson, Massac or Williamson County, please ensure that your license is registered in the Regional Office of Education #21.



## Community Resources

### Kick-Off Time! Community Prevention Resources Kicks-off 3 Returning Communication Campaigns to Help Prevent Substance Use in Local Communities.

These communication campaigns include two locally-designed campaigns addressing the risks of drinking alcohol underage (Use Your Cube and the Elephant Is In The Room), and one state-designed campaign addressing the risks of vaping (I Don't Vape). The overall intent of these campaigns is to help empower healthy behavior by educating students and parents on the risks of these substances and their effects, using available data and connecting it in ways that are relatable.

### Use Your Cube: A Communication Campaign Designed to Help Students Stay Alcohol-Free - Returning to a Middle School Near You!

Use Your Melon, Use Your Head, Use Your Tube... These are just a few of the branding ideas that we are highlighting to kick off the new school year. Use Your Cube has been around to teach middle school students about the risks of underage drinking for a long time. We thought it might be a good time to review the outtakes of the original branding.

This may sound silly, because it is. Tuning in to what might make a student laugh or make them feel seen is how Use Your Cube gets their attention. Students are savvy so it can be a challenge to keep up with them, but it's worth it! We want students to be prepared to counter misinformation and navigate tricky situations.

In the "Illinois Youth Survey: Youth Alcohol Use in Illinois," data shows that underage alcohol use is primarily socially motivated, and that most teens overestimate the number of their classmates who are using alcohol. <sup>1</sup> In the Use Your Cube campaign, accurate social perceptions and social consequences are some of the main factors we focus on. Students need to have real data that they can understand and use.

For more ways to use your cube, visit [www.useyourcube.com](http://www.useyourcube.com).

1. Youth Alcohol Use in Illinois\_030321.pdf. Center for Prevention Research and Development. Retrieved from: [https://iys.cprd.illinois.edu/results/white\\_papers\\_infographics](https://iys.cprd.illinois.edu/results/white_papers_infographics)

## Upcoming Professional Development & Events

**September 8, 2021**

Advanced Uses of Google Classroom  
(Virtual)

**September 9, 2021**

Gerry Brooks Evening Session  
(In Person)

**September 10, 2021**

Stewards of Children  
(In Person)

**September 17, 2021**

Instructional Coaching Cohort #4  
(Hybrid)

**September 20, 2021**

Stressed Brains Can't Learn  
(Virtual)

**September 24, 2021**

LTC Google Cohort Day 1  
(Virtual)

**September 29, 2021**

Short-term Substitute Training  
(In Person)

**September 30, 2021**

Principal Roundtable Luncheon  
(In Person)

## Upcoming Bus Driver Trainings

*(All events must be held in person)*

**October 2, 2021** Initial Bus Driver Training ROE #21  
Metropolis, IL

**September 7, 2021** Refresher  
Central Jr. High West  
Frankfort, IL



Please visit [www.roe21.org](http://www.roe21.org) for additional information

## The Elephant is in the Room: A Communication Campaign Designed to Help Parents Keep Their Kids Alcohol-Free - Kicking off a new school-year near you!

SET YOUR KIDS UP FOR SUCCESS IN AND OUT OF THE CLASSROOM.

Youth alcohol use remains a problem. According to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism in "Parenting to Prevent Childhood Alcohol Use," the percentage of teenagers who drink alcohol is slowly declining; however, numbers are still high. 25.6% of adolescents report drinking by 8th grade, and about 41.7% report being drunk at least once by 12th grade.<sup>1</sup>

So what can we do?

We can work together and help support kids' overall health and wellness by being informed and talking with kids about the risks of underage drinking. The more conversations we have with our youth the better decisions they will make.

Community Prevention Resources and The Elephant is in the Room want to help out by keeping these positive conversations between parents with their kids going.

For more ways on how to talk to your kids about the risk of underage drinking, visit [theelephantintheroom.com](http://theelephantintheroom.com).

1. Parenting to Prevent Childhood Alcohol Use. National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.  
<https://www.niaaa.nih.gov/publications/brochures-and-fact-sheets/parenting-prevent-childhood-alcohol-use>

## I Don't Vape: A Communication Campaign Dedicated to Helping Eldorado High School Students Understand the Risks of the Vaping Epidemic - Is Coming Back for a New School Year!

It's no secret that teen cigarette smoking has been declining significantly for years, but according to "E-Cigarette Use Among Illinois Teens 2018," e-cigarette use is on the rise at rates that surpass past teen cigarette use when teen rates were high. This increase is staggering, and puts teens at risk for addiction and other health consequences. 40% of 10th and 12th grade students surveyed said that there was low or no risk of harming themselves if they use e-cigarettes, which is a clear indication that more education is needed.<sup>1</sup>

Eldorado High School and Community Prevention Resources will continue to educate students on the risks and empower their healthy futures!

1. E-Cigarette Use Among Illinois Teens 2018.pdf. Illinois Youth Survey.  
[https://iys.cprd.illinois.edu/results/white\\_papers\\_infographics](https://iys.cprd.illinois.edu/results/white_papers_infographics)

## It's Time to Register for the Illinois Youth Survey!

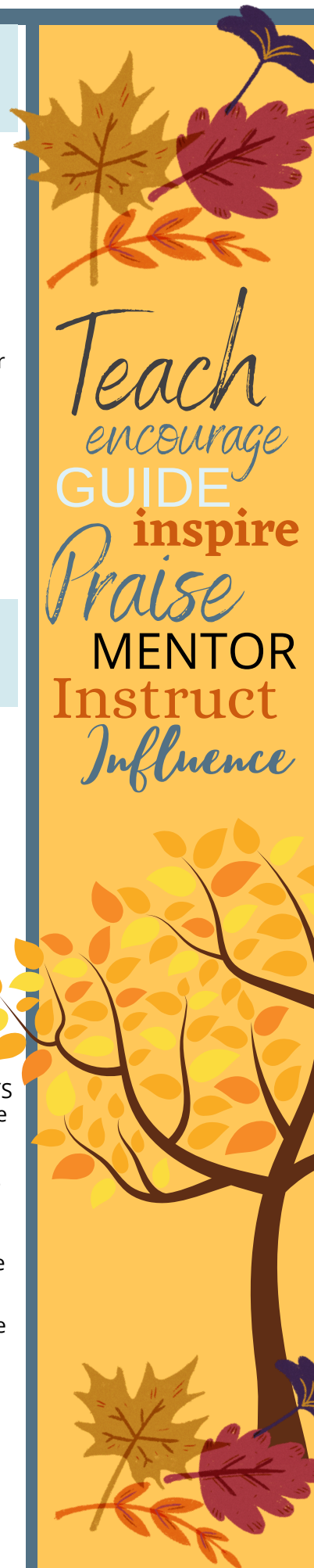
Please take a moment now to [register your school](https://iys.cprd.illinois.edu/register) for the 2022 Illinois Youth Survey (IYS). The IYS has been used since 1993 to survey the health and social indicators of Illinois youth. You can use the individualized reports to assess your school's needs, track progress towards physical, social and mental health goals, and evaluate student support services. You can identify current issues to target, and compare trend data. This 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.

Visit <https://iys.cprd.illinois.edu/register> for more information. If you have any questions, please reach out to Kate West or Samantha Lampley with Community Prevention Resources at the Williamson County ROE #21 Office or at [cpr@roe21.org](mailto:cpr@roe21.org).

For more information on these programs, visit [www.whoiscpr.com](http://www.whoiscpr.com).



# Classroom Resources

## Teacher Grants & Free Resources for Classroom Enrichment

We all know teachers' budgets can be tight and many educators spend their own money. According to a recent survey conducted by [AdoptAClassroom.org](https://www.adoptaclassroom.org), teachers spent an average of \$750 out of pocket on school supplies during the 2020–21 school year, and 30 percent of teachers spent \$1,000 or more.

To help alleviate some of these budget strains and ensure that you and your students have what you need to make this school year a success, we've compiled a list of organizations that offer teacher grants and free classroom resources.

### Classroom Enrichment Grants

[NEA Foundation Student Success Grants](#): Applications due by October 15, 2021. This grant is offered at two levels of funding—either \$2,000 or \$5,000.

[National Council of Teachers of Mathematics \(NCTM\)](#): Applications due by November 1, 2021. Funding ranges from \$1,500 to \$24,000.

[Walmart Community Grant Program](#): Applications due by December 31, 2021. Walmart awards annual grants ranging from \$250 to \$5,000.

[Toshiba America Foundation Grants for Grades K–5](#): Applications Due: October 1, 2021. Educators with innovative teaching ideas, specifically project-based learning proposals, can be awarded up to \$1,000 through this grant.

[Toshiba America Foundation Grants for Grades 6–12](#): Application due dates vary. Grants are available to help bring their best new teaching ideas to life.

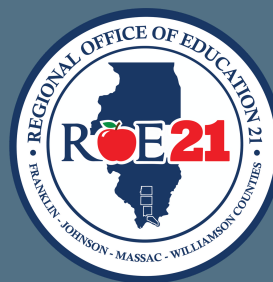
### Classroom Donations

[Half Price Books \(HPB\) Million Book Donation Project](#): Applications accepted year-round. On a mission to donate one million books, Half Price Books is donating books to nonprofit organizations, classrooms, and school libraries that focus on literacy, the environment, or education.

### Classroom Fundraising

[Adopt A Classroom.org](https://www.adoptaclassroom.org) Register your class at any time. Seeking to advance equity in education, one classroom at a time, [AdoptAClassroom.org](https://www.adoptaclassroom.org) offers educators a free, flexible, and easy-to-use fundraising platform.

[PledgeCents](#): Fundraising pages can be created at any time. Knowing that all students matter and that every cent counts when it comes to improving their education, PledgeCents provides a free crowdfunding platform for anyone looking to raise funds for any pre-K–12 educational need.



**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

**SORRY! WE'RE  
CLOSED**

Please note all  
ROE #21 offices  
will be **CLOSED** on  
September 6, 2021  
to observe Labor Day