



REGIONAL OFFICE of EDUCATION

Bi-County Brief
Monroe & Randolph Counties

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Wishing you a Beautiful Holiday Season
and A New Year of Peace and Happiness



RIGHT TRACK IS NOT DE-RAILED

Monroe and Randolph counties' Right Track Truancy Program will continue, despite the loss of state funding. Through efforts of most bi-county school districts and local fundraising, this successful truancy prevention/intervention program will operate during the 2013-2014 school year in all schools.

TIME TO CHECK YOUR LICENSURE IN ELIS

Although the new online Educator Licensure Information System (ELIS) is still experiencing some known issues, we are now asking everyone to create an account in ELIS and check your personal/professional information. Unless you are one of the individuals highlighted below, no other action is needed at this time. Lapsed Certificate: If your license was due to renew July 1, 2013, you need to renew immediately as your license is inactive and will lapse on January 1, resulting in a penalty of \$500 plus registration fees. Because construction work at our Waterloo office begins December 19, we will have limited ability to assist educators at our Chester office. For immediate assistance with ELIS, renewals should be completed well in advance of December 18. Paraprofessionals: Each paraprofessional will need to register his/her new license (no fees for those converted to license on July 1, 2013) before December 18 to avoid a lapsed license and penalty fine from ISBE. Educators Renewing 2014: Educators may renew now if your license registration expires in 2014, but we highly recommend waiting, unless you are an administrator. Administrators: SB 578, which was passed by Illinois' General Assembly and changes renewal requirements, is retroactive for administrators only. All administrators must now complete an Administrator Academy and CPDUs during the FY14 school year. The bill has not been signed by the governor, so any administrator due for renewal in 2014 may renew now without the Administrator Academy. Former Initial Certificate Holders: If you held an initial certificate that was converted to a license on July 1, 2013, your license was extended to 2018 and you may have additional registration fees to pay for the years added onto your license. These years were added to provide you with a full five-year cycle on your license.

Our office will be scheduling field training on the use of ELIS beginning in February 2014, as we hope this will provide ISBE ample time to complete/repair ELIS. You may log in to ELIS at www.isbe.net and select the ELIS link at the top of the page. If you need any assistance with your licensure, please visit our Web site www.roe45.org/licensure or contact Darcy Fausz at our office at 939-5650.

HOLIDAY MAINTENANCE WORK AT WATERLOO ROE OFFICE

During a normally slow time of the year, Monroe County is conducting maintenance work at the Waterloo Regional Office of Education that will prevent the Waterloo staff from conducting business from December 18, 2013 to January 6, 2014. The Chester office will remain open during its regular operating times of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday but will be closed for the Christmas holiday December 24 and 25 and the New Year's holiday December 31 and January 1. All phone calls to the Waterloo office will be forwarded to the Chester office during this time.

LEGAL PUBLICATION NOTICE

Notice is hereby given of the publication of the Institute Fund revenue and disbursements for Monroe and Randolph counties as required by Public Act 84-120 on or before January 1st. A detailed list of all receipts and expenditures is available for public inspection at the Regional Superintendent's Office, 107 East Mill Street, Waterloo, IL 62298.

Annual Institute Fund Report
July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Rows include Balance on hand July 1, 2012, Balance on hand June 30, 2013, REVENUE (Fees, Interest, TOTAL), DISBURSEMENTS (Personnel, Supplies, Copying, Presenters, TOTAL), and TOTAL REVENUE (\$ 12,174.94).

## PROFESSIONAL LEARNING CORNER

### TEACHER TREATS

#### Math Manipulatives

**K-5 math teachers**, share your strategies with manipulatives. Come to Evansville Attendance Center on December 10, 2013 from 4–6 pm and network with other teachers. Julie Tiemann will host an informal gathering where you can discuss what you are doing with math standards in your classroom.

#### Next Gen Science

**High school science teachers**, share your ideas and challenges in implementing the Next Gen Science Standards. Terry Meyer and fellow teachers will host on December 11, 2013 at Red Bud High School from 4–6 pm.

**Sessions are free**, but you must register at [www.educationregistration.org](http://www.educationregistration.org); click on ROE45. Finally, if you are interested in hosting a Teacher Treat session in the future and have a topic on which you would like to focus, contact Rosie Gardner at [rgardner@roe45.org](mailto:rgardner@roe45.org) with your name, a date you have cleared with your administrator(s) and a topic for discussion.

### UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

#### Teach Students to Ask Questions

Teaching students to ask questions is essential to developing the thinking and writing skills of argument. Try this: find a Kelly Gallagher article; then model on your SMART Board or with an Elmo how he constructs his hypothesis and then develops an argument to support his position. Learn more techniques at *Beyond Narrative: Writing for the Common Core* on January 15 (all day) or January 28 and 30 (evening sessions). Registration is at [www.educationregistration.org](http://www.educationregistration.org); click on ROE. Cost is \$65, but there is a discount if you register more than a week before the workshop. Flyers can be found on the Web site. This would be an educational workshop for social studies and science teachers as well.

#### Engage Students in Informational Materials

Have you ever had your students annotate text? This involves the student's making a code for what's new, interesting, confusing. It's a way to direct thinking and preparation for the next day's discussion. This is just one useful strategy, so don't miss a repeat of October's *Informational Reading Strategies* workshop on January 23 from 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. at SWIC, Rm. 123. This workshop aims more at content teachers than English/reading teachers and will give participants many ways to help their students understand the text that's been assigned.

### **FREE MEMBERSHIPS OFFERED AS AN AEROSPACE EDUCATION MEMBER OF CIVIL AIR PATROL**

The Air Force Association (AFA) and Civil Air Patrol (CAP) have collaborated so that teachers and administrators can now become Aerospace Education Members (AEM) of CAP at no cost. CAP, a non-profit corporation and the official auxiliary of the United States Air Force, has a congressional mission to develop the country's youth and to educate its citizens on the importance of air, space and cyberspace power. A teacher who is a CAP AEM enjoys many free aerospace educational opportunities, ranging from receiving lesson plans to participating in a teacher orientation flight aboard a Cessna aircraft. They can also receive one of five free STEM Kits, such as Astronomy, Robotics or Rocketry, by going to the Web site [http://www.capmembers.com/aerospace\\_education/general/cap-stem-kits-for-selection/](http://www.capmembers.com/aerospace_education/general/cap-stem-kits-for-selection/) and twice per year have access to AFA's CAP grants to educator members (\$250.00 per mini-grant). Find out about these at [http://members.gocivilairpatrol.com/aerospace\\_education/aem\\_specific/educator-grants-and-scholarship-information/](http://members.gocivilairpatrol.com/aerospace_education/aem_specific/educator-grants-and-scholarship-information/). For information on becoming a CAP Aerospace Education Member contact Rickey Oeth, [cc@ilwg.cap.gov](mailto:cc@ilwg.cap.gov).

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec. 10, 2013	Teacher Treats-K-5 math teachers	Evansville Attendance	4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Dec. 11, 2013	Teacher Treats-High school science teachers	Red Bud High School	4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Jan. 7, 2014	Exploring Diff. Strategies in the Classroom	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Jan. 9, 2014	Exploring Diff. Strategies in the Classroom	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Jan. 15, 2014	Beyond Narrative: Writing for the Common Core	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	8:30 am – 3:30 pm
Jan. 17, 2014	Advisory Board	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	Noon – 3:00 pm
Jan. 23, 2014	Informational Reading Strategies	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	8:30 am – 3:30 pm
Jan. 24, 2014	Superintendents' Council	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Jan. 28, 2014	Beyond Narrative: Writing for the Common Core	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Jan. 30, 2014	Beyond Narrative: Writing for the Common Core	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Jan. 30, 2014	Principals' Meeting	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	8:30 am – 11:00 am

**THE MONROE-RANDOLPH ROE IS HERE TO SERVE YOU. CONTACT THE WATERLOO OFFICE AT 618-939-5650  
OR THE CHESTER OFFICE AT 618-826-5471.**