



REGIONAL OFFICE of EDUCATION

## *Bi-County Brief*

*Monroe & Randolph Counties*

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### **SPRING TIME IN ILLINOIS**

Spring time in Illinois brings change: changing clocks, allergy medicines, standardized testing schedules and-- plans for dealing with restlessness as days grow warmer. Educators also witness a tremendous amount of change stemming from Springfield: debates on state budgets, proposed law changes and agency rules that often require a significant amount of attention. The average person is unable to keep up with all the changes and proposals that spring brings, so we have others who inform us of possible changes and ask us to act by contacting our legislators. Everyone needs to be aware of the resources available to us for knowing more about proposed legislation, current statutes and administrative rules from the Illinois State Board of Education.

When someone references a Senate or House Bill upon which you need to act, you can read the bill, actions taken, amendments and a synopsis of the bill on the Illinois General Assembly website at [www.ilga.gov](http://www.ilga.gov). At this site you can track bills and search for other bills, public acts and statutes that guide us. You can also find the contact information of your legislators, Senator Luechtefeld and Representative Costello. You should also be familiar with the Illinois State Board of Education rules page at [www.isbe.net/rules](http://www.isbe.net/rules). Here you can see the rules in effect and those that are being proposed. Did you know that you can comment on proposed rules with a simple email to [rules@isbe.net](mailto:rules@isbe.net) and ISBE must respond at the board meeting to your comment? So next time someone references a proposed bill or a law, make sure to find out the name of the bill or the law and educate yourself on the particulars. No one knows all the laws, but it's important to be as informed as you can be.

### **OKAW REGIONAL VOCATIONAL SYSTEM KEEPS BUSY**

Have you heard of the Okaw Regional Vocational System but aren't quite sure what it is or does? It is a K-12 educational cooperative directed by Dian Albert from the ROE's Chester office. It provides leadership, support and technical assistance to the career and technical education programs in the bi-county districts and others. Dian and her staff oversee the responsible use of grant funds, promote curriculum and program development, provide professional development opportunities for educators and assist special population students with preparation for employment, continuing education and productive citizenship. Each year Okaw sponsors the Eighth Grade Career Day, Construction Expo and Platinum Chef, and they are excited about launching the Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities (CEO) program in Randolph County this fall.

### **ADULT LITERACY PROGRAM IN SPOTLIGHT**

Illinois State Library newsletter readers were pleased to see the Literacy Spotlight feature our own ROE Adult Literacy Program and specifically the accomplishments of tutor Carol Harrison and tutee Ming Xu Hu of Chester. Ming enrolled in the ROE's English as a Second Language courses to improve her English and more effectively run her Asian Garden restaurant. With Carol's help she has been able to find a new apartment, buy a vehicle, apply for health insurance and enroll her sons in school. As the *Brief* goes to press Ming is also taking the United States citizenship exam. Any adult who is reading and/or doing math below the ninth grade level and who wants help to improve comprehension should contact the Chester office at 618-826-5471. You will be paired with a volunteer tutor who will meet with you weekly to help with language arts and/or math skills.

### **REGIONAL ART STUDENTS "LET GO"**

Over 80 regional high school students competed and attended workshops at Art du Jour at SWIC last month. With the theme "Let Go" the day proved exciting and educational as participants entered artwork in various categories and chose two breakout sessions to attend. Congratulations to Delaney Halt, Waterloo for her winning t-shirt design; Kelly Fletcher, Gibault for Best of Show; Morgan Wiegand, Gibault for People's Choice; Rebecca Van Buren, Gibault for Best T-Shirt Entry and those who placed in the various categories: *Pen & Ink*-1) MaKenzie Wright, 2) Jacob Geringer, 3) Joe Daab, all from Waterloo; *Colored Drawing*-1) Kathleen Howland, Waterloo, 2) Cameron Hopper, Chester, 3) Katie Albert, Waterloo; *Landscape Painting*-1) Fei Yang, Gibault, 2) Morgan Wiegand, Gibault; *Miscellaneous Painting*-1) Madeline O'Neill, Gibault, 2) Lauren Schmidt, Gibault, 3) Amy Zhao, Waterloo; *Drawing*-1) Elizabeth Prosis, Waterloo, 2) Cora Trask, Red Bud, 3) Paige Stumpf, Waterloo; *Portrait Painting*-1) Hannah O'Neill, 2) Rachel Kuerz, 3) Laura Kimlinger, 4) Abby Hasenstab, all from Gibault; *Sculpture*-1) McKayla McBeth, Chester, 2) Tyler Knop, Chester; *Photography*-1) Gabby McMillan, Sparta, 2) Emily Thompson, Sparta and *Mixed Media*-1) Abby Becker, Red Bud, 2) Chloe Thornberry, Red Bud. Way to Let Go!

### **TRANSITION FAIR FAST APPROACHING**

Perandoe is sponsoring the Tenth Annual Transition Fair from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 25 at SWIC, Red Bud Campus. Over 40 agencies/organizations will be there to provide information regarding the services that are available to special education students and their families. Infinitec will also have two hands-on trainings that will help students manipulate Google Chrome extensions and applications. Anyone with questions should contact Crystal Deterding at 282-6251, extension 107.

## PROFESSIONAL LEARNING CORNER

### UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

#### Assessment and Intervention for Problematic Absenteeism, April 16 & 17, 2015

Learn to understand school refusal behavior by hearing Dr. Christopher Kearney, distinguished author and professor, share his research-based expertise on problematic absenteeism Thursday, April 16 (open enrollment) or Friday, April 17 (free for IAASE state-approved directors and RTTP Check and Connect mentors/limited open enrollment). Receive 6 PDHs at this workshop from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at the World Shooting Complex, Sparta, IL. Cost of \$90 includes lunch.

#### The Student Learning Objective Process, April 21, 2015, Foundational Services

Teachers and administrators, this training by Rosie Gardner and Deb Greaney from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at SWIC, Red Bud, Room 123 will provide basic information about the Student Learning Objective (SLO) process. Don't miss it!

#### Building Trusting Relationships with At-Risk Students, April 17, 2015

Dr. Don Parker, with experience teaching in Chicago inner-city high schools, will give you strategies to build meaningful relationships with at-risk students. Free for TAOEP and RSSP personnel, \$25 for all other registrants and sponsored by ROE #26, this workshop at the World Shooting Complex, Sparta, IL from 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. includes group work and hands-on activities. The registration form is available at [www.roe45.net](http://www.roe45.net), Professional Development/Workshops & Events.

#### Unit Evaluation and Modification for ELA Common Core Shifts Using the EQuIP Rubric, June 4, 9, 16 & 23, 2015, Foundational Services

- "I especially liked the video . . ."
- "Please offer again and stress the importance for all subject areas."
- "PLEASE do the EQuIP Rubric session AGAIN this summer and save me a seat!"

Someone who wants to take a workshop again? Right, because this workshop from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. 4 days at SWIC, Red Bud, Room 114 clarifies the shifts in instruction that are part of the ELA Common Core. Each participant brings one unit of study that he/she currently teaches. By the end of the 4 days, he/she is able to self-assess the unit with the rubric and identify instructional gaps that exist . . . and it's free!

#### Aligning Local Assessments to the PARCC Evidence Tables, June 11, 2015, Foundational Services

Join Deb Greaney and Rosie Gardner to learn what assessment tasks are appropriate, how those tasks align with the new ILS and how to use data from those tasks in your classroom. Learn together from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 at SWIC, Room 123.

#### Designing Quality PERA Aligned Assessments Investigating Types I, II, & III, June 15, 2015

Led by Linda Brissenden, Professional Development Consultant, and Jennifer Garrison, Sandoval District Superintendent, this high quality workshop will help teachers and administrators understand the role of assessment in the classroom. Plan now to be at the World Shooting Complex, Sparta, IL from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. June 15. Area V educators can save \$10 by entering the code *ROE15* when they register at [www.educationregistration.org/area-v-trail](http://www.educationregistration.org/area-v-trail).

\* **Register for all ROE workshops at [www.educationregistration.org/roe45](http://www.educationregistration.org/roe45) by one week prior to the event.**

\* There is no charge for *Foundational Services* workshops. \*

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 6, 2015	Agencies Networking Meeting	Perandoe, Red Bud	9:00 am
March 10, 2015	CCSI/OKAW Board of Control	SWIC Room 123, Red Bud	9:00 am - 11:00 am
March 14, 2015	Young Authors' Conference	Gardner Elementary, Waterloo	8:00 am - 1:00 pm
March 20, 2015	Superintendents' Council Meeting	Perandoe, Red Bud	9:00 am - 1:00 pm
March 25, 2015	Perandoe Tenth Annual Transition Fair	SWIC	9:00 am - 2:00 pm
March 26, 2015	Principals' Meeting	SWIC Room 123, Red Bud	8:30 am - 11:30 am
April 14, 2015	CCSI/OKAW Board of Control	SWIC Room 123, Red Bud	9:00 am - 11:00 am
April 16, 2015	Spelling Bee	St. Mark's Lutheran, Steeleville	5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
April 16, 2015	Problematic Absenteeism-Chris Kearney	World Shooting-Sparta	8:30 am - 3:30 pm
April 17, 2015	Problematic Absenteeism-Chris Kearney	World Shooting-Sparta	8:30 am - 3:30 pm
April 20, 2015	Art Festival	SS. Peter & Paul, Waterloo	5:00 pm - 7:30 pm
April 21, 2015	Student Learning Objective Process	SWIC Room 123, Red Bud	8:30 am - 3:30 pm
April 23, 2015	Principals' Meeting	SWIC Room 123, Red Bud	8:30 am - 11:30 am
April 27, 2015	Building Trusting Relationships with At-Risk Students	World Shooting-Sparta	9:30 am - 3:30 pm
April 29, 2015	RtI Networking Meeting	SWIC Room 123, Red Bud	9:00 am - 12:00 pm

**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.**