



REGIONAL OFFICE *of* EDUCATION

Bi-County Brief

Monroe & Randolph Counties

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CERTIFICATION TO LICENSURE CRITICAL UPDATES

Substitute certificate holders whose certificate will expire at the end of June 2013 will need to apply for the Substitute License and pay applicable registrations fees {NEW}. Substitute certificate holders whose certificates expire as of June 2014 and beyond will have the certificate/license registration period automatically extended to June 2018, but will need to pay the registration fees before school begins.

Paraprofessionals with the No Child Left Behind Approval (TAS-N) will automatically be issued an Educator License with Stipulations–Paraprofessional. This license will need to be registered before school begins.

Teachers who have expiring certificates at the end of June 2013 will need to submit activities and a Statement of Assurance prior to June 1 to assure that approval is received prior to July 1. Otherwise, a paper Statement of Assurance will need to be completed as ECS will be replaced by the Educator License Information System (ELIS). The new system will not electronically track professional development entered by the educator.

Any educator applying for an Illinois teaching certificate who applies after July 1, 2013 will have additional requirements. Anyone wanting to make application should do so before June 30, 2013. Please refer to our website for more details.

AUGUST 8 WILL BE LICENSURE SUPPORT DAY

Our office will continue to provide the best possible service during this time of transition. As you may know, the requirements from ISBE have been changing on a regular basis, and we appreciate everyone's patience. As the ELIS has not been completed, we do not have explicit directions available for you. Therefore, we are providing a Licensure Support Day for area educators on August 8, 2013 at Southwestern Illinois College–Red Bud. We will be dividing the morning sessions by licensure type so that we are able to work exclusively with paraprofessionals, substitutes and teachers/administrators. In the afternoon we will present the new professional development requirements outlined in HB492. To download a flyer and to register online for one or more sessions, please visit www.roe45.net, select our *Calendar of Events* and view the details of August 8 to acquire the flyer and link to register.

NEXT GENERATION SCIENCE STANDARDS ARE RELEASED!

Next Generation Science Standards have been released and can be viewed at www.nextgenscience.org/next-generation-science-standards. As a first step, teachers should take the time to skim the documents and supporting materials and note the general make-up of the new standards. As with the other Common Core State Standards, the science standards emphasize higher-order thinking skills and student engagement. The new standards represent a threaded approach to teaching and learning science by integrating core ideas, scientific practices and cross-cutting concepts. The ROE looks forward to providing professional development opportunities for area teachers this summer (See next article.) and next fall as you begin to become familiar with and implement the new standards.

FIRST NEXT GENERATION WORKSHOP PLANNED FOR AUGUST

A Next Generation Science Standards workshop has been planned for Wednesday, August 7, 2013, location and times to be announced soon. Since this *Brief* arrives shortly before the end of school, we urge you to check often the *Workshops and Events* section of our www.roe45.org website.

SUMMER WORKSHOP SCHEDULE IS ON WEBSITE

With so many workshops being offered over the summer, there's an easy way to find the one(s) you need. Visit www.roe45.org. Go to *Calendars*, then *Workshops and Events* for registration instructions and more information. Then, if you click on any event and *More Details*, you can download that event's flyer. Look also for the *ROE 45 Summer Workshop Schedule* that was distributed the week of May 13–17 to all schools for all administrators and teachers.

SEVENTH ANNUAL SOUTHWEST EDUCATOR OPEN APPROACHES

Administrators, teachers, board members and school staff should get to the driving range to practice for the Southwest Educator Open Scramble Golf Tournament on Friday, May 31, 2013 at Chester Country Club in Chester. A \$40 entry fee covers greens fees, cart, beverages and lunch and will be collected at the event; checks should be made payable to the Chester Country Club. Registration forms are available from the ROE and on our website under *Workshops and Events*.

PARCC BLUEPRINTS AND TEST SPECIFICATIONS RELEASED

The Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) recently released assessment blueprints and test specifications for both the English language arts/literacy and mathematics assessments set to debut in 2014–15. These blueprints and test specifications will help educators better prepare students for the new online assessments that are aligned to the more rigorous Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and designed to measure college and career readiness. For more information on the assessment blueprints and test specifications, including narrated overview PowerPoints and a FAQ document, visit <http://www.parcconline.org/assessment-blueprints-test-specs>.

SAFETY STARTS WITH ME

June is National Safety Month—with the 2013 theme *Safety Starts with Me*. Caution your students to keep themselves safe this summer and watch out for the safety of others. Heat-related illness can pose a risk when temperatures rise. Keep hydrated with beverages such as water and sports drinks and rest frequently in shaded areas when in the heat. Children should play with supervision on well-maintained playgrounds that have at least 12 inches of loose fill, such as wood chips, mulch, sand or pea gravel, around equipment. Ride bicycles in single file with traffic, not against it, and walk your bike across busy intersections. Always wear a helmet—one that is lightweight and comfortable with a stiff outer shell, an energy-absorbing liner and a chin strap. Protective equipment, such as closed, slip-resistant shoes, helmets and specially designed padding, and learning how to fall can reduce the number and severity of skateboard injuries. Swimmers should be reminded to always swim with a buddy, to not dive into unknown bodies of water and to not push or jump on others. High schoolers, remember drivers who use cell phones are four times more likely to be involved in a crash. Finally, be careful on the Fourth of July. The best way to enjoy the holiday is to watch a public fireworks display conducted by professionals. Otherwise light fireworks with adult supervision in an open area with a bucket of water nearby. The National Safety Council has *Safety and Health Fact Sheets* on many topics. Check out its website at www.nsc.org.

BI-COUNTY SPELLERS DO IT WRITE . . . RIGHT?

At least a dozen students in our region do not need spell-check. That's because they placed first, second or third in their respective grades at the Monroe-Randolph Regional Office of Education Spelling Bee at Coulterville last month. Sixteen schools participated in the annual spring event hosted this year by Coulterville Principal Patti Berry, her teachers and staff. We extend our *Congratulations!* to all who participated and to our winners: Fifth grade—1st Hannah Sochowski, Trinity Lutheran; 2nd Emma Durbin, Prairie du Rocher; 3rd Josh Eichholz, Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic, Waterloo. Sixth grade—1st Shea Petrowski, St. John's Lutheran, Chester; 2nd Lucas Herman, Immaculate Conception, Columbia; 3rd Jenny Yang, Sparta Lincoln. Seventh grade—1st Sara Stehlik, Columbia Middle; 2nd Nick Heffernan, St. Mary's, Chester; 3rd Joshua Laufer, Trinity Lutheran. Eighth grade—1st Justin Stehl, Chester Grade; 2nd Gavin Sohnrey, Sparta Lincoln; 3rd Shane Douglas, Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic, Waterloo.

STRIP IT DOWN; PUMP IT UP AGAIN THIS SUMMER

One of this summer's continuing education offerings is a repeat of the three *Strip It Down, Pump It Up* workshops: mathematics—K–5 on June 5 and Grades 6–12 on June 6; English language arts—K–5 on June 26 and Grades 6–12 on June 27 and science, social studies and technical subjects—K–5 on July 9 and Grades 6–12 on July 11. All workshops will be from 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. at these various locations: June 5—SWIC–Red Bud, Room 123; June 6—Red Bud Regional Hospital, June 26 and 27—SWIC–Red Bud, Room 123 and July 9 and 11—Monroe County Annex. Registration forms are available on the ROE website, and the \$55 registration fee includes lunch. All participants will leave with one lesson that incorporates Common Core State Standards fully planned.

FIGHT SUMMER BRAIN DRAIN WITH WE GIVE BOOKS

If you have not yet joined We Give Books, the Regional Office highly recommends that you check out their website (www.wegivebooks.org). Books are at the heart of their program—books for reading and books for giving! Not only do they have over 150 books to read online for free, each book read online helps donate other books to children in need! We Give Books Read for My Summer is your chance to share books and celebrate literacy with young readers in your life all summer long. Designed for children through age 10, Read for My Summer highlights special books for you and your child to read online every week from the We Give Books library, along with fun interactive tools and activities to make each book come to life. This free program helps libraries, schools and parents offer children an exciting online reading experience, filled with classic children's favorites.

FOR ALL SUMMER WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS, CHECK THE WWW.ROE45.NET

[WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS CALENDAR](#)