



REGIONAL OFFICE *of* EDUCATION

Bi-County Brief

Monroe & Randolph Counties

KELTON DAVIS
REGIONAL SUPERINTENDENT
OF SCHOOLS

CHRIS DIDDLEBOCK
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT
OF SCHOOLS



Volume 4, Issue No. 3

November 2015

LET'S BE THANKFUL!

Thank you, **parents**, for helping with homework, getting children to school and a gazillion other activities. Thank you, **bus drivers and crossing guards**, for making sure our students are safe. Thank you, **custodians**, for keeping us proud. Thank you, **school secretaries**, for knowing everything and keeping it all straight. Thank you, **cooks and servers**, for keeping everyone healthily fed. Thank you, **school nurses**, for your loving care. Thank you, **counselors, social workers and support personnel**, for guiding us on life's journeys. Thank you, **teachers and paraprofessionals**, for pushing us to be better and pulling us when we need help. Thank you, **principals**, for being on the front line, sharing triumphs and tribulations. Thank you, **district leaders and administrative assistants**, for keeping us afloat and sailing together in the right direction. Thank you, **community leaders and citizens**, for supporting our schools through the good and the bad times. Thank you, **those who support all of us**—you know who you are—be it from near or from afar. But most of all, thank you, **children**; you challenge us and inspire us to give the best of ourselves.

TEACHER TREATS WILL BE BACK

As a result of administrator and teacher interest, the Regional Office of Education will once again offer "Teacher Treats," a series of roundtable discussions for teachers at various grade levels and subject areas. The purpose of the voluntary, *free* roundtables is to provide the opportunity for teachers to meet with others in like circumstances and to share what is working, what is not and ideas for implementing Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards into their instruction. Other topics—perhaps student engagement, use of assessments to guide learning, utilizing various levels of questioning and student discourse—are also acceptable. Each session will have a teacher facilitator and a general topic. Teachers should plan to bring ideas to share and activities for which they need input from colleagues.

If you are interested in serving as a facilitator or having the round table at your building, or if you have questions, please contact Marybeth McCormick at mmccormick@roe45.org.

ROE INTRODUCING TEACHER-TO-TEACHER OBSERVATIONS

Have you ever wanted to observe another teacher outside your district in order to hone your skills? Maybe you want to improve your use of higher-level questioning or you want to see a Common Core or NGSS classroom in action. Maybe you are simply looking for additional ways to engage your students.

The ROE is very excited to be making teacher-to-teacher observations a reality for our area schools! In order to make this a rewarding experience for all parties, however, the ROE has designed a suggested protocol for observing other teachers and established the following guidelines for sign-up:

- The teacher and his/her administrator should have a conversation about the best teaching practice(s) the teacher wants to observe.
- If the administrator feels like this might be an option for the teacher, he/she can contact our office at Waterloo.
- We will provide a teacher or teachers as options to observe.
- The school and the teacher to be observed will be contacted to make arrangements for the observations.
- We will send our suggested protocol to all parties involved.
- Administrators may require a reflection upon what their teacher is planning to implement in his/her classroom as a result of the observation.

DIRECTIONS MIDWEST EDUCATION CONFERENCE COMING IN 2016

Be a part of the most informative, fun and cost-effective summer conference you can find this close to home (in Collinsville, IL). Where else can you see Robert Marzano, Todd Whitaker, Rick Wormeli, Jim Burgett, Tom Schimmer, Grace Dearborn and many, many more? The 2-day conference for \$289 includes two keynote speakers and two breakout sessions per day, continental breakfast and box lunch and the opportunity to visit over 50 booths in the exhibit hall. Visit www.directionsconference.com for more exciting information.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING CORNER

Youth Mental Health First Aid, Tuesday, November 17, Monroe County Annex, 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

If you are a teacher, athletic coach, mentor, juvenile justice professional—anyone who regularly works or interacts with youth aged 12–18 who may be experiencing a mental health challenge or is in crisis—this public education program will be beneficial to you. Designed to teach participants the risk factors and warning signs of a variety of mental health challenges common among adolescents, the workshop will include a five-step action plan—assessing for risk of suicide or harm, listening nonjudgmentally, giving reassurance, encouraging appropriate professional help and encouraging self-help and other support strategies—to support an adolescent developing signs and symptoms of mental illness or in an emotional crisis. Register at www.educationregistration.org, cost is \$35, lunch is on your own, but snacks and drinks will be provided.

Teacher Evaluation: PERA Review and SLO Introduction, Friday, November 20, Chester High School, 2:00–3:10 p.m.

Karen Albers, superintendent of the Coulterville school district, will review PERA with you teachers and administrators and introduce you to the Student Learning Objective (SLO) process in this FREE workshop. Examples will be shared. Register at <http://tinyurl.com/ROE45FoundationalServices>.

An Introduction to the New Illinois Learning Standards for Science, Wednesday, December 2, SWIC-Red Bud, Room 123, 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Kindergarten–12th grade teachers, join Diane Chambers and Mary Ann Quivey in this FREE Foundational Services workshop that will provide you with information and tools to incorporate the Next Generation Science Standards in your classroom. These presenters will explain how the new Illinois Learning Standards for Science, and their inclusion of 3-dimensional learning, will transform science education by engaging students in meaningful, relevant and coherent investigation. Register at <http://tinyurl.com/ROE45FoundationalServices> and plan for lunch on your own.

Building Trusting Relationships with At-Risk Students, Wednesday, January 6, Monroe County Annex, 8:30–3:00

All adults who regularly interact with at-risk youth should attend Dr. Don Parker’s informative workshop. In addition to discussing the characteristics of at-risk students and the difficulties they face in building trusting relationships with adults in school settings, Dr. Parker will incorporate group work and hands-on activities to present strategies necessary to build meaningful relationships with at-risk students. The workshop is \$10 for open enrollment but free for TAOEP and Regional Safe School Program personnel, including 360 Team members. Register at www.educationregistration.org.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Nov. 13, 2015	Art du Jour	SWIC	8:00 am - 2:00 pm
Nov. 13, 2015	Teacher Evaluation: PERA Review & SLO Introduction	Chester Grade	2:00 pm - 3:10 pm
Nov. 17, 2015	Youth Mental Health First Aid	Waterloo Annex	8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Nov. 20, 2015	Teacher Evaluation: PERA Review & SLO Introduction	Chester High	2:00 pm - 3:10 pm
Nov. 26 & 27	<i>Happy Thanksgiving!</i>		
Dec. 1, 2015	Creating a Student-Centered Classroom (K-5) Day 2	SWIC-Room 123	8:30 am - 3:30 pm
Dec. 2, 2015	Illinois Learning Standards for Science	SWIC-Room 123	8:30 am - 3:30 pm
Dec. 3, 2015	ROE Advisory Board Meeting	SWIC-Room 123	Noon - 3:00 pm
Dec. 9, 2015	Math In Action (K-4) Day 2	SWIC-Room 123	8:30 am - 3:30 pm
Dec. 10, 2015	Math In Action (5-8) Day 2	SWIC-Room 123	8:30 am - 3:30 pm
Dec. 10, 2015	Regional Superintendent Education Update GoTo Meeting		3:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Jan. 6, 2016	Building Trusting Relationships with At-Risk Students	Waterloo Annex	8:30 am - 3:00 pm
Jan. 14, 2016	Regional Superintendent Education Update GoTo Meeting		3:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Feb. 8, 2016	Assessments In Action (K-8) Day 2	SWIC-Room 123	8:30 am - 3:30 pm
Feb. 19, 2016	Superintendents’ Meeting	SWIC Conf. Room	9:00 am - noon
Feb. 25, 2016	Principals’ Meeting	SWIC-Room 123	9:00 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.