



REGIONAL OFFICE *of* EDUCATION

## *Bi-County Brief*

*Monroe & Randolph Counties*

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### **GET READY TO KNOW, DO, BELIEVE**

Not only will you hear a highly motivating keynote speaker, get to choose two particularly interesting workshops, earn 4 PDHs, peruse informative booths and displays and compare notes with fellow educators; you'll get donuts if you arrive between 8:00 and 8:30 a.m. at Valmeyer School District, 300 South Cedar Bluff Drive, for the Bi-County Institute on October 10. Parking will be available at both St. Mary Catholic and St. John's UCC churches, where a shuttle will be waiting. By 8:30 you'll want to be in your seat in the high school gym for the beginning of *Know, Do, Believe*, which promises to be an Institute like no other. In fact, two changes this year, based on new professional development rules in Illinois, are sign-in sheets at each session and an online evaluation open from October 10–24 at [www.roe45.org/evaluation/institute2014](http://www.roe45.org/evaluation/institute2014). Make the most of this opportunity to hear master teacher and storyteller Dr. Dale Henry, to participate in two other educational workshops and perhaps to rehash what you just learned at a late lunch with fellow educators somewhere afterward.

### **MAIDEZ CENTER TAKES OFF**

Tax-deductible, charitable organization The Maidez Center, which serves the social, emotional and academic needs of at-risk youth and their families in the bi-county region, has gained momentum with the additions of the Monroe County Coalition for Drug-Free Communities, Supporting the Autism Reality (StAR) and Randolph County's Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities (CEO). Formed in 2012 to reduce truancy and identify potential dropouts, The Maidez Center soon recognized other related issues. Partnering with the Coalition, StAR and CEO has meant a boon for all groups involved, which benefit from strength in numbers. The ROE serves as the fiscal agent, the Coalition makes public presentations on drug issues and conducts research for local government policy makers, StAR offers training for parents and is developing a technology recycling program that will involve transitioning special education students and CEO, by encouraging local development of small businesses, benefits students and the businesses they form by creating jobs and keeping the best and the brightest in the area. While each entity has its own agenda, each also contributes to the good of the whole. We invite you to join their efforts by participating in the StAR-sponsored Super Hero 5K Run and Fun Run/Walk on Saturday, October 18, 2014 at 8:00 a.m. at Rogers Elementary, 200 N. Rogers Street, Waterloo. Get more information at [www.theautismreality.org](http://www.theautismreality.org).

### **WHAT A MARY YEAR!**

Red Bud Elementary School assistant principal Mary Ringering was recently honored as Southwest Region Assistant Principal of the Year, and Sparta High School science teacher Mary Wirth is in the running for the title of Illinois Teacher of the Year. Congratulations to both of these bi-county women! Ringering, who is in her 35<sup>th</sup> year at RBES, both as a physical education teacher and assistant principal, is now in the running for the state level Horace Mann/IPA Assistant Principal of the Year Award. Wirth, who is science department chair, a member of the School Improvement and Core Curriculum teams and sponsor of the SHS Student Council, Lifesavers and Science Club, will be honored at the Those Who Excel banquet in Normal later this month.

### **KEN PERKINS IS NEW HEALTH/LIFE SAFETY INSPECTOR**

Ken, as the ROE's new health/life safety inspector, will join the state fire marshal, district facilities manager, and principal of each building to inspect all classrooms and other school areas during an annual inspection. Just some of the things Ken and his team will be looking for are, Have school safety drills been conducted? Are crisis plans available? Are exits unobstructed? Have flammable/combustible liquids and chemicals been stored properly? Are fire alarm pull stations unobstructed? Is storage clearance acceptable? Could furnishings and decorations promote the spread of a fire and/or retard the evacuation of people? Are extension cords and multiple plug adapters used beyond temporary applications? Do all light fixtures have protective covers? Following is their visitation schedule: \*October 14–Steeleville, \*October 15–CCSI and Coulterville, \*October 23–Chester, \*October 28–Valmeyer, \*October 29–Red Bud, \*November 5–Columbia H.S. and Parkview, \*November 12–Columbia Middle and Eagleview, \*November 18–Sparta H.S. and Evansville, \*November 19–Sparta Lincoln, \*November 25–PEP, Red Brick and Trinity Lutheran, \*December 2–Waterloo H.S. and Jr. High, \*December 3–Zahnow, Rogers and Gardner. Ken looks forward to visiting your schools to make sure they are safe for our students and staff.

# PROFESSIONAL LEARNING CORNER

## UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

### Gifted Education Seminar, October 16 & 30, November 3 and December 11, 2014

- *Everyone in my school should take this!*

How often have you heard that about a workshop? This is just one comment made by a participant in an earlier offering. Designed to build knowledge and skills to teach the gifted, the seminar is also excellent for regular classroom teachers. It will help them identify gifted and talented learners, address their diverse needs and measure student growth. Classroom teachers, administrators, gifted coordinators/teachers, special education teachers and counselors can benefit. Also, this seminar will prepare anyone to take the Gifted Education Test required by February 15, 2015 for endorsement. Participants must attend all 4 sessions at the Monroe County Annex in Waterloo, but the \$225 fee includes 24 PDHs, 2 textbooks and a flash drive – worth the time and money.

### CC Shift 2: Engaging Students with Questions, October 22, 2014

- Three hours seemed like 30 minutes.
- One of the most useful workshops yet!

Comments like these from fellow educators should prompt you to seriously consider this workshop on Wednesday, October 22, 2014 from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at SWIC’s Red Bud campus, Room 123. The New Illinois Learning Standards, Next Generation Science Standards and the Danielson Framework all focus on student engagement, which requires effective questioning strategies. This workshop provides the skills/strategies teachers need.

### CC Shift 1: Close Reading and Text Complexity, November 6, 2014

- Ideas that will prompt students

K-12 teachers and principals, this is your opportunity to learn skills to develop students’ close reading abilities, to formulate and use text dependent questions and to determine text complexity. Join fellow educators on Thursday, November 6 from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at SWIC’s Red Bud campus, Room 152 to acquire invaluable skills and resources.

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

### 21st Annual Illinois Education & Technology (IETC) Conference, November 12-14, 2014

- *Using iPads in the Classroom: Teacher Tools to Student Tools*
- *Google Magic: Captivate, Motivate, and Educate your Students*
- *ChromeTech – Technical Deep Dive into all Things Chromebook*
- *Legal Implications of Use of Technology in a School District*
- *Becoming an iAdministrator to Strengthen your Leadership Management Skills*

Sound interesting? Choose one of these full-day, pre-Conference workshops on Wednesday. Then enjoy daily keynotes, 160+ concurrent sessions, featured presentations, poster sessions, exhibits, luncheons and the Thursday evening reception during the general conference days Thursday and Friday. Anyone interested in improving education and preparing students for success in today’s world should attend this conference. Register on the IETC website.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct. 14, 2014	CCSI/OKAW Board of Control	SWIC Room 123, Red Bud	9:00 am - 11:00 am
Oct. 16, 30, Nov. 13 & Dec. 11, 2014	Gifted Education Seminar	Monroe Co. Annex 901 Illinois Ave., Waterloo	8:30 am - 3:30 pm
Oct. 17, 2014	Networking for Randolph & Monroe Cnty.	Perandoe, Red Bud	9:00 am - 11:00 am
Oct. 22, 2014	CC Shift 2: Engaging Students with ?s	SWIC Room 123, Red Bud	8:30 am - 3:30 pm
Oct. 22, 2014	TRS Informational Meeting	Red Bud Elem. Cafeteria	4:30 pm
Oct. 23, 2014	Principals’ Meeting	SWIC Room 123, Red Bud	8:30 am - 11:30 am
Oct. 24, 2014	Deadline for Bi-County Instit. Evaluation		
Oct. 29, 2014	RtI Networking Meeting	SWIC Room 123, Red Bud	9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Nov. 6, 2014	CC Shift 1: Close Reading & Text Complx.	SWIC Room 152, Red Bud	8:30 am - 3:30 pm
Nov. 6, 2014	Superintendents’ Council Meeting	SWIC Conf. Room, Red Bud	9:00 am - 1:00 pm

## RETIRED TEACHERS’ MEETINGS

Monroe County:	Monday, October 20, 2014	Monroe County Annex	11:00 am
Randolph County:	Tuesday, October 14, 2014	Chester VFW, 939 State Street	noon

**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.**