



REGIONAL OFFICE of EDUCATION

Bi-County Brief

Monroe & Randolph Counties

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TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ROE OFFERINGS

One of the Regional Office's primary objectives is to provide continuing professional development for its bi-county educators. Presently there are two kinds of educational opportunities available. Foundational Services workshops, also known as Level One, are offered at no cost to the districts; cover areas of mathematics, science, ELA, writing, family engagement, balanced assessments and teacher evaluation. These may be scheduled on site within school districts but are being offered regionally as well. Level Two "In Action" workshops are planned as a three-meeting series over several months. Those already scheduled are Math In Action: *What Does a Common Core Classroom Look and Sound Like?* Classrooms In Action: *How Can I Create a Student-Centered Classroom?* Assessments In Action: *I Have Data, So What's Next?* Curriculum Planning In Action: *How Can I Use Backwards Design to Plan a Unit?* and next summer Science In Action: *What Does an NGSS Classroom Look and Sound Like?* Information about ROE workshops, including flyers, is available online at <http://www.roe45.net/calendars/workshop-events> and in the *Brief's Professional Learning Corner* (on the back).

MATH IN ACTION: WHAT DOES A COMMON CORE CLASSROOM LOOK AND SOUND LIKE?

Beginning November 9 for kindergarten through fourth-grade teachers, November 10 for fifth- through eighth-grade teachers and November 16 for high school teachers is the Math In Action series of 3 workshops *What Does a Common Core Classroom Look and Sound Like?* At workshops in November, December and March participants will attack these topics: *What Is Productive Struggle?—Exploring the Full Depth of your Grade Level Standards and the Mathematical Practices to Promote Productive Struggle*, *What Does a Quality Task Look Like?—Using a Rubric to Create and Evaluate Tasks* and *Using Math Discourse and Visual Learning to Enhance Student Engagement*. We strongly encourage you to take advantage of this useful professional development that will translate to your classroom. Register at www.educationregistration.org/roe45 by one week prior to the first meeting date; then show up in Room 123 of SWIC-Red Bud by 8:30 a.m. for an exciting day of learning.

HELP EVALUATION SYSTEMS UPDATE LICENSURE TESTS

If you or someone you know would be interested in being a content alignment reviewer of the Illinois Licensure Testing System this fall, please contact Dennis Williams at dwilliams@isbe.net. You will be reviewing *existing* tests to determine whether changes are needed, the first step in the 3-year Pearson VUE Evaluation Systems update process.

REMIND PARENTS TO TEACH BUS SAFETY

Twenty-five million children in the United States ride to and from school on 440,000 school buses over 4.3 billion miles each year. National School Bus Safety Week is October 19–23, 2015. Teachers should remind parents to keep children safe by coaching them to use good safety practices when waiting for a bus and getting on and off the bus. Buses are engineered to keep children as safe as possible, with strict structural strength standards and designs that protect children in the event of a crash or rollover, but that protection is available only within the bus. Most accidents occur when children are boarding or exiting. Remind them to stay away from the "danger zone," look before stepping off the bus, take five "giant steps" from the front of the bus and look left-right-left when coming to the edge of the bus.

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH

Administrators, teachers and support staff are encouraged to join hundreds of other schools and organizations across the nation in recognizing the importance of promoting activities, education and awareness of National Bullying Prevention Month. Website www.stopbullying.gov is one resource that gives you the facts about bullying, one kid being mean to another kid over and over again. Adults should also remember that bullying does not always happen in person and should be cognizant of cyberbullying, a type of bullying that happens online or through text messages or emails. Be aware, and do what you can to eliminate bullying in our schools.

FREE ITEMS CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM ILLINOIS EARLY LEARNING PROJECT WEBSITE

Get tip sheets, newsletters, videos, blogs, answers to frequently asked questions and lesson plans for early childhood teaching at <http://illinoisearlylearning.org/iels/index.htm>. On the left of the homepage, click on "Tools for Teachers" and "IEL Resources for Teachers and Caregivers" for helpful downloadable resources.

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PROFESSIONAL LEARNING CORNER

Monroe-Randolph ROE has a series of multi-leveled workshops planned for the upcoming school year. *Level One* consists of Foundational Services. These will continue to be free. Topics will include math, science, ELA: writing, balanced assessments and teacher evaluation. *Level Two* are our local PD "In Action" workshops. If you are looking for ways to implement foundational topics into your classroom, then the *Level Two* workshops are for you! There is a \$180 charge for the 3-day series; lunch will be on your own.

Classrooms In Action: How Can I Create a Student-Centered Classroom? October 19 and December 1, 2015 and March 21, 2016, Level 2

K-5 teachers, remember that a student-centered classroom does not happen overnight. Join us for this 3-day workshop that will help you create a classroom in which students are actively engaged in their own learning and you are truly the facilitator. Come to Room 123 at Southwestern Illinois College (SWIC), Red Bud from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Assessments In Action: I Have Data, So What's Next? November 2, 2015 and February 8 and April 11, 2016 for K-8 Teachers; November 3, 2015 and February 10 and April 12, 2016 for High School Teachers, Level 2

Teachers, get prepared. Selecting assessments, collecting data and analyzing student growth are all important in the new evaluation system for teachers. These workshops over three days will help you gain practical knowledge to create a system for collecting, organizing and evaluating your assessment data, and you will leave with a variety of strategies to reach your diverse set of learners. Workshops are at SWIC, Red Bud, Room 123 from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Math In Action: What Does a Common Core Classroom Look and Sound Like? K-4 November 9 and December 9, 2015 and March 15, 2016; 5-8 November 10 and December 10, 2015 and March 16, 2016; 9-12 November 16 and December 11, 2015 and March 17, 2016, Level 2

Don't miss this one. You know that the primary focus of the New Math Illinois Learning Standards is student engagement with real world math. Without effective classroom strategies, it is difficult to attain engagement. This 3-day workshop will provide experiences that help increase a teacher's ability to implement the 8 Mathematical Practices, aligned tasks, math discourse and visual learning. These are again at SWIC, Red Bud in Room 123 from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

* **Register for all ROE workshops at www.educationregistration.org/roe45 by one week prior to the event.** *

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct. 14, 2015	Family Engagement	Sparta Lincoln	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Oct. 19, 2015	Classrooms In Action (K-5) Day 1	SWIC-Room 123	8:30 am – 3:30 pm
Oct. 22, 2015	School Bus Driver Appreciation Day		
Oct. 28 & 29, 2015	Student Assistance Team Training	Waterloo Annex	8:30 am – 3:00 pm
Nov. 2, 2015	Assessments In Action (K-8) Day 1	SWIC-Room 123	8:30 am – 3:30 pm
Nov. 3, 2015	Assessments In Action (9-12) Day 1	SWIC-Room 123	8:30 am – 3:30 pm
Nov. 3, 2015	School Board Member Training	SWIC-Room 123	5:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Nov. 6, 2015	Superintendents' Meeting	SWIC-Conf. Room	9:00 am – noon
Nov. 9, 2015	Math In Action (K-4) Day 1	SWIC-Room 123	8:30 am – 3:30 pm
Nov. 10, 2015	Math In Action (5-8) Day 1	SWIC-Room 123	8:30 am – 3:30 pm
Nov. 12, 2015	Principals' Meeting	SWIC-Room 123	9:00 am – 11:00 am
Nov. 13, 2015	Art du Jour	SWIC	8:00 am – 2:00 pm
Nov. 13, 2015	Teacher Eval.: PERA Review & SLO Introduction	Chester Grade	2:00 pm – 3:10 pm
Nov. 16, 2015	Math In Action (9-12) Day 1	SWIC-Room 123	8:30 am – 3:30 pm
Nov. 17, 2015	Youth Mental Health First Aid	Waterloo Annex	8:00 am – 4:00 pm
Nov. 20, 2015	Teacher Eval.: PERA Review & SLO Introduction	Chester High	2:00 pm – 3:10 pm
Dec. 1, 2015	Classrooms In Action (K-5) Day 2	SWIC-Room 123	8:30 am – 3:30 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. 11, 2015	Math In Action (9-12) Day 2	SWIC-Room 123	8:30 am – 3:30 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.**