



REGIONAL OFFICE *of* EDUCATION

Bi-County Brief

Monroe & Randolph Counties

KELTON DAVIS
REGIONAL SUPERINTENDENT
OF SCHOOLS

MARY ANN QUIVEY
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT
OF SCHOOLS



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REGIONAL SUPERINTENDENT KELTON DAVIS WELCOMES BACK EDUCATORS

With the school year full steam ahead and summer memories waning, the staff and I at the Regional Office of Education want to express our sincere appreciation for the educators and support staff in our region. Despite increasing demands on our schools, you continue to rise to the challenge. I am inspired by our teachers' student-centered focus and drive to support our children in every way. A veteran educator, now retired, once commented that although the frame around education changes, the picture remains the same. Today's *frame* requires that we continue to work together to keep the *picture* focused on children.

With that said, a brief introduction of the Monroe-Randolph Regional Office of Education (ROE) is in order. Assistant Regional Superintendent Mary Ann Quivey and I head the ROE, which serves 10 districts, 36 schools, more than 1400 teachers, support staff, substitutes and bus drivers and over 11,000 students in the bi-county region. At offices in Chester and Waterloo, staff oversee certification, continuing education, bus driver training, CTE programs, alternative and optional education, homelessness, truancy, GED testing, school construction and safety and a myriad of other areas. The office in Chester is open 8:00–4:00 and in Waterloo 8:00–4:30 Monday through Friday. The ROE publishes a monthly newsletter, the *Bi-County Brief*, and a directory of all bi-county school personnel, also available online. Then every two years—again in October 2014—the ROE hosts the Bi-County Institute, a full day of continuing education opportunities, featuring a renowned guest speaker and breakout sessions for broadening individual areas of interest. Know that we are here to help and that we wish you an enjoyable and successful school year.

LICENSURE TRANSITION UPDATE

Illinois transitioned educator certificates to licenses on July 1, 2013. All Illinois teaching, administrative and school service personnel certificates and most approvals have been converted to licenses. Educators lost no credentials or endorsements in the transition.

The Educator's Licensure Information System (ELIS), which replaces ECS, should be active after noon September 3, 2013. Visit www.roe45.net/licensure for directions to access ELIS through IWAS, where a training video is available. All initial, substitute and paraprofessional certificate holders are asked to register their new licenses until June 30, 2018. Registration fees for licenses remain at \$10.00/year and must be paid through www.isbe.net/ELIS, but paraprofessional license holders are NOT required to pay registration fees until **June 30, 2018**. Just register your license in our region via ELIS immediately.

Finally, contrary to earlier communications, teachers must still meet the same professional development requirements for license renewal. For now, ELIS **will** allow educators to input professional development activities, and activities previously listed in ECS **will** be transferred to ELIS. The ROE will continue to provide updates on ISBE changes as they occur.

ENJOY A "TEACHER TREAT"

"Teacher Treats," a series of roundtable discussions for teachers of various grade levels and/or subject areas, will begin Tuesday October 1, 2013, 4–6 PM, location TBA for K–5 teachers. The topic for that afternoon will be strategies for reading informational text and developing vocabulary. The purpose of these voluntary, free roundtables is to provide an opportunity for teachers to meet with others in their grade level/subject area and to share what's working, what isn't and ideas they have for implementing Common Core and Next Generation Science standards into classroom instruction. Each session will have a teacher facilitator and a general topic, so participants should bring ideas to share and activities for which they need input from colleagues. Anyone interested in serving as a facilitator, hosting Teacher Treats or with questions, contact Rosalie Gardner at rgardner@roe45.org. Register at www.educationregistration.org/roe45.

E-MAILS CHANGE IN REGION

In an effort to share information of value to all districts in the bi-county region, the ROE wants you to know that several districts/schools changed e-mail addresses over the summer. Columbia Community Unit School District 4 personnel can be reached at lastname.firstname@columbia4.org. Coulterville's new e-mail address is @cvillicusd1.org, and Beck Area Career Center, which changed its name to Career Center of Southern Illinois (CCSI) on July 1, also changed its e-mail address to @gotoccsi.org.

Regional Office of Education | 107 East Mill, Waterloo IL 62298 | 618.939.5650 | www.roe45.org

REGISTER NOW FOR CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

Advanced Classroom Management will be the topic for a three-hour workshop September 12, 2013 at SWIC Red Bud, Room 123, from 4–7 PM. The workshop, part of the new Continued Professional Growth Series, is geared toward teachers who would like to increase their skills in this area or who would have been in the second year of Induction and Mentoring this year and incorporates Danielson’s Framework for Teaching, Domain 2. Problem-solving procedures will be used to address issues, and participants will be able to bring their own classroom rules/procedures and work on evaluating them. Cost of the workshop is \$25. Please go to www.educationregistration.org/roe45 to register. Participants must be registered 1 week prior to the workshop to avoid a late registration fee of \$15. Cancellations must be made 5 working days prior to the workshop to qualify for a refund.

ROE 45 PROJECTS TO BE FEATURED AT NATIONAL MATH SCIENCE PARTNERSHIP CONFERENCE

Assistant Regional Superintendent Mary Ann Quivey and project evaluator Dr. Matt Feldman will present information about the ROE’s successful Math Connections IMSP project in Washington, DC this month. Math Connections was selected from grant projects across the nation to be featured in a breakout session on systems of high-quality professional development. Numerous teachers from the bi-county region participated in the program over the five summers it was funded. Every public school district and most private schools in the bi-county area were represented in this project that focused on intense instruction to increase participants’ understanding of mathematics.

In addition, another ROE 45 IMSP Partnership program, TalentSparks³, will be featured as a poster presentation. This unique partnership with the iBIOInstitute emphasizes teaching scientific concepts through problem-based learning and industry connections. This is the fourth year that ROE projects have been selected to be featured nationally. We are excited and proud of the hard work of all the participants and staff who have helped to make these projects outstanding.

CAREER AND TECH ED TEACHERS ATTEND COMMON CORE WORKSHOP

Nine bi-county CTE teachers—Meghan DeGroot, Carol Floarke and Bruce Harmsen from CCSI, Amanda Vaughn from Columbia, Mary Sternberg from Red Bud, Sean Honey from Sparta, Blake Colclasure and Julie Pyatt from Steeleville and George Palmer from Waterloo—attended *CTE and the Common Core Standards–English Language Arts* at SWIC Red Bud this summer. The workshop gave CTE teachers an overview of the Common Core Standards and how they apply to the CTE curriculum and real world applications, available resources and an opportunity to work collaboratively with fellow CTE instructors to develop units and lessons that include ELA Common Core Standards in technical skills classes.

TRS MEETING AT RED BUD ELEMENTARY

Thinking about retirement? Then the Benefit Information Meeting sponsored jointly by the Teachers’ Retirement System of the State of Illinois, Regional Office of Education and Red Bud CUSD #132 is a must. No reservations are needed for this informative, hour-long meeting on Monday, September 9, 2013 at 4:30 p.m. in the Red Bud Elementary School cafeteria. Participants will receive information about their benefits as a TRS member, ways to optimize their service credit prior to retirement and an explanation of the retirement process. Questions from the floor will be welcomed.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sept. 9, 2013	TRS Benefit Information Meeting	Red Bud Elem. Cafeteria	4:30 pm
Sept. 12, 2013	Advanced Classroom Management	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Sept. 17, 2013	Next Generation Science Standards	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Sept. 18, 2013	Bus Evacuation Drill Day		
Sept. 19, 2013	Next Generation Science Standards	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Sept. 20, 2013	Superintendents’ Council	SWIC Red Bud-Performing Arts	9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Sept 26, 2013	Principals’ Meeting	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	8:30 am – 11:00 am
Sept. 27, 2013	Eighth Grade Career Day	CCSI (Beck)	9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Oct. 1, 2013	Next Generation Science Standards	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Oct. 3, 2013	Next Generation Science Standards	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Oct. 8, 2013	Next Generation Science Standards	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Oct. 10, 2013	Next Generation Science Standards	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Oct. 11, 2013	Common Core Standards for CTE	SWIC Red Bud	8:00 am – 3:00 pm
Oct. 17, 2013	Informational Reading Strategies	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	8:30 am – 3:30 pm
Oct. 22, 2013	Informational Reading Strategies	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Oct. 24, 2013	Informational Reading Strategies	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Oct. 24, 2013	Principals’ Meeting	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	8:30 am – 11:00 am
Oct. 24, 2013	Advisory Board	SWIC Red Bud-Room 123	Noon – 3:00 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.