



# NIA | THE NORTHWESTERN ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION

A Regional Special Education Cooperative Serving the Counties of  
Boone, Carroll, DeKalb, Jo Daviess, Kane, Lee, Ogle, Stephenson, Whiteside and Winnebago

June 18, 2026

Dear Superintendent:

Enclosed please find a ballot and a brief biographical sketch of the candidates for the election of the specified members for the NIA Executive Board. These candidates have agreed to run for a two year term to represent the school districts within their sub-regional area (see enclosed map).

Please present this ballot at a regularly scheduled school board meeting for official Board action. Please return this ballot in the enclosed, stamped envelope to the NIA Business Office by August 7, 2026.

If you have any questions regarding the election process, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jon C. Malone  
NIA Regional Director

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enc.

NORTHWESTERN ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION

SUBREGION III BALLOT

EXECUTIVE BOARD

BALLOT INSTRUCTIONS

*According to the Articles of Agreement for the Northwestern Illinois Association, the Directors of Special Education and the At-large Members shall be elected within each subregion by the Boards of Education of the member districts in even numbered years.*

*Each Board of Education shall cast one (1) vote for Director of Special Education and one (1) vote for a Member-at-Large.*

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VOTE FOR ONE DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION:

- |   |                                         |   |                                          |
|---|-----------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------------|
| ● | <u>Matt Zilm, Ogle County Sp. Educ.</u> | ● | _____                                    |
|   | Director of Special Education           |   | WRITE IN – Director of Special Education |

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VOTE FOR ONE MEMBER-AT-LARGE:

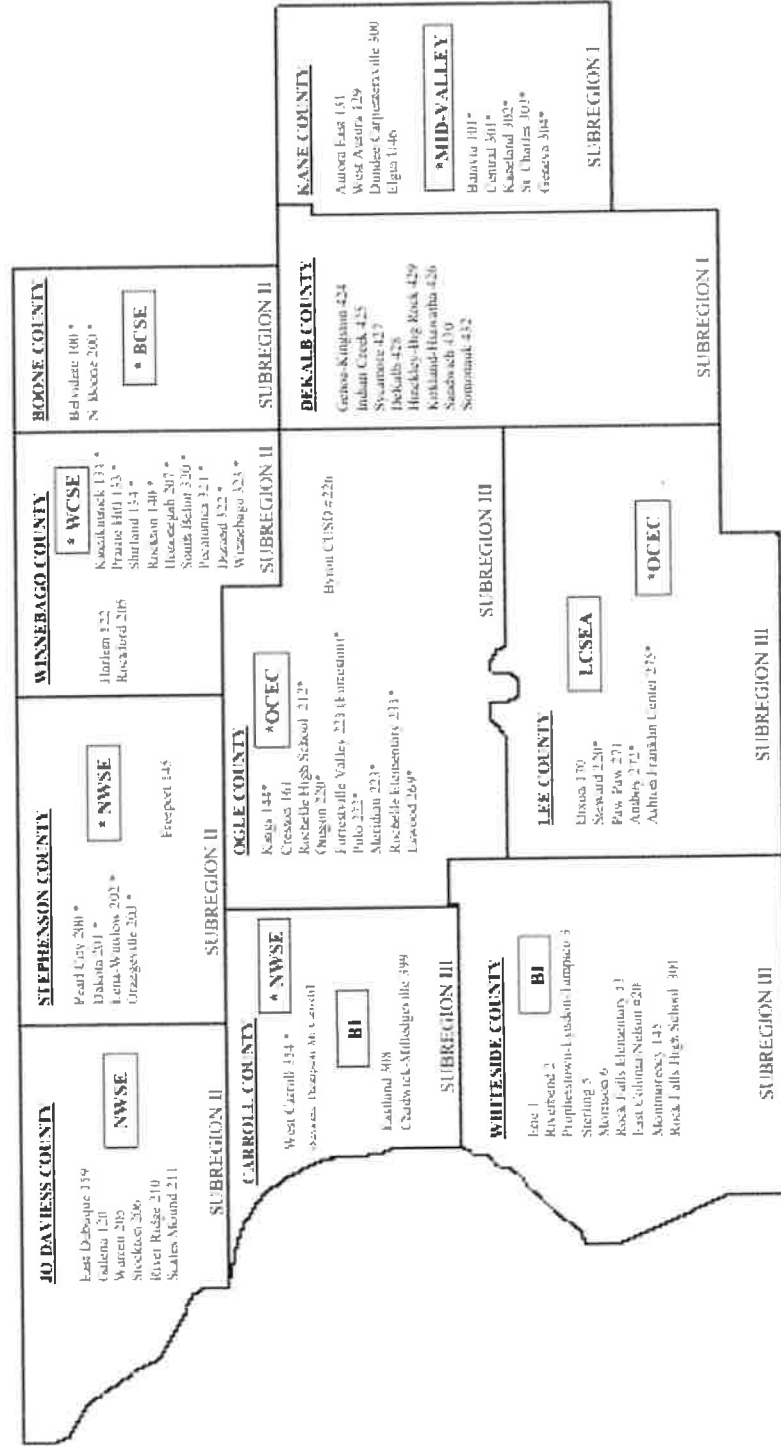
- |   |                                                |   |                            |
|---|------------------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| ● | <u>Corena Steinmeyer, Lee County Sp. Educ.</u> | ● | _____                      |
|   | Member-at-Large                                |   | WRITE IN – Member-at-Large |

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NOTE: Ballots will be counted in the NIA Administrative Office.

PLEASE USE THE ENVELOPE PROVIDED TO RETURN THIS BALLOT BY  
AUGUST 7, 2026

# NORTHWESTERN ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION



## NORTHWESTERN ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION

### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH – EXECUTIVE CANDIDATE – SUBREGION III

#### DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

**Matt Zilm** began teaching in August of 2005 at Belvidere Central Middle School in Belvidere Illinois. He was a resource teacher at Belvidere Central Middle for 9 years. In August of 2014 he was hired as the Assistant Principal in charge of Special Education for Belvidere Central. In August of 2015 he was offered a position as a Special Education Coordinator at the Ogle County Education Cooperative where he supervised special education in multiple school districts within the cooperative for two years. In July of 2017 he was hired as the Director of Special Education for the Ogle County Education Cooperative.

#### MEMBER-AT-LARGE

**Corena Steinmeyer** has served as the Director of Lee County Special Education Association since July of 2010. Over the past 34 years, Corena has served as a special education teacher, Student Services Coordinator, Principal, and Director of Special Education. Corena has a passion for ensuring that all students are provided a free and appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment. Her education and varied experiences have provided the knowledge and skill-sets necessary to support and guide stakeholders in accomplishing this goal for all students.

Corena has a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Elementary Education and Physical Education from Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa. She earned a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from Aurora University, and a Director of Special Education endorsement from Phoenix University.