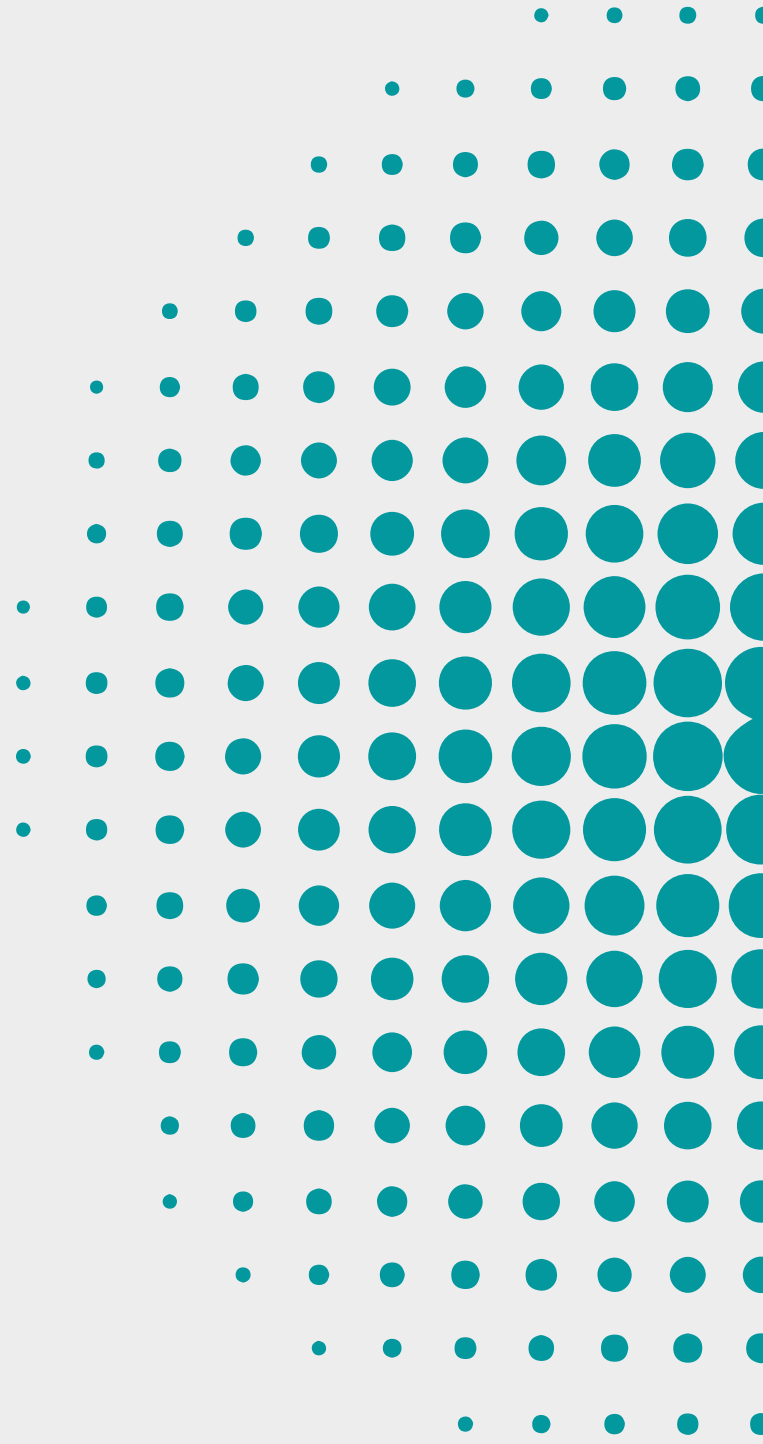


LEND

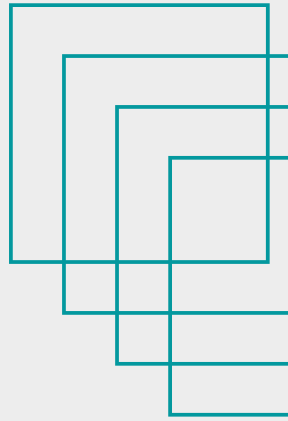
Council Meeting



Friday March 21, 2025
8:00 AM
ZOOM



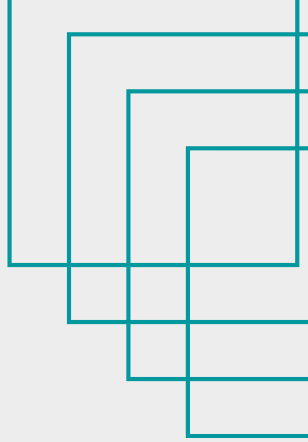
Agenda



- Welcome- LEND Co-Chair
 - Director's Report - Jen Figurelli, Peg Agnos
 - Federal Update
 - Springfield Update
- *Illinois Consortium for the Study of English Learner Program Effectiveness*
 - Dr. Jean Barbanente, Superintendent, DuPage High School District 88
- Member Concerns
- Adjourn




Federal UPDATE



Federal Update

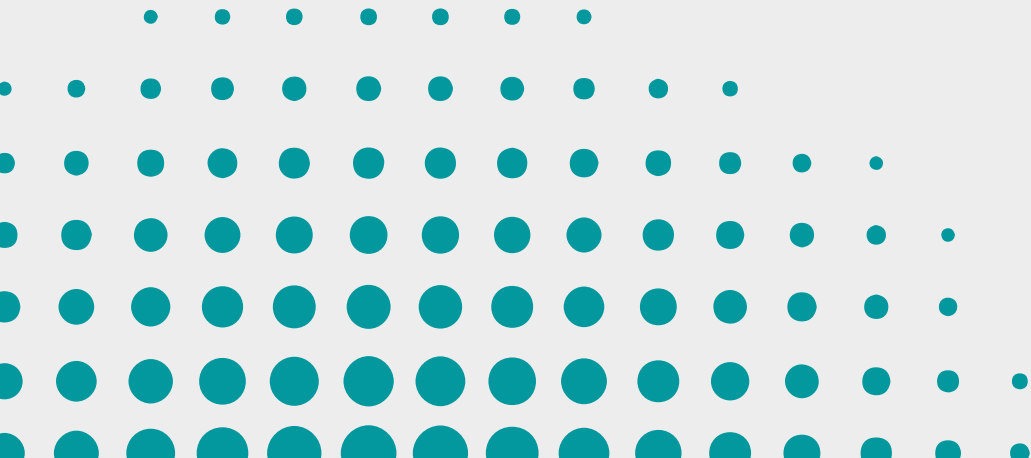


How Dismantling the Department Would Hurt Students, Teachers, and Communities

- 7.4 million students with disabilities, served by Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), money that goes straight to states and schools to help kids with disabilities learn, like early intervention services.
 - 26 million students from low-income backgrounds in urban, rural and suburban communities rely on federal Title I funding to improve achievement.
 - 6 states where more than 20% of the education budget comes from the federal government: Alaska, Montana, South Dakota, Arkansas, Mississippi, Kentucky.
 - 9.8 million students in rural schools depend on federal support to bridge funding gaps in communities with more limited local tax bases.
 - 6.6 million Pell Grant recipients rely on federal student aid to attend college.
 - Guidance from the Illinois Attorney General's Office: Dear Colleague Letter
- 

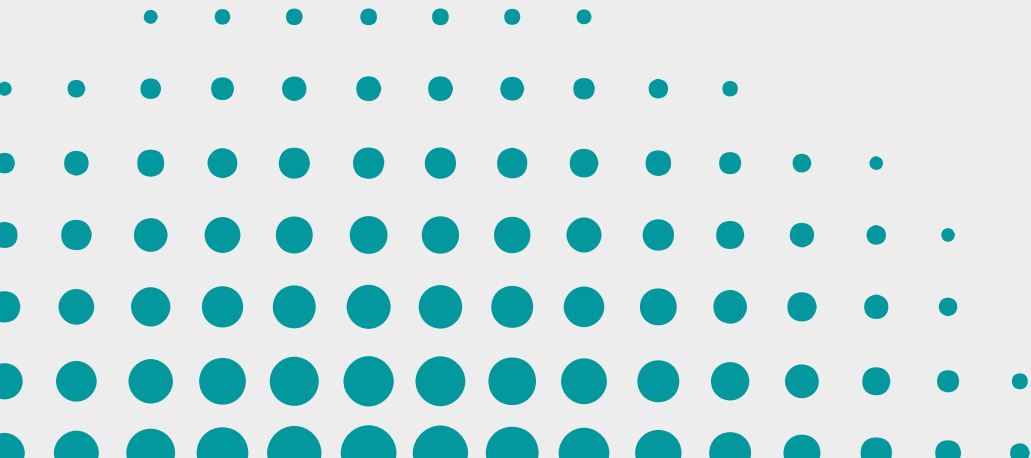


SPRINGFIELD UPDATE





LEND INITIATIVES




LEND Initiatives



HB3516 (Blair-Sherlock)-Dual Credit

- Will not be moving in the House
- Will start in the Senate

HB1698 (Hirschauer)/SB1324 (Villivalam) - Polling Place in Schools

- We expect a subject matter only hearing to be scheduled soon
- 



Bills That Passed Committee




Senate Education



SB1329 (Murphy) SA2- License Disclosure

- Allows the State Superintendent or their State designees to notify a license holder's current or most recent employer that they are being investigated for an alleged act of misconduct that causes a threat to the students.
- **Status: Passed committee, will move to the floor**

SB71 CA 2 (Murphy)- IEMA School Safety

- Beginning in 2027 school evacuation drills may include incidents involving hazardous substances including but not limited to:
 - Hazardous substances that may be transported by rail, chemical, incendiary, and explosive substances
- 

Senate Education

SB1519 (Villa)/HB2502 (Ford) - Refer Law Enforcement

- We notified the sponsor that the following concerns remain:
 - Schools will not be able to report the result of the referral, but they CAN report the incident type (ex: weapon, alcohol, tobacco, etc.).
 - The new language states: "that a school resource officer is prohibited from issuing tickets or citations or initiating referrals on school property in accordance with subsection (i) of Section 10-22.6, including a prohibition on issuing tickets for disorderly conduct."
 - This seems to negate the conversations we've had with Stand For Children and ISBE about continuing to allow SROs to refer criminal activity to the local law enforcement agency as required by other state statutes.
- **Status: Bill was held on 2nd reading in both chambers for an amendment; we have yet to see the language**

Senate Education

SB1672 (Belt)- Dyslexia

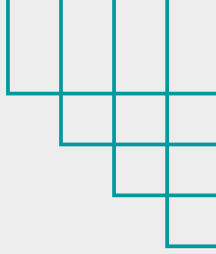
- We drafted an amendment and the bill now does the following:
- On or before July 1, 2026 each school district that serves students in grades K-3, shall report to the State Board of Education the following information:
 - Any early literacy screeners used by the district in grades K-3, including which skill areas the screener is intended to identify;
 - The grade level of students that are administered the literacy screeners and;
 - The frequency with which each of the literacy screeners are given to students, by grade, each year.
- On or before January 1, 2027 the State Board of Education shall file a report to the General Assembly outlining the data received in subsection (a) of this section. This report shall be posted publicly on the State Board of Education's website no later than January 1, 2027.
- **Status: Passed committee, will move to the Senate floor**

Senate Education

SB2527 (Castro)- Cell Phone Ban

- Device includes cell phones, wearable devices, laptop, tablets
- Does not include device that district or teacher provides
- Instructional time, so not recess, passing and lunch
- Policy at a minimum:
 - Can't be used during instructional time
 - Guidance for secure and accessible storage
 - Doesn't prohibit use during instructional time:
 - If a licensed physician allows for use of the phone
 - Is required based on IEP 504 plan
 - Necessary for EL's
 - Can allow for the following exceptions:
 - Teacher authorizes the use
 - Emergency situation
- **Status: Passed committee; will move to the Senate Floor**

Senate Transportation

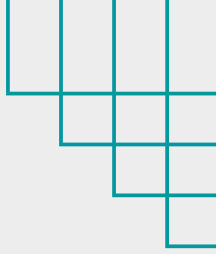


SB191 (Morrison)- Seat Belt Safety

- We offered an amendment including:
 - Only applies to newly purchased school buses (removing leased, MFSAB and school charter buses).
 - Start date is pushed back to 2031.
- **Status: Held on 2nd for an amendment**



Senate Pensions



SB2016 (Villa)- Retirement Savings Plan

- Senator Villa has brought back her 403b legislation.
- Negotiations are on-going and for now she is holding it on 2nd to continue discussions.
- We will continue to work alongside IASBO on this legislation




Education Policy



HB2390 (Katz Muhl)- SPED Agreement

- Brought forward by the representative for one particular district with respect to the district leaving the Special Ed Cooperative.
- The representative passed this out of committee with the promise to hold it and bring back an additional amendment.
- **Status: We have yet to see the language but believe it will bring us to neutral**

HB2827 CA1 (Costa Howard)

- The Capitol was flush with homeschool families and homeschool students. It was almost impossible to get access to the committee room. Debate lasted for over an hour with both proponents and opponents providing testimony.
 - **Status: Passed out of committee 8-4-1**
- 

Education Policy



HB2927 (Ford)- Inclusive History Act

- Representative Ford presented his Inclusive History Act in committee.
- He testified that postponing the teaching of history for a year is not acceptable and will remove from the bill.
- He intends to bring an amendment back to committee.
- **Status: More information to come**

HB3247 (Jimanez)- Prohibit Denial Free Education

- Brought forward to codify into State law the policies that already exist in Federal law, ensuring that no student can be denied FAPE regardless of their citizenship status. The sponsor wants to codify this into State law for protections from any changes to Federal law.
- Opponents were concerned if this bill were to become law school districts could be faced with determining whether to follow the State or the Federal law resulting in fines.
- **Status: Sponsor is holding on 2nd and continue conversations**

Education Policy



HB3252 (Yang Rohr)- Work Prep Course

- High school districts that offer facilitated employment, career pathways, or internship experiences shall provide to students a unit of instruction:
 - Instruction on discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sexual orientation
 - Protections against sexual harassment including, pay gaps, lack of instructional support, or exclusion from executive or leadership positions
- **Status: Passed with a partisan vote and will come back with an amendment**

HB3503 (Tarver)- Curriculum Overview and Alignment

- Requires ISBE to conduct a comprehensive review of mandates units of study every 5 years.
- Requires a comprehensive curriculum review and evaluation of the mandates including stakeholder engagement
- Effective January 1, 2026
- **Status: ISBE had strong opposition, sponsor is moving the bill, may consider ISBE amendment**

Education Policy



HB1237 (West)- Prohibit Native American Name

- This legislation was first introduced in 2020, Representative West has brought it back numerous times. Opponents of the legislation would like to continue discussions to provide a longer ramp by which districts can shift from their current mascots.
- Definitions in the bill still remain in question.
- **Status: Passed and held on 2nd to work on an amendment**

HB2997 (Rashid)- Arab American History

- Every elementary and high school district shall include a unit of instruction to study the events of Arab American history.
- **Status: Sponsor agreed to hold on 2nd to work on an amendment**

Education Policy

HB2960 (Faver Dias)- Mental Health Ed Requirement

- Will be part of comprehensive health.
- If a school district offers course in health education in middle school or high school they have to include instruction on mental health.
- The sponsor continues to negotiate with ISBE and an amendment is forthcoming.
- **Status: Pass Partisan 9-4, holding on 2nd**

HB3275 (Faver Dias)- Cardiac Emergency Response

- All school coaches must obtain and maintain certification in CPR, first aid, and the use of AED.
- A number of committee members asked the sponsor:
 - Does this apply to varsity and intramural coaches? Volunteers that help coaches?
- The sponsor agrees there is still work to be done and is committed to bringing back an amendment
- **Status: Pass Partisan 9-4, holding on 2nd**

Education Policy

HB3376 (Mussman)- SPED IEP Guidance

- Over the past few years Chair Mussman has been a part of a House teacher shortage working group. In these discussions a number of teachers shared that IEP paperwork is duplicative, overwhelming, and time consuming. Teachers feel like they're working harder on paperwork than having time to spend with their students.
- This legislation is intended to streamline the paperwork without diminishing the importance of the IEP process.
- **Status: Passed 13-0; will hold on 2nd for an amendment**

Licensing/ Charter



HB2651 (Katz Muhl)- Major School Events


- Requires the State Board of Education to identify days during the year when there may be a portion of the student body absent or unable to participate in a major school event due to cultural, religious, or other observances.
- **Status: Passed committee**



Licensing/ Charter



HB2966 CA2 (Katz Muhl)- Consolidation Analysis

- Requires ISBE to analyze the use of grant funds for consolidation analysis in relation to school districts reorganization feasibility studies.
 - ISBE may give grants to school districts to incentivise conducting feasibility studies.
 - If a district chooses to proceed with the study and it's approved by the ROE or ISC they can apply for grant funding with ISBE.
 - Effective FY2030
 - **Status: Passed committee**
- 

Licensing/ Charter



HB2970 CA2 (Moeller)- Remove/Dismiss Teachers


- An IEA initiative filed in response to previous court cases that were brought forward.
- The language makes changes to the notifications to remedy in the following ways:
 - Allows grieving the notice of remedial warning
 - Requires specificity which could result in a second or third instance of this conduct needing to mirror the previous issue of misconduct in order for the board to take further action.
 - Requires these notices to be removed from the personnel files after 3 years
- **Status: Passed committee- we will continue conversations in the Senate**



Licensing/ Charter



HB3026 (Rashid)- Dual Language Education

- Originally filed with a number of mandates on school districts
 - The Representative indicated in committee he will be bringing an amendment back that will require ISBE to adopt comprehensive guidance for school districts on dual language programs by the end of 2026
 - The Representative said there will be no mandates on school districts in the amendment
 - **Status: Passed committee will hold on 2nd to amend**
- 

Licensing/ Charter

HB3170 (Faver Dias)- Educator Licensure

- Create an expedited pathway for paraprofessionals to earn their Professional Educator License
- Allow individuals who hold an active and current professional license issued by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) to forgo taking the content area knowledge test
- Allow Educator Preparation Programs, upon request of a community college, to partner and then offer an approved EPP leading to a PEL
- ISBE is including language to establish a Teacher Performance Assessment Advisory Committee
- **Status: Passed will be held on 2nd and brought back with an amendment**

Licensing/ Charter

HB3377 (Mussman)- Homeless Youth Funding

- Requires school districts to report to ISBE on homeless youth; the amount of funds received each year, the amount received in the previous school year, the number of homeless children that qualified in the districts, the amount of such funds that were spent, the activities where funds were spent, supplemental funding the district receives
- **Status: Passed committee; moves to the House floor**

Gun Violence Safety



HB1316 (Davidsmeyer)- Gun Incident Reporting

- Any school employee shall immediately report to the principal 1)any person in possession of a firearm, becomes aware of any person in possession of a firearm on school grounds, becomes aware of any threat of gun violence on school grounds.
- **Status: The sponsor moved the bill with the commitment to hold on 2nd; an amendment is forthcoming.**



Early Childhood



HB3772 (Davis)- Suspension/Expulsion

- No expulsions shall occur for students in grades K-2 unless required by State or Federal law.
- Any decision to suspend students in grades K-2 for 3 days or more shall not be made by anyone other than the superintendent.
- The suspension shall not be longer than the amount of time needed for the district to develop and implement a behavior intervention and safety plan.
- ALOP support is encouraged be provided in the school district (push in). They do not recommend students in grades K-2 pull out to an alternative school.
- **Status: Passed and will be held on 2nd**



House Higher ED



HB3717 (Katz Muhl)- Baccalaureate Degrees

- Allows community colleges to offer four-year baccalaureate degrees.
- The opposition from four-year universities was strong and the House Higher Education held the bill.
- **Status: Did not move**





Dr. Jean Barbanente Presentation

Illinois Consortium for the Study of English Learner Program
Effectiveness

Illinois Consortium for the Study of English Learner Program Effectiveness

About IL Consortium for the Study of English Learner Program Effectiveness

The Consortium is an organization of school districts committed to an evidence-based framework for examining the impact of programs and services for English Learners (ELs) across the state of Illinois.

Benefits of Participation

- Each participating district within the consortium will receive an analysis that identifies which EL programs and services have the greatest impact on English Learners in your district.
- Additionally, participation will provide the consortium with an expanded data set to examine the broader impact of the various EL programming across the state of Illinois.

Deliverable

- Participation includes:
 - An annual analysis of student growth in English language acquisition, as measured by ACCESS.
 - Within the analysis, participants will receive the growth and proficiency results of EL students receiving the following Dual Language Programming and/or EL Services:

<u>Dual Language Programming</u>	<u>EL Placement - Entry Status</u>	<u>EL Services Provided</u>
Two Way Immersion	TBE Full Time	Transitional Bilingual Program - Self-Contained
One Way Immersion	TBE Part Time	Transitional Bilingual Program - Collaboration
Not a Participant in Dual Language	TPI	Transitional Program in English - Self-Contained
	228.27-Plan	Transitional Program in English - Collaboration
	Parents Refused	None of the Above

Understanding the ECRA Growth Model compared to the EL Progress to Proficiency (EL PtP) Calculation

ECRA Growth Model	EL Progress to Proficiency (EL PtP) Calculation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Creates realistic, evidence-based, statistically backed projections for each student based on their historical performance and the typical performance of students within the state of Illinois.● ECRA provides a pure measure of student growth as it relates to acquisition of English Language.● ECRA, empirically, sets growth expectations by modeling all individual EL student data across the state of Illinois.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Tracks progress by comparing how much a scale score increases to a set goal, which is based on either a fixed schedule (like 5 years) or updated yearly targets.● EL PtP is not a pure measure of growth but rather at rate of improvement needed to meet proficiency.● EL PtP is determined via state policy, not based on actual EL students within Illinois.

Requirement to Participate

- The cost to participate in the consortium is based on total district student enrollments:
 - Less than or equal to 1,000 students = \$3,500
 - Greater than 1,000 - 4,000 students = \$4,500
 - Greater than 4,000 students = \$5,500
- Participating districts will need to provide the following information to ECRA Group:
 1. ACCESS Score “Details” file from IWAS.
 2. Student EL History “Details” file from IWAS.
 3. ECRA Data Sharing Agreement.
- To monitor trends over time, consortium participants agree to a three-year agreement, which will be invoiced annually.
- Current ECRA School Improvement clients can enroll in the consortium at no charge.

Join the Consortium!



Adam Cibulka, Vice President

To learn more or join the consortium, contact:

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THANK YOU!

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