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Weekly Message from Superintendent Ritz

August 15, 2016

As the school year starts, we have many new administrators and teachers throughout Indiana. For many of you, this may be your first DOE Dialogue. Through the Dialogue, the Department helps keep schools informed of educational developments throughout Indiana. I encourage you to share these messages with your staff and school community.

The DOE Dialogue is just one of many ways that you, your staff and the school community can get guidance and support from the Department. In addition to the DOE Dialogue, the Department regularly communicates through:

- The DOE Dialogue: Teacher's Edition
- Teachers' Toolbox
- Regular video messages
- Communities of Practice

Have a great week!

Glenda Ritz, NBCT
Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction

In this Issue:

ESSA Flexibility Waiver

IDOE Memoranda

Professional Development

Legislative & Policy Updates

Information from Other Agencies

Archive

Data Calendar

ESSA Flexibility Waiver Related News

NEW - The comment period to the U.S. Department of Education on proposed rulemaking pertaining to Tile I, Part A and Title I, Part B closes on 9-9-2016. The proposed rules can be found at USED's website. The comment period on proposed rulemaking on Accountability and State Plans closed on Monday, August 1st.

If you have any questions, please contact Federal Relations Director Jeff Coyne at jcoyne@doe.in.gov.

Through the Hoosier Family of Readers initiative, students and their families across the state have unlimited access to reading material on myON.

IDOE Memoranda

NEW - Staff Performance Evaluation Plan Submission Legal Standard 12 requires each public school corporation school to provide a copy of its entire staff performance evaluation plan to the Indiana Department of Education. The evaluation plans must be submitted through DOE Online for Accreditation Legal Standard 12 by September 15, 2016. Charter schools submit their staff performance evaluation plans via email to charterevaluation@doe.in.gov. For additional information, please see the attached memorandum. Submissions must include a completed IDOE Evaluation Plan Submission Coversheet 2016-2017 (attached). Contact Caitlin Beatson at cbeatson@doe.in.gov with questions

NEW- Back-to-School Teachers' Toolbox The August issue of the Teachers' Toolbox is now available. Filled with instructional resources for educators, this issue has curated content for educators at any level or subject area.

School Improvement Plan (SIP) and Student Achievement Plan (SAP) Submission Per P.L. 221, all Indiana public schools must annually submit a school improvement plan. School Improvement Plans (SIP) for SY 16-17 will be due October 1, 2016. For Focus/Priority Schools, Student Achievement Plans (SAP) are also due October 1, 2016. Please see the attached memorandum for further guidance for schools to submit the SIP/SAP through DOE Online or AdvancED.

Zika Virus Updates and Resources - There are several viruses that can be spread by mosquito bites such as dengue, chikungunya and the Zika virus. IDOE has a Zika Virus Prevention webpage that houses resources for schools and school districts to use as a reference for preventing the spread of these diseases.

ECA Rescore Window Opens The ECA Spring Rescore window is open through August 12, 2016. Parents/Guardians can visit this link and login to begin the rescore process. We have also attached a Quick Reference Guide for parents/guardians that you may share. If a parent/guardian has misplaced a username or password information, needs technical assistance or would like to be walked through the rescore process, customer support can be reached at 877-424-0322 or ECASupport@questarai.com.

High School Diplomas HEA 1219 became effective on July 1, 2016. The bill made two revisions to high school graduation requirements:

- All high schools must offer students the opportunity to earn any type of state diploma approved by the State Board of Education.
- A school corporation cannot require a student with a disability to complete locally required credits that exceed state credit requirements to receive a diploma unless otherwise required as part of the student's individualized education program.

If you have additional questions, please contact Jenny Berry at jberry@doe.in.gov.

top of page

Professional Development

NEW - National Career Pathways Network Conference The NCPN conference (Oct 5-7) is in Indianapolis this year and will offer a full day of preconference workshops on Career Pathways, CTE, business-education partnerships, and other important topics. More information can be found on their website.

NEW - Indiana School Counselor Regional Workshops Information regarding the registration for school counselor regional workshops has been posted on the Department's website. Those interested in registering will be asked to complete a short survey before being directed to the registration page. More information can be found in the attached memorandum on School Counselor Workshops.

Bicentennial during the 2016-2017 school year, 4th Graders, This is a great opportunity for 4th Grade Classrooms during the first school semester. The Indiana State House Tour Office, in conjunction with the Indiana Center for the Book, holds an essay competition to commemorate Indiana Statehood Day each year. Indiana's 200th birthday is December 11, 2016. Winners of the essay contest are honored at a Statehood Day Celebration at one of four participating locations in downtown Indianapolis. For more information, please visit the Bicentennial website.

National Alliance for Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP) 2016 National Conference in Louisville, KY. October 16-18, 2016, Louisville, KY For Information please visit the NACEP website.

Indiana State Library's INSPIRE Digital Literacy Resource, INSPIRE has licensed TeachingBooks.net - a service that enhances your literacy work with instructional and primary source materials about the books and authors your students are reading. To learn more register for INSPIRE Webinars covering a variety of topics including Indiana reading lists, cross curricular resources and more. For more information about this resource, visit the Teaching Books website.

Indiana Education Service Centers offer a variety of professional development opportunities. To learn more about professional learning opportunities in your area, visit the website of an Education Service Center in your area.

- Region 8 Education Service Center
- Central Indiana Education Service Center
- Northwest Indiana Education Service Center
- Southern Indiana Education Service Center
- East Central Indiana Education Service Center
- West Central Indiana Education Service Center
- Wabash Valley Education Service Center
- Wilson Education Center ESC Region 2

top of page

Legislative & Policy Updates

For updates, check out our Facebook page and follow us on Twitter.

top of page

Information from Other Agencies

NEW - #KickRxAbuse Challenge The Indiana Attorney General is inviting students to participate in a video challenge to combat prescription drug abuse. More information is available on the AG's website.

Dear Indiana School Teachers: It is "Back to School" time, start off the year with a memorable educational fieldtrip to the 2016 Indiana State Fair. The Indiana State Fair Fieldtrips are an opportunity for Classroom and Home Educators to enhance curriculum by utilizing an educational experience that cannot be accomplished in the classroom setting. New this year, educators will be able to create a unique self-guided fieldtrip experience by selecting

from participating exhibits at the Fair. Educators will be equipped with activities and ideas that can build upon the students' exploration and interaction at the Indiana State Fair. Fieldtrips require pre-registration and 15 or more students to participate. Learn more at the Indiana State Fair Website.

This week on The Friday Zone - Meet a 2nd grade class that is learning lessons in American Sign Language. Students will explain how it's working and teach signs that anyone can use. The Friday Zone is a weekly program on Indiana PBS stations that uses hands-on demonstrations to teach children in grades K-2 principles drawn from state educational standards. Check your local station for times. ***Get free PBS KIDS app cards*** by completing our viewer survey at **fridayzone.org**.

top of page

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