

Regional Office of Education Report

September 2024

Health Life Safety

Each year, our office inspects all 75 public and non-public school buildings, as well as other school-related structures, across Lee, Ogle, and Whiteside Counties. This is done to ensure they meet the minimum health and safety standards set forth in the Building Specifications for Health and Safety in Public Schools. By law, school districts are required to maintain their buildings to these minimum standards. Inspection results for each building are available at the Regional Office of Education, and an annual summary report is submitted to the Illinois State Board of Education as mandated by law. This year's inspections will commence on Wednesday, September 4, and are expected to be completed by January 2, 2025. Each inspection is conducted in collaboration with local fire departments or the state fire marshal. Our office currently has three certified inspectors that are doing this work, Christopher Tennyson, Josh Knuth and Michele Hopp.

The Regional Office of Education is also responsible, through the Regional Superintendent of Schools, for statutory compliance with established standards in the construction and remodeling of public school buildings. The Regional Superintendent assures school board approval by resolution of construction plans, review of construction plans for code compliance, issuance of the building permit, and upon review, issuance of school occupancy permits. Further, the Regional Superintendent assures code compliance for temporary/mobile classroom units throughout the region.

Professional Learning & Educational Services

Current Programs - Office of Professional Learning & Educational Services
Induction & Mentoring
Community Partnership Grant/IDPH Trauma Grant
Education Pathway Endorsement

Manufacturing, Health Science & Agriculture Endorsement Programs
Elevating Special Educators
School Improvement & Strategic Planning
School Improvement Cooperative (instructional coaching, training, networking)
Social Emotional Learning/Trauma/Youth Mental Health First Aid/TRS I-A
Early Childhood Professional Learning
Family Education & Engagement
NEXUS Family Support Services
Student Attendance
Computer Science Capacity Building
Afterschool Program
Preschool for ALL Expansion

Office of Professional Learning & Ed Services: Professional Learning & School Improvement

- The Office of Professional Learning & Ed Services has been awarded an afterschool program grant, a computer science grant, Education Pathways Round 5 grant, Early Childhood PFAE grant, and the Truancy and Alternative Learning Opportunities grant from ISBE. The Office is waiting to hear on competitive proposals that were submitted for R3 grant,
- The Office Professional Learning & Educational Services is excited to announce that we have been awarded a Preschool for ALL Expansion grant through the Illinois State Board of Education. The grant proposed partnering with Dixon YMCA and Dreaming Tree preschool in Dixon to open four full day preschool classrooms serving 80 children ages 3-4.

Office of Professional Learning & Ed Services: Parent Engagement & Community Outreach

- To date, ROE 47 has 141 partners on its IRIS referral platform. There have been 2644 referrals and 1498 families served.
- Family Educators and ROE 47 PL & Educational Service staff have attended over 36 community events and reached over 10,000 families with parent-child activities, educational materials, and links to EC programs and community services through our IRIS referral platform. In FY25, to date, the office has hosted or participated in community events that facilitated parent-child interaction and heightened awareness of EC opportunities, including:
 - Prophetstown Back to School Bash 2024
 - Bumps, Babies & Toddlers (Dixon)
- ROE 47's Grandma Bonnie's Back to School Supply Closet served over 16 communities at 2 backpack distribution events in Amboy and Sterling in July 2024.
- A social emotional lending library has been established that contains Blockfest, Mindful Trails, family engagement activities and Slumberkins resources. These items are available for check out to schools and agencies. We have 10 Mindful Trails, 15 Slumberkins StoryWalks, 15 Slumberkins Big Books, and Slumberkins books with stuffed animals, as well as a number of games and activities. To date, materials have been used for school wide student learning opportunities, staff professional development, community/school events, and school/community family engagement events.
- A monthly digital family newsletter has been developed and deployed through Mail Chimp on a monthly basis. Newsletters include parenting information, community family events, early childhood programming and service information, and other important links. Parents/caregivers can subscribe to the ROE Family Newsletter at <https://mailchi.mp/2cde621b466f/family-sign-up>

Office of Professional Learning & Ed Services: Social Media

The department's social media presence continues to grow. Like our page on Facebook (Regional Office of Education #47) and download our ROE47 App for weekly teacher talks, instructional tips, news, giveaways, updates & more! Follow us on Twitter @RegionalOffice47 Want to hear from educators & students in the classroom? Check out our Teacher Talks on YouTube! We have an extensive library of 153 videos (and growing) in our collection!

Upcoming Events



INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT NETWORKING

Calling all educators in instructional support roles (instructional coaches, interventionists, etc.). These networking sessions are designed to explore data, reflect on current systems and practices, understand evidence-based practices, and consider systems development and refinement through a continuous improvement approach to support all learners, and your loved ones

Session Dates

More Information

- ✓ **August 28**
- ✓ **October 30**
- ✓ **January 29**
- ✓ **April 30**

ROE 47

2214 E. 4th St., Suite B, Sterling

8:30 - 11:30 AM

REGIONAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION #47
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ILLINOIS ELEVATING SPECIAL EDUCATORS

Presents our 2024-2025
Special Education Professional Learning Opportunities

Visit ROE47.ORG to register for these **FREE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES**



<h4 style="text-align: center;">DEVELOPING LEADERS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION</h4> <p>Administrators and teacher leaders: Are you looking to grow your knowledge, skills, and leadership in special education? In this series, participants will take a deep dive into processes and procedures for helping students with disabilities, from the early stages of intervention all the way through facilitating productive IEP meetings. Each session will feature a deep dive, opportunities to build your leadership toolkit exploration of current issues, community resources, and roundtable discussions.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  October 24 December 10 February 13 April 10 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>At Sauk Valley Community College 8:30-2:30 Lunch is included 6 PDHs available</p> </div> </div>	<h4 style="text-align: center;">TARGETED IMPROVEMENT TO MEET THE NEEDS OF DIVERSE LEARNERS</h4> <p>Administrators and teacher teams: Join us as we explore special education data, reflect on current systems & practices, understand evidence-based practices, and consider systems development & refinement through a continuous improvement approach to support diverse learners.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  November 12 January 14 March 11 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>At the ROE office in Sterling (by Goodwill) 8:30-2:30 Lunch is included 6 PDHs available</p> </div> </div>
<h4 style="text-align: center;">ESSENTIAL FACILITATION FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION LEADERS</h4> <p>Administrators and teacher leaders: This comprehensive workshop series is designed to equip special education leaders with the essential leadership and facilitation skills necessary to excel in their roles as teacher leaders. Participants will develop a deep understanding of teacher leadership, explore effective facilitation strategies, and build the confidence to drive positive change within their school community.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  October 17 January 23 April 24 June 19 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>At Sauk Valley Community College 8:30-2:30 Lunch is included 6 PDHs available</p> </div> </div>	<h4 style="text-align: center;">QUARTERLY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT</h4> <p>Teachers: Join us in these learning opportunities to learn, share, grow, and connect. September 20 — Register today! Special Education Summit Activities will include a keynote from leading scholar, Cathleen Beachboard. Special educators will share chosen sessions specific to their needs, gaining insight into the latest research-based strategies and tips they can apply to supporting students with disabilities in the classroom. December 6 February 7 More information coming soon!</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>At Sauk Valley Community College 8:30-2:30 Lunch is included 6 PDHs available</p> </div>

Please reach out to:
Shauna Dinges at sdinges@iesnetwork.org or Kelly Marcum at kmarcum@iesnetwork.org

The contents of this flyer were developed under a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, #H323A200014. However, those contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the U.S. Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government. Project Officer: Jennifer Coffey.


Illinois Elevating Special Educators Presents:

3rd Annual Special Education Summit


Join Illinois Elevating Special Educators Network for our third annual summit specifically designed to meet the needs of special educators as we launch the 2024-2025 school year. The Summit promises to provide special education professionals opportunities to come together to learn, share, grow, and connect. Summit activities will include a keynote from Cathleen Beachboard, an award-winning educator, best-selling author, and leading expert on raising psychological hope in schools. Cathleen provides actionable tools and strategies tailored to the current educational landscape. Her Building H.O.P.E.® framework has significantly enhanced resilience, well-being, and achievement in thousands of schools across the country. Special educators will also choose sessions specific to their needs, gaining insight into the latest research-based strategies and tips they can apply to supporting students with disabilities in the classroom.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2024
AT SAUK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
REGISTRATION 8-8:30
SESSIONS 8:30-3:00

Visit
ROE47.org
to sign up!



**Please register by
Sept. 13, 2024**



**ILLINOIS ELEVATING
SPECIAL EDUCATORS
NETWORK**


Cost: Free
Lunch is included

**6 Hours PD
Credit**

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BUILDING RESILIENCE IN OUR CHILDREN

SEL CAPACITY BUILDERS

SEL Capacity Builders is dedicated to fostering a strong network of **educators, caregivers, and community leaders** committed to enhancing children's emotional well-being. By providing practical tools and expert knowledge on trauma, attachment, behavior, and more, you will walk away with strategies to use in your classroom, your home, and your workplace to promote resilience.



SCAN ME

Sep 30	Trauma & Attachment	8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Sauk Valley Community College Understand how trauma and attachment affect child development and behavior. Presented by The Knowledge Center at Chaddock.
Nov 06	Youth Mental Health First-Aid	8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Sauk Valley Community College Learn to recognize and respond to mental health issues in youth. This session has a pre-work component.
Feb 07	The School of Hope	8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Sauk Valley Community College Learn how the science of hope can improve academic outcomes, decrease anxiety, and change your life. Presented by Cathleen Beachboard.
Mar 21	SEL Summit	8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Sauk Valley Community College Dive into a transformative summit, designed to equip you with the tools and strategies to build vibrant, inclusive communities within your schools. Keynote by Tom Toney.
Jun 05	Building a Tool-Kit	8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Sauk Valley Community College Build a toolkit of strategies to support children's behavior regulation and resilience and explore the importance of self-care. Presented by Jamie Stuart Taylor, LCSW.

Please contact Grace Heimerdinger-Boake at gheimerdingerboake@roe47.org with any questions.

ROE 47 Computer Science Teacher Leader Program

Session One

The training emphasizes building a strong foundation in computer science education, covering topics like computational thinking, algorithms, programming, and integrating CS into different content areas. Participants will explore resources for teaching CS concepts and collaborative practices like pair programming and debugging.

Session Two

The training delves deeper into integrating computer science (CS) across the curriculum. Participants will explore connections between CS and various content areas for both K-5 and 6-12 grade levels. Practical application will be emphasized through hands-on experience with microbits for grades 6-12. The K-5 session will feature participants designing cross-curricular lessons incorporating unplugged, plugged, and robotic activities for K-5 students.

Session Three

The training deepens CS integration, focusing on physical computing, project-based learning, and AI connections for middle and high schoolers. Elementary teachers will explore microbit basics and designed cross-curricular lessons.

Session Four

This final year 1 session will focus on reflecting on the learning journey and developing actionable plans for integrating computer science into classrooms. Participants will share their experiences, challenges, and successes. We will collaboratively develop strategies for overcoming obstacles and sustaining CS initiatives. Participants will leave equipped with a personalized action plan to implement in their classrooms.

Session Dates

Session One:
MS/HS: September 26
K-5: September 27

Session Two:
MS/HS: January 30
K-5: January 31

Session Three:
MS/HS: March 13
K-5: March 14

Session Four:
MS/HS: June 16
K-5: June 17

Benefits of Participation

- ISTE membership access
- Comprehensive LTC training aligned with new IL CS standards
- Comprehensive 2-year program
- Access to ROE 47 technology lending library
- Ready-to-use classroom resources and lesson plans
- Networking opportunities with fellow educators
- Professional learning hours
- Support for building an IT pathway endorsement program
- Access to student engagement events (e.g., hackathons)
- And more!

To register, visit www.roe47.org
Space is limited in K-5 and 6-12 programs.
Please contact Anji Garza (agarza@roe47.org)
with questions or for more information.

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NEW TEACHER CADRE

If you are a new teacher, certified or non-certified in a teaching role, or a teacher in a new teaching area, certified or non-certified in a teaching role, we have several options of support designed to help you grow professionally and network with other teachers to share ideas, support and build a network both in your district and outside with other schools to share strategies--instructional, classroom management, remote learning, special education and SEL.

For questions, please contact Gail Wright at gwright@roe47.org

Date	Format	Time
Tue., September 24	Virtual	3:30-4:30 PM
Tue., October 22	Virtual	3:30-4:30 PM
Tue., November 19	Virtual	3:30-4:30 PM
Tue., December 17	Virtual	3:30-4:30 PM
Tue., January 28	Virtual	3:30-4:30 PM
Tue., February 18	Virtual	3:30-4:30 PM
Tue., March 11	Virtual	3:30-4:30 PM
Tue., April 29	Virtual	3:30-4:30 PM
Tue., May 13	Virtual	3:30-4:30 PM

SCAN TO REGISTER

Strengthening Young People Against Anxiety

Karen Young
Psychologist
Author
Speaker

Anxiety thrives on unfamiliar situations and the potential for embarrassment, failure, or separation from loved ones, making school a prime trigger. It can impact friendships, confidence, and academic performance, but with the right support, children and teens can thrive.

By attending this workshop, you will gain:

- Valuable insights into the world of an anxious child.
- Practical tools and techniques to confidently support students with anxiety.
- A deeper understanding of how schools can create a buffer against anxiety for all students.

September 5, 2024
3:30 - 5:00 PM
Online Via Zoom

Scan QR Code to register.

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COUNSELOR & SOCIAL WORKER NETWORKING

Connect with colleagues to stay informed about state updates, share best practices, and find support within our professional community.

SESSION DETAILS

Date	Time	Location
September 5	8:30 AM - 10:30 AM	ROE 47 2214 E. 4th Street, Suite B, Sterling
November 7	8:30 AM - 10:30 AM	ROE 47 2214 E. 4th Street, Suite B, Sterling
January 9	8:30 AM - 10:30 AM	ROE 47 2214 E. 4th Street, Suite B, Sterling
April 3	8:30 AM - 10:30 AM	ROE 47 2214 E. 4th Street, Suite B, Sterling

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BEHAVIOR

LEARNING SERIES




From the beginning of the year, your choices impact student behavior. In this series, reflect on your current practices, relate learned strategies into your context, and better understand behaviors beyond your classroom systems.

AUGUST 2024 - MARCH 2025

3:45 PM - 5:00 PM

1.25 PD Hours

Online via ZOOM

www.iesenetwork.org

info@iesenetwork.org

(217) 893-3219



REGISTER NOW

- ★ **BUILD STRONG CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT**
August 29, 2024
- ★ **EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE: THE KEY TO BEHAVIORAL SUPPORT**
September 26, 2024
- ★ **FUNCTIONS OF BEHAVIOR & FUNCTION-BASED STRATEGIES**
October 17, 2024
- ★ **COLLECT BEHAVIOR DATA TO INFORM NEXT STEPS**
November 7, 2024
- ★ **HOW TO BE PROACTIVE WITH CRISIS**
February 6, 2025
- ★ **RESTORATIVE PRACTICES: MAKE LONG TERM IMPACT**
March 6, 2025

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We Invite You To Join Us

Illinois' Transition to a Unified Early Childhood Agency

Northwestern Illinois Listening Session

Join us to learn more about the transition process and share your experiences with Early Childhood Education and Care services. Help ensure rural, northwestern Illinois' voices are included in the development of the new Department of Early Childhood.

Thursday, September 5, 2024

1:00pm – 2:30pm -OR- 6:30pm – 8:00pm

These meetings are hybrid, so you may choose to participate in person (at Dixon Chamber of Commerce & Main Street) or virtually via Zoom. If the virtual option is selected, a Zoom link will be emailed to you after registering.

REGISTER NOW

bit.ly/NWListeningSession

Questions? Contact:
[Abby Hoskins – ahoskins@birthtofiveil.com](mailto:ahoskins@birthtofiveil.com)









Office of Professional Learning & Ed Services: Professional Learning Events

August 2024 Participants - 684

Monday, August 5

LETRS Cohort @ ROE #47

Tuesday, August 6

New Teacher Workshop @ ROE #47

Wednesday, August 7

EdTech Summit @ SVCC

Monday, August 12

Deanery School Improvement Networking Session @ Newman Catholic High School

Opening Institutes

Paw Paw (21), Rock Falls Elementary (130), LaMoille, Eswood (10), Sterling Public Schools (400)

July 2024 in Photos:

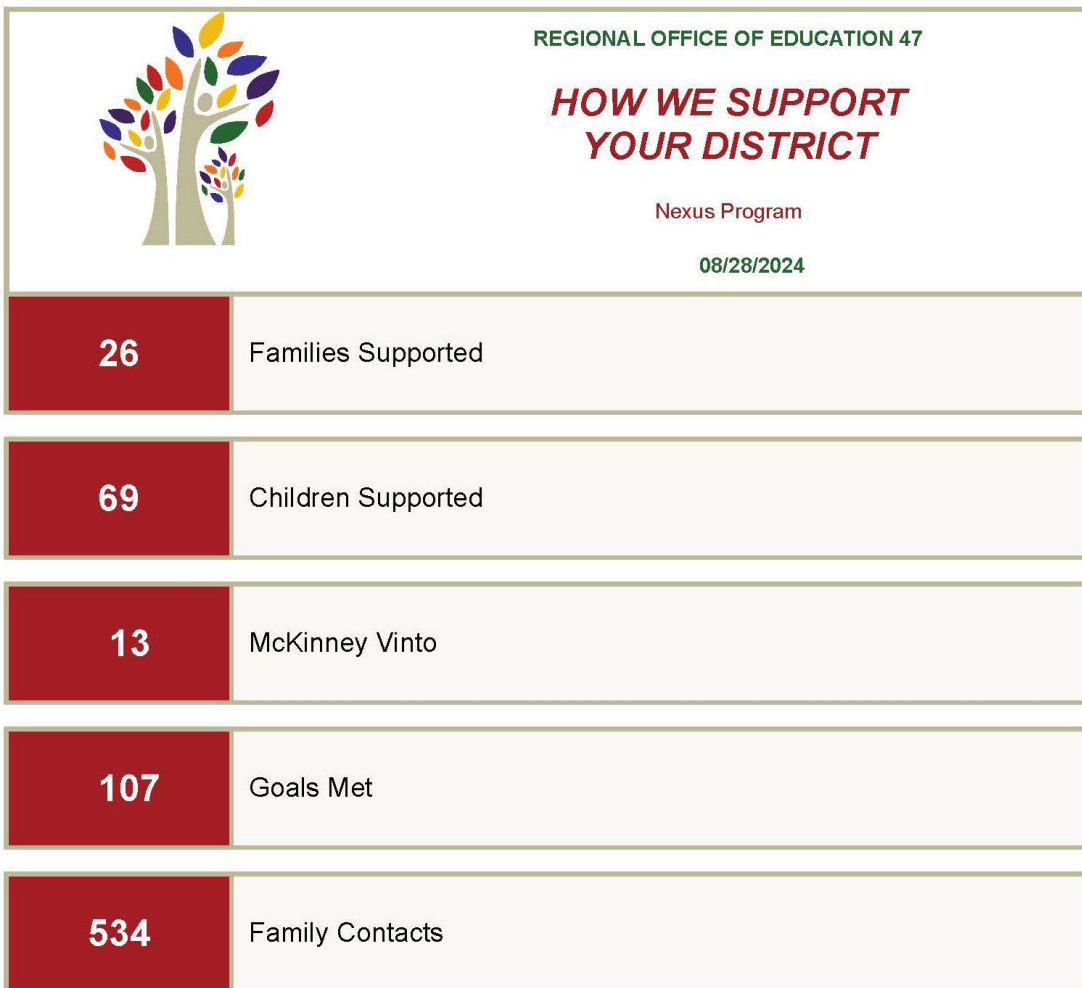






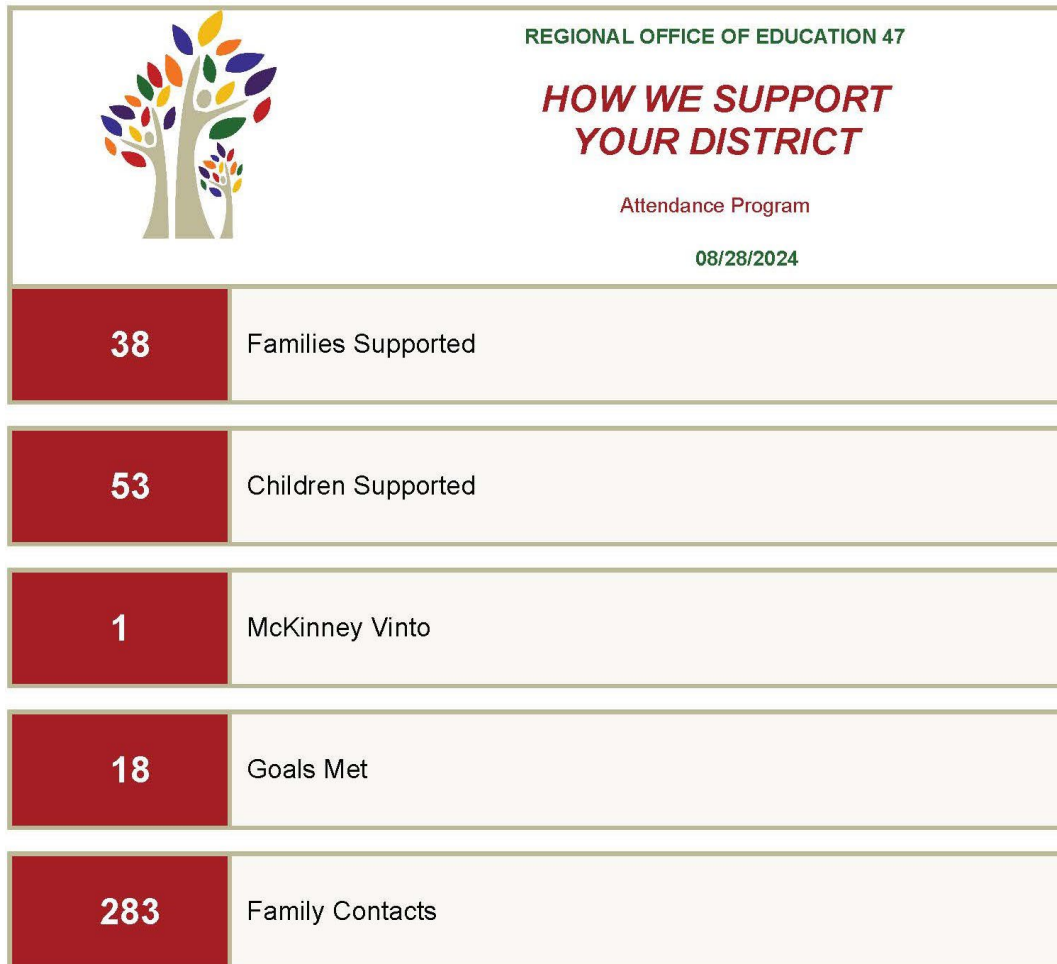
Office of Professional Learning & Ed Services: NEXUS

We are back in action and are full speed ahead already this school year. We have added Mackenzie Garza to our team. We are looking forward to a great 2024-2025 school year!



Office of Professional Learning & Ed Services: Student Attendance Support

We have added two new team members to our team. Tabatha Behrens and Kayla Grennan are our new Attendance Support Specialists. They are already a wonderful addition to our team!



Parents as Teachers First Years

Recruiting, recruiting, recruiting! We have had quite a number of referrals coming into our program recently so we have been busy filling slots with families. Some referrals have come from another home visiting program that lost some staff members. With family consent, they kindly shared the referral information with us so that we could get families enrolled in home visiting services while they work to hire and train new staff.

This type of collaboration has been a goal of our work through the Sauk Valley STARS Early Childhood Education Coalition. We recognize that connecting families to the support services they need sometimes means that we prioritize what is best for families over what may be best for individual programs. This type of collaboration and sharing of resources strengthens all of the home visiting programs and makes us more effective in supporting families.

The four home visiting programs are all actively participating in the STARS Home Visiting Workgroup which is focused on promoting and strengthening birth to 3 home visiting services to support families and communities throughout the region. This workgroup has also been working towards a more coordinated system for intake and referrals to develop even stronger and more equitable collaboration between the programs that operate in the region. Recently, we have developed a shared marketing brochure to provide education about why home visiting is for everyone:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1WRX40b4fEkF1ra3nV6dRdqlvIMPPfdab/view?usp=sharing>

We are also in the beginning stages of developing a short home visiting marketing video that can be shared on social media and with other agencies which includes quotes from actual home visiting participants about the value of home visiting.

Education Outreach Program

As we move forward through the first few weeks of class for the 2024-2025 school year, the Education Outreach Program is busy with testing. There are many different formats of tests that our students have to complete and master.

In order for individuals to get enrolled in our program, we must first conduct a series of CASAS testing. The Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems (CASAS) provides testing of basic academic skills, focusing on Reading and Math, for youth and adults as a curriculum tool to aid in instruction. This allows our program to assess academic gaps and the needs of our students. We also are able to use this as a tool to decide if our student is ready to begin GED testing or if there is a need for 1 on 1 with our teacher, accommodations or tutoring.

Once a student is ready for GED testing, they must first take a GED practice test and pass before allowing for the GED test to be scheduled. The Education Outreach Program takes pride in focusing on the student and their needs in regards to the testing. We sharpen their testing taking skills, boost confidence as well as teach to the test and different test formats. We will continue to accommodate our students' needs at many different levels. "Success is never final."

McKinney Vento Homeless Program

Registration and enrollment is a key time to identify our families that are faced with Transitional Housing Arrangements. Immediate enrollment and support services are vital for enhancing the educational success of our students. We are in the process of offering support to community agencies that work and support our families. District wide trainings are being arranged and provided to help alert all the staff for greater opportunities for identifying our families.

Center For Change

As we embark on the new school year, I am delighted to share the exciting developments at the ROE 47 Center for Change, and the strides we have made in our mission to foster an enriching and inclusive educational environment.

We have begun the school year with the proud launch of the Phoenix Leadership Counsel, a groundbreaking initiative designed to amplify student voices and empower our learners. The Phoenix Leadership Counsel is a student-led organization focused on promoting the growth and success of our students through a range of student-led activities and events. This initiative not only provides our students with valuable leadership experience but also ensures that they play a central role in shaping the direction and culture of our programs.

In addition to the Phoenix Leadership Counsel, we are excited to incorporate student-led tours for new students who have been accepted into our programs. This peer-led approach not only helps new students acclimate more smoothly but also fosters a sense of belonging and community from the moment they step through our doors.

At the Center for Change, our commitment to creating an inclusive and positive learning environment remains steadfast. We believe that collaboration between teachers and students is essential to achieving this goal. By working together, we are able to address individual needs, celebrate diverse perspectives, and support each student's unique journey.

As we continue to implement these initiatives and enhance our programs, we remain dedicated to providing a nurturing space where every student can thrive. Thank you for your continued support and belief in our mission. We look forward to a successful and transformative school year.