

# Regional Office of Education #12

Monte Newlin, Regional Superintendent of Schools

*Serving Clay, Crawford, Jasper, Lawrence, and Richland Counties*

## Quarterly Report of Activities

March - May 2017

*(Many of our services are driven by the school calendar; thereby, reflecting varying numbers.)*

### Bus Driver Trainings

Number Initial Trainings	Number of Initial Training Participants	Number Refresher Trainings	Number of Refresher Training Participants
2	12	0	N/A

### Compliance (School Recognition)

Compliance Visits
11

### Early Childhood Services

Number of Sites	Number of Classrooms	Number of Sessions	Total Students Enrolled	Number of Family Outreach/ Parent Education Events
5	6	9	178	12

### Educator Licensure

Type	Total
Total Licenses Issued	33
Total Educators Registered	66
Total Licenses Registered	67
Total Educator PEL Endorsements Issued	7
Total Substitute Authorizations Issued	9
Total Substitute Licenses Registered	15
Total Educator License with Stipulations (ELs - Paraprofessionals) Issued	7

**Fingerprinting Services for Criminal History Record Information (CHRI)**

<b>Number of Persons Fingerprinted</b>
89

**Health Life/Safety**

<b>Buildings Inspected</b>	<b>Building Permits Issued</b>	<b>Occupancy Permits Issued</b>
1	3	0

**High School Equivalency Verifications (GED Records)**

<b>Number of Records Requests/Verifications</b>
75

**Home School Registrations**

<b>Number of Registrations</b>
3

**Homeless Services**

<b>Number of Students Served</b>	<b>Staff Training Events</b>	<b>Estimated Number of Participants in Staff Trainings</b>
522	0	N/A

**Learning Technology Center VI**

<b>Number of Districts/Entities Served</b>	<b>Number of Events/Trainings</b>	<b>Estimated Number of Participants</b>
189	16	325

**Professional Development**

<b>Number of Events/Trainings</b>	<b>Number of Participants</b>
6	55

**Regional Board of School Trustees**

Meetings	Action
1	Board Reorganization (2 Newly-Elected, 2 Re-Elected)

**Right Track Truancy Program**

Truancy Review Board (TRB) Mtgs	Court Cases	Student Intervention Meetings	Home Visits	School Admin Contacts	TRB Summons Delivered
14	3	51	2	115	16

**Student Events/Programs**

Number of Events	Number of Participants
1	200+

**Student Work Permits**

Number of Permits Issued
23

**Truant Alternative/Optional Education/Regional Safe School Programs (ASSIST Programs)**

Number of Students Enrolled in Truant Alternative	Number of Students Enrolled in Safe School
39	19

**Activities of the Regional Superintendent**

Date	Activity
Mar 1, 2017	ROE 12 Staff Meeting in Newton
Mar 2-3, 2017	Illinois Computing Educators (ICE) Conference in St. Charles
Mar 7, 2017	IARSS Legislative Reception in Springfield
Mar 8, 2017	IARSS General Membership Meeting in Springfield
Mar 15, 2017	IARSS Area VI Meeting in Mt. Vernon
Mar 16, 2017	ISBE Phone Conference
Mar 17, 2017	Meeting with Crawford County Buildings & Grounds Chairman in Robinson
Mar 21, 2017	Illinois State Scholar Banquet in Robinson

Date	Activity
Mar 23, 2017	Walkthrough of Crawford County Annex Building
Mar 29, 2017	SIUC Educational Law and Leadership Conference in Carbondale
Mar 30, 2017	ISBE Phone Conference
Apr 4, 2017	ISBE ESSA State Plan Media Conference Call
Apr 5, 2017	Crawford County Building & Grounds Committee Meeting in Robinson
Apr 20, 2017	IARSS Communications Committee Meeting (via GoTo Meeting)
Apr 25, 2017	Administrator Academy #781 in Springfield
May 4, 2017	IARSS General Membership Meeting in Springfield
May 8, 2017	Crawford County CEO Class Presentations
May 12, 2017	Meeting with Crawford County Buildings & Grounds Chairman in Robinson
May 15, 2017	Regional Board of School Trustees Reorganizational Meeting in Olney
May 17, 2017	IARSS Area VI Meeting in Mt. Vernon
May 24, 2017	ISBE Phone Conference
May 30, 2017	Interview with Alia Blackburn, WTHI-TV, Re: State Budget and School Funding Reform

**Regional Superintendent's Mileage**

Total Miles
4368

**ROE #12 Events of Note**

***ROE 12 Hosts Administrator Academy to Assist Local Schools in Implementing SB 100***

The new Illinois discipline legislation effective September, 2016 (SB 100) requires the promotion of positive and healthy school climates. This workshop, held at Highland Church of Christ in Robinson on March 17th, allowed participants to explore the use of Restorative Practices in Schools as a means for developing and sustaining effective classroom/school management strategies and appropriate disciplinary methods to meet this requirement.



### ***ROE 12 Salutes Region's Illinois State Scholars at 17th Annual Celebration of Excellence Banquet***

Over 200 were in attendance to honor the 49 Illinois State Scholars from Clay, Crawford, Jasper, Lawrence, and Richland Counties at the 17th Annual Celebration of Excellence Banquet on March 21st, at the Robinson Community Center. The program is sponsored annually by the Regional Office of Education #12 and Regional Superintendent of Schools Monte Newlin. Students, school administrators, parents, and other guests enjoyed a catered dinner and an address by Rondrell Moore of WTHI-TV. Each student was presented a certificate commemorating their achievement as an Illinois State Scholar, a designation which only about 10% of the state's high school seniors achieve through a combination of class rank and ACT test scores.

More pics from the evening can be viewed on the ROE 12 website at [http://www.roe12.net/crbst\\_33.html](http://www.roe12.net/crbst_33.html).



*Above: (L-R) Richland County High School Assistant Principal Andy Julian, Regional Superintendent of Schools Monte Newlin, RCHS Honoree Weston DeShon, WTHI-TV's Rondrell Moore.*

### ***ROE 12 Provides Training to Local Social Studies Teachers for the Implementation of New Standards***



Participants from across the five-county region were immersed in the New Social Science Standards at an ROE 12 workshop at Lawrenceville High School on March 24th. By discussing the progression of social science instruction in the state, in addition to participating in several activities designed to strengthen knowledge of social science practices, teachers walked away with materials and numerous other resources to improve the instruction they provide in their social studies classrooms.

**ROE 12 Partners With Feed the Children to Provide Backpacks to Local Homeless Students**

In the latest example of government working with non-profits and the private sector to help our most vulnerable students, the Regional Office of Education #12 recently joined forces with Feed the Children to distribute backpacks filled with school supplies, non-perishable food, and reading books to qualifying students in the five counties served by the ROE.

On Tuesday, April 4, 2017, ROE 12 officials collected the materials from the Feed the Children drop-off point at Black Diamond Harley-Davidson in Marion. These backpacks and supplies are provided by Feed the Children, an international nonprofit relief organization headquartered in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Feed the Children delivers food, medicine, clothing, and other necessities to individuals, children, and families who lack the essentials due to famine, war, poverty, or natural disaster.



ROE 12 administers the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Education grant for Clay, Crawford, Jasper, Lawrence, and Richland counties. Regional Superintendent of Schools Monte Newlin said that approximately 475 students in the five county region qualified for homeless assistance last school year. So far this school year, 458 students have received homeless assistance from his office. Newlin said, "Even though our's is a rural area, we still have students who qualify as homeless. Although there are several criteria that must be met, basically, if a student lacks a fixed, regular, nighttime abode, they can be considered as homeless. Whether it's a temporary situation, or an ongoing issue, many families and their children find themselves in a homeless situation. Poverty, domestic abuse situations, and family disfunction are all contributing factors to the relatively high numbers of students who qualify."

Brandy Sechrest is the ROE's Homeless Liaison and works directly with local school districts to identify and provide assistance to those students with the greatest need. Identification is key as the impact of homelessness is profound and severe. Students suffer academically, as recent statistics indicate that half of the children who are homeless are held back for one grade and 22% are held back for multiple grades. Additionally, studies indicate that homeless kids experience higher dropout rates, are two times as likely to have learning disabilities, and are significantly more likely to fall short of meeting statewide standards in math and reading. Regarding physical and emotional wellness, homeless students are three times as likely to have an emotional disturbance as their peers, and are three times more likely to attempt suicide. Newlin said, "By providing assistance to keep kids in school, we can hopefully help to break the downward cycle caused by homelessness." Government-nonprofit-private sector partnerships can provide some of the best efforts at addressing social issues such as student homelessness.

More information can be obtained on the Regional Services page of the ROE's website at [www.roe12.org](http://www.roe12.org) or by calling the Crawford County ROE office at 618.544.2719.

*Above: ROE 12's Right Track Truancy Director Chad Loudermilk unloads homeless supplies for transport back to the five-county region.*

### **ROE 12 Trains Local High School Students in Youth Mental Health First Aid**

ROE 12 provided training to student leaders from Hutsonville, Robinson, and Newton high schools on May 9th at Highland Church of Christ in Robinson.

Youth Mental Health First Aid is designed to teach parents, family members, caregivers, teachers, school staff, peers, neighbors, health and human services workers, and other caring citizens how to help an adolescent (age 12-18) who is experiencing a mental health or addictions challenge or is in crisis. Youth Mental Health First Aid is primarily designed for adults who regularly interact with young people. The course introduces common mental health challenges for youth, reviews typical adolescent development, and teaches a 5-step action plan for how to help young people in both crisis and non-crisis situations. Topics covered include anxiety, depression, substance use, disorders in which psychosis may occur, disruptive behavior disorders (including AD/HD), and eating disorders.



The training was offered to all ROE 12 high schools.

### **Regional Board of School Trustees Reorganizes**

The RBST reorganized on Monday, May 15th at their meeting in the Richland County Courthouse in Olney. Newly-elected or re-elected members sworn-in included: Travis Farley (Jasper), Marilyn Holt (Richland), and Sheila Mikeworth (Crawford). Julia LaRoche-New (Lawrence) was absent, but will be sworn-in at the next meeting of the Board.



In addition to establishing the meeting dates (first Monday of January, April, July, and October), the Board also set 7:00 pm as the meeting time. William "Bill" Staser (Clay) was re-elected to the position of President of the Board, while Travis Farley was elected Vice President.

The Board also heard updates on the passing of former Board Member, Bob Fear (Jasper), and the introduction of [Senate Floor Amendment 1 to SB 442](#), which proposes to abolish the Regional Boards statewide.

*Above: Regional Superintendent of Schools Monte Newlin administers the oath of office to re-elected Board Member Travis Farley-Jasper County (standing at left), and newly-elected members Sheila Mikeworth-Crawford County (standing, center), and Marilyn Holt-Richland County (standing at right) while current Board Members Gene Allen-Lawrence County (seated, far left) and Kaye Holscher-Crawford County (seated second from right) watch on.*

***Harris Retires from  
Regional Board Service***

Regional Board Member Bob Harris officially retired from the Regional Board of School Trustees at their Reorganizational meeting on May 15th. His years of service to the citizens and students of the five-county region date back to the days of the prior Crawford-Lawrence Regional Board.



*Bob Harris accepts a plaque marking his years of service to the RBST from Regional Superintendent of Schools Monte Newlin.*

***ROE 12 Conducts Yearly Pre-K Screenings***

ROE 12 Early Childhood staff finished up Pre-K Screenings in Robinson on Monday, May 15th. Over 100 early learners were registered for screening, which was a joint effort with Robinson CUSD 2. In 2016-2017, ROE 12 Early Childhood programs conducted nine full and half-day sessions in six classrooms throughout five sites in the five-county region, with a total of 173 students served. For more information about ROE 12 Pre-K, visit our website through the Regional Services Page at [www.roe12.org](http://www.roe12.org).



*ROE 12 Pre-K Teacher Kimberly Kocher assesses a student at the Robinson area screening.*



**Regional Superintendent Discusses State Budget and School Funding Reform**

Regional Superintendent of Schools Monte Newlin was interviewed by WTHI-TV's Alia Blackburn on May 30th regarding the challenges local school districts face with the constant uncertainty surrounding the lack of state budget. Compounding the issue is the backlog of payments that are owed to local schools for Mandated Categoricals. The need for a new school funding formula in Illinois was also discussed; one that will bring about adequacy and equity.



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**Have Questions About Anything In This Report?**

Contact Regional Superintendent Monte Newlin directly via email at [mnewlin@roe12.org](mailto:mnewlin@roe12.org).

**Want To Be On Our Mailing List?**

Contact Regional Superintendent Monte Newlin at [mnewlin@roe12.org](mailto:mnewlin@roe12.org) and you'll receive ROE 12 communications that go directly to the inbox of over 1800 educators and partners in our five-county region!