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Dr. Jenner's Weekly Update

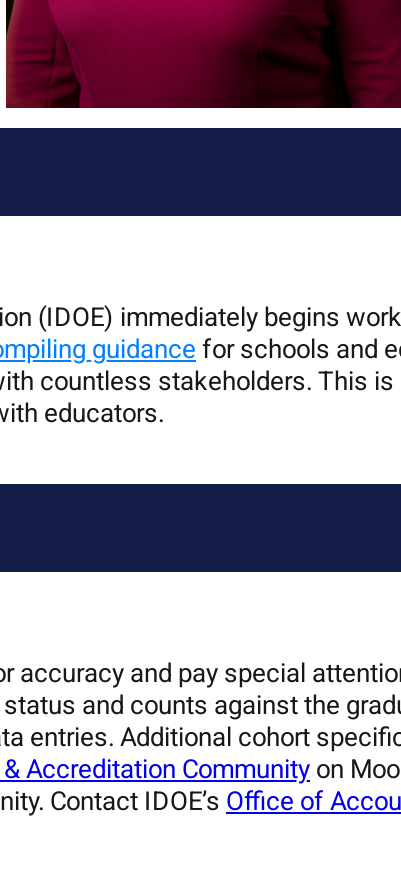
Weekly Newsletter from the Indiana Department of Education

June 20, 2025

A Message from Dr. Katie Jenner

Often during the school year, it is a constant hustle and bustle as we work to teach and support our students. Since today is the *official* start of summer, I wanted to take a moment to remind/encourage you to take some time to unplug over the next few weeks (before the new school year kicks off). It is absolutely essential to take some time for YOU...to relax, enjoy family and friends, and recharge.

Thank you, as always, for all that you do for our students.



Important Legislative Guidance

REMINDER: 2025 Legislative Guidance

Following the close of each legislative session, the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) immediately begins working to implement newly-enacted legislation impacting K-12 education, which includes [compiling guidance](#) for schools and educators. This [guidance](#) is a product of robust cross-agency collaboration and partnership with countless stakeholders. This is an iterative document that will continue to be updated and improved in collaboration with educators.

Office of Accountability

REMINDER: 2025 Cohort Locking Soon

The 2025 cohort will lock on Monday, June 30. Please check your cohort reports for accuracy and pay special attention to any students with an Unknown cohort status. The Unknown cohort status is a dropout status and counts against the graduation rate. Many Unknown cohort statuses can be fixed by the school/corporation via data entries. Additional cohort specific details can be found in the [Cohort & Graduation Rate](#) section of the [School Accountability & Accreditation Community](#) on Moodle. The case-sensitive enrollment key for the Moodle community is AccountabilityCommunity. Contact IDOE's [Office of Accountability](#) with any questions.

Office of Assessment

NEW: IREAD-3 Summer 2025 Testing Window Closes Friday, June 27

All students participating in the summer retest administration must finish testing by Friday, June 27. Student results are available in the Centralized Reporting System (CRS). Individual Student Reports (ISRs) may be shared immediately with students, families, and teachers. Results for students testing via paper-and-pencil will populate within CRS on a rolling basis as paper materials are received by the scoring vendor. As a reminder, scores undergo quality checks and will be considered final on Monday, July 28. Aggregate scores (e.g., total percent of students who passed) should not be shared publicly (e.g., on school websites) until IDOE releases this data in August. Aggregate scores from CRS may be shared internally with school staff for discussions at any time. Contact the [Indiana Assessment Help Desk](#) with specific questions or for assistance with accessing results.

REMINDER: 2025-2026 Advanced Placement (AP) Exam Subsidy Guidance

Indiana's biennial budget provides funding to cover the fees for AP and Cambridge International exams taken by Indiana students in grades nine through 12 who are enrolled in an accredited public or non-public school. A maximum of two exams per student, per year may be funded. Find additional information in this [memo](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Assessment](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Accessibility Advisory Group Participation Requested

IDOE is seeking participants for the Accessibility Advisory Group during the 2025-2026 school year. The purpose of this cooperative is to provide input regarding accommodations and accessibility features to students requiring additional support for statewide assessments. The advisory group consists of expert consultants and educators with distinct knowledge of specific populations utilizing accommodations. Interested educators should submit this [JotForm](#) to apply. Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Assessment](#) with any questions.

Office of Educator Talent and Literacy Center

REMINDER: 2025-2026 Annual K-8 School Reading Plan

[Indiana Code \(IC\) 20-32-8.5](#) and [511 Indiana Administrative Code \(IAC\) 6.2-3-1](#) require schools with students enrolled in kindergarten through grade eight to submit an annual reading plan to IDOE by Monday, June 30. IDOE's Literacy Center released the 2025 [annual reading plan guidance](#). Contact IDOE's [Literacy Center](#) with additional questions.

REMINDER: Nominations Open for the 2026 RISE Classified Staff Award

Districts, charters, and non-public schools across the state are encouraged to nominate up to two classified school employees for the [Recognizing Inspiring School Employees \(RISE\) Award](#). The RISE Award honors and promotes the excellence exhibited by classified school employees who provide exemplary service to students in pre-kindergarten through high school. The deadline to submit nominations is Monday, July 7, at 5 p.m. ET. Nominations can be submitted via [JotForm](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Educator Talent](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: 2026 Teacher of the Year Application Now Available

The Indiana Teacher of the Year Program works to inspire, rejuvenate, and celebrate the teaching profession by recognizing outstanding teachers from across the state. Local schools are encouraged to participate in an annual selection process and local Teacher(s) of the Year are encouraged to complete the state application process by Monday, July 7. More Information on the 2026 Indiana Teacher of the Year selection process can be found [here](#). For more information contact intoy@doe.in.gov.

REMINDER: Weekly Office Hours Preferred Universal Screener Acadience Reading

Acadience Learning, Inc will hold weekly office hours every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. ET for school leaders and educators to support the implementation of the assessment as the state's preferred screener. Click [here](#) to join each week. More information can also be found on the Indiana Acadience webpage [here](#). Contact IDOE's [Literacy Center](#) with any questions.

Office of Information Technology

NEW: EdTech Index Now Available for EdTech Procurement Processes

The EdTech Index is an initiative led by ISTE+ASCD in partnership with CoSN, Digital Promise, CAST, SETDA, 1edTech, and InnovateEDU. The Index aggregates trusted third-party validations of digital products aligned to five important quality indicators: Safe, Evidence-Based, Inclusive, Usable, and Interoperable. Here are three ways the Edtech Index may be useful to you:

1. Review the information in the EdTech Index to obtain critical insight into products you are evaluating.
2. Consider including language about five quality indicators in your procurement processes. [Sample language that may be included in your RFPs may be found at this link.](#)
3. Ask EdTech providers you are in contact with to ensure their products are up-to-date on the Edtech Index. [A sample email is also available that you can send to companies that work with your district.](#)

You are encouraged to explore the EdTech Index and consider how this resource might benefit your own procurement processes. If you have questions about how to do so, please contact [Brad Hagg](#), Director of Educational Technology.

Office of School Finance

NEW: School Technology Advancement Account (STAA) Applications

School corporations may file an application for an STAA through Friday, July 11. The STAA application can be completed [online](#) and must be completed in one sitting. A sample application and certification page can be found in [Moodle](#). Contact commonschoolfund@doe.in.gov with any questions.

REMINDER: StateAid Maintenance

To prepare for fiscal year 2026, the tuition support worksheet portion of StateAid is not currently available. An announcement will be made when the worksheet is available again.

REMINDER: Annual Finance Workshop

The Office of School Finance will virtually host the Annual Finance Workshop later this month. Videos will be available in a couple weeks on our Moodle community. An announcement will be made when recordings are posted. On Wednesday, June 25, from 10:30 a.m. ET, the Office of School Finance will host a special question and answer session. The link to the question form and to the office hours are posted in Moodle.

Office of Special Education, English Learning, and Migrant Education

NEW: IDOE Special Programs Training Resources Available

IDOE is launching a new statewide platform for managing Individual Education Programs (IEPs) and Individual Learning Plans (ILPs) for the 2025-2026 school year. Developed in partnership with PowerSchool, IDOE Special Programs will replace the current statewide IEP and ILP platform. Users can explore the [benefits](#) and [features](#) of the new system via short videos. To support the transition to IDOE Special Programs, a [communication dashboard](#) has been created as a centrally located hub for information and frequently asked questions. All schools will have access to IDOE Special Programs starting in late July. Please fill out this [user support Jotform](#) with any feedback, contact specialeducation@doe.in.gov or englishlearners@doe.in.gov with questions.

NEW: All Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part B Reimbursements

IDOE is currently compiling data for the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR), which includes all IDEA Part B expenses schools must submit individual requests through June 30, 2025, and for July 1, 2025. Schools must submit separate reimbursement requests for June and July to specialpartb@doe.in.gov to avoid potential delay with your payment. Reimbursements are due on the first or 15th of the month. Contact IDOE's [Office of Special Education Part B Grants team](#) with any questions.

NEW: Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Part B Grant Proportionate Share Release Request Forms Will Be Available Tuesday, July 1

The FY 2024 Part B 611 and 619 grant proportionate share release forms will be available on Tuesday, July 1, in the [Office of Special Education Moodle Community](#). Completed requests with supporting documentation must be submitted to IDOE's [Office of Special Education Part B Grants team](#) by Friday, August 29. Following the acceptance of the release form, a Part B grant budget modification request must be completed by Monday, September 15, to transfer funds across budget scopes. Download the release request form and instructions from the [Office of Special Education Moodle Community](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Special Education](#) with questions.

NEW: Special Education Frequently Asked Questions

IDOE's Office of Special Education has outlined [frequently asked questions](#) addressing common topics pertaining to special education. Contact the [Office of Special Education](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Summer Spotlight - Good Cause Exemptions for English Learners (ELs)

IDOE's English Learning team will be hosting a virtual session on Wednesday, June 25, at 10 a.m. ET to spotlight Good Cause Exemption details for eligible ELs. In this session, key information found in the [Process & Considerations for Issuing a Good Cause Exemption](#) guidance and other IDOE resources will be reviewed, along with time for question and answer. Visit the [Indiana EL Professional Development Opportunities Calendar](#) for the meeting link. Contact IDOE's [Office of English Learning and Migrant Education](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: 2025-2026 School Year RoboKind Grant Opportunity

Through House Enrolled Act 1001 (2025), IDOE offers the RoboKind Grant opportunity for select corporations/schools to assist LEAs that have proportionate share balances or are planning to complete a Proportionate Share Release. FY 2024 611 and 619 grants will close on Tuesday, September 30. This forum will answer questions and provide support for LEAs to expend funds for students with disabilities parentally placed in a non-public or homeschool setting. Contact partbgrants@doe.in.gov with any questions

REMINDER: Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Special Education Grant Assurances Due Tuesday, July 1

FY 2026 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part B Grant Assurances templates and instructions for using the Grant Management System are now available for completion. They are here: Moodle>Fiscal>Part B Grants for Special Education>FY26 Grant Information>Assurances. To reserve the earliest reimbursement effective date for the FY 2026 Part B grant period, public school corporations, charter schools, and state schools must submit correctly completed Assurances for the FY 2026 Part B grants in the Grant Management System on or before Tuesday, July 1, 2025. Contact partbgrants@doe.in.gov with any questions.

REMINDER: 2026 General Education Provision Act (GEPA) Forms Due Tuesday, July 1

To comply with Section 427 of GEPA, local educational agencies (LEAs) requesting IDEA Part B funds must have an approved GEPA statement of compliance on file. If an LEA needs to update its GEPA section 427 form, a new form will need to be completed and uploaded to the IDOE's grant management system. The GEPA form can be found in Moodle>Fiscal>Part B Grants for Special Education>FY26 Grant Information>GEPA Section 427. All questions must be answered on the GEPA form. Contact IDOE's [Office of Special Education](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Encumber All FY 2024 Part B Grant Funds by Tuesday, September 30

To ensure sufficient time for budget modification review and approval, submit all FY 2024 IDEA Part B grant budget modification requests by Monday, September 15. All FY 2024 Part B funds must be encumbered by Tuesday, September 30. The FY 2024 Part B grant reimbursement requests must be submitted to specialpartb@doe.in.gov by Monday, December 15. The form to request the FY 2024 Part B Grant Proportionate Share Release form to request will become available on Tuesday, July 1. The due date for the next round of Part B monitoring reports is Thursday, July 31. All Part B grant forms and related guidance are available under Part B Grants for Special Education in the Office of Special Education Moodle Community's Fiscal section. Contact IDOE's [Office of Special Education](#) with any questions.

Office of Student Pathways and Opportunities

NEW: Alternative Education Program Funding

As you may know, this was a very tight budget year, and as a result, many agencies saw funding cuts. One of these cuts was the Alternative Education budget line item. Historically, approved alternative education programs have received a distribution on September 1, utilizing funds from the current fiscal year. Without dedicated funding for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, approved alternative education programs will not receive an allocation on September 1, 2025. Per state statute, IDOE will continue to review and approve new programs, as well as renewals. The [application](#) window for program renewals for the 2025-2026 school year will remain open through Monday, June 30. Contact studentpathways_altd@doe.in.gov with questions.

Office of Teaching and Learning, Digital Learning, and Kindergarten Readiness

NEW: Indiana Digital Intervention Training and Implementation Grant Awardees

IDOE is pleased to announce the 33 awardees for the Digital Intervention Training and Implementation Grant. This grant funds professional development and comprehensive supports for teachers, principals and other school leaders to promote implementation of high-quality interventions needed to effectively prepare all students. The award memo with the list of recipients can be found [here](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Digital Learning](#) with any questions.

NEW: Best Practices in Transitioning to Kindergarten Course - Spanish Version

A new self-paced course, [Best Practices in Transitioning to Kindergarten](#), based on Indiana's Early Learning Transition Values, is now available in Spanish in the [Indiana Learning Lab](#). This [course](#) is available with a free account and is recommended for both preschool and kindergarten educators and administrators whose preferred language is Spanish. Throughout the course, participants will learn more about each transition value through specific examples, identify concrete action steps, and use resources to bring the values into daily practice. Contact IDOE's [Office of Kindergarten Readiness](#) with any questions.

Office of Title Grants and Support

REMINDER: Indiana Program Administrators Leadership Institute (INPALI) Applications Now Open

INPALI is a no-cost three-year program that offers additional support in partnership between INPALI mentors and IDOE's federal grants team. The program includes a one-day, in-person orientation along with quarterly virtual check-in meetings and monthly communication with IDOE staff. This year's orientation will be on Monday, September 22. [Applications are available via the Jotform](#) for new mentees. An [assurance form](#), signed by both the applicant and the applicant's supervisor, is required for the application. Both the assurance form and a current resume are required to be uploaded via the Jotform when applying. Contact INPALI Program Coordinators, [Gabriela Escoto](#) or [Amanda Hedden](#) with any questions

REMINDER: Ed-Flex Waiver Applications #2 and #4

The [Ed-Flex waiver applications](#) for waiver #2 or #4 are due Wednesday, July 30, for implementation or continued use of previously approved waivers in the 2025-2026 school year (FFY25 Title IV budget application for waiver #4). As noted in the [Ed-Flex FAQ](#), applications for waiver use in cohort 2 are required annually. Please note, a waiver #2 application for paraprofessional requirement flexibility is required if an LEA is using any hiring requirements that do not meet the three federally defined requirements: 1) Completed two years of study at an institution of higher education; or 2) Obtained an associate's (or higher) degree; or 3) Met a rigorous standard of quality through a formal State or local academic assessment (ParaPathways). Contact [Amanda Hedden](#) with questions regarding waiver #2 and TitleIV@doe.in.gov with questions regarding waiver #4.

REMINDER: June Coffee Chat

Join IDOE's Office of Title Grants and Support on [Microsoft Teams](#) to discuss 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) during June's coffee chat on Thursday, June 26, at 10 a.m. ET. Contact Title@doe.in.gov with any questions or topic suggestions.

REMINDER: FFY2025/FY2025 Pre-application Now Available

The FFY2025/FY2025 Pre-application is now available through the [Title Grants Pre-app Moodle](#). All instructions, forms, and submission information may be found within the Moodle course. The Pre-application is due July 1, 2025 (please note, reimbursement eligibility begins July 1, 2025 or the date at which the Pre-application is submitted in reviewable format, whichever is later). Contact titel@doe.in.gov with any questions.

News From Our Partners

NEW FROM THE INDIANA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INSTITUTE FOR WORKFORCE EXCELLENCE: Indiana Intern Day 2025

Thursday, July 31, is Indiana Intern Day! Join [Work and Learn Indiana](#), and the [Indiana Commission for Higher Education](#) in celebrating Hoosier interns. Commit to recognizing your interns on social media and offline as we acknowledge the value and impact of interns and internship programs. Make sure your organization pledges to participate in Indiana Intern Day by filling out the [online pledge](#) form. You'll receive a digital content kit with sample social media posts, graphics, and ways to celebrate interns!

NEW FROM THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES: Flocking Together at the Indianapolis Zoo

Join Indiana Project WILD and Project Learning Tree (PLT) at the Hix Institute at the Indianapolis Zoo on Saturday, August 16, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. as we discover the wonderful world of birds! Learn how you can engage your K-10 students with the amazing adaptations, habitats, and behaviors of birds through exciting zoo experiences and hands-on activities for your classroom! All participants will receive Flying WILD from Project WILD and Together for Birds from PLT, as well as other resources to support your class exploration of avian life. Please bring a lunch and dress for the weather, we will be spending time outside! Register [here](#) or contact Lexi Eiler, IN PLT Coordinator at leiler@dnr.IN.gov or 463-253-8835 for more information. Registration will be capped at 30 participants so register today!

NEW FROM THE ATLAS PROJECT: Free K-12 Assistive Technology Training

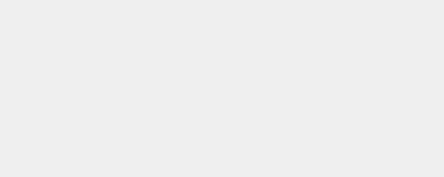
Are you a teacher, SLP, OT, PT, or education professional? Join us for an insightful workshop on Assistive Technology (AT) designed to support all students in creating an accessible classroom. This session will take place on Thursday, June 26, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. ET virtually. You will learn:

- What assistive technology is and how it works
- Tools and strategies to enhance student independence
- Practical resources to use in schools and at home

Whether you're new to AT or looking to expand your knowledge, this session is packed with useful, actionable insights! [Register today](#).

REMINDER FROM ACADIENCE LEARNING: Register for Training

Acadience Learning is excited to have Acadience Reading K-6, be named the Preferred Universal Screener for Indiana Schools. We are partnering with the Indiana Department of Education to provide support to schools to help them onboard Acadience Reading K-6, including support for our online scoring and data management platform, Acadience Learning Online (ALO). Please visit our Indiana-specific [website](#) for information and updates. Click [here](#) for more information.



Weekly Updates

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