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# Dr. Jenner's Weekly Update

## Weekly Newsletter from the Indiana Department of Education

July 11, 2025

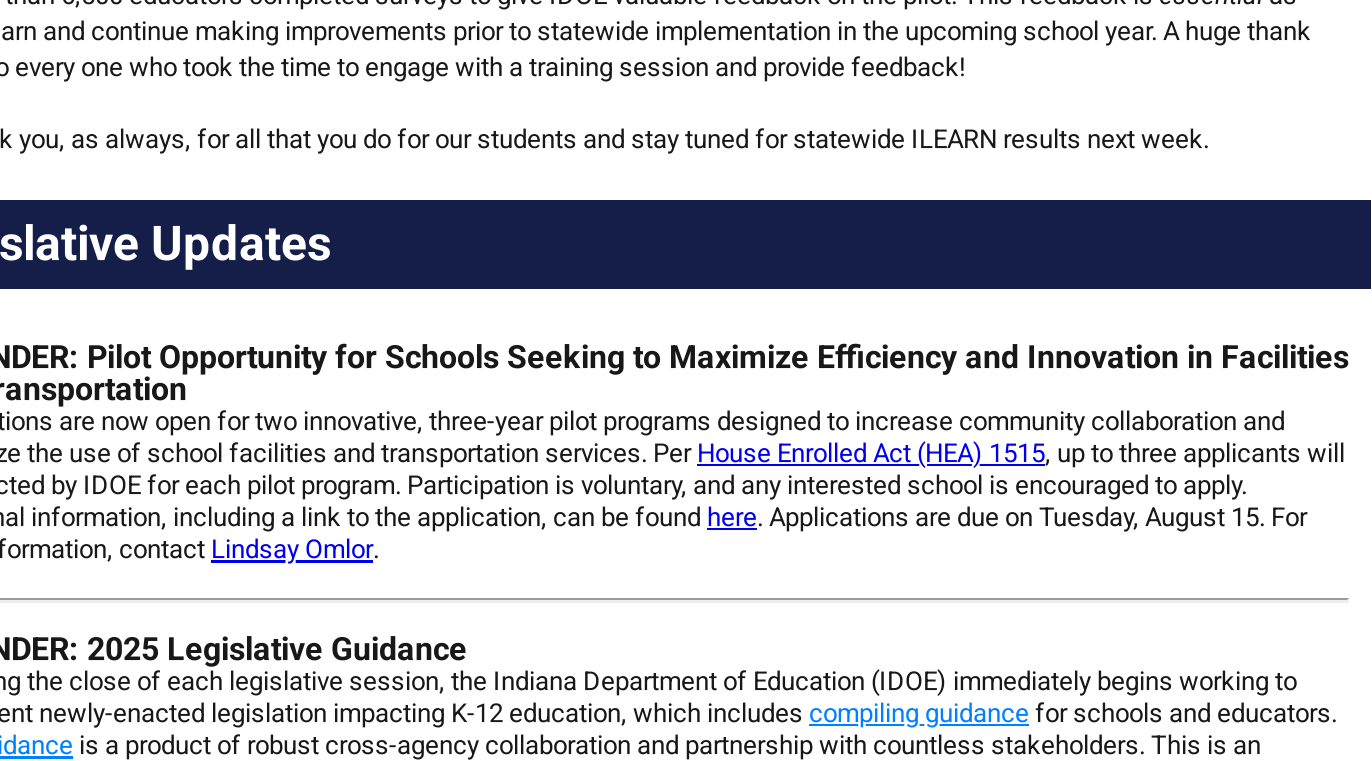
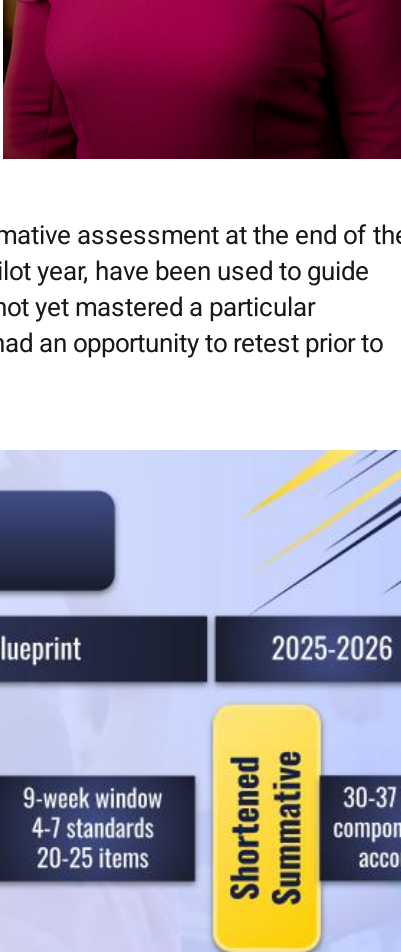
### A Message from Dr. Katie Jenner

Every year in July, we release ILEARN results from the previous school year. This data is always highly anticipated, and we look forward to sharing results and key takeaways at next week's State Board of Education meeting.

Prior to the release of the results, let's take a look back at the extensive work of our educators to prepare students for success on ILEARN, particularly the many schools that opted in to pilot the new ILEARN Through-Year assessment.

As you probably recall, the redesign of ILEARN began back in January 2022 as a direct result of feedback from educators, as well as parents/families. They highlighted the need for more real-time, actionable data to better support student learning throughout the year, rather than waiting until the end of the year for results. Additionally, the redesign allowed schools and educators to strengthen the alignment between curriculum, instruction, and assessment.

The redesigned assessment has [three Checkpoints](#) and a shortened summative assessment at the end of the school year. These checkpoints are not punitive in any way and over this pilot year, have been used to guide student learning. For example, if a Checkpoint showed that a student had not yet mastered a particular standard, the student received additional intervention and instruction and had an opportunity to retest prior to the summative assessment at the end of the year.



This year, an incredible 75% of schools serving grades 3-8 piloted the through-year model, which is about 1,350 schools! Across the entire year, more than 2.1 million ILEARN Checkpoint Opportunity 1 tests were administered to students.

By the end of the year, 65% of teachers participated in an additional development session about the Checkpoints and more than 6,500 educators completed surveys to give IDOE valuable feedback on the pilot. This feedback is *essential* as we learn and continue making improvements prior to statewide implementation in the upcoming school year. A huge thank you to every one who took the time to engage with a training session and provide feedback!

Thank you, as always, for all that you do for our students and stay tuned for statewide ILEARN results next week.

### Legislative Updates

#### REMINDER: Pilot Opportunity for Schools Seeking to Maximize Efficiency and Innovation in Facilities and Transportation

Applications are now open for two innovative, three-year pilot programs designed to increase community collaboration and maximize the use of school facilities and transportation services. Per [House Enrolled Act \(HEA\) 1515](#), up to three applicants will be selected by IDOE for each pilot program. Participation is voluntary, and any interested school is encouraged to apply. Additional information, including a link to the application, can be found [here](#). Applications are due on Tuesday, August 15. For more information, contact [Lindsay Omlor](#).

#### 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 Assessment

#### NEW: ILEARN, I AM, and SAT School Day Statewide Results Available Wednesday, July 16

IDOE will present final spring 2025 ILEARN, I AM, and SAT School Day results to the Indiana State Board of Education on Wednesday, July 16. Following approval, corporation- and school-wide data may be shared publicly, and schools must ensure final results are/have been provided to students and families. IDOE is unable to release student results to parents due to student privacy laws; it is the school's responsibility to provide results in a timely manner. Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Assessment](#) with any questions.

### Office of Educator Talent and Literacy Center

#### UPDATE: Early Literacy Professional Development Approval and Praxis Voucher Request

Educators who need to submit a request to verify completion of an approved 80 hours can continue to follow the process outlined [here](#). Educators that are requesting a Praxis voucher have until Sunday, August 31, and based on availability, to follow the process. Educators must schedule their exam within six months of receiving their voucher. Information about future opportunities with Keys to Literacy will be shared as it becomes available. Contact IDOE's [Literacy Center](#) with any questions.

### Office of Information Technology

#### REMINDER: Needed—Organization Leaders' Designation/Confirmation of Security Coordinators

Access to most IDOE applications depend on the accurate role assignment within the LINK Portal. All superintendents and leaders of non-public schools should login to LINK and review/update who their Security Coordinators are.

- Instructions for organization leaders on how to designate/update the security coordinators is found [here](#).
- New public and Choice schools setup of the LINK portal is found [here](#).
- If you are a new superintendent or the organization leader of a non-public school and need the first account configured, please email [link@doe.in.gov](mailto:link@doe.in.gov).

The [LINK Portal](#) is able to recognize all public, charter, and accredited non-public schools' local Google G-Suite or Microsoft 365 accounts. IDOE configures the organization's leader as the first account, and then this person logs in to designate up to two security coordinators, who are responsible for overseeing the setup of roles for others in the organization. Contact [link@doe.in.gov](mailto:link@doe.in.gov) with any questions.

#### REMINDER: Designation of Organization's Key Contacts

Security coordinators for all public, charter, and accredited non-public schools are responsible for ensuring their organization's key contacts for the upcoming school year are set. Required contacts are Superintendent, Principal, Special Education Director, and Chief Technology Officer. Additional contact descriptors can be found [here](#).

LINK roles, including the key contacts, are designed to be sent from the local Student Information System (SIS) to Data Exchange/LINK. When a person has an account in the local SIS, this is where the LINK roles should be set, according to the SIS instructions. Otherwise, when the staff classifications are resynced/resent to Data Exchange/LINK, they will replace any roles set with what is in the SIS.

- Security Coordinator instructions can be found [here](#).
- [CHAMP](#) (Indiana Complaint, Hearings and Mediation Process) will utilize the following LINK key contacts: Superintendent and Special Education Director. It is essential that these two key contacts are reviewed by security coordinators and updated based on any necessary changes.

A list of key contacts assigned may be found [here](#).

#### REMINDER: Enter Roles for 2025-2026 School Year Prior to Monday, September 1

The LINK Security Portal is now recognizing roles identified in both the prior and upcoming school years' databases. Roles for the new school year are to be entered prior to Monday, September 1. This data may be provided directly from a school's SIS. Staff not associated by this date will lose their access to IDOE systems. Prior year staff roles should not be removed. IDOE recommends roles be entered and managed in their local SIS; however, three options are available:

- Preferred option:** Enter staff roles in the local student information system (SIS) per vendor's instructions and send educator data for the new school year to IDOE.
- Add a staff role manually for the new school year via the Security Portal.
- Upload templates via Data Exchange.

To avoid data loss, please refrain from using multiple methods for a staff member.

#### REMINDER: IEP/ILP System - IDOE Special Programs

IDOE is launching a new statewide platform for managing Individual Education Programs (IEPs) and Individual Learning Plans (ILPs) for the 2025-2026 school year mid-July. Developed in partnership with PowerSchool, IDOE Special Programs will replace the current IEP and ILP platform. All schools will have access to IDOE Special Programs starting in late July.

Educators will access the new IDOE Special Programs system via the LINK portal by having the "Student Support Plans" role assigned to them for the upcoming school year. Ideally, these roles should be set within your local SIS. Those providing cooperative access will need their LINK Security Coordinators to enter this role via the LINK Security Portal for the new school year. A login guide for educators may be found [here](#).

#### REMINDER: Report Student Enrollments As Soon As Possible for 2025-2026 School Year

Reporting enrollment data as soon as possible will be newly important for the 2025-2026 school year due to new state laws around promotion to fourth grade and because access to the state's new IEP system depends on this information. It is no longer necessary to wait until the first day of the school calendar to begin sending enrollment (SSA) records to Data Exchange (DEX). IDOE will begin showing data that has been provided to DEX on Tuesday, July 15, and will begin running validations against the data.

- Allowing enrollment data to flow as soon as possible will alert school staff if there are any concerns with a student being reported in proficiency. (Data Exchange will process fourth grade enrollments according to new promotion rules related to IREAD 4 proficiency.) Schools will have time to determine if the student without a passing IREAD score qualifies for a Good Cause Exemption (GCE) to the retention statute. The earlier this data is submitted, the more time schools will have to determine if the student must be retained in third grade, contact parents, make updates to student schedules, etc. The earlier schools have this information the better for school staff, parents, and students.
- Allowing enrollment data as soon as possible will also assist with the new IEP/ILP system, which is set to go live on Friday, July 18. PowerSchool Special Programs (PSSP) will begin 'pulling' enrollment data from DEX which in turn will allow school staff to have access to student files within the special program's software. Staff access to an IEP/ILP is entirely dependent on accurate enrollment records being submitted to IDOE.

#### REMINDER: EdTech Index Now Available for EdTech Procurement Process

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:

- Review the information in the EdTech Index to obtain critical insight into products you are evaluating.
- 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.](#)
- 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: July Tuition Support Payments

Please read [this memo](#) regarding the July tuition support payment. Contact IDOE's [Office of School Finance](#) with any questions.

#### REMINDER: Form 9 Data

Form 9 financial data for the period of January to June 2025 may now be submitted. The deadline for Form 9 submissions is Thursday, July 31. The Form 9 application can be accessed via the [Link Portal](#). Once in the portal, the financial administrator will navigate to the "Form 9" tile. Please contact [form9@doe.in.gov](mailto:form9@doe.in.gov) with any questions.

#### REMINDER: School Technology Advancement Account (STAA) Applications Due Today, Friday, July 11

The deadline for school corporations to file an application for an STAA is today, 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](mailto:commonschoolfund@doe.in.gov) with any questions.

### Office of Special Education, English Learning, and Migrant Education

#### NEW: IDOE Special Programs Certification Reminders

All users completing Schoology training for access to IDOE Special Programs must keep their contact information up to date throughout the certification process. If your email address changes prior to receiving certification email from Schoology, you must update your information using the [PowerSchool Microsoft Form](#) option 6. This step ensures that your certification confirmation is sent to the correct email address. If you have changed email addresses and have not received a certification email, please use the Microsoft Form linked above to update your contact information.

**Please note:** Not updating your email address does not affect your certification status. However, some users have experienced an issue where when completing the training their certification is not generated. It is your responsibility to follow up with PowerSchool via their Microsoft form to ensure that your certification is generated and that you receive a copy for your records. The Schoology training platform and the live IDOE Special Programs system are separate systems. Once the live system goes into effect, all certified users will be visible in the system and available for assignment to security groups by their LEAs Technical Contact. Certification is tied to individual users. If you changed LEAs over the summer, your certification remains valid and will carry over with you into the new LEA once the system is live.

#### NEW: Technical Contact Certification and Access Timeline for IDOE Special Programs Go Live

Technical Contacts (IEP/ILP Support roles) who have completed all certification requirements by 7 a.m. ET on Thursday, July 17, will be granted access to IDOE Special Programs. These individuals will be assigned to the LEA Security Manager group by the PowerSchool Deployment Team on Thursday, July 17, in preparation for Go Live on Friday, July 18.

To meet certification requirements, Technical Contacts must complete Modules 1 through 6 of the LEA Leadership course in Schoology and achieve a score of 80% or higher on all associated module exams. These modules should have been completed by Friday, June 27.

On the morning of Friday, July 18, when the Special Programs tile goes live, certified IEP/ILP Support users will be able to begin assigning security groups for their LEA users. If certification is not completed by 7 a.m. on Thursday, July 17, access to the system will not be granted, and the LEA will not be able to use Special Programs in time for Go Live. In such cases, access may be delayed by up to one full week after the IEP/ILP Support user completes the training and earns certification.

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

#### NEW: K-12 Physical Education (PE) and Health Educators Needed for Making Indiana Healthy Again Planning Committee

Governor Braun recently issued [Executive Order \(EO\) 25-59](#): "Making Indiana Healthy Again (MIHA) by Promoting the Health and Wellness of Hoosier Students." The Office of Teaching and Learning seeks interested K-12 PE and health educators to join a one-hour committee meeting on Wednesday, July 16. The committee will offer insights and recommendations focused on the EO's first two priorities to help inform IDOE's statewide implementation guidance. Additional committee meetings may convene depending on how this effort evolves and what needs may arise. Contact the [Office of Teaching and Learning](#) as soon as possible if you are interested in joining the committee and attending Wednesday's virtual meeting.

#### NEW: Participants Needed for Indiana's World Language Standards Revision Committees

IDOE's Office of Teaching and Learning is recruiting educators and other stakeholders for review committees that will review the Indiana Academic Standards for World Language (Classical-Modern, East Asian, and Heritage Language Learners). Interested individuals should complete and submit [this form](#) by 11:45 p.m. ET on Tuesday, July 22, to be considered for this collaborative opportunity. IDOE will review all submissions and select participants based on many criteria (e.g., teaching experience, current role, student populations served) to help maximize representativeness of each committee. Contact the [Office of Teaching and Learning](#) with any questions.

#### NEW: 2025-2026 STEM Integration Grant Application Now Available

The [2025-2026 STEM Integration Grant](#) is designed to expand access to high-quality instruction across K-12 schools in order to enhance student participation and achievement in STEM disciplines. This is a competitive grant open to Indiana public school corporations, charter schools, or entities as long as they meet the following [criteria](#). Interested applicants are encouraged to attend the [virtual informational session](#) at 2 p.m. ET on Tuesday, July 22, to learn more about the grant and application process. The grant will launch on Friday, July 25. Applications are due by 11:45 p.m. ET on Friday, August 15. Contact [TLgrants@doe.in.gov](mailto:TLgrants@doe.in.gov) with any questions.

#### Resources: Artificial Intelligence (AI) Resources

Newspost supporting AI literacy are available in the Indiana Learning Lab, including collections for administrators, classroom teachers, and parents/families.

- [AI in the Classroom Spotlight Series](#)
- [AI Insights for Educators Workshop Series](#)
- [AI Resources for Parents](#)
- [PD Playbook: AI Literacy for Educators](#)
- [AI Resources for School Leaders](#)

Contact [IDOE's Office of Digital Learning](#) with any questions.

#### REMINDER: Free Professional Learning Opportunity for Preschool to First Grade Administrators

Pre-K to first grade administrators are invited to join a new learning series to deepen their knowledge of early learning pedagogy and best practices related to supporting children and educators. The series includes participation in a professional learning network, an opportunity to design a concept for an implementation project, and facilitated discussions. Participants will engage in a variety of modes of learning, including asynchronous modules and virtual professional learning communities over three months, July to September, and are encouraged to register with a partner. There will be a final meeting at the end, in Indianapolis, to share projects. A full calendar of events is available [here](#). Complete [the form](#) by Wednesday, July 16, to express interest. Contact IDOE's [Office of Kindergarten Readiness](#) with any questions.

### Office of Title Grants and Support

#### NEW: FFY2026 Pre-Application Virtual Help Desk

Need help with the Pre-App? Want to get answers to your questions in real time? Join the virtual help desk on [Thursday, July 24, 10 to 11 a.m. ET](#) to ask questions of Title I, II, III, and IV specialists. Contact [TitleI@doe.in.gov](mailto:TitleI@doe.in.gov) with any questions.

#### NEW: July Coffee Chat

Join IDOE's Office of Title Grants and Support for monthly Coffee Chats! Coffee Chats are the last Thursday of the month at 10 a.m. ET. July's topic will cover Title I-IV Budget Applications. Please join us via [Microsoft Teams](#) on Thursday, July 31, and forward this link to necessary stakeholders within your district. Contact [TitleI@doe.in.gov](mailto:TitleI@doe.in.gov) with any questions.

#### REMINDER: Federal Title Grant Updates

Earlier this week, the U.S. Department of Education shared final Title I, Part A allocation amounts for the 2025-2026 school year. Those allocation amounts will be shared with schools on Wednesday, July 9. Contact [TitleI@doe.in.gov](mailto:TitleI@doe.in.gov) with any questions about Title I, Part A allocations.

The U.S. Department of Education also shared the following update regarding Title funds:

*"Given the change in Administrations, the Department is reviewing the FY 2025 funding for the [Title I-C, II-A, III-A, IV-A, IV-B] grant program(s), and decisions have not yet been made concerning submissions and awards for this upcoming academic year. Accordingly, the Department will not be issuing Grant Award Notifications obligating funds for these programs on July 1 prior to completing that review. The Department remains committed to ensuring taxpayer resources are spent in accordance with the President's priorities and the Department's statutory responsibilities."*

Additional information will be shared with schools as we know more about these allocations.

#### REMINDER: Ed-Flex Waiver Annual Performance Report (APR)

The [Ed-Flex Waiver APR](#) for all ed-flex waivers used in the 2024-2025 school year (FY25/FY24) are due by Friday, August 1. Please note that an APR submission is required for continued use of future ed-flex waiver flexibilities. If multiple ed-flex waivers were used in the 2024-2025 school year, a separate APR must be submitted for each waiver. If you have questions regarding a specific waiver, please contact [jgrabowski@doe.in.gov](mailto:jgrabowski@doe.in.gov) for waiver #1, [shedd@doe.in.gov](mailto:shedd@doe.in.gov) for waiver #2, and [TitleIV@doe.in.gov](mailto:TitleIV@doe.in.gov) for waiver #4.

#### REMINDER: FFY2025/FY2025 Pre-application Now Available

The FFY2025/FY2026 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 [titleI@doe.in.gov](mailto:titleI@doe.in.gov) with any questions.

#### REMINDER: Ed-Flex Waiver Application #4

Due to the delay in receiving Title IV allocation amounts, the Ed-Flex waiver application for waiver #4 is now due Saturday, September 30, for the FFY25 Title IV budget application. As noted in the Ed-Flex FAQ, applications for waiver use in cohort 2 are required annually, or per federal fiscal year (FFY) for Title IV budget applications. For questions regarding waiver #4, please contact [TitleIV@doe.in.gov](mailto:TitleIV@doe.in.gov).

#### 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.

### News From Our Partners

#### NEW FROM KEEEP INDIANA LEARNING: Discussion Group for Leaders of Multilingual Learners

From IAs to KEEEP, everyone in a school is interacting with and supporting multilingual learners. This free, virtual discussion group will share strategies to help these learners continue to grow in their multiple languages. [Register now!](#) Contact [Keep Indiana Learning](#) with any questions.

#### NEW FROM THE DYSLEXIA INSTITUTE OF INDIANA: Until Everyone Can Read Literacy Summit

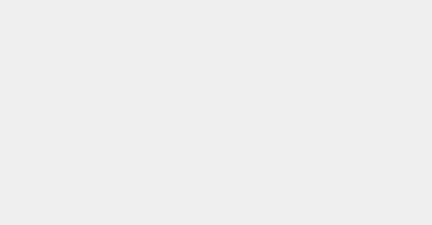
Join educators from across Indiana for the full day Until Everyone Can Read Literacy Summit on Saturday, August 23, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Marian University. This conference features two national keynote speakers—Lyndsay Kemeny and Dr. Steve Dykstra—alongside respected literacy leaders from around the state. Participants will dive into practical, actionable strategies for implementing Structured Literacy, explore best practices tailored to various grade levels and student needs. Sessions will cover beginner to advanced topics. Participants can earn six Professional Growth Plan (PGP) points or CEUs by attending the full day. Don't miss this chance to stay local and grow your literacy skills. Click [here](#) to purchase your tickets. Contact [Katie Froyen](#) with any questions.

#### REMINDER FROM INDIANA SPORTS CORP: Calling All Third Grade Teachers - Register for Read to the Final Four

It's time to get your class in the game! Get ready to spark a love of reading in your classroom with [Read to the Final Four](#), a statewide literacy challenge celebrating the 2026 NCAA Men's Final Four® in Indianapolis. Third-grade classrooms across Indiana will log reading minutes through [Beantack](#), earn digital badges, and compete in a tournament-style bracket for exciting prizes and statewide recognition. It's a fun, engaging way to boost literacy while bringing the energy of March Madness into your school. Register your class in [Beantack](#) before Friday, August 1, to get a head start! Register [here](#).

#### 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

View previous weekly updates from Dr. Katie Jenner [here](#).

### Stay Informed

Did you miss a message? View previous weekly emails [here](#).

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