



Dr. Jenner's Weekly Update

Weekly Newsletter from the Indiana Department of Education

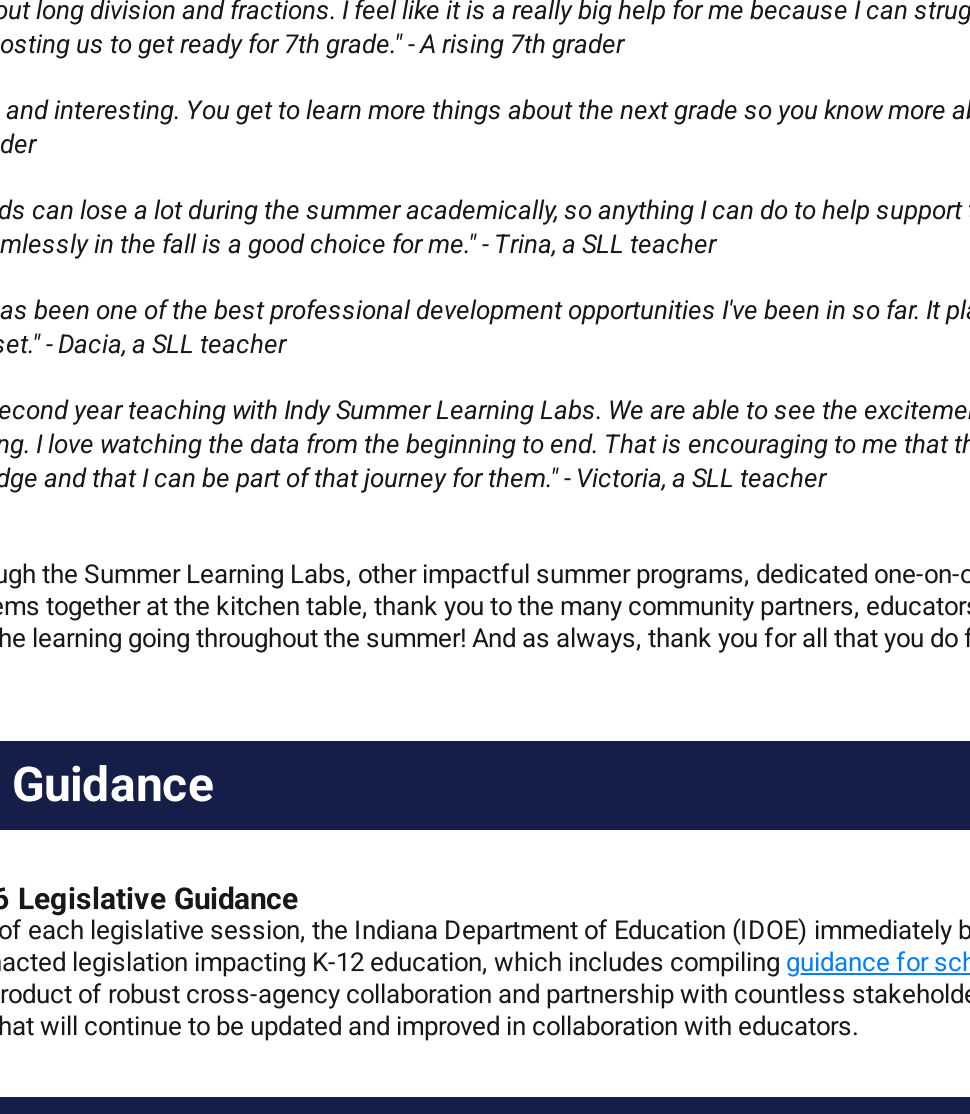
July 10, 2026

A Message from Dr. Katie Jenner

As someone who loves fall, my algorithms clearly knew that too, as my social media feeds started lighting up with "pre-fall" decorations and trends the moment the 4th of July ended. While that might be a bit extreme (it's just mid-July!), the reality for some Indiana schools is that the first day of school is now less than three weeks away!

As educators, parents and families, and students enjoy these final weeks of summer, I want to take a moment to spotlight just one example of the impactful learning that has continued. If you aren't familiar with the Summer Learning Labs, it's a free, five-week learning and enrichment opportunity, specifically designed for students who need additional support in reading and math. Participation has continued to grow over the past three years, giving thousands of students the time and support necessary to make meaningful progress and return to school ready to learn in the fall. It truly takes an army of people to make the greatest impact for students, so shout out to The Mind Trust for helping to facilitate this important work statewide! Check out a few fast facts from Summer Learning Labs 2026:

- **Nearly 12,000 students** received additional academic support at no cost to their families.
- Learning and enrichment opportunities were offered at **117 free sites** all across Indiana, including community centers, churches, and schools.
- These sites are made possible through **4 anchor partners** operating in **36 Indiana cities**.
 - Anchor partners include: Boys and Girls Clubs of the Northern Indiana Corridor, The Mind Trust, Creating Avenues for Student Transformation (CAST), and Wabash County YMCA.
- **More than 700 licensed teachers and instructional assistants** were hired to deliver high-quality, in-person instruction in reading and math.



Our continued investment in the Summer Learning Labs is driven by the incredible results we've seen in previous summers. In fact, for the second consecutive year, data showed that after just five weeks of intentional, high-quality instruction, students who attended the Summer Learning Labs in 2025 achieved double-digit percentage point proficiency gains in both reading and math. As we wrap up summer 2026, and eagerly await updated data, here's what some of our students and teachers have shared about their experience:

- *"I feel great coming here during the summer and ready to learn. It's pretty fun. It can be a little hard, but my teachers are helping me get through all the lessons."* - A rising 7th grader
- *"We learn about long division and fractions. I feel like it is a really big help for me because I can struggle in math. But, our teacher is boosting us to get ready for 7th grade."* - A rising 7th grader
- *"It's really fun and interesting. You get to learn more things about the next grade so you know more about what to do."* - A rising 5th grader
- *"I know our kids can lose a lot during the summer academically, so anything I can do to help support their learning to continue seamlessly in the fall is a good choice for me."* - Trina, a SLL teacher
- *"This by far has been one of the best professional development opportunities I've been in so far. It places a lot of value on growth mindset."* - Dacia, a SLL teacher
- *"This is my second year teaching with Indy Summer Learning Labs. We are able to see the excitement and growth while we are learning. I love watching the data from the beginning to end. That is encouraging to me that they are able to gain more knowledge and that I can be part of that journey for them."* - Victoria, a SLL teacher

Whether it was through the Summer Learning Labs, other impactful summer programs, dedicated one-on-one tutoring, or even tackling math problems together at the kitchen table, thank you to the many community partners, educators, families, and students who kept the learning going throughout the summer! And as always, thank you for all that you do for our Indiana students!

Legislative Guidance

REMINDER: 2026 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: 2026-2027 Formative Assessment Grant Distribution List

Corporations and non-public schools may access the [2026-2027 Formative Assessment Grant Distribution list](#) to review their total distribution of funds for the upcoming 2026-2027 school year. The amount allocated per student, per assessment is \$8.63. Corporations and non-public schools can expect funds to be directly deposited on or around Wednesday, July 15, with a direct deposit memo line of "FY27 Remediation 3028-3198." In addition to reviewing the distribution list, recipients received an official notification letter on Friday, June 26, outlining their total allocation. Notification letters were sent via email to the designee listed on the submitted application. Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Assessment](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: 2025-2026 Formative Assessment Grant Final Report

Each corporation and non-public school who received a distribution from the 2025-2026 Formative Assessment Grant is required to submit a [2025-2026 Formative Assessment Grant Final Report](#) to IDOE verifying its use of funds. Grant recipients should review the [2025-2026 Formative Assessment Grant Final Report Guidance](#) before returning unused funds. As the Tuesday, June 30, deadline has passed, all grant recipients must complete the required final report form and return any unused funds to IDOE as soon as possible. Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Assessment](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Fall 2026 PSAT/NMSQT Administration Memo and Ordering Guidance

IDOE provides funds for grade 10 and 11 students to participate in the fall 2026 administration of the PSAT/NMSQT. See the guidance provided in [this memo](#). The PSAT/NMSQT testing window is Thursday, October 1, through Friday, October 30. Schools may now place orders for the fall 2026 PSAT/NMSQT administration within the [SAT Suite Ordering and Registration \(SSOR\) System](#). Schools will notice that a cost is indicated in SSOR when completing orders. College Board will invoice this displayed amount to IDOE, and schools/corporations will not be billed for grade 10 and/or 11 students participating in this PSAT/NMSQT administration. Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Assessment](#) with funding questions and [College Board](#) with any questions regarding ordering PSAT/NMSQT materials.

College Board hosted the Fall 2026 SAT Suite Ordering and Registration webinar on Tuesday, June 16, for PSAT/NMSQT ordering and registration support. You can access the webinar recording and associated slide deck [here](#).

REMINDER: 2026-2027 Advanced Placement (AP) Exam Subsidy Memo and 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 and guidance in [this memo](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Assessment](#) with any questions.

Office of Curriculum and Instruction, Digital Learning, and Kindergarten Readiness

NEW: Teach Computer Science (CS) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) - Professional Development Sessions

- **New Resources and Support for NLPs 4565: Computing Foundations for a Digital Age: Thursday, July 23, from 2 to 3 p.m. ET.** Next Level Program of Studies (NLPs) course 4565 is the recommended graduation requirement course for computer science. Join IDOE's computer science specialist to learn about the implementation of the course statewide and receive instructional resources that support curriculum and planning including the new NLPs 4565 Instructional Frameworks. [Register here](#) and contact IDOE's [Office of Curriculum and Instruction](#) with any questions.
- **Strengthening K-8 CS Instruction through Assessment Frameworks and Item Specifications: Friday, July 24, from 2 to 3 p.m. ET.** Adapted from the Computer Science Professional Development Week session, join IDOE's Computer Science specialist to learn about the resources IDOE provides to align instructional activities to formative and summative assessment assessments, including the new [Computer Science ILEARN Item Specifications](#). Understand the structure of ILEARN CS questions, align specifications to the engaging activities in your classroom, and develop model lessons and example assessment questions. [Register here](#) and contact IDOE's [Office of Curriculum and Instruction](#) with any questions.

NEW: Indiana Learning Lab Integration with Licensing Verification Information System (LVIS)

New and returning school staff are encouraged to integrate their Indiana Learning Lab accounts with LVIS. Once set up, all professionals' work products (PGPs) earned in the Learning Lab are automatically recorded in LVIS, simplifying future license renewals. To enable this feature, follow the steps in [this short video](#) or [this guide](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of Digital Learning](#) with any questions.

Office of Educator Licensing

REMINDER: Internet Safety Month Speaker Series

National Internet Safety Month is observed every June to raise awareness and promote secure digital practices. Live sessions led by experts in the field will continue over the next week. Visit the Indiana Learning Lab calendar to learn more, and register [here](#). Live sessions from expert speakers and curated resources in the Indiana Learning Lab align directly with [Indiana Code \(IC\) 20-30-6-1-4](#) to provide educators, families, and students internet safety education. Contact IDOE's [Digital Learning Team](#) with any questions.

Office of Educator Talent and Literacy Center

NEW: No Cost Professional Development for Early Literacy Endorsement - Registration Open

Keys to Literacy registration opened on Wednesday, July 1, and is available to current, eligible Indiana educators who hold a valid professional educator license and teach in a content area that involves literacy instruction for PK-5 students. Eligible licensed Indiana educators may participate, at no cost, in Keys to Literacy. Space is limited. Only first time enrollees are eligible. Click [here](#) to register. Contact IDOE's [Literacy Center](#) with questions.

Office of Innovation

UPDATE: Indiana's Mastery-Based Pilot - Webinar and Resources

Indiana's Mastery-Based Pilot, authorized under House Enrolled Act 1515 (2024), supports Indiana schools in shifting from traditional seat-time progression to competency-based advancement. The pilot is designed with a planning phase in 2026-2027, and full implementation in 2027-2028. Learn more about the pilot [here](#), and click [here](#) to apply.

On Tuesday, June 30, IDOE hosted an informational webinar about IDOE's approach, philosophy, and rationale for the Mastery-Based Pilot program. The slides shared during the webinar can be accessed [here](#), and a recording of the information shared during the webinar is available [here](#).

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.

NEW: Form 9 Submission

Form 9 financial data for the period of January to June may now be submitted. The deadline for Form 9 submissions is Friday, 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. Financial transparency information may also be submitted through the portal. Please contact [Form 9](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: School Finance Form 9 Office Hours

IDOE's Office of School Finance will host Form 9 Office Hours to answer questions and provide guidance on completing the January-June Form 9 financial data submission due Friday, July 31. Office hours will be held on Monday, July 13, from 10 to 10:30 a.m. ET. We look forward to answering your questions. Click [here](#) to join.

REMINDER: School Technology Advancement Account (STAA) Applications

School corporations may file an application for an STAA through Friday, July 17. The STAA application can be completed [online](#) and must be completed in one session. A sample application and certification page can be found in [Moodle](#). Contact [commonsschoolfund@doe.in.gov](#) with any questions.

Office of Student Pathways and Opportunities

REMINDER: Hoosier Launch Initiative

IDOE has launched a Request for Information (RFI) for any platform interested in partnering with the state on Hoosier Launch. As schools continue to share feedback on the resources and supports that would be most helpful in implementing Indiana's new diploma requirements and readiness seals, one message we have heard on repeat is the opportunity to leverage existing local partnerships, while simultaneously improving how we coordinate students in achieving their unique future goals. Hoosier Launch directly reflects this feedback, providing a coordinated approach to expanding and strengthening college and career readiness tools across the platforms many schools already use today. For more information, see the full [Hoosier Launch memo](#) or contact [engagement@doe.in.gov](#).

Office of Special Education, English Learning, and Migrant Education

NEW: PowerSchool IDOE Special Programs Live Training Sessions Overview

The PowerSchool IDOE Special Programs Training Team provides dedicated, live sessions on Microsoft Teams that offer hands-on, collaborative guidance to help users of all experience levels confidently learn and navigate IDOE Special Programs. There will be four session types targeting specific training needs: Office Hours, Application of Learning, Lunch & Learn, and Administrator Master Class.

To learn more about all live PowerSchool IDOE Special Programs training sessions view the flyer [here](#).

NEW: New Preschool Coordinator Webinar

IDOE is pleased to invite new local education agency (LEA) preschool coordinators, and other staff who fulfill preschool coordinator duties, to a webinar covering important topics in early childhood and early childhood special education. This event will take place on Thursday, August 13, from 9 - 11:30 a.m. ET. Interested attendees can register for the event [here](#). Email [specialeducation@doe.in.gov](#) with any questions.

NEW: WIDA ACCESS 2026 Results Availability in EdData

WIDA ACCESS 2026 final results were released in WIDA AMS in June. Results have been uploaded into IDOE's data warehouse and are now available in [EdData](#) via the WIDA ACCESS Enrollment Report. Data Viewer users can view results for students who are currently enrolled in their corporation or school. Contact IDOE's [Office of English Learning and Migrant Education](#) with any questions.

NEW: Summer Spotlight: IDOE Special Programs for Multilingual Learners

IDOE's English Learning team will be hosting a virtual session on Monday, July 20, at 10 a.m. ET to support the continued implementation of IDOE Special Programs, the statewide platform for managing Individual Learning Plans (ILPs) and additional documentation for English learner students. Details will be shared regarding the annual rollover process to the 2026-2027 school year. Time will be reserved for live questions and answers from the field. 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: Early Intervention Transition Roadshow

IDOE's Office of Special Education is partnering with the Bureau of Child Development Services (First Steps) to travel around the state for joint training related to transition from Part C (First Steps) to Part B services. Events are capped at 100 attendees and guests are encouraged to attend the event in their corresponding cluster. Register for the training [here](#) and email [specialeducation@doe.in.gov](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: 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 for expenses up to and through Tuesday, June 30, and expenses as of Wednesday, July 1. Separate reimbursement requests for June and July should be submitted to [specialedpartb@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.

REMINDER: Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Part B Grant Proportionate Share Release Request Forms

A fillable [Good Cause Exemption \(GCE\) documentation template](#) for English learners is available to support the transition from IILP to IDOE Special Programs following the summer reset. While use of this form is optional, it is available to streamline documentation during this transition. To use the form:

- Download and open it in a PDF editor.
- Complete a separate form for each student for whom a GCE meeting is held.
- Maintain documentation and upload the completed forms to IDOE Special Programs once the system is live.

Contact IDOE's [Office of English Learning and Migrant Education](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: 2026-2027 Annual EL Directors Meetings Save the Dates

IDOE's English Learning team will be hosting their Annual EL Directors Meetings virtually for the 2026-2027 school year, and the dates have been set. Day one will feature professional development for new directors and will take place on Wednesday, August 12. Day two is geared toward all EL directors, both new and returning, and will take place on Wednesday, August 19. Both days will have morning and afternoon sessions. More details will be forthcoming, and the meeting times and links can be found on the [Indiana EL Professional Development Opportunities Calendar](#). Contact IDOE's [Office of English Learning and Migrant Education](#) with any questions.

Office of Title Grants and Support

UPDATED: FY 2027 Pre-Application
The FY 2027 Pre-Application due date was Wednesday, July 1. The Pre-Application is available through the [Title Grants Pre-Application Collection](#) in the Indiana Learning Lab. All instructions, forms, and submission information can be found within the collection. A registered [Learning Lab account](#) is needed to access the collection. Please contact [TitleIV@doe.in.gov](#) with any questions.

REMINDER: Ed-Flex Waiver 2 and Waiver 4 Application Available Now

The following applications for ed-flex waivers are due by Friday, July 31:

- Ed-flex waiver #2, for Title I instructional paraprofessional requirement flexibility in the 2026-2027 school year, and
- Ed-flex waiver #4, for increased flexibility in Title IV funding requirements for the FY 2026 Title IV budget application.

Applications must be submitted annually, regardless of previous approval. More information about paraprofessional requirements and the application may be found [here](#).

For questions about ed-flex waiver #2, please contact [bkronniller@doe.in.gov](#).

For questions about ed-flex waiver #4, please contact [TitleIV@doe.in.gov](#).

Office of Educational Options and Quality

NEW: Quality Counts II Cohort 4 Application Open

Charter School Programs II Cohort 4 (QCII) Cohort 4 application is now open! This is a federal, competitive grant that provides funding to high quality expanding, replicating or opening schools. [Here](#) is the link to apply.

REMINDER: Choice Onboarding

Onboarding is a three-hour training designed as an in-depth introduction to the Choice Scholarship Program. The training will go over the 2026-2027 payment schedule, student/school application process, special education, and more!

While this training is required for new schools, it is optional for any new personnel at existing Choice schools or for any Choice administrator who would like detailed information about the Choice Program. All who are interested in this training opportunity can register [here](#).

- Indiana Government Center South session: Tuesday, July 14
- Online session: Tuesday, July 28

REMINDER: Annual Conference for Choice Schools

The Annual Conference for Choice Schools will be held in Indianapolis on Wednesday, July 15, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. ET. The conference will include customized presentations from IDOE specifically for non-public and participating Choice schools in preparation of the upcoming school year. This year's content includes information from IDOE's Assessment, Accountability, Special Education, Data Reporting, Ombudsman, and Attendance teams.

The conference will be located in the auditorium in the Indiana Government Center South. Sign-in begins at 8 a.m. ET and presentations will begin at 9 a.m. ET. If you have not yet registered, you can complete the form [here](#).

REMINDER: Updating Banking Information

Participating Choice schools that have updated their banking information should begin the process of submitting those changes to the Indiana State Comptroller's Office as soon as possible.

The required forms to complete are available in the Indiana Choice School Community in Moodle. After the forms are completed, please send them to both [accounts.payable@doe.in.gov](#) and [choicesschool@doe.in.gov](#).

Indiana Commission for Higher Education

NEW: Collegiate Purple Star of Indiana Awarded to 11 Postsecondary Institutions

Eleven institutions that earned the [Collegiate Purple Star of Indiana \(CPSI\)](#) in 2026, comprising 10 newly recognized institutions and one institution that improved their levels from the previous cycle. These 11 institutions join the 28 institutions designated last year.

Honorees successfully demonstrated a commitment to excellence by serving military-affiliated students in Indiana through one of three tiers of service: The Indiana Commission for Higher Education (Indiana Commission) and the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs jointly awarded designations based on 37 standards across eight categories. For more information read this [press release](#).

NEW: Career and Technical Education (CTE) Teacher Summer Bootcamp

Inspire Success, in partnership with the Commissioner's Office of Career and Technical Education, is hosting a one-day summer bootcamp later for new CTE teachers in years one to three. The training will focus on lesson design, classroom management, and support for all learners. Dates and locations include:

- Valparaiso, Monday, July 20
- Evansville, Wednesday, July 22
- Logansport, Friday, July 24
- Greenwood, Monday, July 27

Visit [this webpage](#) to learn more and reserve your spot.

NEW: 2026-2027 Next Level Programs of Study (NLPS) Review Document Now Available

The [NLPS Review Document](#) has been updated and posted for the 2026-2027 school year. This resource is updated annually and contains important information for secondary CTE courses including course competencies, educator licensing requirements, postsecondary alignment, funding information, and aligned credentials of value. This year's document has been reformatted to allow for easier updates that may be needed throughout the school year.

Notable changes for 2026-2027 include hyperlinked course competencies. Please see the first page of the document for additional notable updates. Along with other important CTE resources, the Review Document can be found on the [CTE Programs of Study](#) page. Reach out to the Commissioner's CTE team at [CTE@che.in.gov](#) with questions.

News from Our Partners

NEW FROM CENTER OF EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP OF LEARNING (CELL): Science of Learning Micro-Credential

As research continues to expand our understanding of how students learn, educators have new opportunities to strengthen instructional practice. CELL's Science of Learning Micro-Credential is an eight-week online program that explores the science of learning and the application of research-backed instructional strategies. Designed for teachers, instructional coaches, school and district leaders, and higher education faculty, the course combines flexible self-paced modules with live virtual discussions while exploring topics such as retrieval practice, spacing, cognitive load, and effective questioning. The course begins Tuesday, September 1. Early Bird registration ends Wednesday, July 15. Learn more and [register here](#). Contact [Kyleigh Gerlach](#) with questions.

NEW FROM NEXT GEN PERSONAL FINANCE: Register to Attend FinCamp

[Next Gen Personal Finance \(NGPF\)](#) offers free personal finance and professional development for teachers. Resources are mapped to Personal Financial Responsibility (4540), providing standards-aligned content for teachers to use in the classroom. NGPF is hosting an upcoming FinCamp in Indianapolis on Thursday, August 6. FinCamp is a free, hands-on professional development event designed to help teachers teach personal finance with confidence. Attendees who complete the session earn a \$100 stipend. [Registration and event details](#) are available for more information. Contact [Ryan Wood](#) with questions.

NEW FROM PURDUE UNIVERSITY COMPUTER SCIENCE: Brick by Brick - Bringing AI to the Classroom

Indiana STEM educators serving grades six to eight can join a professional development workshop with LEGO® Education. "Brick by Brick: Bringing AI to the Classroom" will be led by faculty and staff from Purdue's College of Science and LEGO® Education facilitators on Thursday, July 23. The workshop will explore practical applications of AI, coding, and robotics through classroom-ready lessons designed to spark curiosity and innovation. [Register now](#) to secure your spot! Contact [Shelby Barrett](#) with any questions.

NEW FROM KEEP INDIANA LEARNING (A DEPARTMENT OF CIESC): K-5 Mathematics Workshops

Keep Indiana Learning invites K-5 educators, instructional coaches, and administrators to register for two upcoming math workshops at the CIESC at The Pyramids in Indianapolis. On Wednesday, July 15, "Math Boot Camp: Basic Training for K-5 Success" will provide tools for navigating state frameworks and implementing high-leverage teaching routines. The following day, Thursday, July 16, "Building True Math Fact Fluency" will deliver an actionable roadmap for cultivating computational flexibility through visual routines and game-based learning. Registration fees apply separately to each session, giving educators the freedom to attend one or both days. [Register soon as seats are limited](#). Contact [Keep Indiana Learning](#) with any questions.

NEW FROM THE PASS PROJECT: Professional Development Conference

The PASS Project at Indiana State University is excited to announce the inaugural Indiana Sensory Access, Inclusion, & Learning (INSAIL) Conference, taking place Monday, September 14, and Tuesday, September 15, at the 502 East Event Centre in Carmel, Indiana. INSAIL brings together professionals who support students with sensory disabilities, including teachers of students who are blind/low vision (BLV) and deaf/hard of hearing (DHH), educational interpreters, audiologists, orientation and mobility specialists, speech-language pathologists, occupational and physical therapists, special education teachers, administrators, paraprofessionals, early interventionists, and families. The registration deadline is Monday, August 31. Learn more and register [here](#). Contact Britany Feilen, PASS Project Director, with any questions by phone at 812-237-8115 or email at [britany.feilen@indstate.edu](#).