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Teacher Newsletter from the Indiana Department of Education

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Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

Teacher Newsletter

We know that real impact for students happens at the educator-level. In fact, we have seen time and again when teacher leaders are a catalyst for positive change in schools...whether that means adding student opportunities that did not previously exist...or creating connections with higher education and employers that may bring to light career possibilities that a student would not have otherwise considered or imagined. You (our teachers!) are our difference-makers for students, and this newsletter from the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) is dedicated to elevating your work and providing new information and resources to help you do what you do best – and that’s serving Indiana’s students.

Literacy & STEM Support

Indiana Academic Standards Professional Development Session

A new session now available in the Indiana Learning Lab provides an overview of updated resources related to the streamlined 2023 Indiana Academic Standards in English/language arts and mathematics, as well as a new analysis tool intended to help ensure students master key knowledge and skills. Click [here](#) to view the recorded training. Contact IDOE’s [Office of Teaching and Learning](#) with any questions.

Updated Computer Science Course Guidance for Schools

Pursuant to [Indiana Code \(IC\) 20-32-4-18](#), IDOE and the Indiana Commission for Higher Education (CHE) defined [guidance](#) to support schools in the implementation of the computer science course requirement. This update includes standards for Computing Foundations for a Digital Age (4565) and additional pathway courses. Contact IDOE’s [Office of Teaching and Learning](#) or ICHE’s [Office of Career and Technical Education](#) with any questions.

Assessment Updates

ILEARN Checkpoint Summits

IDOE and regional Education Service Centers of Indiana (ESCI) are partnering to provide three ILEARN Checkpoint professional development opportunities for educators and instructional leaders. Registration, location, and agenda information can be found on this [flyer](#). Contact IDOE’s [Office of Student Assessment](#) with any questions.

Reminders: Test Windows, Calendar, Resources

Refer to the following resources as 2024-2025 test windows approach:

- [2024-2025 Indiana Assessment Windows](#)
- [Running Assessment Calendar](#)
- [Indiana Assessment Portal](#)

- [Required Trainings](#)
- [Manuals, Guidance Documents, & Resources](#)

Contact IDOE's [Office of Student Assessment](#) with any questions.

Indiana Learning Lab

On-Demand Professional Development (PD) with IDOE

Throughout the school year, IDOE hosts *PD with IDOE* on a variety of topics. September's workshops are all available on demand:

- [Taking a Deeper Dive: Unpacking the 2023 Mathematics Frameworks](#)
- [Create a Crisis Response Action Plan](#)
- [The Power of Partnership: Hoosier Educational Computer Coordinators \(HECC\) and Indiana Connected Educators \(ICE\)](#)
- [English Learners with Significant Cognitive Disabilities: Part 1](#)

Attend [future live sessions](#) and view other [on-demand content](#) in the Learning Lab. Contact IDOE's [Office of Digital Learning](#) with any questions.

October PD with IDOE

Register to attend the following [October PD with IDOE sessions](#):

- Wednesday, October 9: Universal Screener & Dyslexia Programming Guidance
- Wednesday, October 16: Indiana's Large-Scale Artificial Intelligence (AI) Pilot: Teacher Survey Findings
- Wednesday, October 23: English Learners with Significant Disabilities: Part 2
- Wednesday, October 30: Science of Reading and Dyslexia Toolkit

To register for workshops, or view on-demand sessions, create a free account by visiting the [LINK Portal](#) or the [Indiana Learning Lab](#) directly and use your school email address to log in. Contact IDOE's [Office of Digital Learning](#) with any questions.

Early Learning Assessment Collection

This new [Learning Lab collection](#) explores the Early Learning Assessment System (Kindergarten Readiness Assessment and ISPROUT) and provides instructional resource activities for classroom implementation and observation. Contact IDOE's [Office of Kindergarten Readiness](#) with any questions.

Recognition Opportunities

Additional Opportunities to Recognize Indiana Educators

Throughout the year, numerous opportunities arise nationwide to acknowledge the incredible work of Indiana educators. IDOE's Office of Educator Talent has developed [this document](#), which will be updated periodically with external opportunities to recognize educators. To submit an educator recognition opportunity not listed, contact IDOE's [Office of Educator Talent](#).

Teacher of the Year



2025 Indiana Teacher of the Year Announced

On Friday, September 27, Graciela Miranda, a teacher at Pike High School in Indianapolis, was named the 2025 Indiana Teacher of the Year! As Teacher of the Year, Graciela will work to help elevate the teaching profession in Indiana, as well as represent Hoosier teachers at the national level. Read more about her achievement [here](#), and learn more about the Indiana Teacher of the Year program [here](#).

News From Our Partners

NEW FROM U.S. COURTS: Fifth Annual Bill of Rights Day Contest

The Fifth Annual Bill of Rights Day Art and Essay Contest, sponsored by the U.S. Courts, takes place during the month of October for students in grades five through 12. Students can respond to specific prompts pertaining to the Bill of Rights to win up to \$500, and teachers can win prizes too! The contest

deadline is Friday, November 1. Access prompts, rules, and a link to the online submission form [here](#). Questions may be sent to Southern District of Indiana outreach coordinator [Mary Giorgio](#).

NEW FROM NEXTECH: CSforGood Competition

Challenge your students to help solve a problem in their community by using computer science! Working with a teacher sponsor, teams of three to six students across three divisions: elementary (K-5), middle (6-8) and high (9-12) school, will submit a technology project — either a software application, website, physical computing device or prototype (digital or paper) — that they created to demonstrate how computer science can be used for good when applied to real problems that affect their schools and communities. Finalists from each division will be invited to the Indiana Statehouse to showcase their projects! Learn more [here](#) and register your intent to submit projects to receive more information. Contact [Nextech](#) with any questions.

NEW FROM NEXTECH: CSforAll Script

Are you ready to create a computer science implementation plan for your district? CSforAll SCRIPT is the nationally recognized Strategic CSforALL Resource & Implementation Planning Tool (SCRIPT) to help districts prepare a custom strategic plan for the implementation of K-12 Computer Science education. Learn more about this opportunity [here](#)! Contact [Nextech](#) with any questions.

NEW FROM THE CENTRAL INDIANA CORPORATION PARTNERSHIP (CICP): See Yourself IN High School Summit

Join [CICP](#) and its five talent and industry sector initiatives for the See Yourself IN High School Summit on Thursday, November 21. Students will join us for a day of engaging panel discussions and hands-on demonstrations during the annual [See Yourself IN High School Summit](#). This free event shines a light on Indiana companies, leaders, and young talent working in the state's fastest-growing industries. Questions may be directed to [Hali Mynatt](#).

Additional Resources

- [Educator Licensing](#)
- [Educator Supply/Demand Marketplace](#)
- [Indiana Special Education Assisted Licensure Program \(I-SEAL\)](#)
- [Indiana Teachers of English Learners Licensure \(I-TELL\)](#)
- [Indiana STEM Educator Expansion Program \(I-STEM\)](#)
- [Get Your Teach On Indiana](#)
- [Indiana Learning Lab](#)
- [Indiana Literacy Cadre](#)
- [Teacher of the Year](#)

Upcoming Dates



Wednesday, October 9	Indiana Learning Lab: Universal Screener & Dyslexia Programming Guidance
Wednesday, October 16	Indiana Learning Lab: Indiana's Large-Scale AI Pilot: Teacher Survey Findings
Wednesday, October 23	Indiana Learning Lab: English Learners with Significant Disabilities: Part 2
Wednesday, October 30	Indiana Learning Lab: Science of Reading and Dyslexia Toolkit



IDOE News

- 10/2/24 Indiana Launches Early Childhood Education Registered Teacher Apprenticeship Program
- 09/27/24 Indiana Names 2025 Teacher of the Year
- 09/25/24 Indiana Honors Schools Meeting the State's 95% Literacy Goal
- 09/24/24 Sixteen Indiana Schools Named 2024 National Blue Ribbon Schools
- 09/19/24 More Students Have Access to a High-Quality Special Education Teacher Following Strategic Investments in Indiana's Educator Pipeline
- 09/11/24 Chronic Absenteeism Improves in Indiana for Second Year in a Row, Still Higher than Pre-Pandemic

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