



REGIONAL  
OFFICE OF EDUCATION

*Champion our community.*

John Meixner, Regional Superintendent of Schools

Fulton • Hancock • McDonough • Schuyler



## Annual Report

July 1, 2017– June 30, 2018

**John Meixner,**

Regional Superintendent of Schools

**Dave Demler,**

Assistant Regional Superintendent of Schools

# The Office of Regional Superintendent



The Regional Superintendent of Schools is the chief administrative educational officer of an educational service region, and the only elected education professional office in Illinois. The Office of the Regional Superintendent performs regulatory functions as directed by the Illinois School Code.

The Code states that, "The Regional Superintendent of Schools:

- shall exercise supervision and control over all school districts in the county.
- shall act as the official advisor and assistant of the school officers and teachers in his region. In the performance of this duty he shall carry out the advice of the State Superintendent of Education."

In addition to coordinating and delivering state and local services, the Regional Superintendent acts as an advocate for education by providing positive leadership and disseminating information for educators, school districts and the community.

The six main areas of responsibility include educational administration, cooperation management, financial, health and life safety, public relations, and transportation. For a detailed list of responsibilities, please visit <https://www.roe26.net/about>

Special duties of the Regional Superintendent are stated in the School Code and can be summarized in two major areas: Service and Assurances to the Public.

Service components are generally grouped as: legislative, legal, cooperative management, research dissemination, educational administration and citizen representation. Each component requires specific skills placing the Regional Superintendent in an alliance role. As the alliance agent, the Regional Superintendent brings together people, concepts and resources to provide educational services.

Assurances to the public include: fiscal responsibilities, local performance, life safety, certification, supervision and curriculum. In these areas, legislation places enforcement responsibilities on the Regional Superintendent to guarantee that certain minimums are met and legal parameters followed. In most instances, enforcement responsibilities becomes services to help schools and school personnel meet minimum expectation.

During the school year, the Regional Superintendent and staff receive hundreds of telephone calls, letters and visits from parents, school personnel, and citizens concerning a multitude of educational concerns. It is the policy of the Regional Superintendent to give prompt service and accurate information to any individual or group seeking assistance. The Regional Superintendent also acts as an advocate for education by providing positive leadership and disseminating information for educators, school districts and the community.

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## Legal Reference for Annual Report

This annual report is designed in part to meet the provisions of Chapter 105, Article 3, Sections 5/3-5, 5/3-6, and 5/3-15.8 of the School Code of Illinois.

## A Message from the Regional Superintendent



Dear Friends,

As Regional Superintendent of Schools for Fulton, Hancock, McDonough and Schuyler counties in ROE26, I am proud to provide this detailed report of our accomplishments and challenges for the fiscal year covering July 1, 2017, to June 30, 2018.

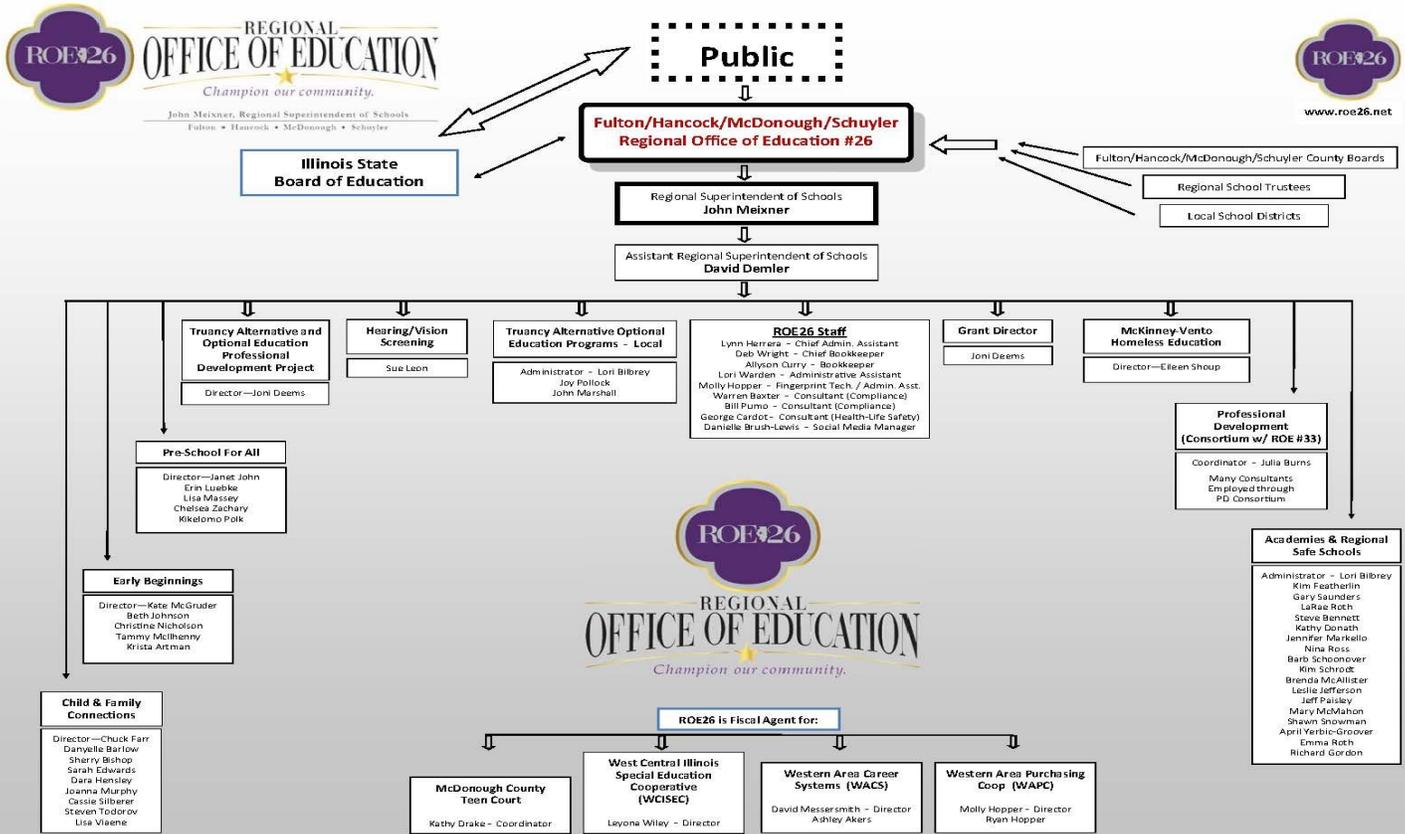
One year ago in this report, I wrote about the frustration our schools in ROE26 and around the state were facing as the state headed perilously close to the start of the new school year without a general state aid commitment in the new state budget. Thankfully, lawmakers set aside their differences and approved the evidence-based funding model that is making a real difference this year for our schools. Seeing a state budget approved this year without the acrimony of the past is also a welcome sign.

Closer to home, we continue to make progress toward improving education and changing lives in our four-county region. Our purchasing co-op has been highlighted by top leaders in Springfield as an example of the impact of smart consolidation to provide meaningful services and programs at a savings for taxpayers. Our ROYALS program continues to reshape the lives of students with discipline problems in their home schools, and several statewide awards for our ROYALS educators are proof that we are making a difference. Our Professional Development Consortium with ROE #33 is providing top-notch educational support and training for teachers throughout west-central Illinois.

We cannot do any of this alone. All of my educators and staff come to work every day determined to meet the extraordinary challenge of helping children learn and grow, no matter how difficult life is outside school. All of the public officials, educators and families in the ROE26 region deserve our thanks for supporting our efforts and joining us to provide the best education possible to every child locally. Please take a moment to review the programs and services outlined in this report, and we hope you share our excitement for the year ahead.

Sincerely,

John Meixner  
Regional Superintendent of Schools, Regional Office of Education #26



## Regional Board of School Trustees

The Regional Board of School Trustees is an elected body with the sole responsibility of action on detachment/annexation petitions regarding boundary changes between school districts in the region. Members of the Regional Board of School Trustees include:



Charles Fleming, President	Fulton County	Term expires 2023
Gerald White, Vice President	McDonough County	Term expires 2021
Sally Bair	Fulton County	Term expires 2019
Barbara Zimmerman	McDonough County	Term expires 2021
Gerald Walker	Hancock County	Term expires 2023
Francis "Kip" Wilson	Schuyler County	Term expires 2023
Vacancy		

Back Row (L-R): Francis 'Kip' Wilson, Gerald Walker, Gerald White; Front Row (L-R): Sally Bair, Charles Fleming, Barbara Zimmerman



# Champion our Community

Champion our Community is a commitment from the Regional Office of Education #26 that we will be champions for each of our communities and our schools. That means taking pride in the many good things we have here, while working diligently to make things better.



We use this campaign to challenge educators, parents, elected officials, business owners and everyone else living in the four county area to also be champions for their community.

Most importantly, by getting involved and setting an example, we hope to encourage students to become champions for their communities as well. This is a great place to live, work and raise a family. To grow and prosper we need young people committed to our region and a great way to do that is to make sure they are surrounded by people who **Champion our Community**.

## ROE Programs

ROE26 coordinates and delivers state and local services to support parents, students, and schools.

### Adult Education Program

ROE26 offers an Adult Education Program designed for the non-traditional students age 17 and above to achieve his/her High School Equivalency certificate and beyond. Through Individual Education Plans, our qualified staff are trained to assist students into the next level through connecting with local agencies and services, creating a transition plan for college, training or career readiness, and bridging the gap between student and services within the workforce area.

ROE26 is able to offer this program through a partnership with ROE 33 RAES (Regional Alternative Education Services). During a student’s time in the program, he/she will learn basic skills for English Language Arts, Math, and workplace skills, as well as, become prepared to take the High School Equivalency Exam.

### Child and Family Connections #13

CFC is an early intervention program that serves infants and children ages 0-3 who have or are at risk of developmental delays. CFC assists families across nine Illinois counties with their children's adaptive, cognitive, communication, physical, and emotional needs.

CFC assists in identifying, planning, and providing services for children in need of our care. We provide in-home evaluations and therapy sessions, create personalized therapy sessions for you and your family, and monitor progress with 6 month check-ups. During the 2017-2018 year, CFC served over 300 children by a staff of nine dedicated individuals.

*For more information about all ROE26 programs, please visit <https://www.roe26.net/programs>.*



## ROE Programs, continued.

### **Early Beginnings**

Early Beginnings provides eligible families the information, support, and encouragement they need to help their children develop to their full potential prenatally to age 3 through home and center based programs. A variety of services are provided to families including comprehensive screenings, childbirth education, a book and media lending library, preschool transition plans, play to learn group programs, and the Parents as Teachers personal visit program. Parent Educators are certified using the *Parents as Teachers Program* model and Foundational Curriculum. Over 80 children and 24 prenatal families were served this year, and 280 developmental screenings were conducted.

### **Homeless Education**

The Area 3 Lead Liaison Project provides professional development, technical assistance, information, and coordination of services for west central Illinois school districts regarding the rights and needs of homeless children and youth. A total of 372 homeless K-12 children were served in ROE26, with another 24 preschool children served.

### **Preschool for All**

The Preschool for All program is a high quality program that brings together qualified staff, a proven curriculum and parent involvement to help children aged 3-5 develop the skills they need to succeed in school and later in life. Preschool for All programs are offered in participating public and private schools, child care centers, community and faith-based organizations, Head Start and other settings. There is no cost to parents. This year, 127 children were served in 5 centers.

### **ROYALS—Regional Office Youth Alternative Learning Services**

ROYALS offers alternative learning services to students in grades 6-12. ROYALS takes an individual approach to develop a meaningful relationship with each student to help each progress toward his/her goals. The Safe School programs serve students who have been expelled or who have served multiple suspensions due to serious and/or repeated misconduct. Our Alternative programs are designed to serve students for a variety of purposes; credit recovery and chronic truancy, for example.

The mission of ROYALS is to guide students in achieving academic success and post-secondary success. It provides a safe environment in which high-quality education is delivered and high-quality learning takes place. Students understand that attending regularly, making quality academic progress and displaying positive behaviors are all part of school success. Staff serve as mentors in guiding students to make positive, meaningful choices that will impact their future in a favorable manner. This year, ROYALS served 135 students at four sites with 5 full time and 18 part time instructors. Twenty-six students completed coursework requirements to graduate and receive a diploma in their home school districts.

*For more information about all ROE26 programs, please visit <https://www.roe26.net/programs>*

# Awards and Recognitions

## Early Beginnings

In October 2017, Early Beginnings earned a prestigious recognition by the *Parents as Teachers* national center as a Blue Ribbon Affiliate. Early Beginnings is one of the top performing early education and home visiting affiliates within the group's nationwide network. The program was also awarded expansion funds from ISBE to provide a mental health support for Parent Educators and families enrolled in the program.



## ROYALS

Gracie Johnson, a ROYALS student in the Macomb program, won first place in the 2018 Interfaith Alliance of Macomb Youth Writing Contest.



Both a student and a teacher were honored at this year's ICEARY (Illinois Coalition of Educators of At-Risk Youth) conference held March 1 in Bloomington. Mrs. Jennifer Markello, lead teacher at ROYALS McCall in Canton, was one of four winners to receive the 2018 Excellence in Education Award. Kourtney Showalter, a ROYALS Academy McCall in Canton student, won an Outstanding Student Award for her extreme turn around in attendance and improved behavior.

In addition, Will Eddy and Brandon Griffith were honored as outstanding students at the Illinois Principal Association's Student Recognition Breakfast held on May 2, 2018.

## Spelling Bee Winners

ROE26 sponsored three county bees for students up to grade 8 who won their local school bees. The winner of each county bee participated in our region's Grand Bee held on Friday, March 23, and hosted by the Peoria Journal Star on behalf of Scripps's National Spelling Bee. Congratulations to all the winners!

### Hancock County

Joey Weese from Southeastern Junior High School, Grade 8. Winning word was abdicate.

### McDonough County

Sophia Brown from Macomb Junior High School, Grade 7. Winning word was brigands. Sophia was one of the top three finalists at the regional bee in Peoria. Therefore, she proceeded to the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C. during the last week of May.

### Fulton/Schuyler County

Dylan Harr from Cuba Middle School, Grade 8. Winning word was requisites.

# Budget Information

	<u>Awarded for FY18 Programs</u>	<u>Received for FY18 and Balance of FY17</u>
<b><u>Federal Funds</u></b>		
School Lunch/Breakfast Federal Reimbursement		\$ 12,782.35
Homeless-McKinney Vento Act—Local	\$ 28,073.00	\$ 26,088.81
McKinney Vento Area 3—Homeless	\$ 237,432.00	\$ 257,529.00
Title II—Teacher Quality—Leadership Grant	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 2,299.00
	<b><u>Total Federal Funds</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 298,699.16</u></b>
<b><u>State Funds</u></b>		
Child and Family Connections	\$ 483,283.00	\$ 513,970.66
ROE/ISC Services	\$ 110,483.00	\$ 110,483.00
Early Childhood—Early Beginnings	\$ 320,521.00	\$ 427,361.00
Early Childhood—Preschool for All	\$ 397,923.00	\$ 504,387.00
Regional Safe Schools Alternative Education	\$ 60,660.00	\$ 103,297.00
RSSP—Cooperative Education Program	\$ 38,108.00	\$ 67,870.00
School Bus Driver Classes Reimbursement	\$ 1,386.00	\$ 1,386.00
School Lunch—State Reimbursement		\$ 103.09
General State Aid		\$ 393,451.70
Truant Alternative/Option Ed.	\$ 100,555.00	\$ 184,865.00
Truant Alternative/Option Ed.—PD	\$ 202,850.00	\$ 378,850.00
Fulton County School Facilities Tax		\$ 2,119,742.27
McDonough County School Facilities Tax		\$ 1,494,189.69
Schuyler County School Facilities Tax		\$ 303,571.94
	<b><u>Total State Funds</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 6,603,528.35</u></b>
<b><u>Local Funds</u></b>		
Alternative School Tuition		\$ 96,555.00
County Support		\$ 202,779.49
GED		\$ 3,274.25
	<b><u>Total Local Funds</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 302,608.74</u></b>
	<b><u>Total Funds Received</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 5,710,646.56</u></b>
<b><u>Fiscal Agent</u></b>		
	<b><u>Awarded for FY18 Programs</u></b>	<b><u>Received for FY18 and Balance of FY17</u></b>
McDonough County Teen Court		\$ 7,121.21
Western Area Purchasing Co-op		\$ 672,086.59
West Central Illinois Special Education Cooperative	\$ 3,543,286.00	\$ 3,973,594.98
Western Area Career System - CTEI	\$ 435,000.00	\$ 734,809.00
Western Area Career System - Perkins	\$ 140,000.00	\$ 142,543.00

# School Facility Sales Tax Distribution

## Fulton County

Districts Receiving Funds	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	Total
Astoria CUSD #1	\$10036.37	\$11,004.91	\$11,219.00	\$11,261.98	\$10,952.09	\$10,583.89	\$10,833.65	\$11,014.26	\$11,948.82	\$9,584.60	\$9,471.31	\$10,697.23	\$128,608.11
VIT CUD #2	\$10715.32	\$11,749.38	\$11,977.95	\$12,023.84	\$11,692.99	\$11,299.88	\$12,644.88	\$12,855.69	\$13,946.26	\$11,186.82	\$11,054.59	\$12,485.45	\$143,633.05
Fulton County CUD #3	\$12929.14	\$14,176.85	\$14,452.64	\$14,508.01	\$14,108.80	\$13,634.47	\$14,422.53	\$14,662.97	\$15,906.86	\$12,759.49	\$12,608.67	\$14,240.68	\$168,411.11
Spoon River Valley CUD #4	\$7733.90	\$8,480.25	\$8,645.22	\$8,678.34	\$8,439.54	\$8,155.81	\$9,391.41	\$9,547.98	\$10,357.95	\$8,308.50	\$8,210.30	\$9,273.00	\$105,222.20
Schuyler-Industry CUSD #5	\$88.49	\$97.03	\$98.91	\$99.29	\$96.56	\$93.31	\$100.60	\$102.28	\$110.96	\$89.00	\$87.95	\$99.34	\$1,163.72
Canton USD #66	\$76453.14	\$83,831.12	\$85,461.93	\$85,789.37	\$83,428.71	\$80,623.92	\$83,617.63	\$85,011.66	\$92,223.35	\$73,975.81	\$73,101.42	\$82,563.36	\$986,081.42
Lewistown CUSD #97	\$19895.61	\$21,815.60	\$22,239.99	\$22,325.20	\$21,710.88	\$20,980.98	\$22,036.48	\$22,403.86	\$24,304.42	\$19,495.48	\$19,265.05	\$21,758.64	\$258,232.19
Bushnell Prairie City CU #170	\$1210.20	\$1,326.99	\$1,352.80	\$1,357.99	\$1,320.62	\$1,276.22	\$1,341.63	\$1,364.00	\$1,479.71	\$1,186.93	\$1,172.90	\$1,324.71	\$15,714.70
Abingdon-Avon CUSD #276	\$5106.76	\$5,599.57	\$5,708.51	\$5,730.38	\$5,572.69	\$5,385.35	\$5,903.14	\$6,001.55	\$6,510.67	\$5,222.46	\$5,160.73	\$5,828.71	\$67,730.52
Farmington CSD #265	\$18862.38	\$20,682.66	\$21,085.01	\$21,165.80	\$20,583.38	\$19,891.39	\$19,856.24	\$20,187.27	\$21,899.79	\$17,566.64	\$17,359.01	\$19,605.88	\$238,745.45
Illini Bluffs CUSD #327	\$531.42	\$582.70	\$594.03	\$596.31	\$579.90	\$560.41	\$469.61	\$477.44	\$517.94	\$415.46	\$410.55	\$463.69	\$6,199.46
	\$163,562.73	\$179,347.06	\$182,835.99	\$183,536.51	\$178,486.16	\$172,485.63	\$180,617.80	\$183,628.96	\$199,206.73	\$159,791.19	\$157,902.48	\$178,340.69	\$2,119,741.93

## McDonough County

Districts Receiving Funds	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	Total
West Prairie CUD #103	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$24,350.90	\$29,584.05	\$29,751.92	\$29,496.27	\$29,753.58	\$31,125.73	\$25,252.44	\$24,455.69	\$28,216.39	\$251,986.97
Bushnell Prairie City CU	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$27,695.49	\$33,647.41	\$33,838.34	\$33,566.49	\$33,859.31	\$35,420.99	\$28,737.19	\$27,830.50	\$32,110.16	\$286,705.88
Macomb CUSD #185	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$85,819.48	\$104,262.59	\$104,854.20	\$104,920.28	\$105,835.56	\$110,716.39	\$89,824.66	\$86,990.58	\$100,367.65	\$893,591.39
Schuyler-Industry CUSD #5	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,976.29	\$6,045.72	\$6,080.03	\$5,979.62	\$6,031.78	\$6,309.95	\$5,119.29	\$4,957.77	\$5,720.16	\$51,220.61
VIT CUD #2	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$81.62	\$99.16	\$99.72	\$100.46	\$101.33	\$106.01	\$86.00	\$83.29	\$96.10	\$853.69
Southeastern CUSD #337	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$774.97	\$941.51	\$946.85	\$1,004.93	\$1,013.70	\$1,060.45	\$860.34	\$833.20	\$961.33	\$8,397.28
Monmouth Roseville CUSD	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.46	\$101.33	\$106.01	\$86.00	\$83.29	\$96.10	\$573.19
Abingdon-Avon CUSD #276	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.77	\$152.09	\$159.10	\$129.08	\$125.01	\$144.23	\$860.28
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$143,698.75	\$174,580.44	\$175,571.06	\$175,319.28	\$176,848.68	\$185,004.63	\$150,095.00	\$145,359.33	\$167,712.12	\$1,494,189.29

## Schuyler County

Districts Receiving Funds	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	Total
Astoria CUSD #1	\$599.96	\$612.72	\$610.27	\$595.39	\$601.02	\$709.85	\$650.25	\$672.27	\$647.97	\$570.65	\$483.09	\$610.06	\$7,363.50
VIT CUD #2	\$82.76	\$84.52	\$84.18	\$82.13	\$82.90	\$97.91	\$48.18	\$49.81	\$48.01	\$42.28	\$35.79	\$45.20	\$783.67
Schuyler-Industry CUSD #5	\$23,067.75	\$23,558.52	\$23,464.11	\$22,892.28	\$23,108.78	\$27,292.89	\$25,673.46	\$26,542.63	\$25,583.07	\$22,530.39	\$19,073.48	\$24,086.29	\$286,873.65
Southeastern CUSD #337	\$682.71	\$697.24	\$694.44	\$677.52	\$683.95	\$807.79	\$770.69	\$796.78	\$767.97	\$676.34	\$572.56	\$723.04	\$8,551.03
	\$24,433.18	\$24,953.00	\$24,853.00	\$24,247.32	\$24,476.65	\$28,908.44	\$27,142.58	\$28,061.49	\$27,047.02	\$23,819.66	\$20,164.92	\$25,464.59	\$303,571.85

# Services

## General Operations

Number of Employees	69
Detachment/Annexation Hearings	0
Detachment/Annexation Inquiries	6
Reorganization Hearings and Meetings	0
District Documents Reviewed/Approved	205
Criminal Background Checks	814
State/Regional/Local Meetings	41
Regional Board of School Trustees Meetings	2
Homeless Hearings	0
Homeless Children Served	396
Students served with Edgenuity-ROE26	589
Students served with Edgenuity-TAOEP	2,370
Students served with Edgenuity-RSSP	900
Student Work Permits Issued	5

## Certification/Licensure

Administrator Certificate Consultations	36
Teacher Licensure Consultations	800
Educator and Licenses Registered	462
Substitute Licenses Registered	131
Certification/Licensure Meetings	4
Public School Teachers Employed	935
ParaPro Tests Administered	34

## Districts Evaluated for Full Compliance

Carthage Elementary District #317	
Dallas Elementary District #327	
Nauvoo-Colusa CUSD #325	
Spoon River Valley CUSD #4	
V.I.T CUSD #2	
<i>All other districts participated in Partial Compliance Reviews</i>	

## Bus Driver Training

Initial Courses Offered/# of Participants	11/62
Refresher Courses Offered/# of Participants	13/284

## High School Equivalency Testing (GED)

1st Time Test Takers	70
Retest Candidates	25
Certificates Issued	44
Tests Administrations	194

## Health and Life Safety

Life Safety Inspections Conducted	19
Plans Processed and Reviewed	39
Safety Funds Approved	17

## Professional Development

PD Activities/# of Participants	117/1885*
<i>*Includes summer "What it Takes" Conference</i>	
Administrator Academies/# of Participants	9/110
Foundational Services/# of Participants	31/620
Non-Foundational Services/# of Participants	2/53
TAOEP Trainings/# of Participants	11/294

## Truancy Program

Truancy Letters Sent	499
Truancy School Visits	688
Hearings by Regional Office/State's Attorney	113
Project Stay-In Referrals	384

## Vision and Hearing Screenings

Vision and Hearing Screenings	3,754
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# Numbers to Know

- Over 3,800 students used Edgenuity, an online curriculum, within the districts of ROE26 and all TAOEP and Regional Safe School Programs.
- The number of substitute licenses issued increased to 131 this year.
- Less public school teachers were employed this year, dropping from 950 teachers last year to 935 this year.
- More high school equivalency, or GED, tests were administered this year, increasing from 115 in FY17 to 194 in FY18.
- The number of PD activities offered increased from 88 to 117, which also increased the number of participants to 1885 this year, up from 1112 last year.
- This was the first year that McDonough County collected the facility sales tax. It generated almost \$1.5 Million for area schools. In addition, Fulton County generated \$2.1 Million and Schuyler County generated over \$300,000 for schools.

# Schools Served

## Fulton County

- Astoria CUSD #1
- Canton Union School District #66
- Fulton County Community Unit District #3
- Lewistown CUSD #97
- Spoon River Valley Community Unit District #4
- V.I.T Community Unit District #2

## McDonough County

- Bushnell-Prairie City CU #170
- Macomb CUSD #185
- West Prairie CUSD #103

## Schuyler County

- Schuyler-Industry CUSD #5

## Hancock County

- Carthage Elementary #317
- Dallas Elementary School District #327
- Hamilton CCSD #328
- Illini West High School District #307
- LaHarpe CSD #347
- Nauvoo-Colusa CUSD #325
- Southeastern CUSD #337
- Warsaw CUSD #316

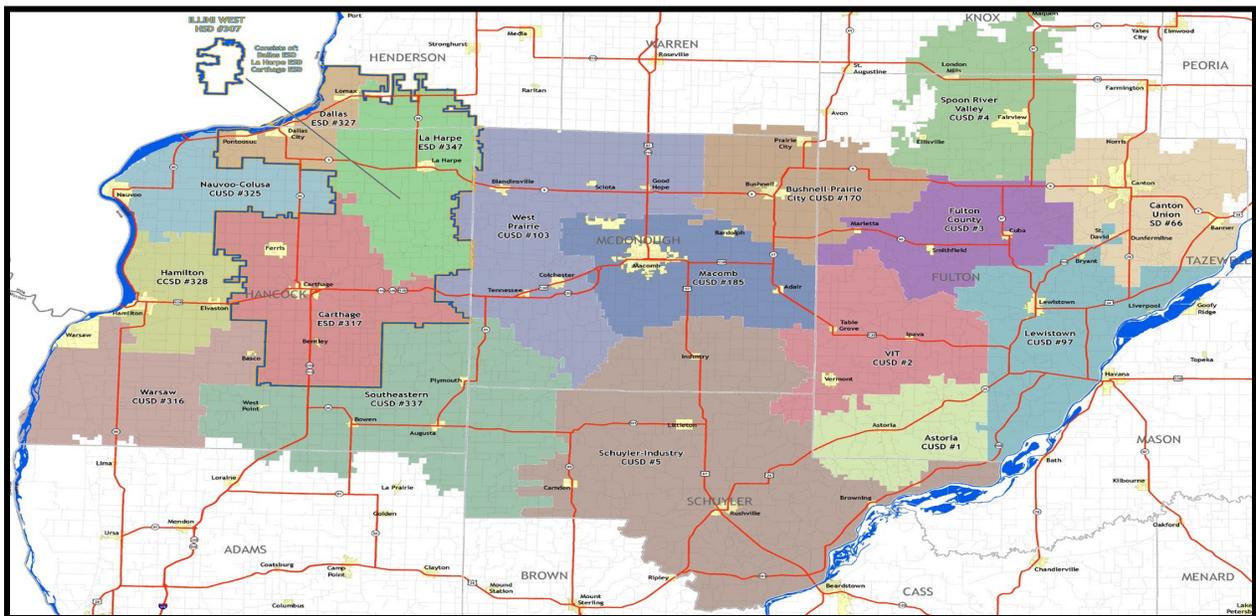
## Non-Public/Private Schools

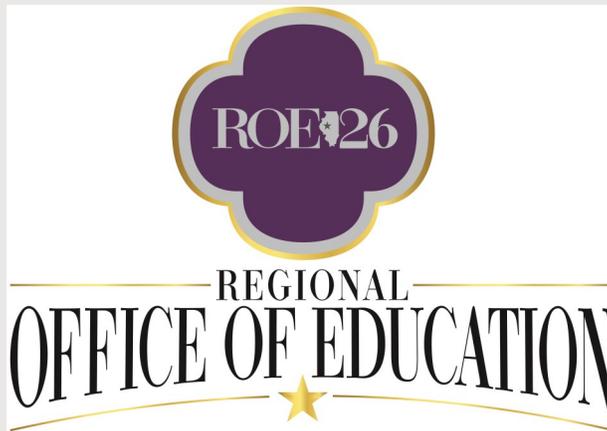
- St. Paul's Catholic School, Macomb
- St.s Peter and Paul School, Nauvoo
- Trinity Academy, Industry

## ROYALS/Safe Schools and Alternative Academies

- ROYALS Academy/Macomb
- ROYALS RSSP/Macomb
- ROYALS Academy/Carthage
- ROYALS RSSP/Carthage
- ROYALS RSSP/Canton
- ROYALS RSSP/Canton-McCall
- ROYALS Academy/Canton-Spoon River College

# Boundary Map





John Meixner, Regional Superintendent of Schools  
130 S. Lafayette, Suite 200  
Macomb, IL 61455  
(309) 575-3226  
roe26.net



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