



Regional Office Of
EDUCATION
HENDERSON, KNOX, MERCER AND WARREN COUNTIES

Annual Report

July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

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Table of Contents

Regional Office of Education #33 Mission	2
The Role of Regional Superintendent	2
A Message from the Regional Superintendent	3
Regional Board of School Trustees	4
Schools Served	4
ROE #33 Budget Information	6
Financial Audit for 2023 Year End	6
Organizational Chart	6
Programs and Services for Students	7
Behavioral Health Services	7
Early Childhood Education	7
Regional Alternative Education Services (RAES)	7
Student Services	8
Ken Russell 5th Grade Outdoor Education Day	8
Student Work Permits	9
Programs and Services for Families and Community Members	9
Adult Education Programs	9
Early Childhood Prevention Initiative	10
Family Literacy Program	10
Programs and Services for Teachers, Staff, and Administrators	12
Certification and Licensure Support	12
Professional Development (PD)	12
Programs and Services for Schools and Districts	13
21st Century Community Learning Centers	13
Attendance Support & Homeless Education	14
Career and Technical Education (CTE)	15
Health and Life Safety & Compliance	15
ROE #33 Operations	16



Regional Office of Education #33 Mission

Our Mission Statement is *"to serve our schools and communities by providing educational resources, partnerships, and opportunities."*

The Role of Regional Superintendent

Since 1865, the Regional Superintendents of Schools have served Illinois with distinction for over 150 years. The Regional Superintendent shall exercise supervision and control over all school districts in the region. "The Regional Superintendent of Schools" is the chief administrative officer of a Regional Office of Education (ROE).

As an intermediate agency between the Illinois State Board of Education and local school districts, the office of the Regional Superintendent performs regulatory functions as directed by the Illinois School Code. Illinois School Code states that the Regional Superintendent of Schools:

Shall act as the official advisor and assistant of the school officers and teachers in this region. In the performance of this duty she/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 public.



A Message from the Regional Superintendent



As Regional Superintendent of Henderson, Knox, Mercer, and Warren Counties, I am pleased to submit the annual report from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. This report provides an overview of the services that are offered by ROE #33 and a clearer understanding of the tasks that our office undertakes to fulfill our continued mission to serve our schools and communities by providing educational resources, partnerships, and opportunities.

In the past year, we have continued to expand our services and have further developed new partnerships based on the needs expressed in the communities we serve. We continue to hold Stakeholder meetings and advisory groups across our many programs to invite feedback from our collaborative partners.

It is not possible to meet the needs of our communities, schools, and families without the work of our outstanding and dedicated staff members in ROE #33. We continue year after year to provide high-quality early childhood programs, after-school programs, adult education, alternative school opportunities, attendance support, behavioral health support, professional learning, and family literacy.

It has been my pleasure to serve as your Regional Superintendent for the past seventeen years. In the past year, I have continued to serve as the President of the Illinois Association of Regional Superintendents of Schools. I also serve on the Performance Evaluation Advisory Council and have since 2010. In addition, I continue to serve on the KIDS advisory board and the State Preparation and Licensure Board (SEPLB). Advocacy across Illinois for our region and rural communities just like ours is a great passion of mine. I will continue to provide this voice each time I have the opportunity to meet with legislators and leaders.

Most importantly, our office works closely with the Illinois State Board of Education to ensure the best support possible for our local school districts. Our continued communication with local legislators also serves us well, and we work closely to develop legislation that will aid in the current teacher shortage we continue to face.

Because of the valuable partnerships we have built not just in our region but throughout the state, our programs and services continue to grow and serve our communities making meeting our mission statement possible.

On behalf of myself, Lori Loving, Assistant Regional Superintendent of Schools, and the entire ROE #33 staff, we want to thank you for your continued support and commitment to the students and families in our region.

Sincerely,

Jodi L. Scott

Regional Superintendent of Schools



Regional Board of School Trustees

The Regional Board of School Trustees is a group of elected officials responsible for hearing cases regarding requests for detachment and annexation.

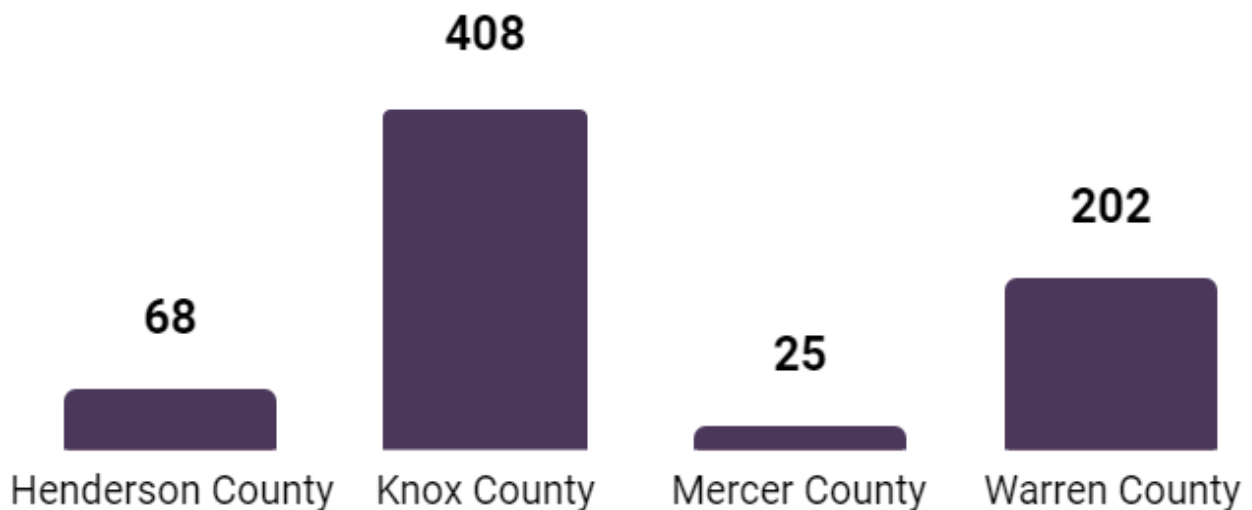
Members of the Regional Board of School Trustees include:

Barb Chiles, *Mercer County*
Deb DeCrane, *Knox County*
Thomas Kordewick, *Knox County*
Richard Lutz, *Henderson County*
Charles Peirce, *Warren County*
Rick Winbigler, *Warren County*
Leland Wight, *Knox County*

Schools Served

ROE #33 works with schools across 9 districts, as well as 3 parochial schools across Henderson, Knox, Mercer, and Warren Counties. In 2023-2024, a total of **703 school visits** were conducted across the region.

School Visits Conducted





The list below provides information on the schools and districts served by the ROE.

Abingdon-Avon CUSD #276

William Walters, *Superintendent*
www.d276.net

Mercer County School District #404

Scott Petrie, *Superintendent*
www.mercerschools.org

Costa Catholic Academy

Kathryn Frakes, *Principal*
www.costacatholicacademy.org

Monmouth-Roseville CUSD #238

Ed Fletcher, *Superintendent*
www.mr238.org

Galesburg Christian School

Bob Nutzhorn, *Administrator*
www.galesburgchristian.org

R.O.W.V.A. CUSD #208

James Dunlap, *Superintendent*
www.rowva.k12.il.us

Galesburg CUSD #205

John Asplund, *Superintendent*
www.galesburg205.org

United CUSD #304

Jeff Whitsitt, *Superintendent*
www.u304.org

Immaculate Conception School

Randy Frakes, *Principal*
www.immaculate-conception.net

West Central CUSD #235

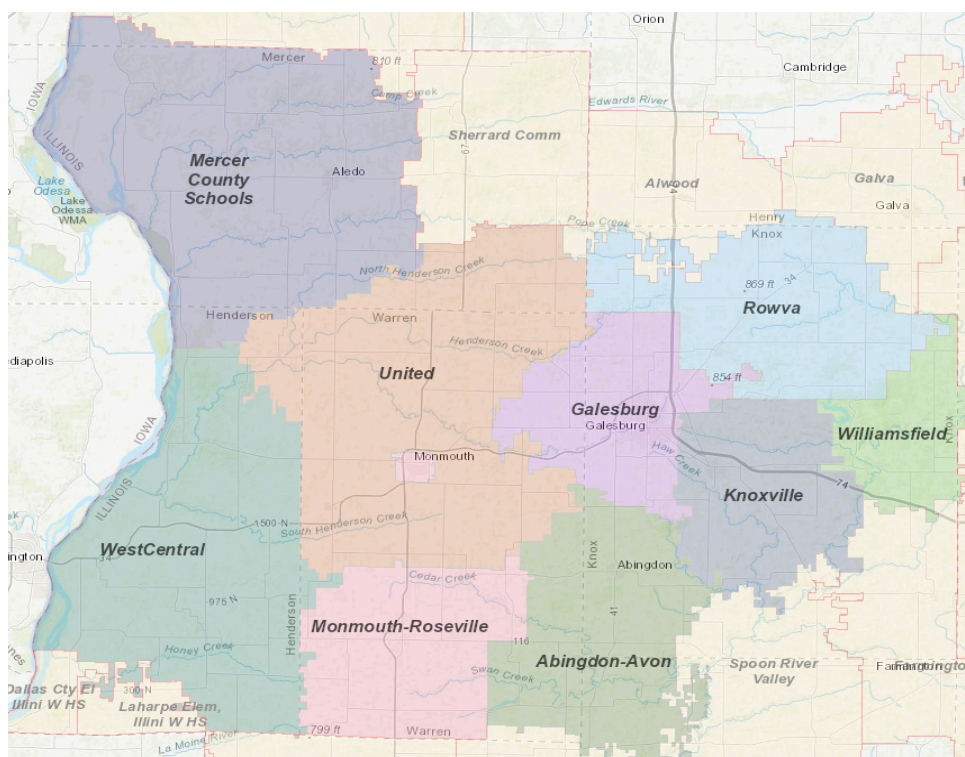
Stacy Day, *Superintendent*
www.wc235.k12.il.us

Knoxville CUSD #202

Dr. Andrea Guerrero, *Superintendent*
www.bluebullets.org

Williamsfield CUSD #210

Tim Farquer, *Superintendent*
www.billtown.org





ROE #33 Budget Information

ROE #33 manages a total of **76 grant programs**, on local, state, and federal levels.

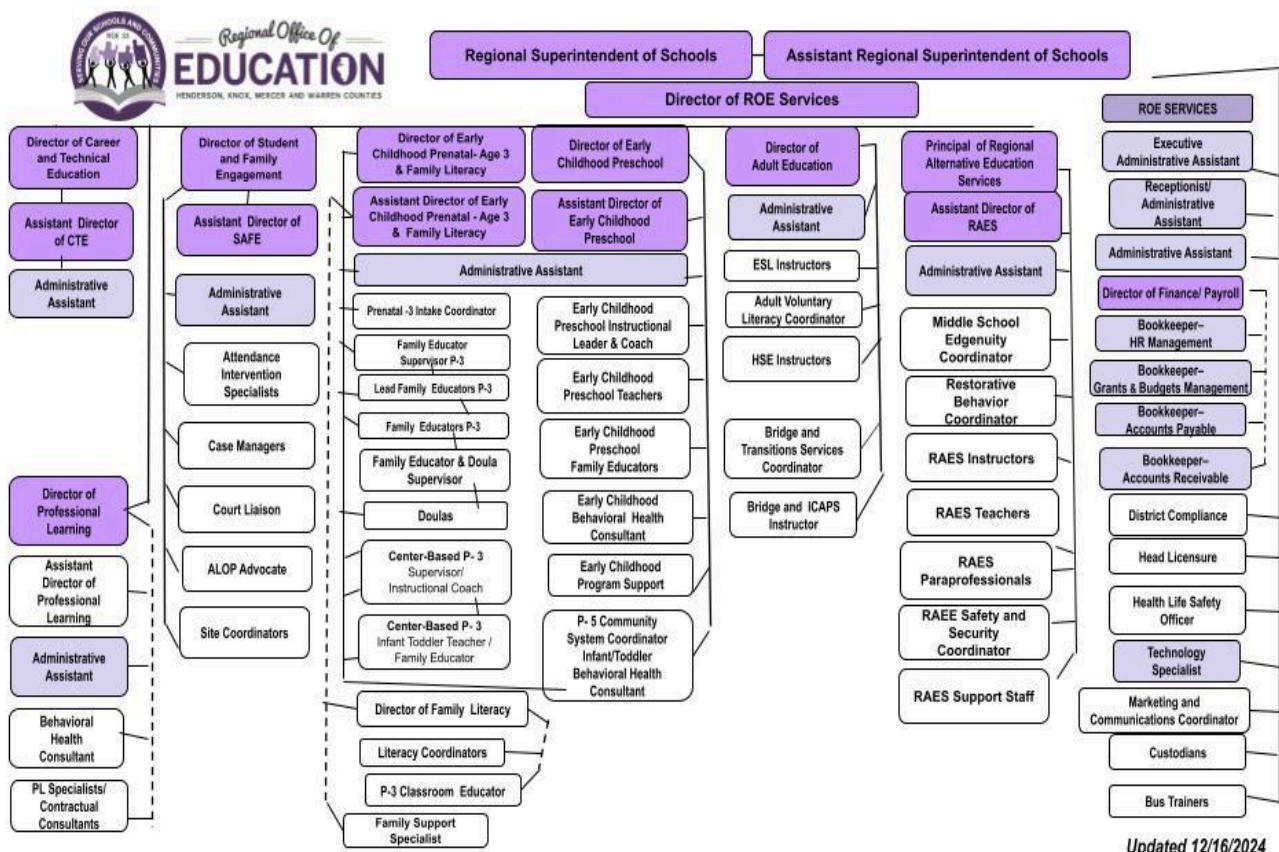
Financial Audit for 2023 Year End

Funding Source	Amount	% of Total	Expenditure Type	Amount	% of Total
Local Sources	\$1,128,160	10.23%	Salaries and Benefits	\$4,850,437	45.12%
State Sources	\$7,963,079	72.8%	Purchased Services	\$997,664	9.28%
Federal Sources	\$1,941,176	17.6%	All Other Expenditures	\$4,902,180	45.6%
Total Revenues	\$11,032,415	100.00%	Total Expenditures	\$10,750,281	100.00%

Organizational Chart

ROE #33 has a total of **147 employees** in **9 departments**. In 2023-2024, the ROE held **2 all-staff meetings**, with **210 total participants**.

The chart below shows the organizational structure of the ROE.





Programs and Services for Students

Behavioral Health Services

The Regional Office of Education #33's behavioral health team believes in supporting the whole family and community. We offer services to help families and professionals build their capacity to support and sustain healthy social-emotional development and mental health. The focus of this support is to help increase skills and reduce family and educator stress surrounding behavioral health needs.

This year, there were 74 School Crisis Assistant team members and 1 call received.

Early Childhood Education

The Early Childhood Preschool for All serves ages three to five and assists in developmentally age-appropriate experiences that focus on social/emotional language and pre-literacy development. While meeting individual needs first, all children have the opportunity to participate in authentic learning experiences that enhance their innate love of learning.

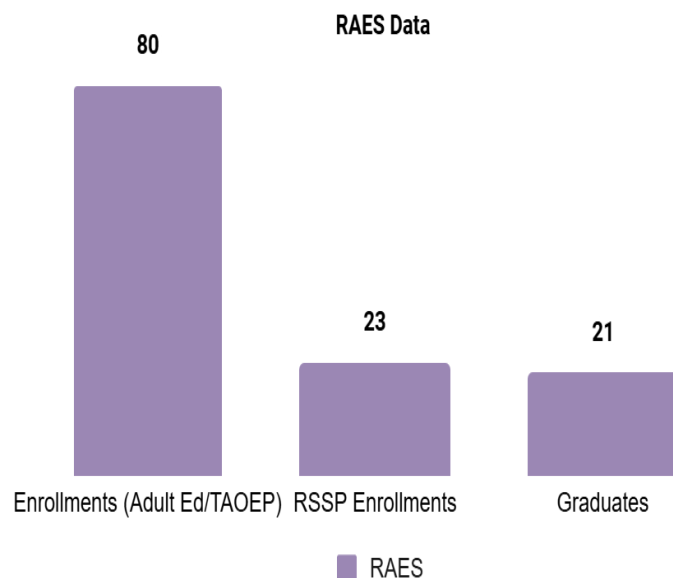
In 2023-2024, the Early Childhood Education department **managed 34 classrooms across nine districts and 2 childcare centers** within Henderson, Knox, Mercer, and Warren Counties.

A total of **1,433 vision, hearing, and developmental screenings** were conducted for children ages zero to five in 2023-2024.

Regional Alternative Education Services (RAES)

The Regional Alternative Education Services (RAES) is a ROE #33-run alternative school for students residing in Henderson, Knox, Mercer, and Warren counties. We serve students who, for a variety of reasons, need an alternative educational setting to be successful academically. Students may attend RAES due to truancy, behavioral, or academic issues.

RAES offers a comprehensive and robust selection of academic programs. Its Day High School Diploma Program is located in Galesburg and serves students from 6th through 12th grade. Our programs use a combination of online curriculum through Edgenuity, I-Pathways, and teacher-led instruction to meet the diverse learning styles of our students.





Our RAES staff recognizes the individual and unique student needs in our programs and strives to meet those needs.

The school operates out of Galesburg and **employs 14 staff members**. RAES is located in Galesburg and serves Galesburg, Knoxville, Williamsfield, R.O.W.V.A., Abingdon/Avon, Monmouth/Roseville, Mercer, United, and West Central school districts.

Student enrollment and graduation rates are shown in the bar chart above. Of the enrolled students at RAES, 31 students returned to their home school; this is a 30% successful re-entry rate.

Additional indicators are displayed in the table below.

Indicator	Total
RAES Credits Earned	175.25
Students Served With Edgenuity (TAOEP)	80
Students Served With Edgenuity (RSSP)	23
RSSCEP Students Participated/Jobs Received	8

In 2023-2024, fifty-seven High School Equivalency diplomas were issued. The Pearson VUE GED was given forty-eight times; there were forty-eight first-time test takers during this year.

Student Services

Ken Russell 5th Grade Outdoor Education Day

Ken Russell was an Illinois Department of Natural Resources fish biologist in West Central Illinois for over 53 years and was honored at the 2018 Fifth Grade Outdoor Education Day for Knox County where the event was renamed in his honor.

The Ken Russell Outdoor Education Day is an annual event that gives students an opportunity to get out of the classroom and enjoy the outdoors. A variety of “hands-on” educational wildlife stations are provided for the students. Some of the many stations include fishing, butterflies, geocaching, recycling, aquatics, outdoor adventure, and nutrition.

In 2023-2024, the Knox County Ken Russell Outdoor Education Day was held on September 22, 2023. The total number of attendees was 444 students.



Student Work Permits

Child Labor Law regulates the employment of workers under 16 years of age. The law protects children by requiring employment certificates. ROE #33 evaluates student applications and issues appropriate Student Work Permits. The certificate confirms that a minor is old enough to work, physically capable of performing the job and that the job will not interfere with the minor's education and complies with Child Labor Laws.

In 2023-2024, forty student work permits were issued.

Programs and Services for Families and Community Members

Adult Education Programs

ROE #33 offers Adult Education Programs through RAES and for community members ages 16 and older. Students who are seeking their GED or High School Equivalency (HSE) Certificate can enroll in afternoon or evening HiSet/GED courses (located in Galesburg, Monmouth, and online). Students who are non-native English language speakers can enroll in English as a Second Language (ESL) courses that are developed to educate non-English speaking students how to speak, read, and write English (located in Galesburg and Monmouth).

Adult Education	
HSE enrollment	152
ESL enrollment	181
WIOA Incentive enrollment	1
Bridge enrollment (Healthcare, Manufacturing, Hospitality, Natural Resources, Business, IELCE, Essential Skills Academy)	176
ESA (Essential Skills Academy) certificate obtained	0
HiSET/GED subject tested	188
HiSET/GED subject passed	147
Transition Cases	49
Measurable Skill Gains (CASAS)	39.35
Citizenship gained	1

In 2023-2024, 152 students enrolled in the HSE program, and 181 students enrolled in the ESL program.

The Adult Education program also runs an Adult Volunteer Literacy program, in which community members can volunteer to tutor adult students enrolled in the HSE or ESL program.

In 2023-2024, 15 volunteers participated in this program. There were 54 tutees served in this program.



Early Childhood Prevention Initiative

The Early Childhood Prevention Initiative Program works alongside families and children from Prenatal to Age 3 in Henderson, Knox, Mercer & Warren counties. Family Educators visit with families weekly, in their homes to empower parents to be their child's first teacher through goal setting and child development activities that focus on each individual child's needs. Our program collaborates with partnering agencies, communities, and schools to maximize each child's potential.

PI 0-3 Testimonials

In 2023-2024, the Prevention Initiative served 218 children and 18 prenatal families with 2779 home visits.

Nicole Stinson was enrolled in the Prenatal to Age 3 and Doula program at ROE #33. Nicole heard about ROE #33 from Lutheran Social Services & Circles of Security. Nicole was interested in the programs to support her children through different parenting styles, strategies, and resources.

She found role models in her Family Educator, Amber Roller, and Doula, Hailey Worden. The ROE was there whether it was a text or phone call late at night or support through resources such as Loving Bottoms Diaper Bank. Nicole felt she could reach out to her support at the ROE whenever needed.

The three words Nicole would use to describe the ROE are helpful, supportive, and non-judgmental. Nicole also felt the work the ROE did was life-changing for her and her family. She will always remember the encouragement the ROE provided.

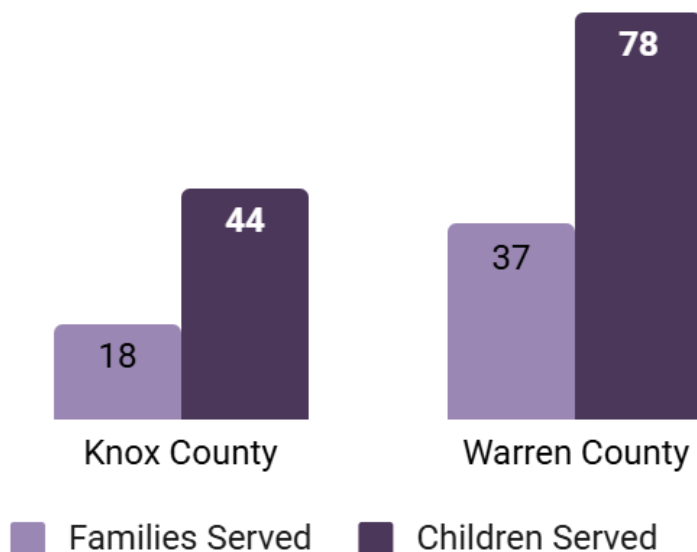
Family Literacy Program

The Regional Office of Education's Family Literacy Program is funded through the Illinois Secretary of State Penny Severns Family Literacy grant. We serve both Knox and Warren Counties in collaboration with the Galesburg Public Library and the Warren County Public Library. We also collaborate together with our school districts.

This five-component family program offers English as a Second Language and Adult Basic Education programs for adults. Enrolled children receive child education. Parenting education and Parent-Child Together Time (PACT) activities are provided for the entire family including Warren County's 0 to 3 classroom. Families receive library cards and learn how to access the library's resources.



Families and Children Served by Family Literacy Programs



Family Literacy Testimonials

Maria Acosta became involved with Regional Office of Education #33 when Rachael Allaman was tabling outside a local grocery store with information about ROE #33 English Language Learners (ELL) classes. Maria wanted to learn English and enrolled in ELL classes, which led to her joining the Family Literacy and Prevention Initiative (PI) programs.

Over the past two years, Maria has built a strong relationship with her ELL Instructor Rachael. Maria feels comfortable asking questions if she does not understand because Rachael will “explain it again and again.” Maria’s English skills are improving, and she is engaging with her classmates and learning about their cultures and countries.

In addition to ELL, her family has received support from her Literacy Coordinator/PI Family Educator, Cara Bell. The Family Literacy and PI programs have provided many beneficial resources, including but not limited to the following: developmental activities, library cards, free books, and supplies from Loving Bottoms Diaper Bank. Maria also loves the field trips and events for her family, such as Family Literacy Nights at the Warren Co. Public Library.

Three words Maria would use to describe the ROE are engaging, supportive, and empathetic. Maria stated, “My experience with the ROE goes beyond expectations.” These ROE programs have been able to help her achieve her goals.

In 2023-2024, Knox and Warren County had six dedicated employees.



Programs and Services for Teachers, Staff, and Administrators

Certification and Licensure Support

ROE #33 works in close collaboration with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) to provide support for Educator Licensure. We assist with questions related to substitute, paraprofessional, educator, administrator, and alternative licenses.

Workshop/Meeting	Total Number
Administrator Certificate Consultations	17
Teacher Licensure Consultations	1,030
Educators Registered	569
Licenses Registered	610
Certification/Licensure Meetings	14
Substitute Licenses Registered	260
Public School Administrators Employed	92
Public School Teachers Employed	921
Teacher Retirement System Conferences	1
Parapro Tests Administered	43

Professional Learning (PL)

The Regional Office of Education #33 is part of a Professional Development Consortium with the Regional Office of Education #26. The PD Consortium offers the professional development tools to succeed through its workshops, face-to-face training, conferences, partnerships, and online opportunities. **Sessions held in 2023-2024 are listed in the table below.**

Workshop/Meeting	Number of Sessions Held	Number of Participants
ROE #26/ROE #33 Professional Development	121	2,273
Administrator Academies	9	98
Consortium Workshops	269	4,858
Individual School Workshops	148	2,793
ROE #26/ROE #33 Consortium Meetings	12	77



In addition to the totals listed in the table above, ROE #33 offered 6 refresher courses for bus drivers, with 190 participants.

The ROE also participated in 10 superintendent meetings and three principal meetings in 2023-2024. Twelve PD Advisory Committee meetings were held with 84 participants. Additionally, 13 needs assessments conducted in 2023-2024 totaled 65 participants.

Programs and Services for Schools and Districts

21st Century Community Learning Centers

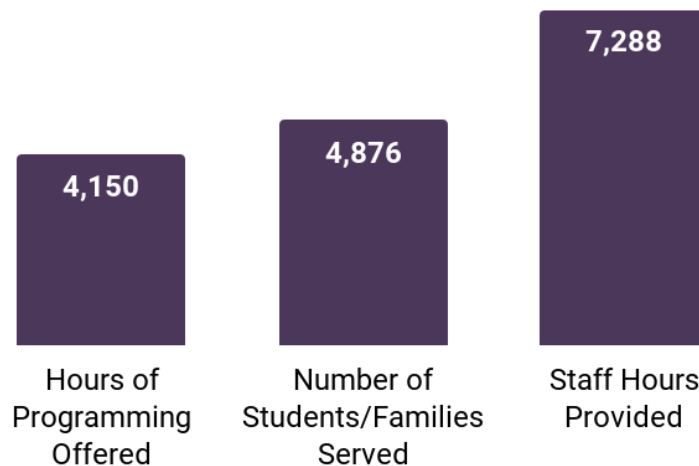
The Regional Office of Education #33 has received federal funding through a competitive grant process through ISBE for Mercer County High School, Monmouth-Roseville Junior High School, Monmouth-Roseville High School, Galesburg High School, Abingdon-Avon High School, and United High School to offer program support for 21st Century Community Learning Centers.

These centers are designed to provide academic enrichment opportunities during non-school hours for district students.

These programs intend to help students meet state and local standards in core academic subjects, such as reading and math; offer students a broad array of enrichment activities that can complement their regular academic programs; and offer literacy and other educational services to the families of participating youths.

Students may expand their learning beyond the normal school day to better prepare for future jobs or college coursework whatever their chosen pathway leads them to successful life-long learning.

21st Century Learning Center Totals





Attendance Support & Homeless Education

ROE #33 provides Attendance Support through Truancy Intervention and Prevention to potential truants, truants, and chronic truants. Attendance Support staff identify students through a system of referrals by participating school districts and take corrective action through a series of steps.

In 2018, ROE #33 put in place the Truancy Review Board to deter truancy and correct truant behavior. Upon the 15th unexcused absence, the student and parent/guardian will be sent a Legal Notice to Appear before the Truancy Review Board in the County they reside.

The number of interventions conducted in 2023-2024 are listed in the table below.

Truancy Intervention	Total Number
Letters sent	3,024
School visits	586
Home visits	337
Tickets issued (no authorization to issue in FY 24)	0
Case Management Meetings	1,234
Hearings by Regional Office/State's Attorney	172
Project Stay-In referrals	756

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 1987 provides federal money for homeless shelter programs. Unaccompanied Homeless Youths include young people who have run away from home, been thrown out of their homes, and/or abandoned by parents/guardians or caregivers. Unaccompanied youths have the same rights as other students experiencing homelessness and face unique barriers to enrolling and succeeding in school.

In 2023-2024, 2568 homeless children were served and 0 homeless hearings were conducted.

Additionally, the Attendance Support program works with dropout youth through the Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act program. The purpose of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth Out-of-School Program is to assist students who fall under the definition of dropout with securing and/or upgrading employment, training, or increasing their earnings.

In 2023-2024, 359 WIOA student contacts were made by ROE #33's attendance support program. 68 student applications were completed for the WIOA Youth Out-of-School Program.



Career and Technical Education (CTE)

The Delabar CTE System is a regionally organized system that delivers career and technical education (CTE) programs to its member schools. We work with local schools to plan, deliver, and evaluate instructional programming and support services for CTE students. State and federal funding is coordinated through Delabar to provide resources for the successful implementation of programs and professional development of CTE instructors.

The Delabar CTE System offers dynamic career exploration opportunities through various engaging experiences. The Delabar team visited each district, providing ISBE Career Guides to help students complete career assessments, along with virtual reality headsets that immersed them in hands-on career simulations—offering a total of 418 career exploration experiences.

At the semi-annual Welcome to the Real World and Career Exploration event, 600 local 8th grade students participated in a financial literacy simulation, attended a career panel, and engaged in an interactive career fair with hands-on activities. Additionally, the Delabar team connected with over 1,000 students throughout the school year at college and career fairs across multiple districts.

In the chart below, the efforts of the Career and Technical Education program are captured.

CTE Meetings and Events	Total Number
CTE Teacher Meetings	18
CTE Professional Development Activities/Events	24
Regional Collaborative Meetings/Events	54
Advisory Committee Meetings Attended	18
CTE Program of Study Consultation with Member Districts	15
State/Regional CTE Meetings Attended	46
Meetings/Projects with Industry Partners	12
Education Pathway Grant Students Served	23

Health and Life Safety & Compliance

Regional Offices of Education are responsible to annually inspect schools to assure compliance with the minimum standards necessary to ensure the health and safety of public school students in Illinois. Additional reviews assess district and school-level compliance with school laws and codes.

In 2023-2024, thirty-five Health and Life Safety inspections were conducted and 12 Health and Life Safety Plans were processed and reviewed for schools. There were also 8 approvals for Health and Life Safety funds and 4 completion inspections conducted.



ROE #33 Operations

In addition to the programs and services highlighted in this report, ROE #33 performs other activities and services to support local schools and their communities.

Meetings and Operational Deliverables	Total Number
Detachment/Annexation Hearings/Inquiries	3
Reorganization Hearings and Meetings	0
Criminal Background Checks Conducted	448
State and Regional Meetings	34
Regional Board of Trustee Meetings	3
Community Involvement/Meetings	41
Inquiries/Requests from the Public	55
District Documents Reviewed/Approved	75
Excellence in Education Meetings Attended	175
Homeschool Registrations Received	9

Friends of ROE#33 Ball

On November 2nd, 2023, the Regional Office of Education #33 held its Friends of the ROE Ball to honor partners of the ROE from across our region. The purpose of the event was to celebrate the collaboration of the community partners of the ROE who have helped us serve our communities, schools, families, and children. Through this teamwork, we have been able to accomplish our mission, vision, and core values.

- **Partnership** is defined as “a relationship in which two or more people, organizations, or countries work together as partners.”
- **Collaboration** is defined as “a working practice whereby individuals work together for a common purpose.”
- **Teamwork** is defined as “the combined action of a group of people, especially when effective and efficient.”

The Regional Office of Education #33 proudly honored 105 partners at this year’s celebration.



ROE#33's Vision, Mission, Purpose, and Core Values

The Regional Office of Education #33 is driven by its mission, vision, and core values.

Our Vision is to serve our schools and communities.

Our Mission is to serve our schools and community by providing educational resources, partnerships, and opportunities.

Our Purpose Statement is to positively impact lives.

We Believe in Customer Service, Collaboration, Community Involvement, and becoming the BEST ROE we can be.

Jodi L. Scott

Regional Superintendent of Schools

www.roe33.net

