

Wednesday, July 7, 2021

Ill. Principals Association names new executive board and board members

The Illinois Principals Association, which serves more than 6,000 educational leaders throughout Illinois, announces the following school leaders to serve as the executive board for the IPA, effective July 1, 2021.

President – Dr. Marcus Belin, Huntley High School, Huntley

Immediate Past-President – Dr. Amy Dixon, Jefferson & Lincoln Attendance Centers, Carmi

President-Elect – Raúl Gastón, Jefferson Middle School, Villa Park

Treasurer – Craig Beals, Nuttall Middle School, Robinson

Secretary – Mandy Ellis, Dunlap Grade School, Dunlap

Other new board members include:

Marty Adams, principal of Hawthorn Elementary

School, Salem, as state director for the Kaskaskia Region.

Dr. Bridget Belcastro, principal at Johnsbury Elementary School, Johnsbury, continues her service on the Board of Directors as Illinois representative for the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP). Dr. Belcastro previously served as state director for the Kishwaukee Region.

Lori Billrey, Alternative/Safe Schools and Truancy Program administrator for Regional Office of Education #26, Macomb, as state director for the Western Region.

Michelle Chavers, principal at Limestone Middle School, Kankakee, as state director for the Three Rivers Region. Chavers previously served as region director for the Three Rivers Region.

Courtney DeMent, principal of Downers Grove



Submitted photo
Dr. Marcus Belin, Huntley High School, Huntley will serve as the new Illinois Principals Association President.

North High School, Downers Grove, as state director for the DuPage Region. DeMent previously served as region director for the DuPage Region.

Terica Doyle, assistant principal at Carbondale Community High School, Carbondale, joins the Board of Directors as membership chair. Doyle was previously recognized as IPA Shawnee Region Assistant Principal of the Year in 2017.

Sean German, principal at Argenta-Oreana High School, Oreana, continues his service as Illinois coordinator for the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP). German previously served as president of the association (2015-2016) and state director for the Abe Lincoln Region.

Heidi Lensing, principal at Eagle Ridge School, Sil-

vis, continues her service on the Board of Directors as legislative chair. Lensing previously served as state director for the Blackhawk Region.

Chris Rice, principal of Meade Park Elementary School, Danville, as state director for the Illini Region.

Arturo Senteno, associate principal of instruction at Elk Grove High School, Elk Grove Village, as representative to the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board (SEPLB).

The Illinois Principals Association is a leadership organization which serves more than 6,000 educational leaders throughout the state of Illinois and whose mission is to develop, support, and advocate for innovative educational leaders. For more information about the IPA, please visit www.ilprincipals.org.

Douglas County Health Department's COVID-19 update for end of June

New COVID cases among Douglas County residents have been on the decline recently. In fact, for the month of June (not including today) there were 10 new cases reported and one death. As of 6/29/21 there have been 2,692 known COVID cases, 44 deaths, and currently there are eight active/close contacts being monitored by DCHD. That will likely change, as there has been at least one positive case logged today, the exposure happening at a recent graduation party. As of

6/27/21, the 7-day positivity rate for Douglas County is 0.8 percent, compared to 0.9 percent for Region 6.

IDPH shows 33.68 percent of county residents are now fully vaccinated. DCHD would love to see that number increase, and vaccinations are offered by appointment at the Tuscola Outlet Mall J600 site on Mondays (J&J 9-11 a.m./Pfizer 1-4 p.m.) and Thursdays (Moderna 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.). Homebound appointments are also available by calling 217-253-4136 ext. 1225.

DCHEALTHDEPT.ORG



Folks attending the MoDo County Fair July 12-17 will have the opportunity to get vaccinated on site and get a treat for doing so! Get a COVID vaccine and you'll receive a coupon redeemable for your choice of one of the following: free large

lemonade, Culler's fries, funnel cake, one beer, or \$5 off carnival wristband. Vaccinations will be available Monday-Saturday that week starting at 5 p.m. We will also be on site for the Arcola Broomcorn Festival Sept. 10-12 and hope to have similar

incentives in place. Just a note, we still have some Six Flags Great America tickets to give away to fully vaccinated folks.

Looking ahead to the 21-22 school year, our director of nursing is helping Arcola and Arthur school districts

get certified to offer COVID rapid testing at school. The recommended protocol is testing symptomatic persons and intermittent testing of staff and sports teams. This should be a big help in quelling outbreaks and keeping school absences down. DCHD would be happy to assist any other district interested in establishing a testing program, and would also love to discuss scheduling vaccine clinics for students (perhaps at or around registration time) if there is interest.



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The 2021 Little Miss Moultrie-Douglas Pageant Contestants. Pictured in back are Harper Riley, Newman; Willow Figgins, Villa Grove; Grace Weyhrich, Villa Grove; Avery Cleland, Tuscola; Little Miss Moultrie- Douglas Reagan McCumber, Villa Grove; Avery Lake, Villa Grove, Chloe Monts, Arthur; Ember Ely, Atwood; Makynze Sanders, Tuscola. Pictured in middle are Quinn Chapman, Villa Grove; Emma Bundy, Villa Grove; Ellary Harriss, Tuscola; Hazel Crothers, Sullivan; Harper Peters, Tuscola; Cadence Vandeventer, Tuscola; Charlotte Franklin, Tuscola; Hope Whitlow, Lovington. Pictured in front are Logan McCumber, Villa Grove, Whitley Fryman, Sullivan; Aubree Price, Tuscola; Kingsley Eads, Arthur; Paisley Miller, Villa Grove; Emily Graber, Tuscola; Madison Ingram, Arcola. Avabella Jones, Arcola and Valentina Cantu, Arcola are not pictured.



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