



Vermilion County  
Regional Office of Education  
Annual Report July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016  
Cheryl Reifsteck, Regional Superintendent Of Schools  
Mark Janesky, Assistant Regional Supt. of Schools

## Regional Superintendent's Message

August 2016

Dear Friends of the Educational Communities of Vermilion County,

This Annual Report meets the requirement of Section 5/3-5 of the Illinois School Code and details the accomplishments of the Regional Office of Education and its mandated and elective programs that serves the 11 public school districts, a special education cooperative and the private schools of the county. This summary lists the services offered, the regulatory responsibilities met, and highlights licensure renewal and registration for those who are directly responsible for the educational programs in Vermilion County.

In order to increase the quality of programs, the Regional Office of Education and its associated programs have and will continue to provide resources for educational staff in-service trainings and school improvement activities. Through workshops, conference sponsorship, Administrator's Academies and bus driver trainings, the Regional Office of Education reaches out to meet the identified needs of our districts using our resources in an effective and productive manner.

The Regional Office of Education acknowledges the strong support of the Vermilion County Board, its leadership, membership and staff for their continuing financial support of this office.

## Mission Statement

The Vermilion County Regional Office of Education has as an organizational mission to promote quality education for all the school children of Vermilion County, to provide educational leadership for licensed staff throughout the county, to assist districts in meeting their recognized needs and statutory obligations, and to deliver professional educational services effectively for the direct benefit of all the members of the educational communities of Vermilion County. The Regional Office of Education promotes professional services that promote learning.

Regional Office  
of Education  
200 S. College St.  
Suite B  
Danville, Illinois  
61832  
217-431-2668  
Website  
[www.roe54.org](http://www.roe54.org)

### ROE Staff

Shari Hutson  
Bookkeeper

Allison Baker  
Adm. Assistant  
Licensure

Micki Bush  
Reception/GED/Bus  
Driver Training/HLS

Tricia Keith  
Truancy/Homeless

### ROE Schoolworks Staff

Jeri Callaway  
Director

Jerri Waller  
Adm. Assistant Danville

Christina Good-  
Adm. Assistant Rantoul

Staff Development  
Consultants—8  
RtI -Carol Tyler

Regional Safe School-

Monica Campbell—  
Principal

Katie Taylor—Secretary

## *Regional Office of Education Statistics*

### Public Schools

# of School Districts—11  
 # of School Buildings—37  
 # of Administrators—94  
 # of Active teachers—910  
 # of Cooperatives—1  
 Student Enrollment—13013

### Non—Public Schools

# of Buildings—6  
 Student Enrollment—680

### *Total Public/Non Public*

*Student Enrollment - 13693*

### Public School Districts

*Armstrong- Ellis CUSD #61  
 Armstrong Twp. HS #225  
 Bismarck -Henning CUSD #1  
 Danville District #118  
 Georgetown-Ridge Farm CUSD #4  
 Hoopeston Area CUSD #11  
 Oakwood CUSD #76  
 Potomac CUSD #10  
 Salt Fork CUSD #512  
 Rossville—Alvin CUSD #7  
 Westville CUSD #2*

### Cooperative School

*Vermilion Association for  
 Special Education*

### Non-Public Schools

*Danville Christian Academy  
 Danville Lutheran Schools -  
 Main and Bowman Campuses  
 First Baptist School  
 Schlarman Academy -  
 Walnut Campus  
 Vermilion Campus*

## *Regional Office of Education Services*

### Licensure

Teacher licenses registered – 927

Substitute License Registered—219

### Fingerprinting/ Background Checks

New Employee fingerprinting/background checks – 194

### School Recognition

Districts evaluated for full compliance – 4

Georgetown-Ridge Farm, Hoopeston Area,  
 Rossville-Alvin and Salt Fork

### Regional Safe Schools

42 students served

### Alternative Education (Pilot)

Students served– 16

### Health Life Safety Inspections

All public school building—38

### GED Testing

Number tested - 183

Number Diplomas awarded—63

Number of Certificates—57

Number of Transcripts provided—199

### Bus Driver Training

Drivers trained– 231

### Truancy

Student served– 325

Chronic Truants – 252

Court Referred-42

### Homeless

Students served—532

### Professional Development (#events/#participants)

Teacher /Adm Inservices– 94 with 2031participants

Administrators' Academies– 8 with 101 Participants

PERA Capacity Builders— 18 with 568 participants

School Board Trainings—6 with 125 participants

**Total PD events— 126 with 2825 participants**

## *Regional Office of Education Duties and Responsibilities*

### *Educational Administration*

- *Respond to legal questions from educators, boards of education and other citizens*
- *Issue, register and renew teacher licenses. Supervise and assist in transportation programs, scientific literacy programs and other staff development program*
- *Provide G.E.D. transcripts and diplomas*

### *Disseminate information on scholarships and teacher vacancies*

- *Conduct professional growth opportunities.*
- *Approve school calendars, in-service days, workshops and institutes.*
- *Conduct hearings for formation of Unit districts and consolidation of existing school districts*

### *Cooperation Management*

- *Assist the Illinois State Board of Education, Compliance division, in the evaluation and recognition of public schools, and private schools who ask to be recognized*
- *Maintain maps of all school districts*
- *Administer cooperative programs*
- *Monitor public schools during strikes*
- *Assist with cooperatives, special education programs and vocational programs*
- *Serve as Ex-Officio secretary of the Regional Board of School Trustees*

### *Health and Life Safety*

- *Visit and inspect each public school annually*
- *Supervise school buildings for health and life safety and condemn buildings if necessary*
- *Provide courses in safety and first aid for bus drivers*
- *Approve building permits and occupancy permits*

### *Financial*

- *Audit district claims for General State Aid, categorical funds, and Federal grants*
- *Review budgets, audits, evidence of indebtedness and annual financial reports*
- *Check bonding of school treasurers*
- *Disburse state and federal funds*

### *Public Relations*

- *Respond to questions and concerns, including legal questions, from parents, teachers, administrators, boards of education and other citizens*
- *Promote and support educational programs and achievements of the schools and educators*
- *Hold public hearings on topics vital to education*
- *Serve as liaison between the Illinois State Board of Education and local school districts*
- *Serve as liaison between the state legislature and local school districts*

## *Vermilion County Board of School Trustees*

*Michael Black- Chairman  
James Cox, Michael Cox, Robert Cox,  
Pat Marron, Terry Prillaman, and Mark Wagoner*

# Overview of the 2015-2016 Year

The following functions and services represent areas provided through the Regional Office of Education.

1. *Compliance Issues:* The Regional Office of Education conducts a School Evaluation that covers governance of operations, general health and safety, personnel, instructional programs and services, elementary programs, high school programs and special education. The results of this evaluation of School Code references and 23 Illinois Administrative Code determine Recommended Recognition Status for the districts. This evaluation is done every third year and directly involves the building principals and superintendent in many areas. In the 2015-16 school year, the following school districts were visited by the ROE for a full compliance visit: Georgetown-Ridge Farm CUSD #4, Hoopston Area CUSD #11, Rossville-Alvin CUSD #7 and Salt Fork CUSD #512.
2. *Health, Life Safety Visits:* The ROE conducts annual visits to all school buildings in the districts including a district superintendent interview and a review of new staff personnel records and new district policies. School facilities and facility improvement projects fall under the purview of the ROE.
3. *Licensure:* The ROE registers all licenses in the region annually. We assist with processing entitlements, new applications for licenses and endorsements. In 2015-16, 927 teaching licenses were newly issued, endorsed, renewed, or registered.
4. *There were 219 Substitute licenses issued. The ROE fingerprinted 194 new public school employees.*
4. *School Code and Legal Issues:* Through ISBE, the ROE provides legal opinions on various matters and tries to provide information and interpretation of School Code issues for administrators at all levels.
5. *ISBE information and Regulatory Channel:* There are numerous forms and claims that must go through the ROE prior to submission to ISBE. They include financial claims, census, personnel, policy submission, assurances, and public school recognition.
6. *Financial Flow-Thru Function:* The ROE disbursed over \$74,719, 987 in state and federal funds annually to local school districts.
7. *Regional Safe Schools Programs:* The Vermilion County Regional Safe Schools Program is funded through the ROE and coordinated in conjunction with the Vermilion County Special Education Association. This school is designed for junior and senior high age students eligible for expulsion from their home districts and administratively transferred to the Safe Schools Programs in lieu of their expulsion. The program is housed at the VASE building. In the 2015-2016 school year, 42 students in grades 6– 12 were serviced. An Alternative Education program for 7th and 8th grade students was piloted this year for students who were not successful in their home school district. There were 16 students from 5 school districts.
8. *Calendar, Institute, and Inservice:* School Calendars, Institute and Inservice Approvals must be submitted through the ROE. All inservice days must be approved by the ROE.
9. *Truancy Issues:* The ROE serves as the Vermilion County Truant Officer. Formal filings for truancy are made to the State's Attorney's office through the ROE. The ROE also has a Truancy Counselor that serves in a counseling function for potential truants in grades 1-8. In the 2015-2016 school year, 325 students were serviced with truancy services and 252 students were considered chronic truants. 42 students were court referred.
10. *Substitute Teachers:* The ROE maintains a county substitute teacher list and updates this list as needed.
11. *Continuing Education:* The ROE promotes and coordinates continuing education opportunities for the certified personnel in the county. The majority of these credit opportunities have been through Eastern Illinois University. Currently, the ROE sponsors a Principal Endorsed MS in Educational Administration and a Specialist in Education MS which has served 35 students.
12. *Professional Development Opportunities and System of Support Services :* ROE Schoolworks supplies professional development opportunities for teachers, administrators, and School Board members in Vermilion, Champaign and Ford Counties. It employs 1 director and 3 staff members and 8 part time consultants. ROE Schoolworks offers Administrators' Academies, Assessment Training, RtI training, Gifted Education, Literacy Education, School/ Parent Relationship Inservice, Curricular /Common Core Inservices, Technology training, and many other workshops. All school districts in the county participated in PD services last year.
13. *GED:* Until January 1, 2014 the ROE coordinated and administered the GED test for those individuals who would like to earn a high school equivalency certificate. The ROE is still responsible for maintaining records and issuing transcripts and certificates to past test takers. In 2015-16, 183 GED tests were administered, 63 new diplomas were awarded, 57 certificates were issued, and 199 GED transcripts were provided.
14. *Home School Registration:* Although home schools are considered private schools by the state, the ROE requests students to be registered with this office.
15. *School Bus Driver Training:* In 2015-16, the ROE provided initial & refresher bus driver training to 231 bus drivers.
16. *Educational Employee/Volunteer Recognition:* The ROE recognized 45 members of the county educational communities at its annual Golden Ruler Awards Banquet. In 25 years, over 1350 rulers have been awarded.
17. *Homeless Grant—*The ROE was awarded \$29,770 through the McKinney-Vento Homeless Grant to help meet the needs of the 532 homeless students reported in Vermilion County. School and basic health supplies were provided.
18. *Consolidation—* July 1, 2015 the new school district Salt Fork #512 was formed. Currently, there are 11 public school districts in Vermilion County. Discussions continue between the boards of Rossville-Alvin and Bismarck-Henning regarding a Cooperative High School option.

