

2022 ANNUAL REPORT
REGIONAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION 8

ROE8 Annual Report I FY22

Demographics

Regional Office of Education #8 (ROE8) is a multi-county government office that represents all educators and families that live or work in Carroll, JoDaviess, and Stephenson Counties in northwest Illinois. Our primary office is located in Stephenson County, in downtown Freeport. We also have satellite program office locations in Elizabeth, East Dubuque, Dixon, and Sycamore.

ROE8 provides leadership and regulatory services to fourteen school districts in the three-county region, as well as administering over \$4 million in education and support grant programs annually. Our grant programs include Child and Family Connections, Early Childhood Academy, Parent Education Program, Regional Alternative Program, Truancy Alternative Program, Homeless Student Support, and Elevate Stephenson County.

FY22 Public School Enrollments | Carroll, Jo Daviess, Stephenson

District	Pre-K	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	TOTAL
Chadwick/Milledgeville	38	27	40	24	29	24	27	27	20	31	24	29	28	34	402
Dakota	20	59	55	57	44	56	42	56	52	76	70	60	60	69	776
East Dubuque	47	54	28	48	41	42	35	49	42	51	50	43	53	55	638
Eastland	53	63	53	46	53	54	50	48	47	44	48	53	52	52	716
Freeport	132	262	252	247	254	260	229	243	269	270	294	283	247	280	3,522
Galena	53	52	66	57	59	69	70	71	56	54	78	63	59	60	867
Lena-Winslow	66	60	52	50	58	46	61	51	50	63	70	62	56	58	803
Orangeville	27	13	26	18	19	15	17	24	36	17	34	21	27	23	317
Pearl City	24	27	21	25	23	24	31	44	32	32	46	32	31	33	425
River Ridge	36	26	38	19	22	26	34	38	33	36	36	31	37	39	451
Scales Mound	24	18	17	16	13	17	23	17	22	20	17	25	16	24	269
Stockton	43	28	31	34	23	30	41	51	45	51	41	39	40	44	541
Warren	5	24	31	29	25	26	24	35	33	23	38	23	38	17	371
West Carroll	70	66	57	63	47	64	69	61	70	84	86	75	53	56	921
TOTAL	638	779	767	733	710	753	753	815	807	852	932	839	797	844	11019

ROE8 by the Numbers



3
Counties



1 | **4**
Office | Satellite



14
School Districts



11,019
Students

County Funding for ROE8 - (\$132,970)

Counties are required by statute to help fund the office operation of the ROE, the distribution per county follows a statutory formula. In 2021-2022, the distribution by county was; Carroll County \$28,384, JoDaviess County \$54,459, Stephenson County \$50,125.

Institute Fund Balance - (\$112,790)

The Institute fund is comprised of fees that are collected from license registration and renewal. This fund is utilized to defray the cost of professional learning workshops and meetings throughout the Region.

Program/Services Overview

Child and Family Connections #3 – (\$858,888)

Early intervention is a statewide program that provides support and services for families to help their children under age 3 meet developmental milestones. After a child is determined eligible, a team of specialists (or service providers) meet with the family to discuss services and support that can be provided. Service delivery method follows the daily routines of the family through a coaching model that empowers the caregiver to drive the goals and strategies to meet developmental milestones. Services may include speech, developmental, physical, or occupational therapy; audiology services; or nutrition services. A service coordinator assists the enrolled family during the time supported in the early intervention system and provides guidance on the transition into the next

option(s) for the family as the child ages out of the program at age 3. Child and Family Connections #3 service area includes the northwestern Illinois counties of Stephenson, Carroll, Jo Daviess, Lee, Whiteside and DeKalb and currently serve **over 500 families** and their children in this region.

The Regional Office of Education employs **12 staff** for the Child and Family Connections grant. Eight service coordinators provide case intake and maintenance for the program. Additionally, one program coordinator, one administrative assistant, a parent liaison, Local Interagency Council (LIC) coordinator, and a social emotional consultant are staffed to support the program deliverables and objectives.

The Workforce Connection, Elevate-Stephenson – (\$101,000)

Elevate-Stephenson is designed to provide education and support services to youth between the ages of 17-24 who may have a barrier that is preventing them from earning their high school diploma or completing their high school equivalency requirements and finding employment and/or attending college. For GED, we serve students who live in Stephenson County but will enroll students living outside of Stephenson Co. on a case-by-case basis. For In-School we serve Freeport School District.

Number of program staff and their roles

2 People. **Youth Coordinator** – oversees the program, works with GED students and employers. **In-School Career Counselor** – works with students at Freeport Alternative High School and Freeport High School.

Program objectives/outcomes/impact

Our objective is to provide training, education and employment services to individuals. We also serve employers by providing qualified candidates for work based learning solutions.

Number of participants/families/youth served

Between 40-50 students.

McKinney Vento Grant – (\$21,550)

Assisting local school staff to appropriately and efficiently identify students who are experiencing homelessness. Providing supplies (back packs, hygiene items, emergency clothing, air mattresses and bedding, etc) to the students. Provide gas cards, Walmart cards and laundry cards to students and families identified as homeless. Reimburse school districts for expenses relating to services provided to students identified as homeless.

Number of program staff and their roles

Program Coordinator/ROE Homeless Liaison – manage grant and assist schools in correctly identifying eligible students.

Program objectives/outcomes/impact

Homeless students will be accurately identified, promptly enrolled, and participate fully in school. The ROE will hold training for Homeless Liaisons and support staff to review identification criteria, laws pertaining to homeless issues, and services available to homeless youth. District staff and ROE Truancy Specialists will work with local social services agencies to obtain physical examinations, documentation, school supplies, clothing, and other needs to facilitate enrollment in school. ROE Truancy Specialists will conduct home visits/family contact and make referrals to community services as needed. ROE Truancy Specialists will contact student/family to see if progress is being made to establish a permanent home.

Number of participants/families/youth served

Approx. 200 students identified yearly in the 3-county area.

Early Learning Academy – (\$2,019,848)

Early Learning Academy (ELA) is a preschool program for 3-5 year old children and their parents, designed to provide an exciting and engaging atmosphere for children to explore and learn. The program is available in the Dakota, Forrestville Valley, Freeport, Orangeville, Pearl City, Lena-Winslow, Stockton, Warren, River Ridge, Scales Mound, Galena, and East Dubuque School Districts, as well as Amity Learning Center. ELA is funded through the Illinois State Board of Education and offered to students at no cost to the family, and is currently funded to serve 585 students across the area. ELA focuses on educating each child with a developmentally appropriate curriculum which is designed to prepare the child for a successful experience in Kindergarten.

Number of program staff and their roles

There are 5 Regional Office of Education Early Learning Academy staff members that administer the grant, the budget and administrative reporting, family and parent partnership, curriculum support, and in-home intensive family support.

Program objectives/outcomes/impact

ELA offers developmental screening for any child in the service area, to help parents, families, and school staff assess the overall development of each child, and how it will impact the child as they progress in school. Although any child can qualify for preschool, priority is given to children that have risk factors, developmental delays, are experiencing poverty, and/or homelessness. The goal is to create a positive learning experience, building the whole child, concurrently while training the family to bond with the school during the preschool years, so the child develops into a lifelong learner, and the family uses the school and it's supports when necessary.

Number of participants/families/youth served

All classrooms are anticipating full enrollment (585 regional total) for the 22-23 school year, and many have waiting lists.

Jump Start to Kindergarten – (\$57,225)

Jump Start to Kindergarten was offered through Emergency Relief funds to Tier 1 or 2 school districts in our area, that operated 50% of their time or more in the remote learning modality due to COVID-19 protocols, or for children that did not have an opportunity to have in-person instruction due to reduced class sizes, or health reasons. Freeport, Warren, and East Dubuque School Districts are utilizing Jump Start funds to offer a booster program to help children have school exposure and a better chance at kindergarten readiness.

Number of program staff and their roles

1 ROE staff member for financial reporting.

Program objectives/outcomes/impact

The goal of these programs is to provide educational supports to children who experienced little or no in-person instruction during the 2020-21 school year and contribute to their educational success in kindergarten and first grade. The funding will cover educator and staff salaries, as well as fringe benefits, to operate the programs.

Number of participants/families/youth served

- Stephenson County: Freeport – 60 students,
- Jo Daviess County: Warren – 10 students, East Dubuque – 30 Students
- All students were invited based on a staff recommendation or screening process that assesses risk factors



Program/Services Overview

Early Childhood, Prevention Initiative – (\$680,807)

- **Jo Daviess County: \$318,045**
- **Stephenson County: \$362,762**

Funds from the grant cover salaries and benefits, operating costs, professional development, purchase of supplies and materials, and transportation.

The purpose of this program is to provide parental training and support to families prenatally and with children up to age 3 in Jo Daviess and Stephenson County. There are two programs under the grant, Family TIES who serves Jo Daviess County and the Parent Enrichment Program who serves Stephenson County.

Number of program staff and their roles

- Jo Daviess County: 1 Coordinator, 4 Parent Educators, and 1 Recruitment/Administrative Assistant
- Stephenson County: 1 Coordinator, 5 Parent Educators

Staff partner with families to provide information, support and encouragement.

Program objectives/outcomes/impact

Our mission is to promote optimal early development, learning and health of child by supporting and engaging their parents and caregivers.

Through the Parents as Teachers Curriculum, the programs provide support and encouragement by supporting families through this voluntary, free program. Services offered include: bi-weekly home visits, group connections, monthly newsletter, early learning check-ups, resources to family, lending library, and services to Spanish speaking families. Our vision is to see all children develop, learn, and grow to realize their full potential.

Number of participants/families/youth served

Total: 115 children served Birth to Three and 20 prenatal parents

- Jo Daviess County: 44 children and 6 prenatal parents
- Stephenson County: 71 children and 14 prenatal parents



115
Children 0-3



20
Prenatal Parents

Professional Learning – \$109,682 (FY22) | \$299,063 (FY23)

We provide professional learning opportunities for the administrators, teachers, and paraprofessionals in our three county region. Graduate courses, workshops on various topics, keynote speakers, model lessons, instructional coaching, administrator mentoring and school improvement planning are just some of the services available.

Number of program staff and their roles

Deborah Endress is the Director of Professional Learning and Steve Herkert is the Director of ROE Services. New staff this year include Nichole Ambrosia, Assistant Director of Professional Learning, and Bill Caron, Assistant Director of ROE Services.

Program objectives/outcomes/impact

- To provide research-based professional development
- To improve instructional practices
- To increase student engagement and achievement
- To provide networking opportunities for collaboration with colleagues
- To elevate classroom practices to increase student learning
- To provide coaching/mentoring support to building administration

Number of participants/families/youth served

ROE #8 serves all the school districts in Carroll, Jo Daviess, and Stephenson Counties. School districts include: Orangeville, Dakota, Freeport, Eastland, Chadwick-Milledgeville, West Carroll, Pearl City, Lena-Winslow, Stockton, Warren, Scales Mound, River Ridge, Galena and East Dubuque. Additionally, our services also draw participants from neighboring counties of Ogle, Lee, Whiteside, and Winnebago counties.

Program/Services Overview

Regional Alternative Program (RAP) - ISBE Grant (\$59,696)

The Regional Alternative Program (RAP) is an alternative program for students who have struggled in a traditional educational setting due to behaviors that have led to disciplinary action. Our program is designed to help the student regain their academic footing and move towards re-entering their school of referral. RAP serves students in grades 6th through 12th in one of the 14 school districts in our three-county region.

Number of program staff and their roles

Program Coordinator – manage grant and supervise staff

ERAP - 2 Co-Teachers and 1 Paraprofessional

FRAP - 2 Co-Teachers and 1 Paraprofessional

Program objectives/outcomes/impact

Program Objectives: The Regional Alternative Program (RAP) will provide a program of study that is aligned with Common Core Standards, is individualized to each student's needs, and provide coursework needed towards each student's promotion or graduation. The following outcomes will be targeted: 1.) 80% of seniors enrolled will receive their high school diploma; 2.) 80% of high school students enrolled will earn credit towards graduation requirements; and 3.) 85% of 6th through 8th grade students enrolled will be promoted to the next grade level. Attendance Objective: 75% of students enrolled will increase their average daily attendance rate based on pre- and post-intervention attendance rates. Social/Emotional Objective: 75% of students enrolled will decrease the frequency of disruptive behaviors.

Number of participants/families/youth served

On average 40 to 50 students each year.

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Services Provided

Health Life Safety and Compliance

ROE Services include Health Life Safety (HLS) Inspections, 10 year safety surveys, building permits, and compliance for Carroll, Jo Daviess, and Stephenson County school districts.

Number of program staff and their roles

The Regional Superintendent, Aaron Mercier, Assistant Regional Superintendent, Jen Newendyke, and HLS Inspector, Harold Sweeney.

Budget Total for Program

N/A, not a grant funded program

Program objectives/outcomes/impact

School code requires each school building be annually inspected, a 10 year safety survey be completed every 10 years, and school districts undergo compliance review every three to five years in regards to students, personnel, policy and governance, health life safety, and instructional program.

Number of participants/families/youth served



25
Building
permits
issued



4
Districts
had
compliance
reviews



2
Districts
submitted
10-year
surveys



37
School
facilities
inspected
by State Fire
Marshall

Services Provided

Bus classes (Drivers taking Initial and Refresher classes)

Number of program staff and their roles

1 Bus Instructor

Budget Total for Program

The ISBE requires a \$10 fee for the class and permit.

Number of participants/families/youth served

42
Initial
Trainings



124
Refresher
Courses

Bus Services		
Date	Class	# of Participants
July 7, 2021	Refresher	40
July 13, 2021	Refresher	57
July 15, 2021	Refresher	27
July 24, 2021	Initial	10
October 16, 2021	Initial	7
November 21, 2021	Initial	10
January 22, 2022	Initial	7
April 22, 2022	Initial	8

Totals

Bus driver refresher course – 124

Initial bus driver training – 42

Certification/Licensure

Brief Overview of Program/services

Administrative Assistant Licensure assist individuals/educators to obtain proper licensure or renew current licensure.

Number of program staff and their roles

1 – Administrative Assistant Licensure

Program objectives/outcomes/impact

To maintain current and proper licensure for all individuals/educators.

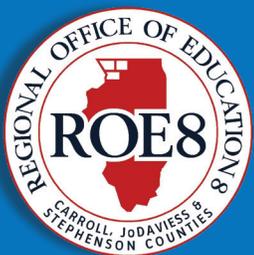
Number of participants/families/youth served

Regional Statistics Report

08 - Carroll/Jo Davies/Stephenson ROE

Statistics for FY 2022	
Educators Registered	435
Licenses Registered	450
Sub Licenses Registered	133
Licenses Issued	1,001
Endorsements Issued	120
Paras Issued	96
Public School Administrators Employed for FY 2022	73
Public School Teachers Employed for FY 2022	313
Public School Service Personnel Employed for FY 2022	157





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