

# CASA-KANE COUNTY GAL PRESENTATION Navigating the Gatekeepers!

---

PRESENTED BY: DR. DEANNA OLIVER, ASSISTANT REGIONAL SUPERINTENDENT

KANE COUNTY REGIONAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION



REGIONAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION  
KANE COUNTY

# OBJECTIVES FOR TODAY

---



- Gain a better understanding of the:
  - Purpose of the Regional Office of Education in Illinois and Kane County
  - Kane County public school districts
  - Rights of our displaced students under McKinney-Vento
- Being the best CASA GAL through a better understanding of navigating schools.



# ILLINOIS REGIONAL OFFICES OF EDUCATION

---

- Every school district in Illinois has a Regional Office of Education
- Single County ROE, Multi County ROE, Intermediate Service Center (Cook County)
- County Government Office
- Regional Superintendent elected official-State
- Assistant Regional Superintendent appointed-State
- County employees
- IARSS
- Partner to the Illinois State Board of Education



REGIONAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION  
KANE COUNTY

# REGIONAL OFFICES OF EDUCATION FUNCTIONS

---

- Teacher Licensure
- High School Equivalency Testing
- Fingerprinting
- Educator Professional Development
- School District Compliance
- Health Life Safety in School Buildings
- School Transportation Training
- Support Alternative Schools (Districts & Juvenile Justice Center)
- Truancy & Homeless Outreach
- Technology Support
- Community Advocate for Education
- Facilitate Grants



# KANE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

---

- 9 Unit School Districts (Pk-12)
- 2 Largest Cities of Aurora and Elgin
- 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Largest Schools Districts— U46 Elgin and D300 Carpentersville
- 5 Regional Safe School Programs
- 20 Alternative Learning Opportunity Program Sites



# THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE...

---



- Signed Releases of Information
  - How do you normally manage them?
- GATE KEEPERS: Some principals or assistant principals will respond quickly to voicemail and emails, others don't. Use the administrative assistants as much as possible.
- SAFETY NET: Usually a teacher, guidance counselor, and administrator.
- Rotating Door



# HELPFUL SCHOOL RESOURCES

- District and School Website
- Student Handbook
- Teacher Websites
- Social Media-Facebook/Twitter
- State Assessment Dates
- Illinois State Board of Education Website
- Public Library
- ME :)



# ILLINOIS SCHOOL REPORT CARD

Illinois Report Card 2014-2015 Take the Survey [Classic IRC](#) [MyIRC](#) [Help](#) [Español](#)

[Home](#) / Search Results

Your search for REGION LIKE 'KANE' returned 9 DISTRICTS

All Districts

District Name (Size-Type)	No. of Schools	County
<a href="#">AURORA EAST USD 131</a> (LARGE - UNIT)	18	KANE
<a href="#">AURORA WEST USD 129</a> (LARGE - UNIT)	15	KANE
<a href="#">BATAVIA USD 101</a> (LARGE - UNIT)	8	KANE
<a href="#">CENTRAL CUSD 301</a> (LARGE - UNIT)	7	KANE
<a href="#">CUSD 300</a> (LARGE - UNIT)	25	KANE
<a href="#">GENEVA CUSD 304</a> (LARGE - UNIT)	9	KANE
<a href="#">KANELAND CUSD 302</a> (LARGE - UNIT)	6	KANE
<a href="#">SD U-46</a> (LARGE - UNIT)	54	KANE
<a href="#">ST CHARLES CUSD 303</a> (LARGE - UNIT)	17	KANE

Your search for REGION LIKE 'KANE' returned 170 SCHOOLS

- ▶ Elementary Schools (114)
- Middle Schools (28)
- High Schools (18)
- Charter Schools (1)

Elementary Schools

School Name Grades	School District County	City
<a href="#">ALGONQUIN LAKES ELEM SCH</a> (K-5)	CUSD 300 (KANE)	ALGONQUIN
<a href="#">ALICE GUSTAFSON ELEM SCHOOL</a> (PK-5)	BATAVIA USD 101 (KANE)	BATAVIA
<a href="#">ANDERSON ELEM SCHOOL</a> (K-5)	ST CHARLES CUSD 303 (KANE)	ST CHARLES
<a href="#">ANNE GARCIA BENAVIDES KINDERGARTEN CENTER</a> (PK,K)	AURORA EAST USD 131 (KANE)	AURORA
<a href="#">BARTLETT ELEM SCHOOL</a> (K-6)	SD U-46 (KANE)	BARTLETT

WEBSITE ADDRESS:  
<https://www.illinoisreportcard.com/>





# STUDENT ATTENDANCE

---

- Encourage excellent attendance
- Students should miss no more than 5 percent of the school year
- K-3 grade reading
- [www.attendanceworks.org](http://www.attendanceworks.org)



# SERIOUS CHILDHOOD CONCERNS



- HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUT SIGNS APPEAR BY 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE
  - Chronic Absenteeism
  - Poor Behavior
  - Failing Grades in Math and/or English
- Chronic absent children in grades 8-12 are 7.4 times more likely to drop out of high school.
- Nearly  $\frac{3}{4}$  of students in the juvenile justice system have a history of chronic absences
- Truants are more likely to be arrested, engage in serious property crime and/or commit assault.



# WHAT PARENTS/GUARDIANS CAN DO!

---

- **Healthy Habits**

- Structured Routines
- Starting the Day
- Eating Breakfast
- Sleep
- Turn off the electronics & monitor Internet usage
- Surround your children with positive role models

- Encourage the child to discuss their concerns with you and the school staff.
  - Homework, Anxiety, Conflict, Disrespectful Behavior
- Non-Negotiable Expectations—Discuss and Remind
- Communicate with Teachers, Counselors, and Administrators
- Utilize School & Community Resources
  - 211 Kane County



# SPECIAL EDUCATION/504 PLAN RESOURCES

---

- <https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Special-Education-Parent-Rights.aspx>
- <https://www.understood.org/en/school-learning/special-services/504-plan/the-difference-between-ieps-and-504-plans>
- Josh Axelsen, Director of Alternative Programs-Kane County ROE



# RIGHTS FOR OUR CASA CHILDREN

---

- Confidentiality
- Attend school in their school of origin or in school where resides
- Consideration of 504 Plan or IEP depending on issue
- Request assistance
- DCFS Responsibility
- Use the ROE McKinney-Vento Liaison Deb Dempsey or school district liaisons



# MCKINNEY-VENTO ACT HOMELESS/UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH YOUTH IN CARE

---



- Children involved with GAL's and CASA are usually placed in out of home care in a temporary situation which used to make them unaccompanied McKinney-Vento eligible. **This is no longer true.**
- Youth in Care no longer fall under the McKinney-Vento Legislation.
- Every school district must have a person assigned (liaison) to support Youth in Care. This person is usually the McKinney Vento Coordinator
- Contact Deb Dempsey so she can follow up with the school district liaisons to ensure all required services and supports are in place. The ROE will continue to support all children including our Youth in Care.



# CASE STUDY

A 15 year old student is evicted from his grandparents' home in Batavia. His foster care emergency placement is in Joliet. A DCFS contracted service places him and the case manager directs the foster parent and student that he is required to immediately enroll at Joliet Township High School District.

---

1. What would be another option for this student?
2. What legal rights does the student have to remain in Batavia?
3. What challenges would you expect from such a long commute?
4. The student is involved in extracurricular activities; what challenges come into a situation when a student has practices and meetings after school?
5. What are the benefits to a student staying in their current school?



# BACK TO SCHOOL 2021-2022

## What will it look like?

---

Different Districts.....Different Age Groups....Different Rules

Masks? No Masks?

Screening

Social Distancing

In Person



REGIONAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION  
KANE COUNTY



# QUESTION AND ANSWER

