

# Fiscal Year 2008/2009 Budget Highlights and Goals

## Regional Office of Education

### **FY2008 Highlights**

- Developed a program evaluation tool in cooperation with the University of Illinois to evaluate the effectiveness of the McHenry County Regional Office of Education's Truancy Program.
- Provided county-wide leadership and professional development in the area of homeless education: Presentations throughout the county including all school districts in McHenry County; Administrator Academies; Sub-granted community based agencies who serve homeless youth.
- Established an onsite tutoring program for homeless youth (Home of the Sparrow- evenings).
- Expanded services to those students eligible for expulsion from their respective schools (grade range 6-12)
- Demonstrated an eighty five percent (85%) completion rate at the Regional Safe Schools Program
- Continued with the partnership between the Regional Office of Education and McHenry County College in delivering the GED Program resulting in 277 certificates being earned.
- Assumed all administrative responsibilities for the Environmental Education Program (McSEEP) including directing the revision of the existing curriculum. This revised curriculum now addresses the principals of water conservation for grades 2 and 8.
- Provided certification, professional development, and service support to 2,400 certified holders registered in McHenry County.
- Participated in the revision of the statewide bus driver training program and trained 770 bus drivers in McHenry County.
- Conducted four comprehensive audits of local school districts with all districts receiving "Full Recognition" status.
- Opened a new middle school and elementary school in the fall of 2007.
- Conducted 81 on site health/life safety inspections with all public school buildings inspected being brought into compliance.

### **FY2009 Goals**

- Continue to pursue feasibility of credit card acceptance for payment of fees to the Regional Office of Education for certification applications and renewals, GED, and bus driver training.
- Partner with community based agencies and local school districts to develop strategies and programs that improve student attendance.
- Continue to evaluate the need for alternative educational programs for students of McHenry County.
- Implement the revised Environmental Education curriculum county-wide.
- Work in cooperation with Court Services and the Juvenile Judge to develop an intervention for chronic/habitual truant minors.