



## AOC Tier 2 & 3 Partner Update

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**Message From: Sr. Mary Paul McCaughey, O.P.**

Edition 2  
Newsletter #12  
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### ***Springfield, Oh Springfield!***

While you are hearing much chatter about education funding, that is clearly about public schools and the education formula. It is VERY helpful, however, to quietly and firmly insert the Illinois Kids Campaign's priorities in your conversations, especially the (eventually money saving and very creative) vehicle of Scholarship Granting Organizations. As you know, the plan is to bake in the IKC when (if?!) the State budget is approved. We know there will have to be revenue measures. Let's be sure this common-sense, taxpayer favorable initiative is front and center.

### ***Summer Dreaming and Doing***

Please double check:

1. Is the web link for [www.illinoiskidscampaign.org](http://www.illinoiskidscampaign.org) on your homepage?
2. Is your LAP ready to flip the switch should there be a need for calls?
3. Do you have the new infographics available to send to new (and current) families? (Attached)
4. Have you thanked your State legislator again (and asked 3 other constituents to do so) if you know they are supportive?

If so, bless you! It is your voice that is keeping this alive: Remember, we were told 3 years ago we had NO chance of doing this in Illinois. With Archbishop's leadership, the coalition growth across sectors, and the steady influence of bright and caring advocates, we just need the budget and for people to keep their word.

### ***Offline: ESSA, BTW***

Think flood of money following the child – YOUR children. This is not money we have to raise for our children and their teachers: it is federal funds allocated for them by law. Districts are going to be behind in understanding this new legislation. Significantly, they will not have an easy time with the loss of the set-aside money they are used to having. Let your District know YOU know it will be a new world in spring of 2017. Say that you will look forward to it. Tell your story. Let them know that you know the consultation must be timely and result in "consensus." Let them know that you know new services will be allowed – counseling, social work, 1:1 tutorial.

As for this year and the coming year, current counsel is to spend every dime you are getting under the current ESEA program: the new ESSA legislation will make it hard for them to figure out any fund rollovers.

# The EDUCATION TAX CREDIT



## TAXPAYERS CHOOSE WHERE NEW STATE REVENUE GOES

The Illinois Kids Campaign helps increase education funding by allowing taxpayers to direct their tax dollars toward education providers who serve low income and working class families.

PAY STATE TAXES  
or  
CONTRIBUTE



## \$200MM STATEWIDE EDUCATION FUND

\$100MM to  
PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS

\$100MM to  
K-12 SCHOOL  
SCHOLARSHIPS



MUSIC,  
ARTS & SPORTS  
PROGRAMS



REBUILDING  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
SCHOOL FACILITIES



K-12 PRIVATE  
SCHOLARSHIP  
PROVIDERS

Thanks to the Illinois Kids Campaign, kids have more quality education services.



Music, sports and arts programs for children in districts likely to have programs cut



Students can enjoy safe and well-maintained education facilities for their programs



Low income and working class children have access to public and private school scholarships

## TAX CREDIT for TEACHERS



*Teachers are underpaid, overworked and spend their own money on school supplies.*

The Illinois Kids Campaign will create new tax credit policy so teachers statewide who spend their own hard-earned money buying supplies for their classrooms will receive a credit up to \$250 annually for out-of-pocket expenses.

**\$250** annual tax credit for  
**OUT-OF-POCKET CLASSROOM EXPENSES**

## TAX CREDIT for PARENTS & GUARDIANS



*Parents, guardians and grandparents need a little extra help to afford a quality education.*

The Illinois Kids Campaign will increase the current personal education tax credit of \$500 to \$1000 for qualified education expenses, such as tuition, books and education fees to help families afford the quality education their children deserve.

**\$500** to **\$750** to **\$1000**  
TODAY'S tax credit      FIRST YEAR tax credit increase      SECOND YEAR tax credit increase