

Message from the Director

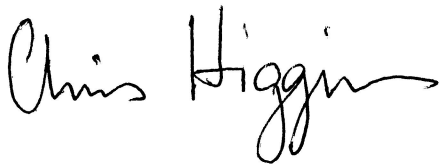
Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the 7th annual Illinois New Teacher Collaborative Induction and Mentoring Conference!

The focus of this year's conference is helping induction and mentoring programs flourish in this period of economic stress. Given the recent defunding and the somewhat bleak prospects for new funding, school districts across the state have been asked to do more with less for their new teachers. Here you will find sessions designed to help you navigate these difficult times and opportunities to network with others facing similar challenges. This is our chance to come together to share what we have learned about how to support new teachers and their mentors, how to craft and improve programs, and how to advocate for induction and mentoring.

When public support wanes, events such as this become all the more important. It is the ongoing commitment of educators like you that keeps induction alive. Your attendance speaks volumes.

Enjoy the conference!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Higgins". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Chris Higgins
Director, Illinois New Teacher Collaborative