Illinois’ education system, its administrators, teachers, coaches, and students, are the foundation of Illinois’ future. In 2018, a number of new laws concerning the education community in Illinois were signed into law.

**SB 3015/PA 100-0726**: Allows schools to keep undesignated asthma medication on-hand for authorized, trained personnel to administer it.

**HB 5771/PA 100-0819**: Requires preschools to collect and review its chronic absence data and determine what systems of support and resources are needed to positively engage chronically absent students.

**HB 4369/PA 100-0617**: Requires ISBE to develop and post on their website a dyslexia guidance handbook.

**SB 863/PA 100-0584**: Allows teachers, support personnel and administrative licensure applicants to obtain Illinois licensure by providing proof of completing a state-approved program.

**SB 2925/PA 100-0984**: Requires the Law Enforcement Training Standards Board to develop a program for school resource officers.

**HB 5812/PA 100-0582**: Makes changes to the evidence based funding model, property tax relief pool grants program and repeals the section of the school code that contains the old GSA school funding formula.

**SB 2428/PA 100-1092**: Any schools that participate in the USDA child nutrition program must provide a federally reimbursable meal or snack to any student who requests it.

**HB 5786/PA 100-1035**: Allows school districts to use in-school suspension programs that promote non-violent conflict resolution and positive interaction with others.

**SB 2654/PA 100-0977**: Requires IDPH to provide or approve for schools info on influenza and meningococcal diseases.

**HB 4658/PA 100-0903**: Requires licensed school personnel and administrators to be trained, once every two years, to identify the warning signs of mental illness and suicidal behavior in youth and be taught appropriate intervention and referral techniques.

**HB 4442/PA 100-1043**: Requires the State Board of Education to implement and administer a 3-year pilot program for parenting education in participating high school districts.

**SB 3536/PA 100-0822**: Requires any preschool that receives funding via the Preschool for all programs to collect and review its chronic absence data.

**HB 5754/PA 100-0780**: Allows four years of working or teaching as school support personnel for DOC to qualify for principal endorsement on an educator license.

**SB 3236/PA 100-0807**: Requires school report cards to contain up to date information on school administrative costs.
HB 751/PA 100-0743: Makes changes in the provision defining “eligible employment” for the purpose of allowing a teacher to return to teaching in subject shortage areas without impairing his or her retirement status or retirement annuity.

SB 2350/PA 100-0996: Requires active shooter/threat school safety drills to be conducted within 90 days of the start of the school year.

HB 3784/PA 100-0825: Strikes language in the School Code allowing schools to deny enrollment to students ages 17 or older for academic reasons. Prohibits schools from taking punitive action, including out of school suspensions, expulsions, or court action, against truant minors for truancy unless available support services have been provided to the student. Further provides that a truant minor may not be expelled for nonattendance unless specific conditions are met.

SB 2482/PA 100-0791: Allows licensed youth camps and licensed child care facilities that use a school bus to transport children to use the safety features on the bus such as the stop sign and crossing arm.

HB 4409/PA 100-0750: Provides that a School Psychologist must hold a valid Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP) credential.

HB 5148/PA 100-0684: Requires that sex education course material and instruction must include discussions on what constitutes sexual consent and what may be considered sexual harassment or assault.

HB 4742/PA 100-0813: Requires the State Board of Education to implement a program to allow school districts to use recruiting firms to find substitute teachers.

SB 2844/PA 100-0982: Requires the State Board to establish and maintain the Supporting Future Teachers Program to help qualified participants in acquiring a Professional Educator License.

HB 5627/PA 100-0596: Provides for full reciprocity for out-of-state applicants for a Professional Educator License (PEL).

SB 3466/PA 100-0810: Prohibits a school district from referring a truant, chronic truant, or truant minor to any other local public entity for the purpose of issuing a fine or a fee.

HB 5795/100-0918: Redefines the term truant as a child who is subject to compulsory school attendance and who is absent without valid cause, from such attendance for more than 1 percent, but less than 5 percent, of the past 180 school days.

SB 2941/PA 100-0599: Expands the competency-based, high school graduation requirements pilot program to schools serving all grades (as opposed to just grades 9-12).