

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS PARTNERS WITH STI FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRACKING

***STI Professional Development Management* tracks administrators' continuing education hours and credits, automates course enrollment and scheduling for association**

MOBILE, ALA. (Dec. 8, 2004) – STI, the nation's leading provider of education data management solutions to K-12 schools, announces today a partnership with Illinois Association of School Administrators to provide comprehensive professional development tracking for Illinois school administrators.

Illinois administrators must renew their administrative certificate every five years, completing specific requirements each year. These training requirements generate a dizzying amount of paperwork administrators must track and file. In addition, the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act has created the emergence of education data management systems to monitor everything from student achievement to teacher professional development. The data helps to determine whether schools are meeting NCLB mandates such as the requirement to have 'highly qualified' teachers by the 2005-2006 school year. In the NCLB era of increased accountability, administrators not only want to minimize paperwork, they want to quickly and easily show proof of their credentials.

The Illinois Association of School Administrators (IASA) is one of the few state associations to assist administrators with a system to track all of their professional development activities online. This living record will help administrators chart their career course and ensure they have completed programs that will help them to lead and achieve their mission to improve student learning.

The *STI Professional Development Management* system, provided through IASA, allows administrators to save time and easily manage their professional credentials over the course of their career as well as enroll in courses online. "The STI tracking system will provide Illinois school administrators with 24/7 access to an interactive transcript of all of their professional development activities," said Walt Warfield, executive director of IASA. "It will guarantee a permanent professional development record for all participating administrators, by their professional association, regardless of programs that might come and go through state initiatives."

MORE

The Illinois Association of School Administrators is a major provider of professional development for superintendents through its School of Professional Development. In addition to professional development workshops, conferences and seminars, the organization offers 12 administrators' academy credit courses tied to the Interstate School Leaders Licensure Consortium (ISLLC) administrative standards.

STI's system also automates scheduling and course enrollment for IASA, creating a time-saving and cost-saving management tool. The web-based system eliminates the need for paper and printing costs. With the STI tracking system, Warfield says the association will be better able to expand its course offerings in the future to meet the needs of its members.

STI Professional Development Management is available to school districts to monitor teacher professional development required by NCLB mandates. The system is an all-inclusive web-based tracking tool that organizes and streamlines teacher training and course enrollment throughout a school, district or state. Educators can access their complete professional history while administrators review educators' credential status and monitor individual performance. As with IASA, schools and districts can use the STI system in conjunction with their professional development programs to allow educators to view a course catalog and register for courses online. Following program completion, administrators can evaluate a program's cost-effectiveness and educators' progress. For more information about *STI Professional Development Management*, visit STI online at www.sti-k12.com or call 800-844-0884.

About IASA

Since 1946 the Illinois Association of School Administrators, a chartered association of the American Association of School Administrators, has offered Illinois school administrators the opportunity to join with colleagues throughout the state to improve the quality of public education in Illinois and to maintain the high standards of their profession.. IASA's membership includes more than 1,600 individuals in school districts, regional offices of education, other educational institutions throughout the state, individuals retired from the profession of school administration and School Service Members. The association's offices are located in Springfield, Ill. For more information, phone 217-787-9306 or visit www.iasaedu.org.

About STI

STI is a leading provider of *Education Data Management* solutions to the K-12 market. The company's fully integrated suite of products addresses attendance, scheduling, special education, assessment, discipline, grade reporting, professional development, fund accounting, health and parent/teacher communications. More than 6,000 schools in 28 states use STI's solutions. The company was founded in 1982 and is headquartered in Mobile, Ala. For more information, phone 800-844-0884 or visit www.sti-k12.com.

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