



## Upcoming event! Kindergarten: Where Play and Learning Can Meet

Join us on **December 12** in Romeoville, Illinois, for an in-person screening of a new documentary on the benefits of a play-based approach in kindergarten, including how two districts made the transition. The documentary was produced in partnership with WTTW (the Chicago PBS affiliate).  
**Time:** 6:00–7:30 p.m. Central Time

[Read more](#) ➔

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## Ask A REL: What does the research say about teacher recruitment and retention?

Many districts and states struggle with teacher shortages and turnover. See recent responses from our Ask A REL reference desk to explore the research on [teacher recruitment and retention in rural areas](#), the [relationship between incentives and teacher recruitment](#), and [teacher staffing by locale](#).

[See more responses](#) ➔ [Submit a question](#) ➔

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## Study in progress: Examining the association between student success and attending different types of high schools in Indiana

A new REL Midwest study will examine high school and early college outcomes for Indiana students who attended three different types of high schools—traditional public schools, public charter schools, and private schools participating in the Indiana Choice Scholarship Program.

[Read more](#) ➔

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## Partnership spotlight: Midwest Career Readiness Research Alliance

Follow the links below to learn how we are working with practitioners and policymakers in Minnesota and the region to strengthen career readiness planning and supports for students.

[View the alliance handout](#) ➔ [Learn more](#) ➔

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## New event archives: Teacher preparation, networked improvement communities, and career preparation in rural schools

Did you miss one of our recent bridge events or documentaries? Archived recordings and presentations are now available for the following REL Midwest events:

- [A well-prepared teacher: Aligning K–12 and higher education expectations](#): This in-person event presented research on novice teacher competencies, information about high-leverage practices, and examples from educator preparation institutions and K–12 schools and districts in Michigan working together to prepare novice teachers for success.
- [Conducting relevant research through networked improvement communities](#): This webinar covered how researchers and practitioners can form networked improvement communities to study high-priority questions about education practice.
- [Ready for the future: Career preparation in rural communities](#): This documentary highlights the unique challenges facing rural communities in Minnesota as students explore and prepare for careers. Click the link to watch the program and access the viewing guide.

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### Contact Us

Please contact us for more information about any of the items in this newsletter or to speak to a member of our staff. We look forward to hearing from you.

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