MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents

Directors of Special Education

Other Interested Parties

FROM: Christopher A. Koch, Ed.D.

Assistant Superintendent for Special Education

DATE: July 26, 2005

SUBJECT: Extended School Year Services for Students with Disabilities

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide a reminder regarding the legal requirements related to the provision of extended school year (ESY) services for students with disabilities.

The ISBE is concerned that some districts may, in violation of applicable legal requirements, be charging fees for the provision of ESY services. The Illinois Administrative Code defines extended school year services as:

Special education and related services that are provided to a child with a disability beyond the normal school year of the public agency in accordance with the child's IEP and at no cost to the parents of the child and meet the requirements of Section 226.750(c) of this Part.

23 III. Admin. Code 226.75 (emphasis added) (please also note that the requirement that ESY services be at no cost to the parents of the child is also found in federal regulations at 34 C.F.R. § 300.309). ISBE encourages districts and cooperatives to review their policies and practices and make any changes necessary to ensure compliance with this and all other legal requirements related to ESY services. For your reference, we have attached a communication on ESY services issued by the ISBE on November 20, 2001. Both new and experienced administrators are urged to review the information in that memorandum.

Should you have any questions regarding ESY services, please contact Beth Hanselman at ehanselm@isbe.net Division Administrator, Special Education Services Division at 217-782-5589.