

## Inquiry to Informed Action: Using Essential Questions to Examine Public Policy in the Classroom

The new IL Social Studies Standards require students to address both essential and supporting questions to scaffold inquiry and learning. Collaborate with colleagues as you examine and develop questions to engage students in public policy issues. Participants will walk away with free resources to enhance their current practice to facilitate student development of the knowledge, skills and dispositions for success in college, career and civic life. Explicit connections will be made to the new IL Civics requirement, IL Social Studies Standards, the Common Core State Standards and the Danielson Framework for Effective Teaching.

- 8:30 a.m. Opening Remarks: Jak Tichenor- Interim Director, Paul Simon Public Policy Institute
- 9:00 a.m. Group Introduction & Discussion Starter: Mary Ellen Daneels- Lead Teacher Mentor, Robert R. McCormick Foundation
- 9:30 a.m. Sample Civic Lesson: Public Policy Inquiry- Daneels
- 10:30 a.m. Break
- 10:40 a.m. Public Policy Issues in Illinois: Dr. John S. Jackson, Visiting Professor, Paul Simon Public Policy Institute
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch & Learn: Springfield Legislative Update- Dr. Linda Renee Baker, University Professor, Paul Simon Public Policy Institute
- 12:45 p.m. Strategies for Using Essential & Supporting Questions in the Classroom- Daneels
- 2:00 p.m. Regional Mentor Brainstorm: Informed Action Application- Regional Mentors
- 2:30 p.m. Evaluation & Dismissal