

# Lighting Up Illinois

Vol 3 Number 1 – November 2012



IBOP  
EC

[www.illinois.net/IBOP](http://www.illinois.net/IBOP)

## Regional Meeting Recap

We recently held eight meetings around the state to share the latest news on the progress of our IBOP project.

We were pleased to host more than 200 attendees in various locations and nearly 70 via webinar. If you did not have an opportunity to join us live or via the web, please click on the following link at your leisure to be brought up to speed and we hope to see you next year!

[October Regional Meeting](#)

## IBOP-EC Construction Update

ICN has completed another customer fiber connection - Mt. Olive High School is operational with nearly 10 times their previous bandwidth. Mt. Olive has been anxiously awaiting the faster broadband connection to accommodate its growing bandwidth needs.



Mt. Olive High School is Operational!

Staff are working to finalize and turn on connections for Divernon High School, Waubensee Community College, Oakton Community College, College of DuPage, Harper Community College and Elgin Community College. Overall, 985 of 2,000 network miles are in place through construction and dark fiber acquisitions.



## Community Colleges - "Integral To Our Fiber Project"

Community Colleges have been integral to the design of ICN fiber project from day one. The colleges play an important role in their communities providing post secondary education, career training and continuing education as well as economic development.

The ICN designed the fiber network to ensure a connection to the main campus of every community college within the project service area. In turn, the community colleges can serve as a community access point to extend the fiber to more anchor institutions, businesses or service providers ICN staff are already hearing great stories of communities working together to expand the fiber from the community college to area schools, government offices and businesses.



The ICN has applied to Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) for authorization to become an E-rate Internet Service Provider. This would allow ICN K12 school and library constituents to apply for E-rate funding support for bandwidth purchased from the ICN.

Our Regional Technology Center (RTC) staff has started responding to Form 470s posted on the USAC web site for the 2013 E-rate funding year. Our responses will primarily be for services requested within the Internet Access section of the Form 470. Please reach out to your local RTC office with questions.