



Spoon River Valley Schools

Community Unit District No. 4
Ellisville – Fairview – London Mills – Maquon - Rapatee
35265 N. IL 97

London Mills, Illinois 61544

Phone (309) 778-2201 FAX (309) 778-2655

K. Scot Reynolds
Superintendent

Christopher Janssen
Jr – Sr High Principal

Jody Collier
Elementary Principal

Spoon River Valley Community,

12 June 2017

Summer greetings from Spoon River Valley! In recent days the General Assembly and Governor Rauner have once again failed to reach agreement on a state budget. The budget impasse continues in Illinois and rolls into its third year.. Speculation abounds about whether schools will open in the fall, much like last year.

As occurred last year, the continued lack of state appropriation for K-12 education in Fiscal Year 2018 will result in dire consequences for many school districts. For Spoon River Valley state funding comprises thirty two percent of the overall budget. The district has fund reserves that will allow the opening of school. Hopefully and hypothetically these reserves could sustain the district through first semester. However, ongoing dysfunction at the capitol will ultimately result in a shift in the cost of educating Illinois’ children to local property taxpayers.

The top priority for all of our elected state officials must be to enact a state budget that includes adequate funds for public schools. This will insure that schools across the state open on time and are adequately funded for the full year. An evidence based funding model of financing schools (SB1) recently passed the General Assembly and awaits the Governor’s approval. It is the soundest and fairest long-term solution to having an adequate and equitable school funding model in Illinois. This model is based on research-based practice and fairly funds Illinois schools.

Now is the time for engagement as taxpayers and concerned citizens with legislators. Contact state officials and let them know your feelings about the current “state of our state”. The Spoon River Valley Board of Education and the administrative team will continue to monitor the situation. Rest assured that our administrative team will develop contingency plans to address the prospect of an ongoing budget impasse into the fall. Our team is committed to opening schools on time and educating our children without interruption. Thank you for your continued support of Spoon River Valley Schools.

Educationally Yours,

K. Scot Reynolds
Superintendent
Spoon River Valley CUSD #4

Chris Janssen
Superintendent (July 1, 2017)
Spoon River Valley CUSD #4



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