

Superintendent Rambling

April, 2017



The weather has been very accommodating this Spring. Regular season varsity Boys Baseball and Girls Softball programs are well underway. Our online homepage calendar lists specific activity dates and times on an ongoing basis for April. [*Please support our students by attending as many school events as possible during the course of the month ahead.*](#) Our Facebook page and Twitter feeds continue to serve as important sources of information during the course of the school year. Numerous activities and important dates for April include:

<u>March 27th :</u>	PARCC Testing/ ISA Testing Window Continues
<u>April 4th:</u>	Spring Election Day-Please Vote!
<u>April 7-8th:</u>	Spring Play (Times TBA)
<u>April 10th:</u>	Board of Education Meeting at 6:00 PM
<u>April 12th:</u>	Half Day Inservice/ Grandparents Day 10AM to 11:15 AM
<u>April 13-17th :</u>	Spring Break
<u>April 28th:</u>	PARCC Testing ISA Testing Window Closes
<u>April 29th :</u>	Prom (4PM to 11 PM)

At our April inservice on April 12th our staff will complete continued curriculum alignment with the Illinois Learning Standards and working to enhance their chromebook instructional skills. Efforts at curriculum alignment to the standards will be completed.

The top priority of water and plumbing improvement has been met in the past month. A new compressor, electrical system, a large new plumbing section, air pressure regulator and chlorinator have all been installed. The boil order has been lifted for several weeks and water clarity is much improved. With these projects now complete, we will continue to monitor through the Spring. Although the water will never be perfect it should be palatable. Clean, safe water is a basic necessity for everyone.

On the financial front things continue to be far from the best in Springfield. We have continued to receive our general state aid on a regular systematic basis this school year. We continued to not, however, receive periodic payments for special education, early childhood and transportation (So-called mandated Cats). Due to the budget situation in Springfield at best the payments will be delayed. At worst, we may not receive one or two of these payments. Payments may also be deferred into the next fiscal year. This continued “deadbeat” lack of state commitment to schools makes it incredibly hard to

effectively manage school finances. On February 1st a special Education Funding Group commissioned by Governor Rauner reported out on the new Education Based Funding Model. To date no new funding legislation has been proposed. The “grand bargain” we have all heard so much about appears to be stalled in the General Assembly. We will continue to monitor the situation going forward. We would appreciate you contacting your legislators and supporting full funding for our schools. They can be reached at the Illinois General Assembly Website: www.ilga.gov

Office hours are now posted on the website for your convenience. In most instances phones will not be answered after the times listed on our web page; please refrain from calling unless it is an emergency situation. You are welcome to leave a message on the district answering machine if you would like to do so. Every effort will be made to return your call the following school day. The Jr./ Sr. High office is open from 7 AM to 3:30 PM. The Elementary Office is open from 7:30 to 4 PM.

I am as close as a simple phone call daily at 778-2204, 778-2201 or email me at sreynolds@spoonrivalley.us It takes everyone to be involved in academic success of our kids. Be a part of the solution and not a part of the problem by supporting staff publicly and raising concerns privately. Spring is here!

Happy Easter!

Mr. Reynolds