

Superintendent Rambling

November, 2016



Thanksgiving is around the corner! The days are shorter and the nights are longer. Activities now move inside. Please continue to refer to our online homepage calendar for specific activity dates and times on an ongoing basis, *Please also support our students by attending as many school events as possible during the course of the year and, as an adult, model good sportsmanship;* this is appreciated by everyone. 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 November include:

November 7-8th: Spoon River Valley Annual Music Revue @ 8 PM

November 14th: Board of Education Meeting at 6 PM.

November 11th: Annual Spoon River Valley In-House Veterans Program

November 14-19th:Fulton County Girls Basketball Tourney Opens Season

November 21st-25th : Fulton County Boys Basketball Tourney Opens Season

November 22nd: Early Dismissal at 2PM

November 23rd-25th: Thanksgiving Vacation!

As a district, we realigned our administrative personnel with formal announcements of positions and folks involved at our October 10th meeting. This realignment will both save the district funds and insure good quality personnel assigned to these positions. Chris Janssen will be the new Superintendent/ Curriculum Director/ Technology effective July 1, 2017. Jody Collier will be the new district K-12 principal effective July 1, 2017. Please congratulate them if you see them around and about the district.

On September 12th the Board of Education approved the appointment of Dr. Patty Eathington of Ellisville as an interim board member. Patty will serve in the capacity of interim board member through April of 2017. She replaces John Davis of London Mills who resigned in August. We wish Patty the very best in her new role!

On October 28th our staff continued to work on aligning all courses to the Illinois Learning Standards to maximize learning.. Implementation of the new evaluwise computer program to enhance teacher performance and to make good teachers even better

teachers continues.. The program will better align instruction and assess teacher needs in terms of professional development over time. Initial work will focus on English Language Arts and Mathematics. We will progress to other subjects during the course of this year and next.

As we move into a new year, constructive, civil suggestions regarding district policies, procedures or decisions are always welcome in the conference setting. ***Please follow the chain of command in dealing with district personnel concerns.*** If you have concerns regarding your student or other matters please contact the staff member involved, progressing to administration and/or board of education, in extreme cases. Do not contact board members as a first result to express concerns. If you have a concern regarding any staff member please contact the respective school office responsible and schedule a private conference. ***A reminder that abuse or profanity directed at teachers, coaches, aides, secretaries, sponsors or staff in any form WILL NOT be tolerated in any situation by the administrative team in the classroom or the athletic court.. Please review the handbook for further details.***

A continual reminder that office hours are now posted on the website for your convenience. Phones will not be answered after the times listed on our web page. You are welcome to leave a message on the district answering machine if 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@spoonrivervalley.us Our collective ideas, decisions and vision will lead to an improved, vibrant school district in the long term. It takes the entire Spoon River Valley village to raise a child.. Be a part of the solution and not a part of the problem.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Mr. Reynolds