

Superintendent Rambling

Summer, 2017



Summer break is upon us! Enjoy the warmth and the break from school routines! Our Facebook page and Twitter feeds continue to serve as important sources of information during the course of summer. Numerous activities and important dates for summer include:

<u>June 19th:</u>	Board of Education Meeting @ 6 PM
<u>June 30th:</u>	Mr. Reynolds Last Day as Superintendent
<u>July 1st:</u>	Mr. Janssen's First Day as Superintendent
<u>August 8th-9th:</u>	Fall Registration 4-7 PM
<u>August 16-17th:</u>	Teacher Institute Days
<u>August 18th:</u>	First Day for Students

At our May 19th graduation 26 students from the High School participated in the ceremony.. We wish our graduates the absolute best as they move on to new challenges. Teachers departed for summer in the early afternoon of May 23rd.

A variety of summer projects were approved by the Board of Education in May. These included additional water quality improvements, new flooring in the elementary computer lab, elementary restroom improvements and renovations in the High School gym. Sealcoating the parking lot and circle drive were being considered. Numerous other lesser projects including cleaning and painting are also occurring.

On the financial front things continue to be very tentative 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 fiscal debacle in Springfield, at best the payments are being 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. To date no new Education Based 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 , #passthebudgetnow

Summer office hours are now in effect until August 18th. Offices will be open from 7 AM to 3:30 PM. Phones will not be answered after that time. The Elementary building will be closed to the public during the month of June for cleaning, painting and renovation. You are welcome to leave a message on the district high school answering machine if would like to do so. Every effort will be made to return your call, but please keep in mind that most of the staff will not be returning until mid-August.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for allowing me to serve as your superintendent for nine years. Through the ups and downs the learning curve has been huge sometimes trying and rewarding. Many valuable friendships have been formed; I hope to continue these going forward. Mr. Janssen and Mrs. Collier will continue improvements going forward. It has been an honor to work with them and I wish them and the district continued success.

Best wishes to all,

Mr. Reynolds