

# District Parent Announcements - December 2014

## Calendar

Thursday, December 18 = 2:05 Dismissal  
 Friday, December 19 = 2:05 Dismissal  
 December 20-January 2 = Christmas Break  
 Friday, January 2 = Teacher Institute  
 Monday, January 5 = School Resumes for Students

## Christmas Concert Season

As we enter the Christmas Concert Season, please do your part to set a good example for our students in regards to appropriate "Christmas Concert Behavior." Our students and teachers work very hard to put on a quality concert and they deserve a classy, appropriate audience. Thank you for taking care of this.

## EAV and Tax Rate History

| Year | EAV        | Tax Rate |
|------|------------|----------|
| 2004 | 31,134,713 | 4.35     |
| 2005 | 30,584,462 | 4.43     |
| 2006 | 33,559,431 | 4.18     |
| 2007 | 33,829,705 | 4.46     |
| 2008 | 36,506,045 | 4.35     |
| 2009 | 40,910,655 | 4.07     |
| 2010 | 42,958,779 | 4.36     |
| 2011 | 45,605,271 | 4.51     |
| 2012 | 49,642,835 | 4.47     |
| 2013 | 52,470,561 | 4.45     |

## Election

The 2015 School Board Election is April 7, 2015. The School Board Election process has changed. While the school board secretary is the "local election official," virtually all of the duties previously assigned to that position are now assigned to the "election authority." This is the County Clerk's office. The school district is no longer required to provide nominating packets, post a notice of when and where to file petitions, provide information to those interested in running, or receive and file nominating petitions. Everything goes through the County Clerk's office. Petitions can be picked up at the County Clerk's office beginning September 23, 2014. The filing of the petitions at the County Clerk's office is December 15, 2014 through December 22, 2014. The County Clerk's phone number is 888-307-2442. The County Clerk's office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

| Last Name | First Name | Office    | Year Elected | Term Expires | Township   |
|-----------|------------|-----------|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Bruenger  | Steve      | President | 2013         | 2017         | St. Albans |
| Cox       | Mark       | Vice      | 2013         | 2017         | Northeast  |
| Eilers    | John       | Member    | 2011         | 2015         | Northeast  |
| Neill     | Dave       | Member    | 2011         | 2015         | Chili      |
| Ramsey    | Rick       | Secretary | 2013         | 2017         | Augusta    |
| Smith     | Randy      | Member    | 2011         | 2015         | St. Mary   |
| Stephens  | Jeremy     | Member    | 2013         | 2017         | Chili      |

## Finances - October 2014

|                              |             |   |             |
|------------------------------|-------------|---|-------------|
| Percent into the Fiscal Year | 33%         | Education Fund - Fiscal Year            | \$545,349   |
| Budgeted Revenue Received    | 55.6%       | Education Fund - Total                  | \$1,089,392 |
| Budgeted Expenditures Spent  | 33.1%       | Transportation Fund - Fiscal Year       | \$(122,204) |
| Revenue Received             | \$2,909,207 | Transportation Fund - Total             | \$(4,575)   |
| Expenditures Spent           | \$1,907,327 | Total Fund Balance                      | \$4,025,995 |
| Predicted Budget Deficit     | \$(497,503) | Amount the State of Illinois Owes SE337 | \$156,201   |
| Current Budget Deficit       | \$1,001,880 | Monthly Payroll for October 2014        | \$207,127   |

### **Free and Reduced Lunch Applications**

Reminder: If for some reason your income changes and you make less money during the school year, you are allowed to complete a free and reduced lunch application at any point during the school year. For example, you completed an application at the beginning of the school year and did not qualify; however, your income changes during the school year so you are allowed to reapply and see if you qualify. Please contact the district office and we will take care of you. The district phone number is 217.392.2172.

### **Illinois State Scholars**

Congratulations to our 2014-2015 Illinois State Scholars:

- Tucker Lee, son of Michael and Holly Lee of Plymouth.
- Dakota Limkemann, daughter of Donnie and Debbie Limkemann of West Point.

### **Retirees**

The following teachers are retiring at the end of the 2014-2015 school year. Please take the opportunity to say thank you to these dedicated educators.

- MaryAnn Freeman = High School Foreign Language
- Kathy Holst = High School English
- Carolyn Phillips = High School Science

### **Spectator Policy**

As you know, our current athletic code states "Any fans, including adult fans, who behave in an inappropriate manner or who are ejected from an event by a game official/judge/administrator during Southeastern School athletic or extracurricular activities, whether the activity is home or away, will be denied admission to, and participation in, extracurricular activities or school events. The penalty for the offense could result in additional days depending on the severity of the incident. First Offense: 30-day suspension from all extracurricular activities. Second Offense: 12-month suspension from all extracurricular activities."

This has been our policy for over eight years. During those eight years we experienced very few occurrences for enforcement of the policy. Unfortunately, we had to enforce this policy more frequently over the past two years, which uncovered inconsistencies for those parents subjected to this penalty. These inconsistencies are due to a time-based term of enforcement, as opposed to enforcing for a specific number of events. For example, depending on several variables, the 30-day suspension for a parent with multiple students may result in ten or more missed events, compared to that of another parent with a single student. Furthermore, this zero tolerance policy does not take into consideration circumstances of the ejection, severity of the ejection, number of contests in the 30-day cycle, the number of children in the family, etc. Therefore, this policy, as written, could deliver unequal consequences for equivalent violations. This was not and is not the intent of the policy.

As a result, when looking at the broad range of sporting events offered at Southeastern, I determined that a typical sport, averages around 2 contests per week. Looking back at the history of suspensions with the current policy, this number was fairly consistent with the number of games missed by the individuals that were suspended for 30 days. Therefore, I have used a baseline of 8 contests for a first offense suspension. Once again, I have done this to establish consistency with the enforcement of this policy. It is not fair for one person to have to sit out 20 contests while another person only sits out 5 just because of the combination of the variables listed above. This type of inequity is what I am trying to eliminate by defining the number of contests rather than the number of days. I plan on addressing this policy with the Board of Education.

With all that said, the purpose of the policy is to deter inappropriate behavior by parents and spectators during extracurricular activities. We are forced to revisit this policy due to the increasing frequency of inappropriate behavior by Southeastern fans and spectators at events. We have very high behavior expectations for our students and receive countless compliments for their behavior. It is important all of us set an example for the type of behavior we want from our young people. They do not always listen to us, but they are always watching us.

### **Tax Levy (Tentative)**

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 2013 Extensions = \$2,333,817    | Increase from Previous Year = 9%                |
| 2014 Levied Amount = \$2,549,565 | Truth in Taxation Hearing = Monday, December 15 |