
District Parent Announcements (March 2015)

Science Club

Congratulations to the Junior High and High School Science Clubs for being named Outstanding Chapters at the 2015 Culver Stockton College Science Fair.

Board Excellence

Please check out the list of "Board Excellence 2014-2015" achievements on the district website homepage. This is updated monthly and these students, organizations, and teams are recognized by our Board of Education each month. The website address is www.southeastern337.com.

Financial Snapshot

58% into the fiscal year. Received 73% of budgeted revenue. Spent 57% of budgeted expenditures. Received \$3,819,867. Spent \$3,248,248. Education fund expenditures are at 56%. Transportation fund expenditures are at 62%. Predicted budget deficit was \$497,503. Current budget deficit is \$571,610. Lost \$185,795 this month. Total fund balance is \$3,595,734. Our monthly payroll was \$200,811. The state owes us \$167,280. We have no debt.

School Calendar 2014-2015

We have seven emergency days built into calendar. We have used three (January 7, January 8, and February 2). At this time, the last day of student attendance will be Thursday, May 21 with our Teacher Institute being Friday, May 22. No matter what, the last day of school will be Friday, May 29.

High School Graduation Date

Our 2015 High School Graduation will be Sunday, May 17, 2015. The time will be 2:00 p.m. The location will be Southeastern Junior/Senior High School.

School Calendar 2015-2016 (Major Dates)

Opening Teacher Institute Dates = August 17 and August 18

First Day of Student Attendance = August 19

Thanksgiving Break = November 25-27

Christmas Break = December 21-January 1

Easter Break = March 25-28

Last Day of School If All Emergency Days Are Used = May 27

Vision 20/20

Vision 20/20 is a student-centered vision for the future of education in Illinois. It focuses on four policy priorities: highly effective educators, 21st century learning, shared accountability, and equitable and adequate funding. The initiative was developed based on the input and efforts of educators from across the state, based on unprecedented collaboration among the Illinois Association of School Administrators (IASA), the Illinois Association of School Business Officials (IASBO), the Illinois Principals Association (IPA), the Illinois Association of Regional Superintendents of Schools (IARSS), the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB), and the Superintendents' Commission for the Study of Demographics and Diversity (SCSDD). Vision 20/20 is an education policy brief drafted by educators based on the experiences and input of thousands of educators from every corner of the state. This is the first time educators have ever proposed a policy platform with this level of collaboration, consensus, and commitment. To ensure action, Vision 20/20 is building a grassroots coalition across the state. Vision 20/20 is seeking the support of educators, businesses, parents, and other education reform groups from every region across the state to advance the policies of Vision 20/20.

Please check out our district website for additional resources (www.southeastern337.com).

"In my six years as a school superintendent, I have not been more optimistic and excited about the direction of education in Illinois as I am right now, and Vision 20/20 is the primary source of this optimism and excitement. These are the three points that are most important to me.

1. Vision 20/20 is about kids, not adults. In recent times, our kids have been educational guinea pigs and political pawns.
2. Vision 20/20 was designed by educators and parents - the people who are in the trenches with our kids everyday and who truly understand what is in their best interests.
3. Vision 20/20 is based on a common sense approach which recognizes the value of quality teachers, the importance of developing the whole child (preserving instructional time and investing in early childhood education), the necessity to make funding fair and adequate, and the restructuring of mandates to allow more local district flexibility." - D. Todd Fox, Superintendent of Schools.

PARCC

Attached you will find PARCC Primer "Ten Things to Know About the New K-12 PARCC Assessments." If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

5Essentials Survey

Teachers, parents, and students across Illinois will have an opportunity to participate in Illinois 5Essentials Survey. This survey is designed to generate a detailed picture of the inner workings of your child's school. As a parent, this opportunity will allow you to share your thoughts on the important elements of school effectiveness in a survey about your child's school.

All 6th through 12th grade students will be responding to this survey. 5Essentials Reports will be generated for schools if their teachers and/or students meet the response rate threshold of 50 percent.

The Illinois 5Essentials Survey must be completed by March 13, 2015. To

take the survey please visit <https://survey.5-essentials.org/illinois/> and select the appropriate survey to begin.

If you do not want your 6th through 12 grade child responding to the survey, please return the pink attached form to your building principal by Tuesday, March 3, 2015.

D. Todd Fox

Southeastern C.U.S.D. # 337

Superintendent of Schools

90 West Green Street

Post Office Box 215

Augusta, Illinois 62311

2015-2016 Proposed Public School Calendar for Southeastern CUSD 337, Draft, as of 2/23/2015

Codes: X = attendance day; XHI, XHPT, XID, XDS, XHS, XHSW, XHIH, XHPH, XHSH = half attendance day; XH = holiday attendance waiver; FPT, FPTH, WFPT = full day parent teacher conference; FI, WFI, FIH = teacher inservice; PI, TI, TIH = parent/teacher institute; ED = emergency day; XED = proposed emergency day; HOL = holiday; NIA = not in attendance

Total Days of Attendance: 181 Regular Day: **8:15AM - 3:05PM** Instruct. Day Lgth: **5 Hrs. 48 Mins.**

July 2015							August 2015							September 2015						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
29	30	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u> HOL	<u>5</u>	27	28	29	30	31	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	31	<u>1</u> X	<u>2</u> X	<u>3</u> X	<u>4</u> X	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>7</u> HOL	<u>8</u> X	<u>9</u> X	<u>10</u> X	<u>11</u> X	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>
<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>14</u> X	<u>15</u> X	<u>16</u> X	<u>17</u> X	<u>18</u> X	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>17</u> TI	<u>18</u> TI	<u>19</u> X	<u>20</u> X	<u>21</u> X	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>21</u> X	<u>22</u> X	<u>23</u> X	<u>24</u> X	<u>25</u> X	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>
<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>	1	2	<u>24</u> X	<u>25</u> X	<u>26</u> X	<u>27</u> X	<u>28</u> X	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>28</u> X	<u>29</u> X	<u>30</u> X	1	2	3	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	<u>31</u> X	1	2	3	4	5	6	5	6	7	8	9	10	11

July Atnd: 0 Accum: 0 Aug Atnd: 9 Accum: 9 Sept Atnd: 21 Accum: 30

October 2015							November 2015							December 2015						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
28	29	30	<u>1</u> X	<u>2</u> X	<u>3</u>	4	26	27	28	29	30	31	<u>1</u>	30	<u>1</u> X	<u>2</u> X	<u>3</u> X	<u>4</u> X	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>5</u> X	<u>6</u> X	<u>7</u> X	<u>8</u> X	<u>9</u> X	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>2</u> X	<u>3</u> X	<u>4</u> X	<u>5</u> X	<u>6</u> X	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u> X	<u>8</u> X	<u>9</u> X	<u>10</u> X	<u>11</u> X	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>
<u>12</u> HOL	<u>13</u> X	<u>14</u> X	<u>15</u> X	<u>16</u> X	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>9</u> X	<u>10</u> X	<u>11</u> X	<u>12</u> X	<u>13</u> X	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>14</u> X	<u>15</u> X	<u>16</u> X	<u>17</u> X	<u>18</u> X	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>19</u> X	<u>20</u> X	<u>21</u> X	<u>22</u> X	<u>23</u> FPT	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>16</u> X	<u>17</u> X	<u>18</u> X	<u>19</u> X	<u>20</u> X	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>21</u> NIA	<u>22</u> NIA	<u>23</u> NIA	<u>24</u> NIA	<u>25</u> HOL	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>
<u>26</u> X	<u>27</u> X	<u>28</u> X	<u>29</u> X	<u>30</u> X	<u>31</u>	1	<u>23</u> X	<u>24</u> X	<u>25</u> NIA	<u>26</u> HOL	<u>27</u> NIA	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>28</u> NIA	<u>29</u> NIA	<u>30</u> NIA	<u>31</u> NIA	1	2	3
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	<u>30</u> X	1	2	3	4	5	6	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Oct Atnd: 20 Accum: 50 Nov Atnd: 18 Accum: 68 Dec Atnd: 14 Accum: 82

January 2016							February 2016							March 2016						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
28	29	30	31	<u>1</u> HOL	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	<u>1</u> X	<u>2</u> X	<u>3</u> X	<u>4</u> X	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>4</u> X	<u>5</u> X	<u>6</u> X	<u>7</u> X	<u>8</u> X	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>1</u> X	<u>2</u> X	<u>3</u> X	<u>4</u> X	<u>5</u> X	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u> X	<u>8</u> X	<u>9</u> X	<u>10</u> X	<u>11</u> X	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>
<u>11</u> X	<u>12</u> X	<u>13</u> X	<u>14</u> X	<u>15</u> X	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>8</u> X	<u>9</u> X	<u>10</u> X	<u>11</u> X	<u>12</u> HOL	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>14</u> X	<u>15</u> X	<u>16</u> X	<u>17</u> X	<u>18</u> X	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>18</u> HOL	<u>19</u> X	<u>20</u> X	<u>21</u> X	<u>22</u> X	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>15</u> X	<u>16</u> X	<u>17</u> X	<u>18</u> X	<u>19</u> X	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>21</u> X	<u>22</u> X	<u>23</u> X	<u>24</u> TI	<u>25</u> NIA	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>
<u>25</u> X	<u>26</u> X	<u>27</u> X	<u>28</u> X	<u>29</u> X	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>22</u> X	<u>23</u> X	<u>24</u> X	<u>25</u> X	<u>26</u> X	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>28</u> NIA	<u>29</u> X	<u>30</u> X	<u>31</u> X	1	2	3
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	<u>29</u> X	1	2	3	4	5	6	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Jan Atnd: 19 Accum: 101 Feb Atnd: 20 Accum: 121 Mar Atnd: 20 Accum: 141

April 2016							May 2016							June 2016						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
28	29	30	31	<u>1</u> X	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	25	26	27	28	29	30	<u>1</u>	30	31	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>4</u> X	<u>5</u> X	<u>6</u> X	<u>7</u> X	<u>8</u> X	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>2</u> X	<u>3</u> X	<u>4</u> X	<u>5</u> X	<u>6</u> X	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>11</u> X	<u>12</u> X	<u>13</u> X	<u>14</u> X	<u>15</u> X	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>9</u> X	<u>10</u> X	<u>11</u> X	<u>12</u> X	<u>13</u> X	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>
<u>18</u> X	<u>19</u> X	<u>20</u> X	<u>21</u> X	<u>22</u> X	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>16</u> X	<u>17</u> X	<u>18</u> X	<u>19</u> TI	<u>20</u> XED	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u>
<u>25</u> X	<u>26</u> X	<u>27</u> X	<u>28</u> X	<u>29</u> X	<u>30</u>	1	<u>23</u> XED	<u>24</u> XED	<u>25</u> XED	<u>26</u> XED	<u>27</u> XED	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>	1	2	3
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	<u>30</u> HOL	<u>31</u>	1	2	3	4	5	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Apr Atnd: 21 Accum: 162 May Atnd: 19 Accum: 181 June Atnd: 0 Accum: 181



Ten Things to Know About the New K-12 PARCC Assessments

1. Kindergarten teachers through college-level professors from across the country, including Illinois, helped develop the new Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) assessments to see how well students are achieving under new, more rigorous and internationally benchmarked learning standards in English language arts (ELA) and math.
 - The PARCC assessment will be administered to all third- through eighth-graders and some high school students in Illinois public schools during the 2014-15 school year.
2. The PARCC assessments measure a broad range of knowledge and skills, such as problem-solving and critical thinking, that are essential for success. The PARCC assessments also measure writing at all grade levels, a valuable indicator of college and career readiness and a skill that was only assessed intermittently and for certain grade levels on previous state tests.
 - The PARCC assessments emphasize rigor, depth and application of knowledge – not just rote memorization. Performance-based exercises and technology-enhanced features yield more information than what was generated through previous state tests.
3. The PARCC assessments provide a clear marker to show if students are on track for college and career, contributing to statewide efforts to support students' education from cradle to career. PARCC tests represent the first K-12 coherent assessments and replace the Illinois Standard Achievement Test and the Prairie State Achievement Examination, which have been used for more than a decade but were not aligned to one another, resulting in a disconnect that showed a greater portion of elementary students than high school students meeting state standards.
 - Now Illinois students will face consistent and high expectations at each grade level, giving parents and educators more accurate and timely information to intervene and determine whether students need remediation or more advanced instruction.
4. Staying on track for college and career means saving money. The PARCC will support efforts to provide a more efficient path to a college degree and career skills. We know that when students can start their postsecondary education in college credit-bearing courses, they're more likely to graduate. A 2011 national report shows 56 percent of students nationwide earn a bachelor's degree within six years. That falls to 35 percent when we look at students who have taken remedial courses. To view the Complete College America report, endorsed by governors, see http://www.completecollege.org/docs/Time_Is_the_Enemy_Summary.pdf.
 - At least 20 percent of all college students must take costly remedial courses when they get to college and that percentage jumps to roughly 50 percent when you look at those enrolled in Illinois two-year community colleges after students did everything required to graduate from high school.

5. Students in 29 states, the US Virgin Islands and the District of Columbia are scheduled to take either the PARCC assessment or Smarter Balanced, an assessment system also aligned to the new learning standards in math and ELA.
 - For the first time, Illinois parents will be able to see how their students' elementary and secondary state test scores compare against the test scores of students in other states.
6. At the high school level, districts were given flexibility this year to choose one of three combinations of PARCC high school-level assessments in ELA and math. The majority of high schools – more than 60 percent – will administer exams linked to ELA/Literacy 3 and Algebra 2/Integrated Math 3.
 - The state will continue to fund the ACT to 11th-graders in all districts that opted to give the test on March 3. March 4 is reserved for the ACT's WorkKeys exams.
7. Nationally, the PARCC exam was field-tested by more than 1 million students in 16,000 schools in 14 states and the District of Columbia. Improvements were made based on the field tests and on feedback from students, teachers and others. The PARCC assessment continues to be reviewed for quality, rigor and fairness.
 - In Illinois, more than 110,000 students in 500 districts and 1,200 schools participated last spring in PARCC assessment field-testing.
8. More than half of all Illinois schools will administer the PARCC assessment online this spring. The ultimate goal is for the PARCC assessments to be administered online in all Illinois schools, which will likely take several more years to accomplish as schools expand and upgrade equipment and infrastructure.
 - The PARCC assessments will also be administered via paper and pencil in Illinois schools during the 2014-15 school year.
9. Schools will take the PARCC summative assessment in two parts to provide adequate test-taking time and measure different kinds of knowledge and skills. The first part is the Performance-Based Assessment (PBA), to be given when approximately 75 percent of instruction is completed and featuring more extended tasks and writing exercises. The second part is the End of Year assessment (EOY), given when approximately 90 percent of instruction is completed. The EOY is shorter than the PBA and asks students to demonstrate their acquired skills and knowledge by answering computer-based, machine-scorable questions. The results from the End of Year assessment will be combined with the Performance-Based Assessment to produce a student's summative assessment score. To learn more visit <http://parcconline.org/did-you-know-why-are-there-two-parts-test>.
 - PARCC assessment results will be available to families next fall. Going forward, the PARCC assessments will produce more timely results to help monitor student progress and target instruction and intervention as needed.
10. Students will spend approximately 6 ½ to 7 ½ hours on the PARCC tests, depending on grade level. They will not take the entire test in one sitting. The assessment is broken into two parts and each part includes several units. Most students will complete each unit in 40 to 60 minutes. The PARCC states recommend no more than two units of testing in a day.
 - PARCC testing time represents less than 1 percent of the school year in Illinois. Each school will schedule testing dates and times within a common window, which was shared with districts in July 2014. The dates are also posted on the State Board's website under assessments at <http://www.isbe.net/assessment/pdfs/2015/assessment-dates-14-15.pdf>.

Dear Parent or Guardian,

We are writing to inform you about a student survey that will be administered at your child's school called the Illinois 5Essentials Survey. This is the third year the Illinois State Board of Education will implement this survey across the state. This survey is based on 20 years of research at the University of Chicago. It asks students about their experiences in school, giving school leaders critical student input to help develop school improvement plans.

This year, student participants will be required to log-in using their student ID and birth date in order to complete the survey. Students' identities will be completely confidential. Teachers or administrators will never see individual responses to survey questions and will only receive aggregated information, such as the total percentage of students who agree homework assignments help them learn the course material.

Please be aware that under the Protection of Pupil Rights Act, 20 U.S.C. Section 1232(c) (1) (A), you have the right to review a copy of the questions asked of your student(s). Survey questions can be found on the Illinois 5Essentials website (<https://Illinois.5-essentials.org>).

If you do not want your son or daughter to participate, fill out the information below and ask your child to return this sheet to his or her principal by Tuesday, March 3, 2015.

Thank you for your cooperation,

D. Todd Fox
Superintendent

SOUTHEASTERN CUSD #337

SCHOOL NAME

GRADE

I DO NOT want my child to take part in the 2014-15 Illinois 5Essentials Survey.

CHILD'S NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN

DATE