

## District Parent Announcements – February 2013

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>5Essential Survey</b></p> <p>In March, Southeastern will administer the first statewide learning conditions and school climate survey. Senate Bill 7, passed as part of our states’ reform agenda in 2011, requires us to provide the survey this year to help local educators better identify their schools strengths and areas in need of improvement. The survey will be administered to teachers, 6-12 students, and parents. The survey will be an excellent way to showcase our school district.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Job Opening</b></p> <p>Southeastern Community Unit School District # 337 has the following opening for the 2013-2014 school year:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">District Administrative Assistant</p> <p>If interested, please e-mail a letter of application and resume no later than Monday, February 25, 2013 to Kassi Taylor at <a href="mailto:ktaylor@southeastern337.com">ktaylor@southeastern337.com</a>.</p>
<p><b>Common Core Standards</b></p>	
<p>The Illinois State Board of Education has adopted new standards for K-12 education. These new standards are known as the Common Core Standards. This move will include an increase in the expectations on the ISAT for elementary and middle school students. We see this often. An elementary class will perform very well on the ISAT, but then perform very poorly on the PSAE when they get to high school. Forty-five states are making this change. The new standards will be implemented gradually, however, the new assessments based on the new standards will replace ISAT and PSAE in 2014 (next school year). What does all of this mean? Many students who were “meeting standards” on the previous ISAT will fall below Illinois’ new, higher expectations. This means that your children’s scores may drop. It is important not to panic. This doesn’t mean that your children know less than they did before or that our teachers are not getting the job done. It simply means more is expected than before and “the test is a lot harder.” I will be providing more information in upcoming district parent announcements.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>January Board Meeting Action Summary</b></p> <p>Approved the agenda items as amended.</p> <p>Approved the minutes from the December 17, 2012 regular meeting and closed session.</p> <p>Approved the bills, financial statements, and activity funds.</p> <p>Approved to repay an interfund loan back to working cash from IMRF/Social Security in the amount of \$5,500.00.</p> <p>Approved the bid submitted by the Bowen Bank of Advance for the primary bank of record for the Southeastern School District #337.</p> <p>Accepted the resignation of Kassi Taylor as Administrative Assistant for the Southeastern School District effective June 28, 2013.</p> <p>Approved the 2012-2013 non-certified seniority list.</p> <p>Moved into closed session at 7:15 p.m. for the purpose of discussion of the sale or purchase of securities, investments, or investment contracts and for the purpose of discussion of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees.</p> <p>On a motion by Member R. Bruenger and a second by Member Smith the Board of Education voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Reminders</b></p> <p>Please take the opportunity to say thank you to Mrs. Pam Jefferson. Mrs. Jefferson will be retiring at the end of the 2012-2013 school year. For over 20 years, Mrs. Jefferson has impacted the lives of so many students and colleagues. She has been our “rock.”</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Chad Passley has been selected into the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association’s Hall of Fame for his commitment and dedication to Southeastern and Central-Southeastern Basketball over the past 23 years. He will enter the Hall of Fame as a “friend to basketball.” The induction ceremony will be held at the Illinois State University Union Ballroom in Normal, Illinois on Saturday, April 27, 2013.</p> <p>We will be using the Global Connect Phone Messaging System to communicate to you in regards to school cancellations, early outs, etc. If you want to add or delete phone numbers, please contact Erin Holst at <a href="mailto:eholst@southeastern337.com">eholst@southeastern337.com</a>. She will take care of you. In addition, I will be calling the following television and radio stations: WGEM, KHQA, WCAZ, WTAD, and Public Radio.</p>