



DECATUR PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #61
BOARD OF EDUCATION
AGENDA

Regular Meeting
Keil Administration Building
101 W. Cerro Gordo Street
Decatur, IL 62523

February 25, 2025
4:30 PM Open Session
Training Session with ISBE followed
by other Open Session Items

Legend: AI = Action Item DI = Discussion Item IO = Information Only

Strategic Plan Mission:

The mission of Decatur Public Schools, the destination district of our community, is to unlock students' unique and limitless potential to achieve their personal aspirations as fully prepared, contributing citizens in a global society through learning experiences distinguished by:

- *commitment to the whole person resulting in student growth and confidence*
- *relevant, innovative, personalized academic pathways that promote passion and pride*
- *a learning environment that fosters curiosity and the thirst for achievement and discovery*
- *a culture of diversity, adaptability, and resilience*
- *meaningful and lasting relationships*
- *extraordinary school and community connections*

The Board of Education Parameters that Guide Our Work:

- We will make decisions in the best interest of all students.
- We will treat all people with dignity and respect.
- We will seek input and collaboration throughout our diverse community.
- We will practice responsible stewardship of all our resources.

AI 1.0 CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL

IO 2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AI 3.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA FEBRUARY 25, 2025

IO 4.0 TRAINING SESSION with the ILLINOIS STATE BOARD of EDUCATION

- Module 2 Session – School Improvement

IO 5.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Identify oneself and be brief.
- Comments should be limited to 3 minutes.
- Any public comments submitted to the Board Secretary will be included in the record.

DI 6.0 JUNIOR BOARD MEMBER'S REPORT

BOARD DISCUSSION

- Finance Committee Meeting Update
- Roadmap 2030 Update (Strategic Plan and Master's Facilities Plan)

AI 7.0 CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Minutes: Open/Closed Meetings February 11, 2025
- B. Financial Conditions Report
- C. Treasurer's Report
- D. Release of February Checks Early

AI 8.0 ROLL CALL ACTION ITEMS

- A. Personnel Action Items

PLEASE NOTE: The below DPS Resolutions are pertaining to Dismissals (performance).

B. Decatur Public School (DPS) District 61 Resolutions

- 1. The Dismissal of one (1) Professional Educator Licensed (PEL) Employee
- 2. The Dismissal of one (1) Professional Educator Licensed (PEL) Employee

IO 9.0 IMPORTANT DATES

February 27 Principal for a Day – Community and Business Leaders
– 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM in DPS 61

March 03 Casimir Pulaski Holiday – **SCHOOL IS IN SESSION**
12 District-wide Half Day of School for ALL Students
– **Please call your home school for details, if needed**
14 End of Quarter
21 Parent/Teacher Conferences
– **NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS**
24 – 27 Spring Break Week
– **NO SCHOOL and District Offices are OPEN**
28 Casimir Pulaski Holiday Observed
– **NO SCHOOL and District Offices are Closed**

NEXT MEETING

The public portion of the next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be at 4:30 PM, Tuesday, March 04, 2025 at the Keil Administration Building. **Please note: Due to Spring Break Week, the March Board meetings are the first and the third Tuesdays.**

AI 10.0 ADJOURNMENT

Part II: Understanding School Improvement

Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE)

Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB)

Upon completion of this module, participants will...

Understand that continuous school improvement is about changing adult practices to improve student outcome.

Learn how school boards play an important role in monitoring and supporting the work of school improvement.

Who is on the Board of Education?



How many years have you been a board member?



What do you enjoy most about being a board member?

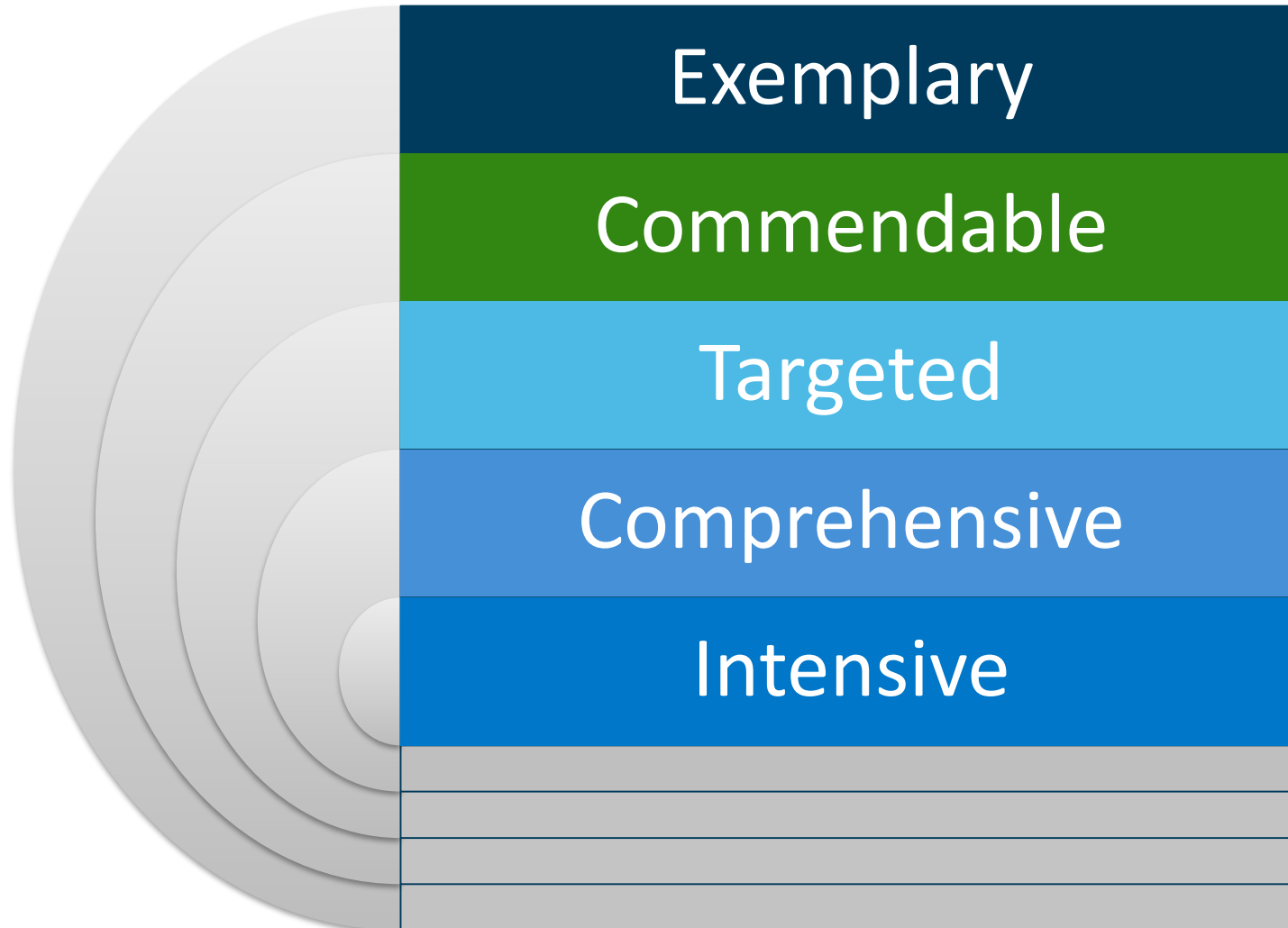


When you hear “School Improvement” what comes to mind?

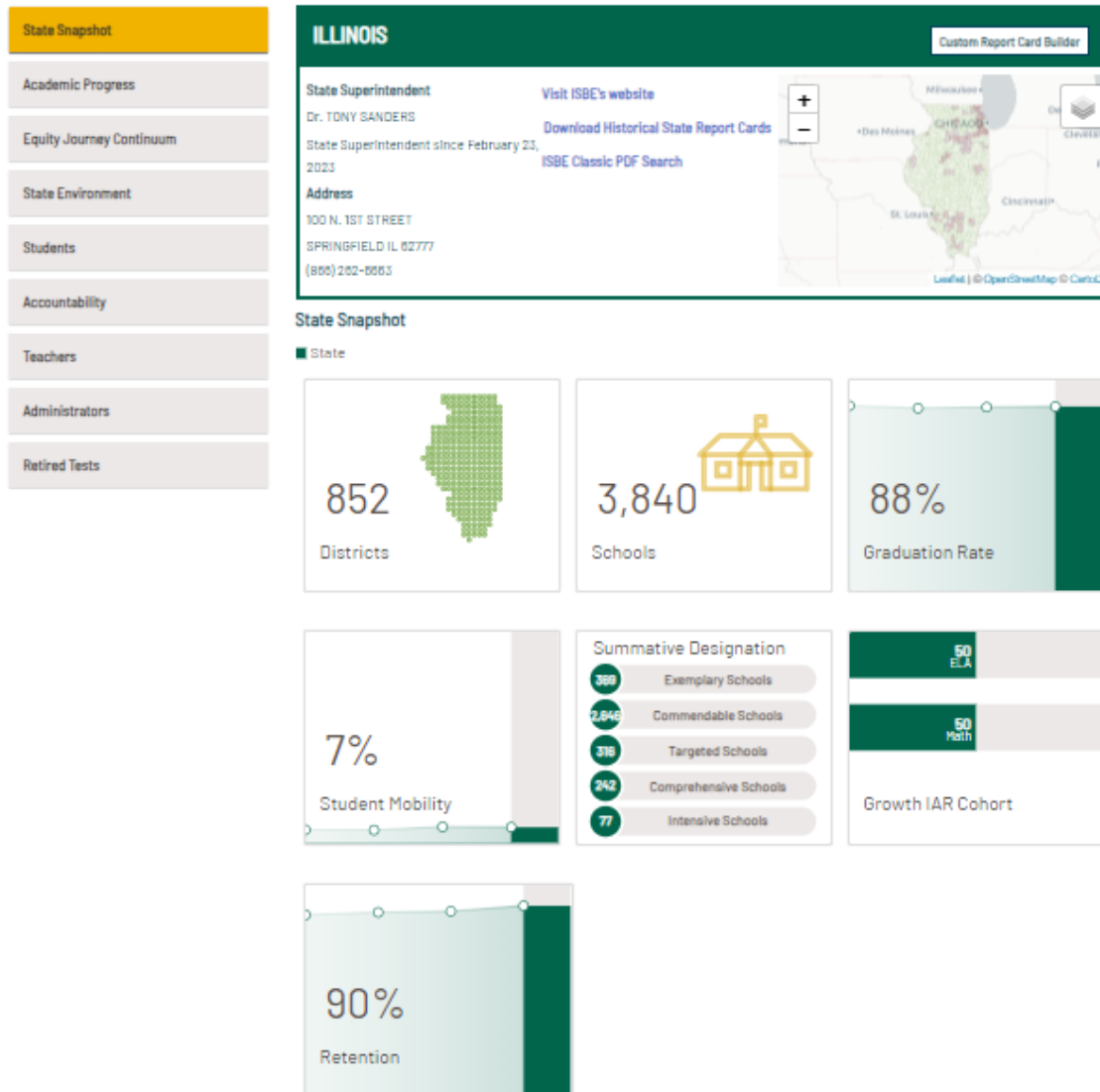
Why are boards of education being trained?

Board members of districts with schools that do not exit status will complete training provided by the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) and the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) on effectively supporting school improvement.

Understanding your designation



Illinois Report Card



Intensive Support and Improvement

Title I, Part A, Section
1003 School
Improvement Grant
Funds

More Rigorous Needs
Assessment

Root Cause Analysis

Develop a new School
Improvement Plan
based on the Root
Cause Analysis

On-Demand Learning
Series

School Improvement
Website

Technical Assistance
from School
Improvement Helpline

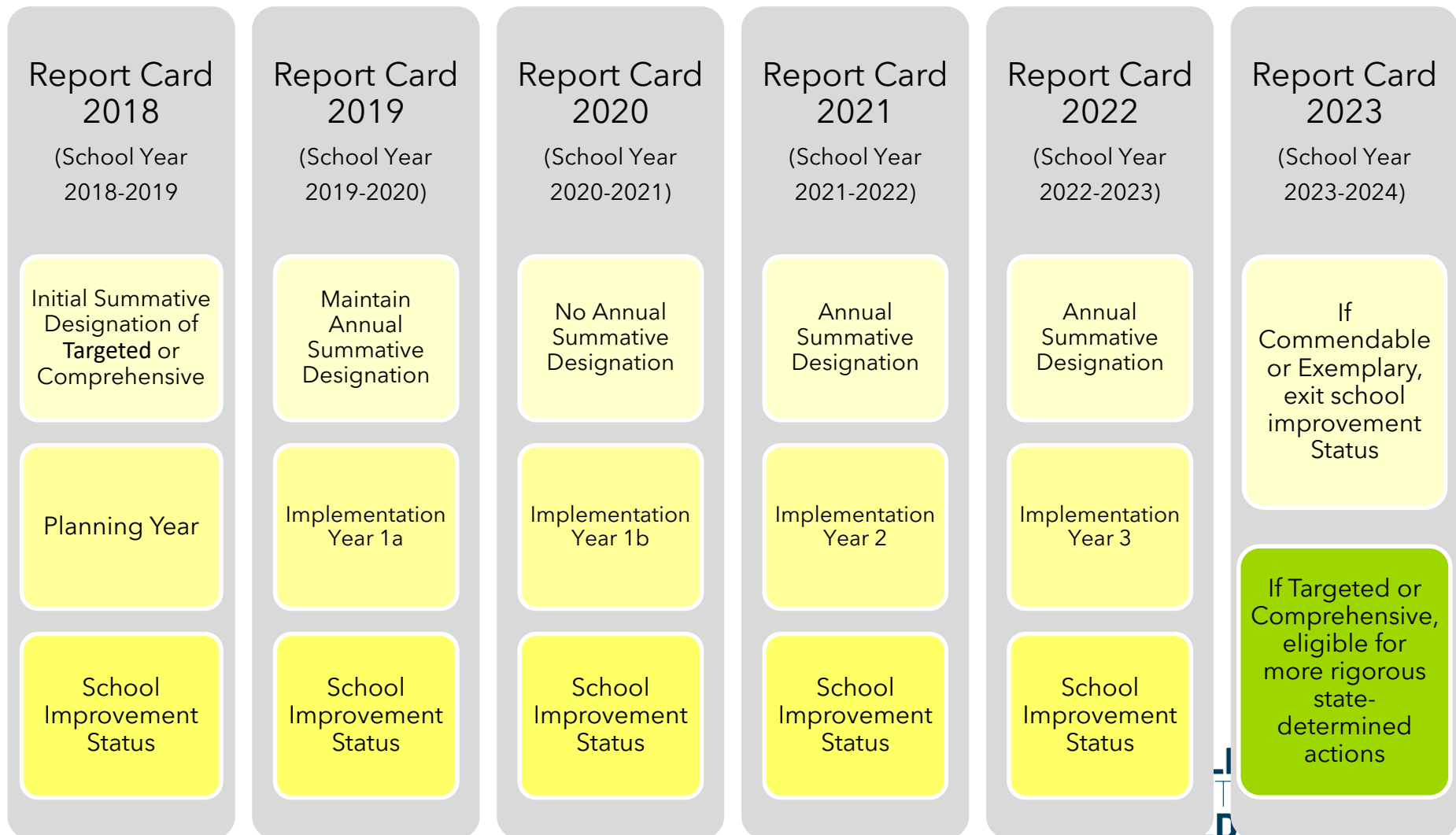
Assigned School
Improvement
Coordinator

Intensive Schools in Decatur School District

RC23 Intensive Schools

Stephen Decatur MS
Franklin Grove Elem
American Dreamer
Muffley Elem
Hope Academy

What is designation status?



Report Card 23: Newly Designated School

Report Card 2023

(School Year 2023-24)

Initial Summative
Designation of
Targeted,
Comprehensive or
Intensive

Planning Year

School
Improvement
Status

Report Card 2024

(School Year 2024-2025)

Annual
Summative
Designation

Implementation
Year 1

School
Improvement
Status

Report Card 2025

(School Year 2025-2026)

Annual
Summative
Designation

Implementation
Year 2

School
Improvement
Status

Report Card 2026

(School Year 2026-2027)

Annual
Summative
Designation

Implementation
Year 3

School
Improvement
Status

Report Card 2027

(School Year 2027-2028)

If Commendable or
Exemplary, exit
school improvement
status

If Targeted or
Comprehensive,
eligible for more
rigorous state-
determined actions

Continuous School Improvement Model



Identify Local Needs



Identify a
School
Leadership
Team



Build a
stakeholder
advisory
group



Conduct a
school level
needs
assessment



Conduct a
root cause
analysis

What is the difference between a School Leadership Team and a Stakeholder Advisory Group?

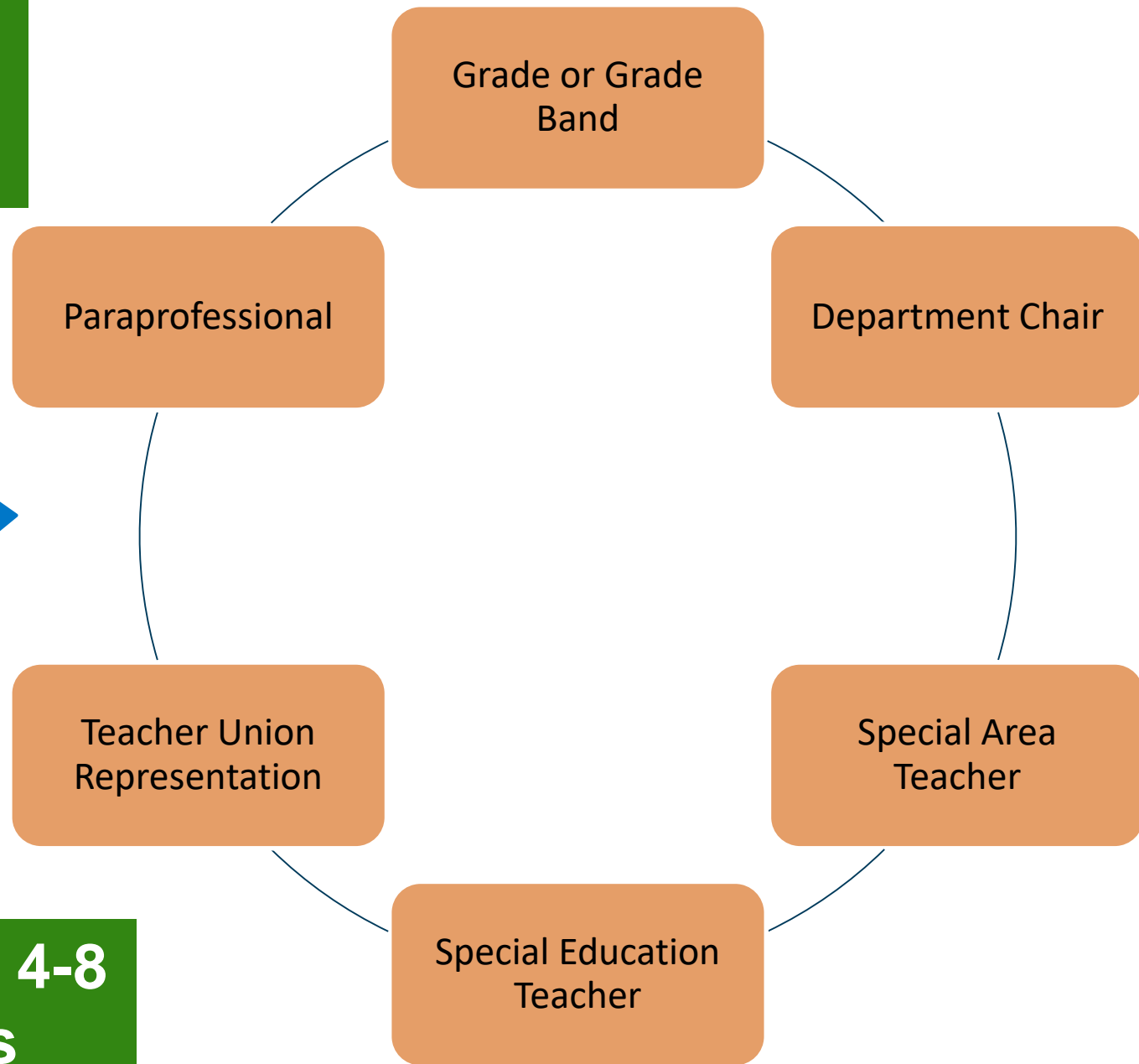


School Leadership Team

A group of school-level staff whose focus is to develop, implement, monitor, and evaluate the School Improvement Plan.



**Individuals
may
include**



**A team size of 4-8
members is
recommended**

Year in the Life of School Improvement



A Year in the Life of School Improvement Planning Year | Intensive Schools



	Key Activities	School Improvement Coordinators	ISBE	Board of Education	District Staff	Intensive School Principal	School Leadership Team	School Level Needs Assessment Vendor
OCTOBER	Summative designations released by ISBE.	After district receives communication from director, send communication to principal and district representative to schedule a meeting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Release summative designations. • Send initial notification letter to superintendent. Annual Summative Designation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive designation letter. • Schedule time to meet with assigned School Improvement Coordinator. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive designation letter. • Schedule time to meet with assigned School Improvement Coordinator. 		Make initial contact with districts and schools.

Monthly Topics and Tasks Planning Year | Intensive Schools



District and school leaders should use these topics, tasks, and essential questions to guide school improvement activities.

	Topics and tasks	Essential questions
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive summative designation letter. • Respond to checklist in letter. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How will you interpret and communicate your summative designation to stakeholders?

Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG)

The SAG is a group of all stakeholders impacted by the success of the school community.



Who should be included in the Stakeholder Advisory Group?



What is the purpose of the Stakeholder Advisory Group?

Engages the community to build understanding about the needs and the improvement processes of the school.



Provides an avenue for varied perspectives and concerns impacting the school and community.



Acts in an advisory capacity.

How often should the Stakeholder Advisory Group meet?



FREQUENCY MAY VARY



THREE TIMES PER YEAR

Identify Local Needs



Identify local needs **(PLANNING YEAR)**

- Identify a school leadership team
- Build a stakeholder advisory group
- Conduct a school level needs assessment
- Conduct a root cause analysis
- Present results to the stakeholder advisory group

School Board Essential Questions

- What data has the school leadership team found valuable in assessing the school's strengths?
- What priorities were identified during the needs assessment and root cause analysis?

Pause & Reflect



What is a School Level Needs Assessment?

Conducted during the
planning year

Ensures that initial school
improvement plans are
developed based on high-
quality data

The American Institute for
Research (AIR) conducts the
school level needs
assessment for schools
designated intensive and
comprehensive

Analyzed in the School Level Needs Assessment

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT AREAS

1. LEADERSHIP AND VISION



2. CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT



3. CULTURE AND CLIMATE



4. TARGETED INSTRUCTION AND SUPPORT



Needs Assessment Report

Needs Assessment Indicator	Initial	Emerging	Established	Robust
1. Leadership and Vision				
1.A Focused, Shared Vision and Goals		X		
1.B Distributed Leadership and Sustainability	X			
1.C Culture of Continuous Improvement	X			
1.D Aligned, Consistent Professional Development	X			
2. Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment				
2.A High-Quality, Defined Curriculum	X			
2.B Collaborative Planning			X	
2.C High Expectations, Rigorous Instruction	X			
2.D Teacher Observation and Feedback		X		
2.E Data Collection and Collaborative Data Use		X		

Which data source would be appropriate to use with the needs assessment?

Standardized Assessments (e.g., IAR, PSAT, SAT)

Benchmark Assessments

School Surveys

Behavioral Data

Attendance

Progress Monitoring

5 Essentials

Classroom Data

District Data Dive

Benchmark

- As a noun, it means “a standard by which something can be measured or judged.”
- As a verb, it means “to measure according to a specified standard to compare and improve student outcomes.”

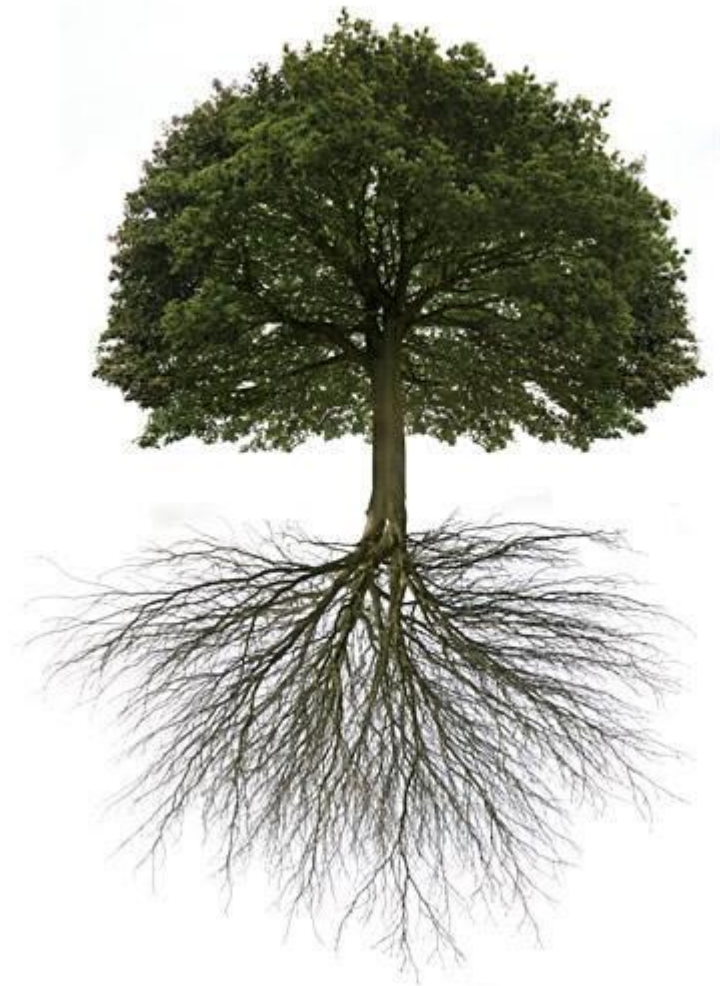
Progress Monitoring

- Progress Monitoring involves regularly collecting and analyzing data to track progress against targets and goals.
- Progress monitoring can help identify whether an intervention is meeting interim goals and milestones and suggests ways the intervention could be changed for continuous improvement.

What is a Root Cause Analysis?



A root cause analysis is an approach to problem solving through discussion to dig deeper than the surface symptoms and uncover the underlying causes.



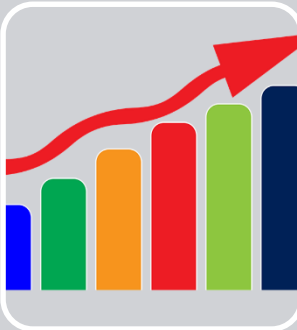
Plan for School Improvement



SMART Goals



Key activities, timelines, funding sources that address resource inequities, along with people responsible for implementation



Local assessment(s) to measure academic progress



Monitoring plan that includes all SMART goals

SMART Goals








The Importance of SMART Goals

What is a SMART goal and why is it important?

A goal is much more than simply saying that you want to learn about and/or improve on something; rather, it more specifically describes what you want to achieve. SMART goals for school improvement plans should be grounded in student outcomes – measures of what students know and are able to do. SMART goals, with their detailed structure, provide focus as well as a clear idea of what you want to achieve. This structure makes it easier to:

- plan relevant action steps/activities
- measure progress toward achieving the goal
- know when you have met your goal

	 SPECIFIC	 MEASURABLE	 ACHIEVABLE	 RELEVANT	 TIMEBOUND
Definition	When setting a goal, be specific, focused, and clear.	Use metrics to keep your plan on track and measure results.	Know how you will accomplish the goal and if you have the tools/skills needed.	Focus your goal so it aligns with the school and district vision/mission and larger, long-term goals.	Set a timeline for action items, benchmarks and deliverables.

Are these
good or bad
SMART Goals?



By the spring of 2025, 48% of African American students will score at or above the 60th percentile on the iReady Reading benchmark assessment



All student will show improvement in their benchmark assessments.



38% of students will increase their RIT score in the NWEA MAP assessment.



By May of 2025, 38% of all 3rd-5th graders will score at or above the 60th percentile on the STAR360 math benchmark assessment.



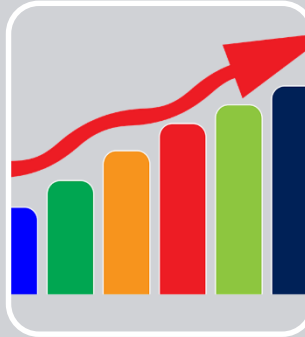
The School Improvement Plan



SMART Goals



Key activities, timelines, and funding sources that address resource inequities, along with people responsible for implementation



Local assessment(s) to measure academic progress



Monitoring plan that includes all SMART goals

**Is there a difference
between a school
improvement plan and a
district strategic plan?**



Strategic Plan vs. School Improvement Plan



District Strategic Plan vs. School Improvement Plan

A **District Strategic Plan** is a long-range plan founded on the vision, mission, and values of the district. The district strategic plan is visionary and focuses on long-term goals of the district. By providing a unified summary of the district's priorities, the district strategic plan is realized in the continuous improvement efforts of each district school.

A **School Improvement Plan** (SIP) is created to improve student outcomes through improved leadership, systems, and processes within a school. The SIP is a shorter-range plan that defines the steps needed to achieve the district's long-term goals. It is operational and includes short-term goals specific to the needs of each individual school in the district. The SIP includes detailed action steps for each SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound) goal and is evaluated more frequently than the district strategic plan.

District
Strategic
Plan

PRIORITY Ensure consistent implementation of high-quality instruction to improve student outcomes.

School
Improvement
Plan

SMART GOAL Students scoring in the "on/above grade level" range for the "Numbers and Operations" domain will increase by 10% from spring 2024 to spring 2025, as measured by the iReady Math Diagnostic assessment.

The School Improvement Plan



GOAL #1		
Action Plan		
Additional key activities may be added as needed		
Key Activities – Focused on <u>adult practices</u>	By whom	By when
What resources do you already have to support executing these key activities?		
What (if any) additional expenses are associated with executing this action plan and addressing resource inequities?		
What funding source will cover these expenses?		
Associated Expense (Budget Detail)	Is this a one-time purchase/short-term expense or an ongoing investment?	Possible Funding Source to Support Expense (e.g., Title I 1003; IDEA; Title II; Title I)
What support and/or information do you need (from beyond the school leadership team) to implement this action plan? How will you get the support and/or information? (e.g., District Office, Special Education)		

The School Improvement Plan

This step will help your team monitor the implementation of key activities and progress toward SMART goals.

DIRECTIONS: Complete the empty boxes below to help monitor progress towards your goal.

Essential Questions when monitoring the progress of Key Activities:

What does the data tell us about student success and areas of concern?

What does the data tell us about staff practice progress?

What are the needs of the staff and how do they need to be supported for success with the SMART goals?

Key Activity 1:

Key Activity 2:

Key Activity 3:

Data Source(s)/Local Assessment(s) to monitor progress of key activity:

Key Activity 1:

Key Activity 2:

Key Activity 3:

Frequency of Measure(s)	Person(s) Responsible for Updating Data
Key Activity 1:	Key Activity 1:
Key Activity 2:	Key Activity 2:
Key Activity 3:	Key Activity 3:
Observed Changes/Reflections – Add check-in lines as needed	
Key Activity 1 Check-ins	Date: Date: Date:

Plan for School Improvement



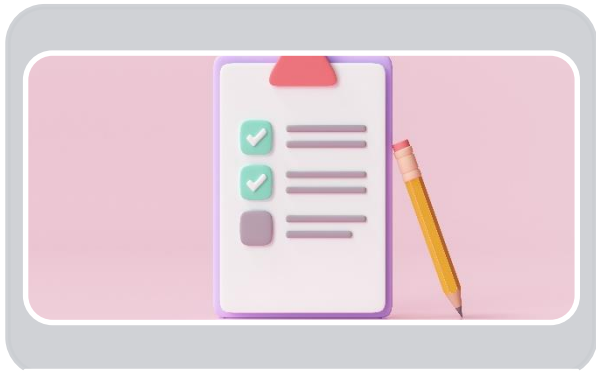
Plan for school improvement

- Develop a school improvement plan with the following elements:
 - SMART goals
 - Key activities, timelines, and funding sources that address resource inequities, along with people responsible for implementation
 - Local assessment(s) to measure academic progress
 - Monitoring plan that includes all SMART goals

School Board Essential Questions

- What support beyond the school leadership team does the school need to implement the School Improvement Plan?
- Can you share how the resources are being allocated equitably to support the improvement of student outcomes?
- How will the school and district monitor the school improvement plan?

Select Relevant Evidence-Based Practices



Confirm
evidence-based
practices align
with ESSA

School Board Essential Questions

- What process was utilized to review and select evidence-based practices?
- Do the selected evidence-based practices address the root causes identified?

=

Select Relevant Evidence-Based Practices

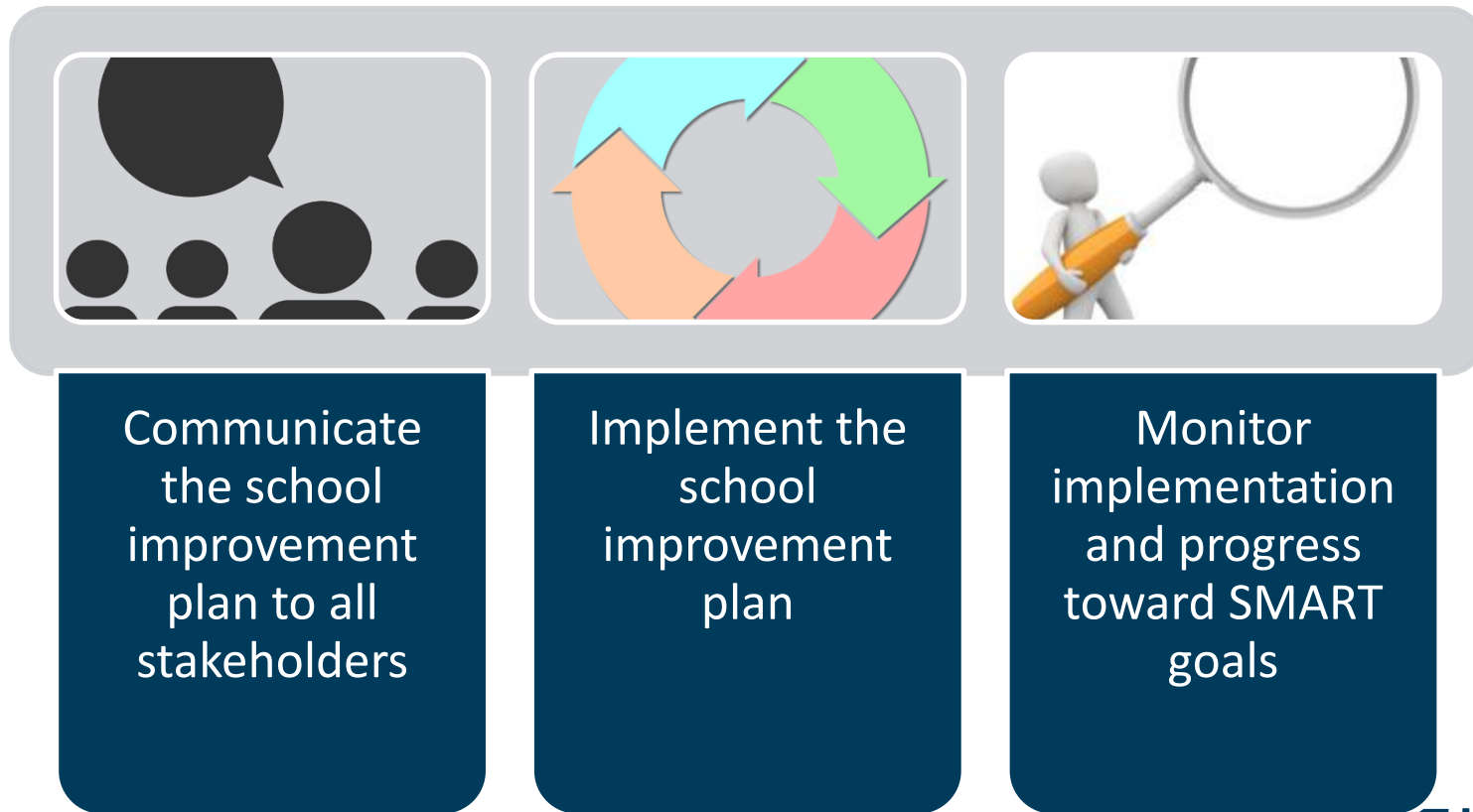


Identify
Approved
Learning
Partner(s)

School Board Essential Questions

- What process was used to rigorously review and select an approved learning partner(s)?
- What key activities will the selected approved learning partner help address?

Implement and Monitor



Implement and Monitor



Implement and monitor

- Communicate the school improvement plan to all stakeholders
- Implement the school improvement plan
- Monitor implementation and progress toward SMART Goals

School Board Essential Questions

- What data sources were selected to monitor progress of the implementation of key activities?
- Who is responsible for collecting the data?
- How often are those data sources reviewed?
- What professional development did staff participate in due to the implementation of the school improvement plan?

Examine, Reflect and Adjust Course



SMART Goals



Key activities, timelines, and funding sources that address resource inequities, along with people responsible for implementation



Local assessment(s) to measure academic progress



Monitoring plan that includes all SMART goals

Examine, Reflect and Adjust Course



Examine, reflect and adjust course

- Analyze and update the following elements within the school improvement plan:
 - SMART goals
 - Key activities, timelines, and funding sources that address resource inequities, along with people responsible for implementation
 - Local assessment(s) to measure academic progress
 - Monitoring plan that includes all SMART goals

School Board Essential Questions

- What (if any) additions/updates/adjustments have been made to key activities throughout the school year?
- How will feedback be received from all stakeholders on the implementation of the SIP?
- What future professional development needs have been identified?

Continuous School Improvement Model



Identify Local Needs



Identify local needs (IMPLEMENTATION YEAR)

- Review composition of school leadership team
- Review composition of stakeholder advisory group
- Survey staff on implementation of school improvement plan and future professional development needs

School Board Essential Questions

- How is feedback from all stakeholders going to be gathered and utilized?
- Are there any changes to SLT or SAG composition or meeting frequency that need to occur for the upcoming school year?

★ EDUCATION

The School Improvement Plan

School Board Essential Questions

- What are the needs of the staff and how do they need to be supported for success with the SMART goals?
- How can the Board support the SMART goals?
- What additional resources could be allocated to these schools to help support school improvement efforts?

School Improvement Website



Contact Information



School Improvement Helpline
(217) 524-1817
schoolimprovement@isbe.net

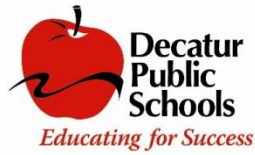
Nick Heckel,
Supervisor, School/District Improvement
nheckel@isbe.net

Trevor Chapman
School Improvement Coordinator

Training Feedback



Thank you



Board of Education Decatur Public School District 61

Date: February 25, 2025	Subject: Monthly Financial Conditions Report
Initiated By: Dr. Mike Curry, Chief Operations Officer	Attachments: Financial Conditions Report
Reviewed By: Dr. Larry Gray, Acting Superintendent of Schools	

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The attached report illustrates the District's year-to-date revenues and expenditures and provides an explanation of the financial conditions of the Decatur Public School District and Macon-Piatt Special Education District.

CURRENT CONSIDERATIONS:

As the District completes January, the seventh month of FY25, the Macon-Piatt Special Education District has expended 53.41% of its overall budget; Decatur School District #61 has expended 55.07% of its overall budget.

As of February 18, 2025, the State Comptroller is holding FY25 ISBE vouchers in the amount of \$2,797,290 which has all associated with Evidence-Based Funding.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

n/a

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

The Administration respectfully requests that the Board of Education approve the Monthly Financial Conditions Report as presented.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- ☒ Approval
- ☐ Information
- ☐ Discussion

BOARD ACTION:_____

2024-2025 Decatur Public S.D. #61
Fund Balance Summary - January 31, 2025

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Fund Balance 07/01/24</u>	<u>Revenues To Date</u>	<u>Expenditures To Date</u>	<u>Net Cash Flow</u>	<u>Change in Fund Balance</u>	<u>Balance 01/31/2025</u>	<u>Tentative Balance 06/30/25</u>
DISTRICT # 61							
Education	\$22,203,280	\$94,731,142	\$75,668,236	\$19,062,906	\$0	<i>\$41,266,186</i>	\$ 21,847,411
Operation & Maintenance	\$2,103,416	\$7,999,291	\$4,691,014	\$3,308,277	\$0	<i>\$5,411,693</i>	\$ 992,495
Debt Service	\$10,327,523	\$8,568,985	\$7,375,244	\$1,193,742	\$0	<i>\$11,521,265</i>	\$ 10,326,024
Transportation	\$6,670,257	\$4,427,274	\$3,091,378	\$1,335,896	\$0	<i>\$8,006,153</i>	\$ 5,091,618
IMRF	\$3,313,484	\$2,880,956	\$870,221	\$2,010,735	\$0	<i>\$5,324,219</i>	\$ 4,101,028
Social Security/Medicare	\$655,101	\$2,969,022	\$1,270,676	\$1,698,346	\$0	<i>\$2,353,447</i>	\$ 1,514,973
Capital Projects Fund	\$6,588,922	\$1,000,000	\$3,228,061	(\$2,228,061)	\$0	<i>\$4,360,862</i>	\$ 2,025,986
Working Cash	\$5,370,962	\$664,329	\$0	\$664,329	\$0	<i>\$6,035,291</i>	\$ 6,040,828
Tort Immunity/Judgment	\$4,924,048	\$1,481,724	\$2,692,918	(\$1,211,194)	\$0	<i>\$3,712,854</i>	\$ 1,521,740
Fire Prevention/Safety	\$1,964,765	\$414,329	\$434,061	(\$19,732)	\$0	<i>\$1,945,033</i>	\$ 669,867
<i>Totals District 61</i>	<i>\$64,121,759</i>	<i>\$125,137,052</i>	<i>\$99,321,808</i>	<i>\$25,815,244</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$89,937,004</i>	<i>\$ 54,131,970</i>
Macon-Piatt Special Ed District	\$8,943,097	\$8,843,937	\$11,537,661	(\$2,693,724)	\$0	<i>\$6,249,373</i>	\$ 8,829,319

Macon-Piatt Special Education District
Report Date: January 2025
Financial Condition as of January 31, 2025

Percent of year passed: 58%

	Revenues	Adopted Budget	Pre Audit Y-T-D	Percent Received/Used
12	Education	21,488,323	8,843,937	41.16%
	Operation &			
22	Maintenance	-	-	
42	Transportation	-	-	
52	IMRF	-	-	
		<hr/>		
	IMRF	<u>21,488,323</u>	<u>8,843,937</u>	<u>41.16%</u>

Expenditures

12	Education	19,671,495	10,995,141	55.89%
	Operation &			
22	Maintenance	360,870	32,623	9.04%
42	Transportation	25,750	6,192	24.05%
52	IMRF	<u>1,543,986</u>	<u>503,705</u>	<u>32.62%</u>
		<hr/>		
	Total Expenditures	<u>21,602,101</u>	<u>11,537,661</u>	<u>53.41%</u>

Net Cash

Total Revenues	21,488,323	8,843,937	41.16%
Total Expenditures	<u>21,602,101</u>	<u>11,537,661</u>	53.41%
Net Cash	<u>(113,778)</u>	<u>(2,693,724)</u>	

Fund Balances

Actual

12	Education	<u><u>6,249,373</u></u>
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Decatur Public School District #61
Report Date: January 2025
Financial Condition as of January 31, 2025

Percent of year passed: 58%

			Pre Audit	Percent	PRIOR YEAR COMPARISON FY 24 Percent Received/Used As Of 01/31/24
	Revenues	Budget	Y-T-D	Received/Used	
10	Education	133,617,166	94,731,142	70.90%	53.91%
20	Operation & Maintenance	8,046,666	7,999,291	99.41%	87.16%
30	Debt Service	9,768,275	8,568,985	87.72%	93.32%
40	Transportation	5,978,666	4,427,274	74.05%	80.07%
50	IMRF	3,101,000	2,880,956	92.90%	83.22%
51	Social Security	3,001,200	2,969,022	98.93%	102.21%
60	Capital Projects	2,000,000	1,000,000	50.00%	3.38%
70	Working Cash	669,866	664,329	99.17%	105.85%
80	Tort Immunity/Judgment	1,501,500	1,481,724	98.68%	105.32%
90	Fire Prevention/Safety	2,669,866	414,329	15.52%	109.24%
	Total Revenues	170,354,205	125,137,052	73.46%	59.51%

			Pre Audit	Percent	PRIOR YEAR COMPARISON FY 24 Percent Received/Used As Of 01/31/24
	Expenditures	Budget	Y-T-D	Received/Used	
10	Education	133,973,035	75,668,236	56.48%	43.43%
20	Operation & Maintenance	9,157,588	4,691,014	51.23%	54.65%
30	Debt Service	9,769,775	7,375,244	75.49%	80.04%
40	Transportation	7,557,305	3,091,378	40.91%	53.10%
50	IMRF	2,313,456	870,221	37.62%	45.72%

51	Social Security	2,141,328	1,270,676	59.34%	47.29%
60	Capital Projects	6,562,936	3,228,061	49.19%	62.72%
70	Working Cash	-	-	-	100.00%
80	Tort Immunity/Judgment	4,903,808	2,692,918	54.91%	60.27%
90	Fire Prevention/Safety	3,964,764	434,061	10.95%	100.12%
	Total Expenditures	180,343,995	99,321,808	55.07%	47.73%

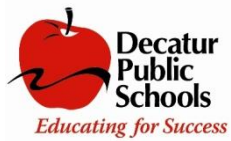
Net Cash

Total Revenues	170,354,205	125,137,052	73.46%
Total Expenditures	180,343,995	99,321,808	55.07%
Net Cash	(9,989,790)	25,815,244	

Fund Balances

Actual

10	Education	41,266,186
20	Operation & Maintenance	5,411,693
30	Debt Service	11,521,266
40	Transportation	8,006,153
50	IMRF	5,324,219
51	Social Security	2,353,447
60	Capital Projects	4,360,862
70	Working Cash	6,035,291
80	Tort Immunity/Judgment	3,712,854
90	Fire Prevention/Safety	1,945,033
	Total Funds	89,937,005



Board of Education Decatur Public School District #61

Date: February 25, 2025	Subject: Treasurer's Report
Initiated By: Dr. Mike Curry, Chief Operations Officer	Attachments: Treasurer's Report – January 2025
Reviewed By: Dr. Larry Gray, Acting Superintendent of Schools	

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The attached report details the District's investments and the status of the District's cash as of January 31, 2025.

CURRENT CONSIDERATIONS:

N/A

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

The Administration respectfully requests that the Board of Education approve the Treasurer's Report for January 2025 as presented.

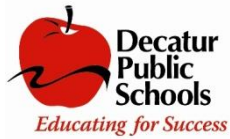
RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- ☒ Approval
- ☐ Information
- ☐ Discussion

BOARD ACTION:_____

DECATUR PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #61
UNAUDITED TREASURER'S REPORT
JANUARY 2025

	Cash/Investments as of 12/31/24	Receipts	Disbursements	Change/Interest	Cash/Investments as of 01/31/25
Education	45,838,671.32	13,804,143.29	13,592,594.25		46,050,220.36
Operations & Maintenance	6,096,703.86	4,103.90	670,130.27		5,430,677.49
Debt Service	10,962,425.55	640,554.01	0.00		11,602,979.56
Transportation	7,357,182.93	875,237.09	603,953.85		7,628,466.17
IMRF	5,143,990.82	308,904.21	112,464.82		5,340,430.21
Social Security	2,531,254.20	529.92	167,661.21		2,364,122.91
Capital Projects	4,478,555.03	984.43	80,296.86		4,399,242.60
Working Cash	6,075,700.43	1,285.81	0.00		6,076,986.24
Tort/Judgment Immunity	3,786,470.43	803.67	193,484.61		3,593,789.49
Fire Prevention & Safety	2,035,946.50	438.16	78,085.44		1,958,299.22
Macon-Piatt Special Education	6,357,930.51	1,397,059.46	1,464,891.71		6,290,098.26
Activities	615,447.78	29,353.99	23,198.64		621,603.13
	101,280,279.36	17,063,397.94	16,986,761.66	-	101,356,915.64
Dr. Mike Curry					02/18/25



Board of Education Decatur Public School District #61

Date: February 25, 2025	Subject: Release February Checks Early
Initiated By: Dr. Mike Curry, Chief Operations Officer	Attachments: N/A
Reviewed By: Dr. Larry Gray, Acting Superintendent of Schools	

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Each month, the Board approves the agenda of bills at the first meeting of the month, typically the second Tuesday of the month. The bills are for the previous month's invoices and have a printed check date of the last day of the month.

CURRENT CONSIDERATIONS:

The first board meeting in March is the first Tuesday of the month. Since vendors are accustomed to the Board meetings being held on the second Tuesday of the month, the Business Office is requesting the Board's authority to release checks on or before Wednesday, March 12th, the normal day the checks would have been released. The agenda of bills will be brought to the Board to approve retroactively at the March 18th meeting, on the third Tuesday of the month.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Checks will be released a week later than the first Board meeting; and one week prior to the meeting in which the bills are approved.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

The Administration respectfully recommends the Board of Education authorize the Business Office to release February 2025 checks on or before March 12, 2025 prior to Board retroactive approval on March 18, 2025.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- ☒ Approval
- ☐ Information
- ☐ Discussion

BOARD ACTION: _____



Board of Education Decatur Public School District #61

Date: February 25, 2025	Subject: Personnel Action
Initiated By: Monica L Wilks, Director of Human Resources, and the Human Resources Department	Attachments: 4 Pages of Personnel Action
Reviewed By: Dr. Larry Gray, Acting Superintendent of Schools	

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Per Board Policy 5:30: Hiring Process and Criteria – The District hires the most qualified personnel consistent with budget and staffing requirements and in compliance with School board policy on equal employment opportunities and minority recruitment.

CURRENT CONSIDERATIONS:

All offers of employment are contingent upon the approval of the Board of Education. Accordingly, anyone who is offered and begins employment prior to the approval of the Board of Education understands that they will do so as a substitute. If the approval of the Board of Education is obtained, these substitutes will then be made whole retroactive to their first day of employment.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

These positions are in the budget.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

The Administration respectfully requests the Board of Education approve all Personnel Action Items as presented.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- ☒ Approval
- ☐ Information
- ☐ Discussion

BOARD ACTION:_____

To: Board of Education
From: Monica L Wilks, Director of Human Resources
Date: February 19, 2025
Board Date: February 25, 2025
Re: Personnel Action

EMPLOYMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

TEACHER:

Name	Position	Effective Date
Zachary Taylor	Math, Eisenhower	February 18, 2025

TEACHING ASSISTANTS:

Name	Position	Effective Date
Joy Beube	K/2 Instructional Assistant, Parsons, 6 hours per day	February 12, 2025
Cecilia Clarkson	K/2 Instructional Assistant, Hope Academy, 6 hours per day	February 18, 2025
Rachel Collins	Montessori Assistant, Montessori Academy, 6 hours per day	February 10, 2025
Hayden Hale	Special Ed Assistant, Franklin Grove, 6 hours per day	February 19, 2025
Mekhi Phillips	Transition Room Assistant, Franklin Grove, 6.5 hours per day	February 18, 2025

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT:

Name	Position	Effective Date
Hilda Rice	Teaching & Learning Strategist, PDI	February 10, 2025

OUTREACH PERSONNEL:

Name	Position	Effective Date
Cadence Bobbitt	Hourly School Nurse, Hope Academy	February 10, 2025

CUSTODIAN:

Name	Position	Effective Date
Mark Thomas	2nd Shift Custodian, Hope Academy	February 24, 2025

EXTENDED DAY:

Name	Position	Effective Date
Paula Guise	Non Certified Staff, Johns Hill	February 13, 2025
Ayinde Thompson	Non Certified Staff, South Shores	February 18, 2025
Nicole Wilcoxson	Certified Staff, South Shores	February 5, 2025

SCHEDULE B

Name	Position	Effective Date
Alexandra Baltimore	Assistant Softball Coach, MacArthur	March 3, 2025

TRANSFERS**TEACHER:**

Name	Position	Effective Date
Danielle Seibring	From Counselor, MacArthur to Counselor, Stephen Decatur	February 24, 2025

EXTENDED DAY:

Name	Position	Effective Date
Camila Pape	From Non Certified Staff, Dennis to Non Certified Staff, Stephen Decatur	February 18, 2025

OUTREACH PERSONNEL:

Name	Position	Effective Date
Kameron Smith	From Family Liaison, Baum to TAOEP Caseworker, Student Services	March 3, 2025

CATEGORY CHANGE

Name	Position	Effective Date
Allison Lancaster	From Secretary to the Principal, Montessori Academy to Coordinator of Budgets & Accounting (Admin Support), Business Office	March 3, 2025

RESIGNATIONS**TEACHING ASSISTANT:**

Name	Position	Effective Date
Morgan Bailey	Grade 3 Assistant, Muffley	January 17, 2025

OUTREACH PERSONNEL:

Name	Position	Effective Date
Alyssa Wilson	Pre K-8 Secretary, Parsons/Franklin Grove	February 3, 2025

SCHEDULE B:

Name	Position	Effective Date
Kevin Hale	Middle School Basketball Coach, Johns Hill	February 3, 2025
Kyler Works	Assistant Basketball Coach, Eisenhower	February 8, 2025

RETIREMENT**TEACHING ASSISTANT:**

Name	Position	Effective Date
Kathy Zientara	Special Ed Assistant, MacArthur	End of the 2024-2025 School Year

COMPENSATION RECOMMENDATIONS:

- The following staff members should be compensated for participating in STARS Training on November 26, 2024 at Macon Piatt:

Lauren Klosak	\$198.00	Jennifer Bramel	\$198.00
Anna Cheavens	\$198.00	Marissa King	\$198.00
Rachel Themer	\$198.00	Mindy Donahue	\$198.00
Leigh Anne Sinclair	\$82.50	Jessica Dalby	\$198.00
Benjamin VonBehren	\$198.00	Jessica Manuel	\$198.00

- The following staff members should be compensated for participating in LINKS Training on November 25, 2024 at Macon Piatt:

Stephanie Bowman	\$198.00	Amanda Wrigley	\$181.50
Jessica Manuel	\$198.00	Barbara Hausler	\$198.00
Becca Massey	\$198.00	Dorothy Nisbet	\$198.00
Shannen Ray	\$198.00		

- The following staff members should be compensated **\$33.00** for participating in BIST Team Meeting on February 13, 2025 at Franklin Grove:

Kelsey Rigsby	Denise Kelly
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- The following staff members should be compensated **\$41.25** for participating in Leadership Meeting on January 23, 2025 at Johns Hill:

Kristine Boomer	Wissam Hasnain
Angela Bryles	Leslie Johnson
Shannon Carter	Thomas Miller
Patricia Elam	

- The following staff members should be compensated **\$41.25** for participating in Leadership Meeting on January 9, 2025 at Johns Hill:

Kristine Boomer	Wissam Hasnain
Angela Bryles	Leslie Johnson
Shannon Carter	Thomas Miller
Patricia Elam	

- The following staff members should be compensated for participating in PBIS K/2 Meeting on February 5, 2025 at Hope Academy:

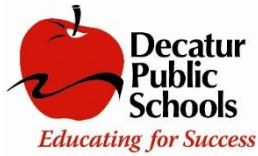
Amber Rezinaz	\$33.00	Sara Lowry	\$25.00
Mollie Johnston	\$33.00	Susan Snyder	\$33.00
Elizabeth Allison	\$33.00	Alexandria Pomrin	\$33.00
Marcy Braden	\$33.00		

- The following staff members should be compensated **\$33.00** for participating in Leadership Meeting on February 6, 2025 at Franklin Grove:

Carolynn Keizer	Denise Kelly
Sydney Janvrin	Chase Tucker
Melissa Schulz	Brandon Viken

- The following staff member should be compensated **\$1,500.00** for the X-Step for her years of service to Decatur Public Schools:

Kathy Zientara



Board of Education Decatur Public School District #61

Date: February 25, 2025	Subject: Resolutions Authorizing Dismissal of Decatur Public School District 61 Employees
Initiated By: Monica L. Wilks, Director of Human Resources	Attachments: Resolutions
Reviewed By: Dr. Larry Gray, Acting Superintendent of Schools	

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Annually, the District makes recommendations to the Board of Education requesting the release of specific employees.

CURRENT CONSIDERATIONS:

The district proposes:

- The dismissal of two (2) professional educator licensed (PEL) employees.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

The Administration respectfully requests that the Board of Education approve the two (2) resolutions, which will be recommended separately, as presented.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- ☒ Approval
- ☐ Information
- ☐ Discussion

BOARD ACTION: _____

**RESOLUTION REFERENCE THE DISMISSAL
OF
A PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR LICENSED (“PEL”) EMPLOYEE**

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Decatur Public School District No. 61, upon request, has received reports and recommendations from members of the District’s administrative staff regarding the teaching performance and effectiveness of AMBER EGAN in her capacity as a professional educator licensed (“PEL”) employee of the District; and

WHEREAS, the reports and recommendations so received have been considered, studied and accepted by the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education finds and determines that it is in the best interest of Decatur Public School District No. 61 that the employment of AMBER EGAN as a PEL employee in and for said District not be renewed for the 2025-2026 school year, including any overload and/or extra-duty assignments and corresponding stipends, pursuant to Section 24-11 of *The Illinois School Code*;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Education of Decatur Public School District No. 61 as follows:

Section 1. The Board hereby finds that all of the recitals contained in the preambles to this Resolution are full, true and correct and does incorporate them into this Resolution by this reference.

Section 2. The employment of AMBER EGAN as a PEL employee in and for Decatur Public School District No. 61 shall not be renewed for the 2025-2026 school year, and AMBER EGAN is hereby dismissed as a PEL employee in and for the District as of her last scheduled work day for the 2024-2025 school year.

Section 3. Any overload and/or extra-duty assignments and corresponding stipends of AMBER EGAN are hereby terminated effective as of the last scheduled work day for said position for the 2024-2025 school year.

Section 4. The Superintendent is hereby directed and authorized to prepare a written notice of dismissal for signature by the President and Secretary of the Board of Education; that following the signing of said written notice, the Superintendent is hereby directed and authorized to personally serve said notice on AMBER EGAN, and directed to send to AMBER EGAN a copy of said written notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, so that the said AMBER EGAN receives said notice no later than April 15, 2025.

Section 5. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect forthwith upon its adoption.

ADOPTED this 25th day of February, 2025, by the following roll-call vote:

AYES: _____

NAYS: _____

ABSENT: _____

President, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Education

CERTIFICATION

I, _____, Secretary of the Board of Education of Decatur Public School District No. 61, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted at a regular meeting of the Board of Education on February 25, 2025, by the following roll-call vote:

AYES: _____

NAYS: _____

ABSENT: _____

and that the motion was duly declared carried by the President of the Board.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2025.

Secretary, Board of Education

**RESOLUTION REFERENCE THE DISMISSAL
OF
A PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR LICENSED (“PEL”) EMPLOYEE**

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Decatur Public School District No. 61, upon request, has received reports and recommendations from members of the District’s administrative staff regarding the teaching performance and effectiveness of JENNIFER VARVEL in her capacity as a professional educator licensed (“PEL”) employee of the District; and

WHEREAS, the reports and recommendations so received have been considered, studied and accepted by the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education finds and determines that it is in the best interest of Decatur Public School District No. 61 that the employment of JENNIFER VARVEL as a PEL employee in and for said District not be renewed for the 2025-2026 school year, including any overload and/or extra-duty assignments and corresponding stipends, pursuant to Section 24-11 of *The Illinois School Code*;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Education of Decatur Public School District No. 61 as follows:

Section 1. The Board hereby finds that all of the recitals contained in the preambles to this Resolution are full, true and correct and does incorporate them into this Resolution by this reference.

Section 2. The employment of JENNIFER VARVEL as a PEL employee in and for Decatur Public School District No. 61 shall not be renewed for the 2025-2026 school year, and JENNIFER VARVEL is hereby dismissed as a PEL employee in and for the District as of her last scheduled work day for the 2024-2025 school year.

Section 3. Any overload and/or extra-duty assignments and corresponding stipends of JENNIFER VARVEL are hereby terminated effective as of the last scheduled work day for said position for the 2024-2025 school year.

Section 4. The Superintendent is hereby directed and authorized to prepare a written notice of dismissal for signature by the President and Secretary of the Board of Education; that following the signing of said written notice, the Superintendent is hereby directed and authorized to personally serve said notice on JENNIFER VARVEL, and directed to send to JENNIFER VARVEL a copy of said written notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, so that the said JENNIFER VARVEL receives said notice no later than April 15, 2025.

Section 5. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect forthwith upon its adoption.

ADOPTED this 25th day of February, 2025, by the following roll-call vote:

AYES: _____

NAYS: _____

ABSENT: _____

President, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Education

CERTIFICATION

I, _____, Secretary of the Board of Education of Decatur Public School District No. 61, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted at a regular meeting of the Board of Education on February 25, 2025, by the following roll-call vote:

AYES: _____

NAYS: _____

ABSENT: _____

and that the motion was duly declared carried by the President of the Board.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2025.

Secretary, Board of Education