



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

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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 6:30 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?

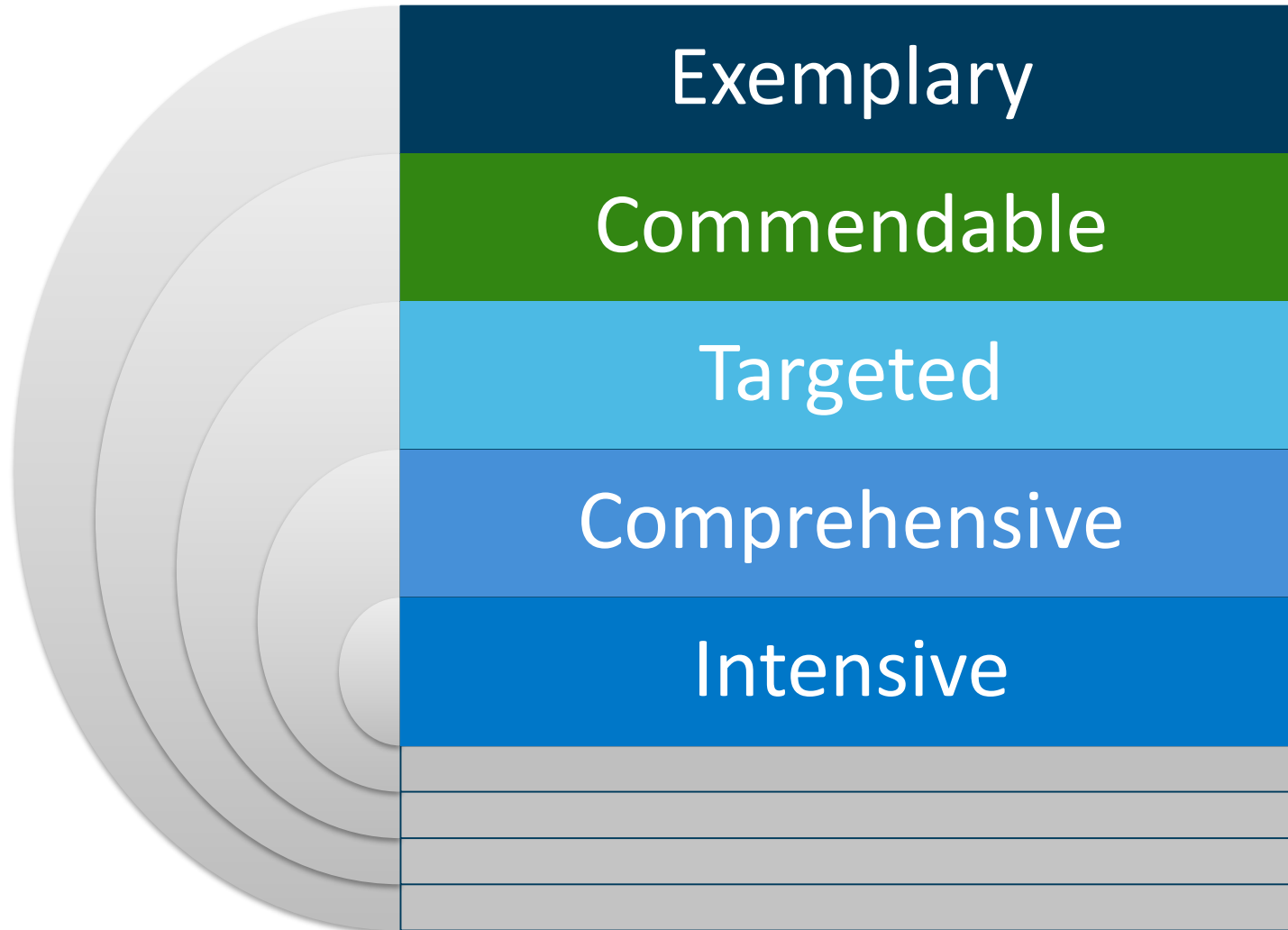


When you hear “School Improvement” what comes to mind?

# 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

- State Snapshot
- Academic Progress
- Equity Journey Continuum
- State Environment
- Students
- Accountability
- Teachers
- Administrators
- Retired Tests

**ILLINOIS**[Custom Report Card Builder](#)

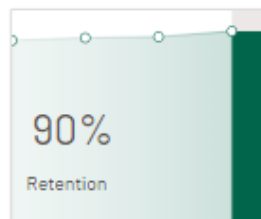
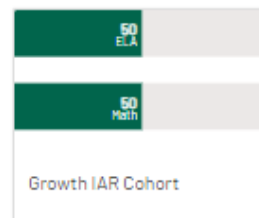
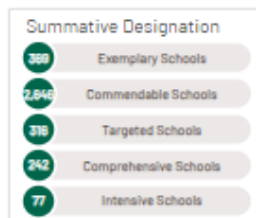
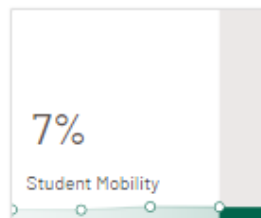
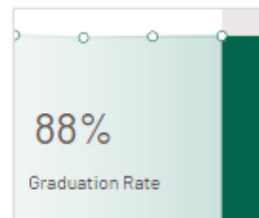
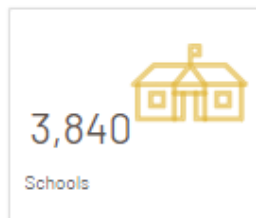
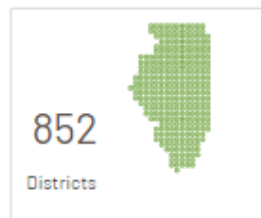
**State Superintendent**  
Dr. TONY SANDERS  
State Superintendent since February 23, 2023  
**Address**  
100 N. 1ST STREET  
SPRINGFIELD IL 62777  
(800) 282-8863

[Visit ISBE's website](#)  
[Download Historical State Report Cards](#)  
[ISBE Classic PDF Search](#)



## State Snapshot

State





# 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

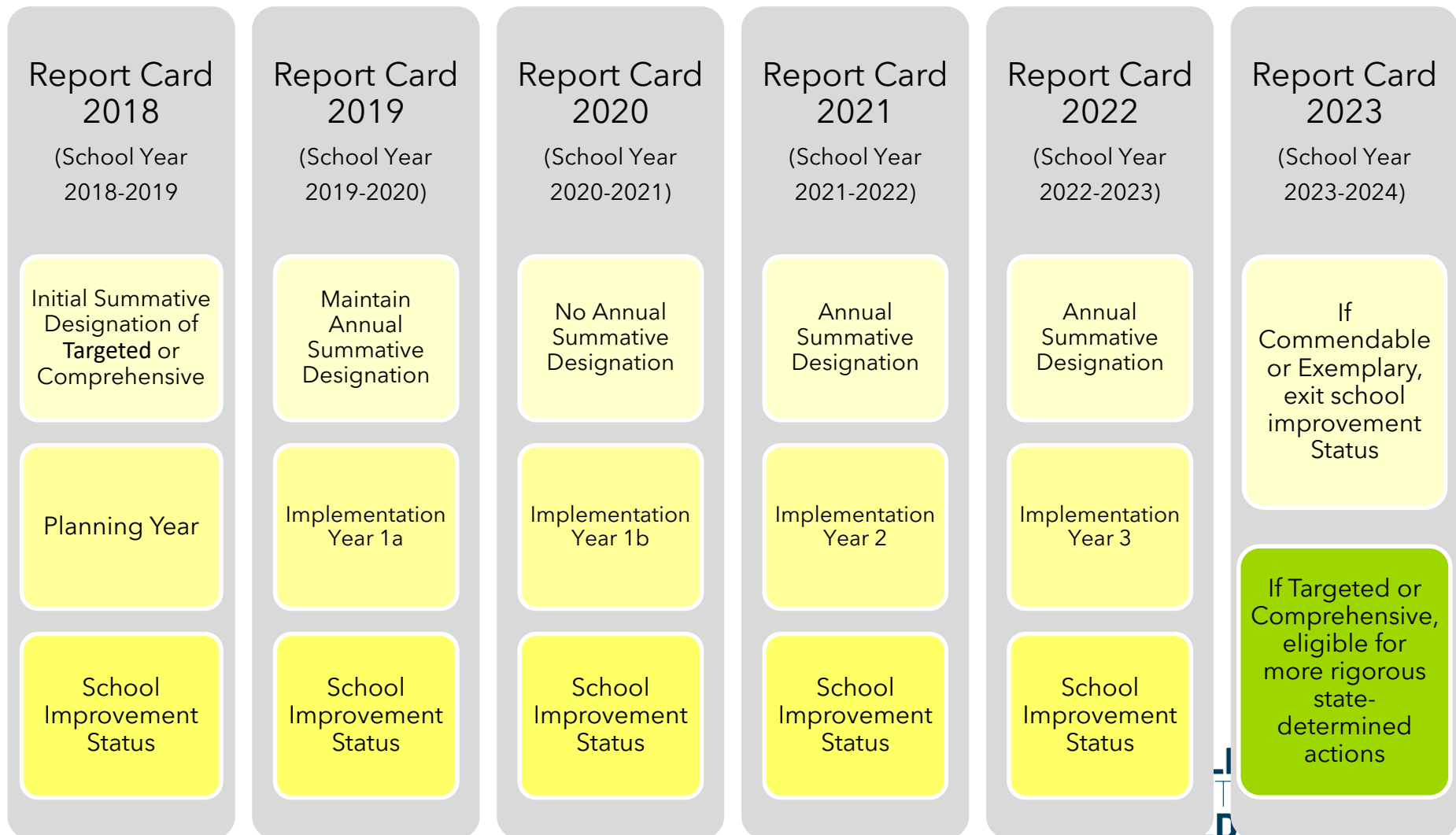
Assigned School  
Improvement  
Coordinator

# 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?



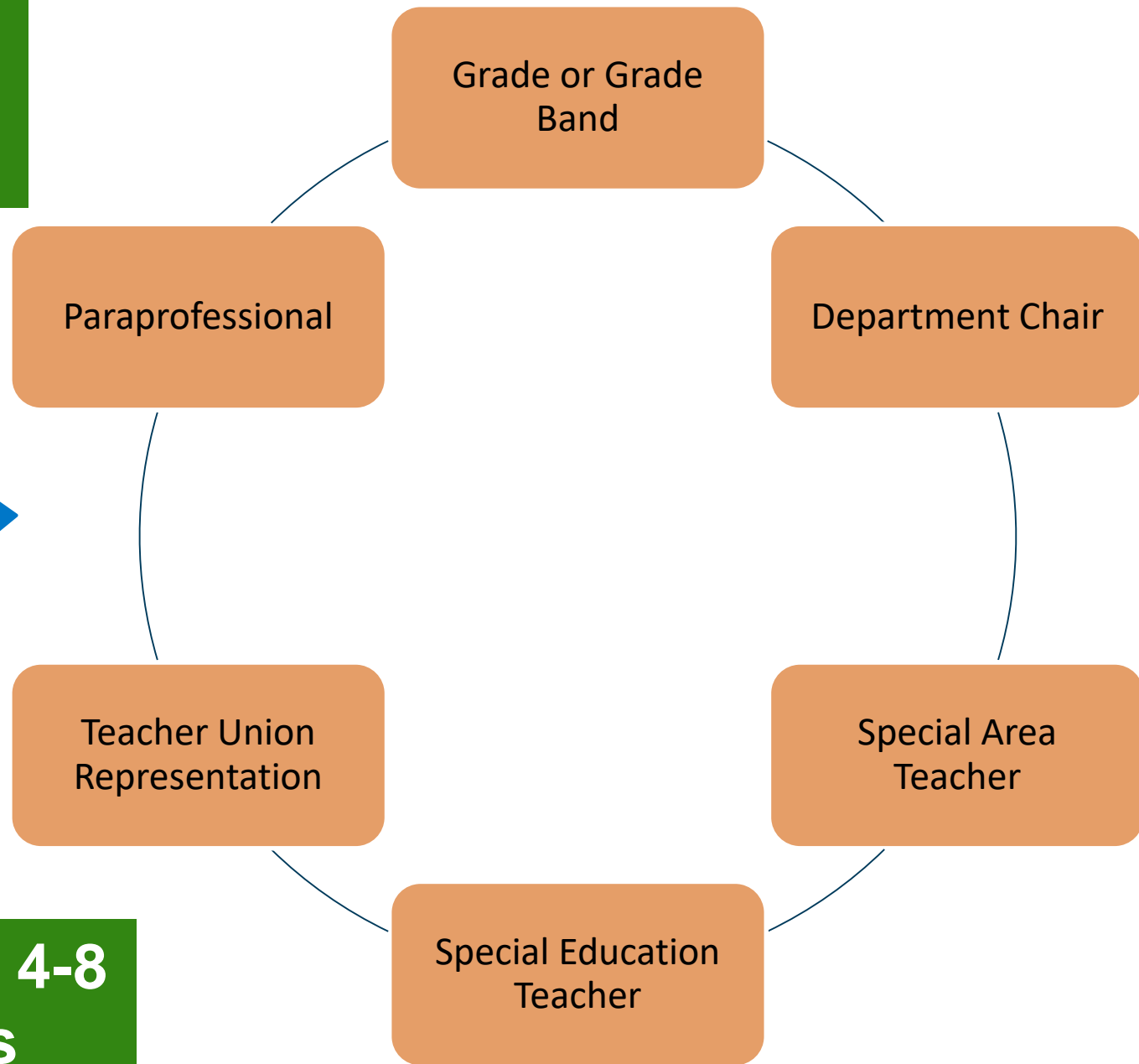
# School Leadership Team

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             |
|----------------|--|---|---|--------------------|--|--|------------------------|--|
| <b>OCTOBER</b> | 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"> <li>• Release summative designations.</li> <li>• Send initial notification letter to superintendent.</li> </ul> <a href="#">Annual Summative Designation</a> |                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Receive designation letter.</li> <li>• Schedule time to meet with assigned School Improvement Coordinator.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Receive designation letter.</li> <li>• Schedule time to meet with assigned School Improvement Coordinator.</li> </ul> |                        | 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  |
|----------------|--|--|
| <b>October</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Receive summative designation letter.</li> <li>• Respond to checklist in letter.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How will you interpret and communicate your summative designation to stakeholders?</li> </ul> |

## 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

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1. LEADERSHIP AND VISION



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2. CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT



---

3. CULTURE AND CLIMATE



---

4. TARGETED INSTRUCTION AND SUPPORT



# Needs Assessment Report

| Needs Assessment Indicator                       | Initial | Emerging | Established | Robust |
|--|---------|----------|-------------|--------|
| <b>1. Leadership and Vision</b>                  |         |          |             |        |
| 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       |          |             |        |
| <b>2. Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment</b> |         |          |             |        |
| 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.”

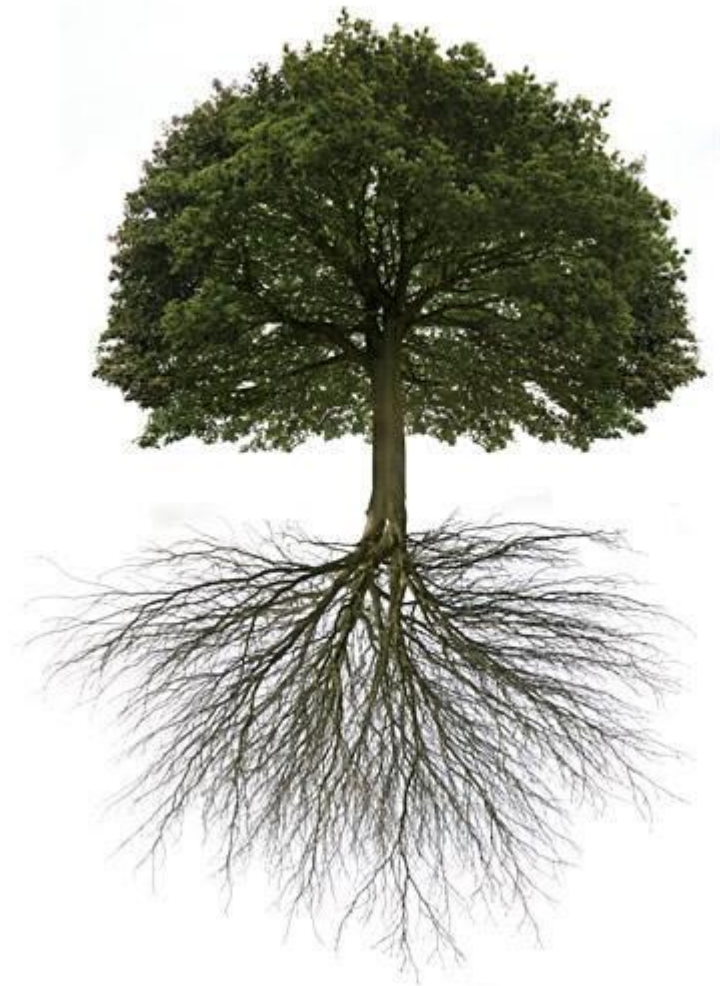
## Progress Monitoring

- 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.



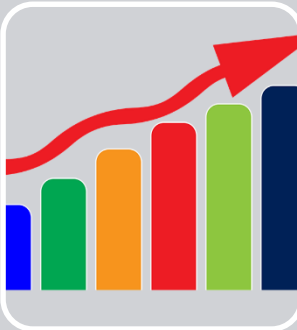
# Plan for School Improvement



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 |
|-------------------|--|--|---|---|---|
| <b>Definition</b> | 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 60<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders will score at or above the 60<sup>th</sup> percentile on the STAR360 math benchmark assessment.



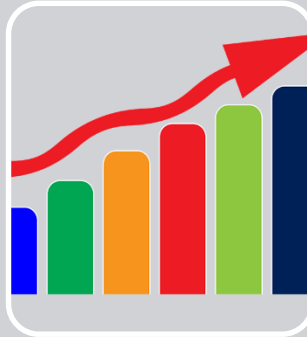
# The School Improvement Plan



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



|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <b>GOAL #1</b>  |  |  |
|   |  |  |
| <b>Action Plan</b>  |  |  |
| 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:<br>Date:<br>Date:                 |

# Plan for School Improvement



## **Plan for school improvement**

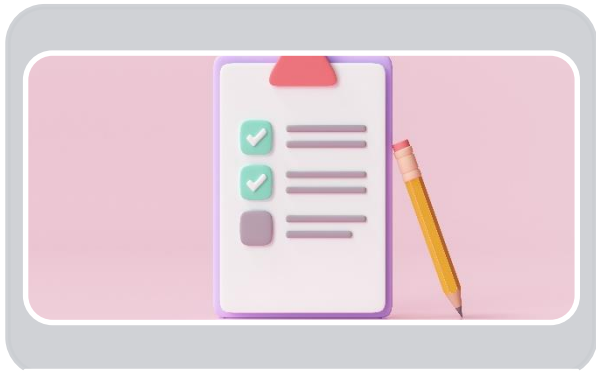
- Develop a school improvement plan with the following elements:
  - SMART goals
  - Key activities, timelines, and funding sources that address resource inequities, along with people responsible for implementation
  - Local assessment(s) to measure academic progress
  - Monitoring plan that includes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

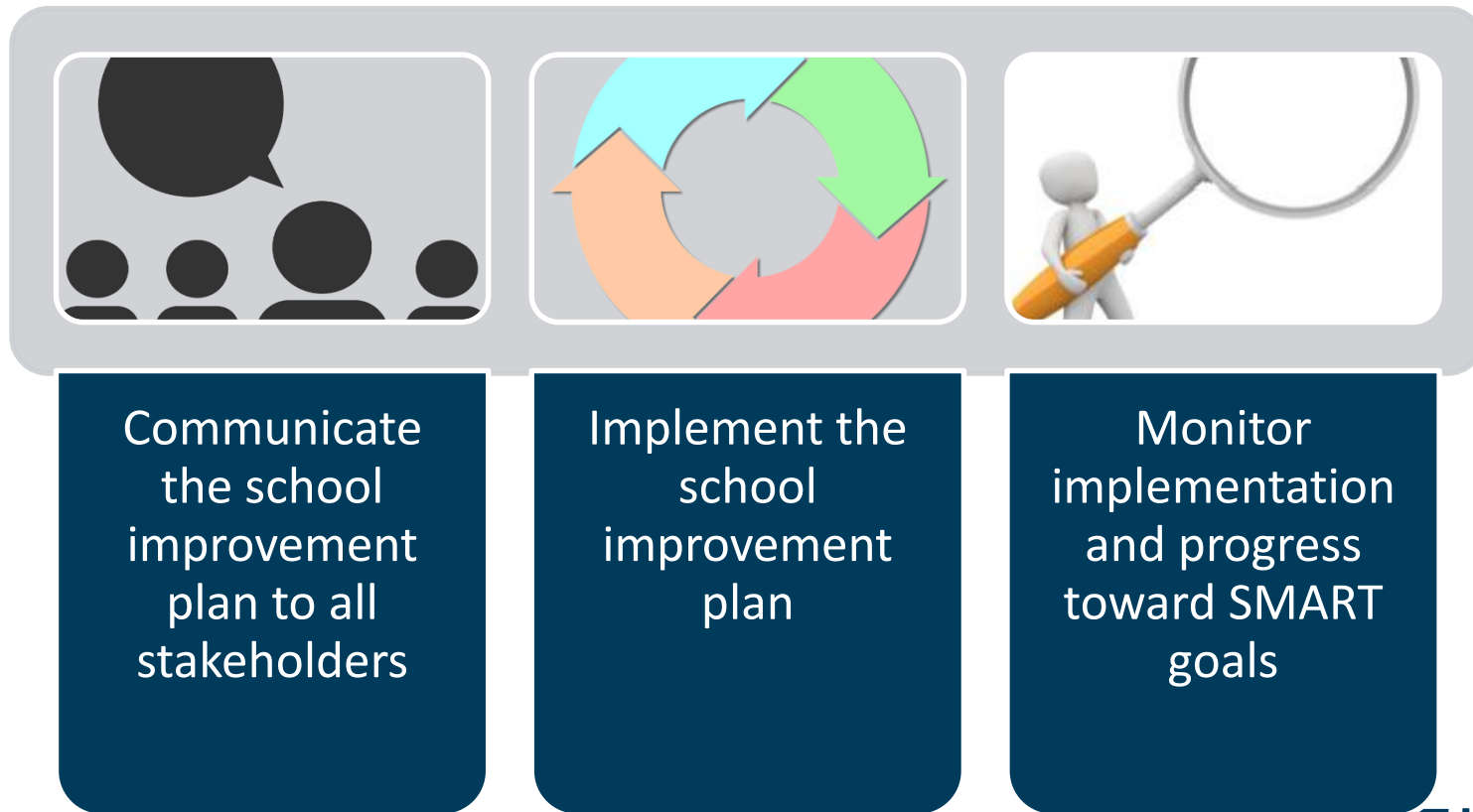


Identify  
Approved  
Learning  
Partner(s)

## 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](mailto:schoolimprovement@isbe.net)

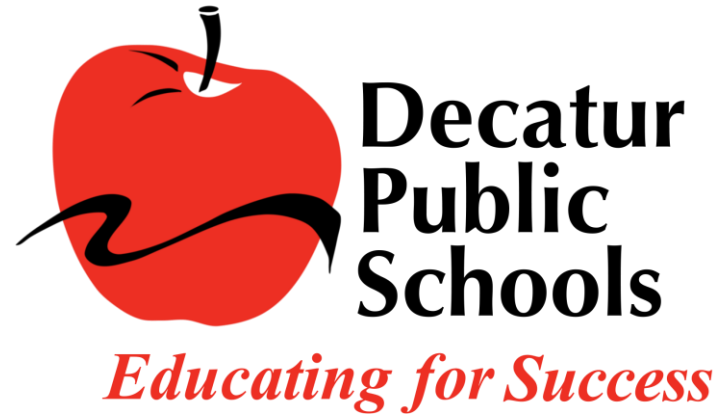
Nick Heckel,  
Supervisor, School/District Improvement  
[nheckel@isbe.net](mailto:nheckel@isbe.net)

Trevor Chapman  
School Improvement Coordinator

# Training Feedback



Thank you



# Finance Update

## February 25, 2025

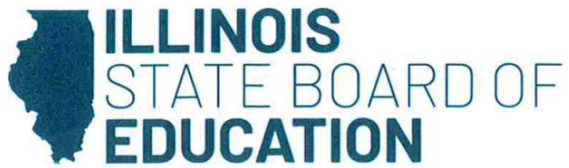
# Treasurer's Report Comparison

| 1  |                         |                         | <u>Treasurer's Report Comparison</u> |                         |
|----|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2  |                         | <u>FY 24</u>            | <u>Fy 25</u>                         | <u>Difference</u>       |
| 3  |                         |                         |                                      |                         |
| 4  | <b>Education</b>        | \$ 52,507,236.00        | \$ 46,050,220.00                     | <b>\$(6,457,016.00)</b> |
| 5  | O&M                     | \$ 4,086,658.00         | \$ 5,430,677.00                      | <b>\$ 1,344,019.00</b>  |
| 6  | <b>Debt Services</b>    | \$ 11,006,550.00        | \$ 11,602,979.00                     | <b>\$ 596,429.00</b>    |
| 7  | Transportation          | \$ 3,267,355.00         | \$ 7,628,466.00                      | <b>\$ 4,361,111.00</b>  |
| 8  | <b>IMRF</b>             | \$ 3,075,168.00         | \$ 5,340,430.00                      | <b>\$ 2,265,262.00</b>  |
| 9  | Social Security         | \$ 1,677,612.00         | \$ 2,364,122.00                      | \$ 686,510.00           |
| 10 | <b>Capital Projects</b> | \$ 4,271,149.00         | \$ 4,399,242.00                      | <b>\$ 128,093.00</b>    |
| 11 | Working Cash            | \$ 5,448,584.00         | \$ 6,076,986.00                      | \$ 628,402.00           |
| 12 | <b>Tort</b>             | \$ 5,850,753.00         | \$ 3,593,789.00                      | <b>\$(2,256,964.00)</b> |
| 13 | Fire Prevention, Safety | \$ 1,928,389.00         | \$ 1,958,299.00                      | \$ 29,910.00            |
| 14 | <b>MPSED</b>            | \$ 6,980,524.00         | \$ 6,290,098.00                      | <b>\$(690,426.00)</b>   |
| 15 | Activities              | \$ 522,833.00           | \$ 621,603.00                        | \$ 98,770.00            |
| 16 | <b>Totals</b>           | <b>\$100,622,816.00</b> | <b>\$ 101,356,915.00</b>             | <b>\$ 734,099.00</b>    |
| 17 |                         |                         |                                      |                         |

# Property Tax Relief Grant

- *The Illinois School District Property Tax Relief Grant is designed to help reduce the property tax burden on local taxpayers while ensuring that schools continue to receive the funding they need. Here's how it works for districts that are awarded the grant:*
- **Eligibility and Application:**  
School districts with relatively high property tax rates can apply for the grant through the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). The state prioritizes districts where property taxes make up a large portion of school funding.
- **Grant Award:**  
If a district qualifies, it receives a specific amount of funding from the state. This money is meant to replace some of the revenue the district usually collects from local property taxes.
- **Required Property Tax Reduction:**  
To receive the grant, the district must lower its property tax levy (the amount of money collected from property taxes) by an amount equal to the grant received. This means local taxpayers see a reduction in their property tax bills.





**Dr. Tony Sanders**, State Superintendent of Education  
**Dr. Steven Isoye**, Chair of the Board

100 N. First Street • Springfield, IL 62777  
555 W. Monroe Street, Suite 900 • Chicago, IL 60661

[isbe.net](http://isbe.net)

January 28, 2025

Dr. Rochelle Clark  
DECATUR SCHOOL DISTRICT 61  
101 W Cerro Gordo St  
Decatur, IL 62523 1001



Dear Dr. Rochelle Clark:

ISBE staff have completed the fiscal year 2025 Property Tax Relief Grant calculations based on the final pool of applicants. Unfortunately, your district's Adjusted Operating Tax Rate (OTR) when divided by the Average Adjusted OTR by Organization Type is below the rate necessary to qualify for a grant in FY 2025. A file listing each applicant district's rate and ranking is available on the ISBE Property Tax Relief Grant webpage.

Thank you for your application. We encourage your district to apply again in future grant cycles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tony Sanders", written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Tony Sanders  
State Superintendent of Education

# Final Ranking

|     |               |                            |       |      |        |
|-----|---------------|----------------------------|-------|------|--------|
| 363 | 3905506102500 | DECATUR SCHOOL DISTRICT 61 | MACON | Unit | 18.55% |
|-----|---------------|----------------------------|-------|------|--------|

Only 36 school districts received a portion of the \$49.8M in PTRG Funding with an average of \$1.466M

# Most Recent EAV

|      |                        |             |           |             |            |            |       |             |
|------|------------------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|------------|------------|-------|-------------|
| U061 | DECATUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS | 564,391,224 | 3,602,595 | 249,640,281 | 60,357,170 | 15,898,706 | 4,379 | 893,894,355 |
|------|------------------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|------------|------------|-------|-------------|

After a month of sliding downward, EAV started climbing back up in late January.

- Final numbers are not yet available
- This number does not include any TIF value

# ROADMAP 2030

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND  
MASTER FACILITIES PLAN FOR DPS#61

**BOE Update • February 25, 2025**

# COMMUNICATION TRANSPARENCY

All materials associated with this process are documented and accessible to team members, stakeholders and the public.



<https://www.dps61.org/roadmap2030>


## DEVELOPING A VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF DPS

Decatur Public Schools is committed to enhancing educational success for our district through a comprehensive strategic planning and master facility plan. Beginning in October 2024, a dedicated committee—comprising students, staff, community partners, educational collaborators, and business leaders—will work collaboratively to craft a road map that addresses the needs and aspirations of the Decatur school community. This inclusive stakeholder group will ensure that all voices are heard and valued. In May 2025, the strategic plan and master facility development planning team will bring a final recommendation to be presented to the Board of Education.

**Together, we are shaping a brighter future for our school community, the staff, and students of District #61.** View the list of [Committee Members](#).

## WANT TO GET INVOLVED AS A STAKEHOLDER?

[Click here to read](#) the SWOT feedback we received to-date. The Top 5 SWOT priorities by the Roadmap 2030 Committee can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

 **Want to participate in person?** Any Decatur resident or community stakeholder is invited to attend a Community Input Session (content will not be duplicated from the previous session held on January 30, 2025):

- **February 20, 2025 @Johns Hill Magnet School** Auditorium @6:30p.m.

**Have a general question?** Submit a question by using [this link](#). You can read the live [FAQ document here](#).

## COMMITTEE MEETING DATES & DOCUMENTS

**Meeting 1 October 16, 2025**  
**Meeting 2 November 13, 2024**  
**Meeting 3 December 05, 2024**  
**Meeting 4 January 15, 2025**  
**Meeting 5 February 06, 2025**  
**Meeting February 18, 2025**  
**Meeting 6 February 27, 2025**  
**Meeting 7 March 11, 2025**  
**Meeting 8 April 10, 2025**  
**Meeting 9 April 15, 2025**

## COMMUNITY FORUM LINKS

**Community Input Session 2025 January 30**  
**Community Input Session 2025 February 20**

# STRATEGIC PLAN PROCESS



Focus Area 1: Getting Started: Readiness & Orientation

- “Who are we and what are we being asked to do?”

Focus Area 2: Data Retreat: Data Review, Environmental Scan, SWOT Analysis

- “Where are we now? What’s our current situation?”

Focus Area 3: Vision Retreat: Preferred Future State | Embracing Systemic Continuous Improvement

- “Where do we want to be? Finalize the SWOT from stakeholder input”

**Focus Area 4: Setting Direction Retreat: Drafting the Plan**

- **“How will we get from where we are to where we want to be? | Goals, Priorities, Strategies”**

Focus Area 5: Refinement Retreat: Final Plan Refinement and Recommendations

- Recommend *Roadmap 2030* to the Board of Education

| <i><b>Most Recent Data or 2024 (%)</b></i> | <b>DPS61</b> | <b>State of IL</b> |
|--|--------------|--------------------|
| IAR Grades (Reading)                       | 9.4          | 41.2               |
| IAR Grades (Math)                          | 3.4          | 28.4               |
| SAT Grade (ELA)                            | 10.2         | 31.1               |
| SAT (Math)                                 | 3.5          | 26.1               |
| Graduation Rate (4 yr)                     | 74           | 87.7               |

| <b>2019</b><br>(399 graduates) | <b>4 year college</b> |           | <b>2 year college</b> |            |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------------------|------------|
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>26</b>             | <b>7%</b> | <b>42</b>             | <b>11%</b> |

| <i><b>Most Recent Data or 2024 (%)</b></i> | <b>DPS61</b> | <b>State of IL</b> |
|--|--------------|--------------------|
| Chronic Truancy                            | 38.9         | 20                 |
| Chronic Absenteeism                        | 45.3         | 26.3               |
| 8th Grade Passing Algebra                  | 17.3         | 29.1               |
| 9th Grade on Track                         | 71.1         | 88.2               |
| Post Secondary Enrollment                  | 37.9         | 66.1               |
| Out of Field Teachers                      | 8.5          | 4.1                |

| <i><b>Staffing (as of 2-25-25)</b></i> | <b>Total #</b> | <b># Vacancies</b> |
|--|----------------|--------------------|
| DPS61 Certified Staff                  | 529            | 85 (16.1%)         |
| DPS61 Non-Certified Staff              | 686            | 21 (3.1%)          |
| Macon Piatt SPED                       | 322            | 48 (14.9%)         |

# DPS61 Current Scenario

- Pre Kindergarten (1- Stand Alone)
- K-6 Schools (5)
- K-8 Schools (2)
- 7-8 Junior High School (1)
- Themed Magnets (3)
  - Montessori (PK-8)
  - Arts Integration (K-8)
  - STEM (K-8)
- High Schools (2)





([Full Report](#) - [1 Page Executive Summary](#))

# Decatur Public Schools

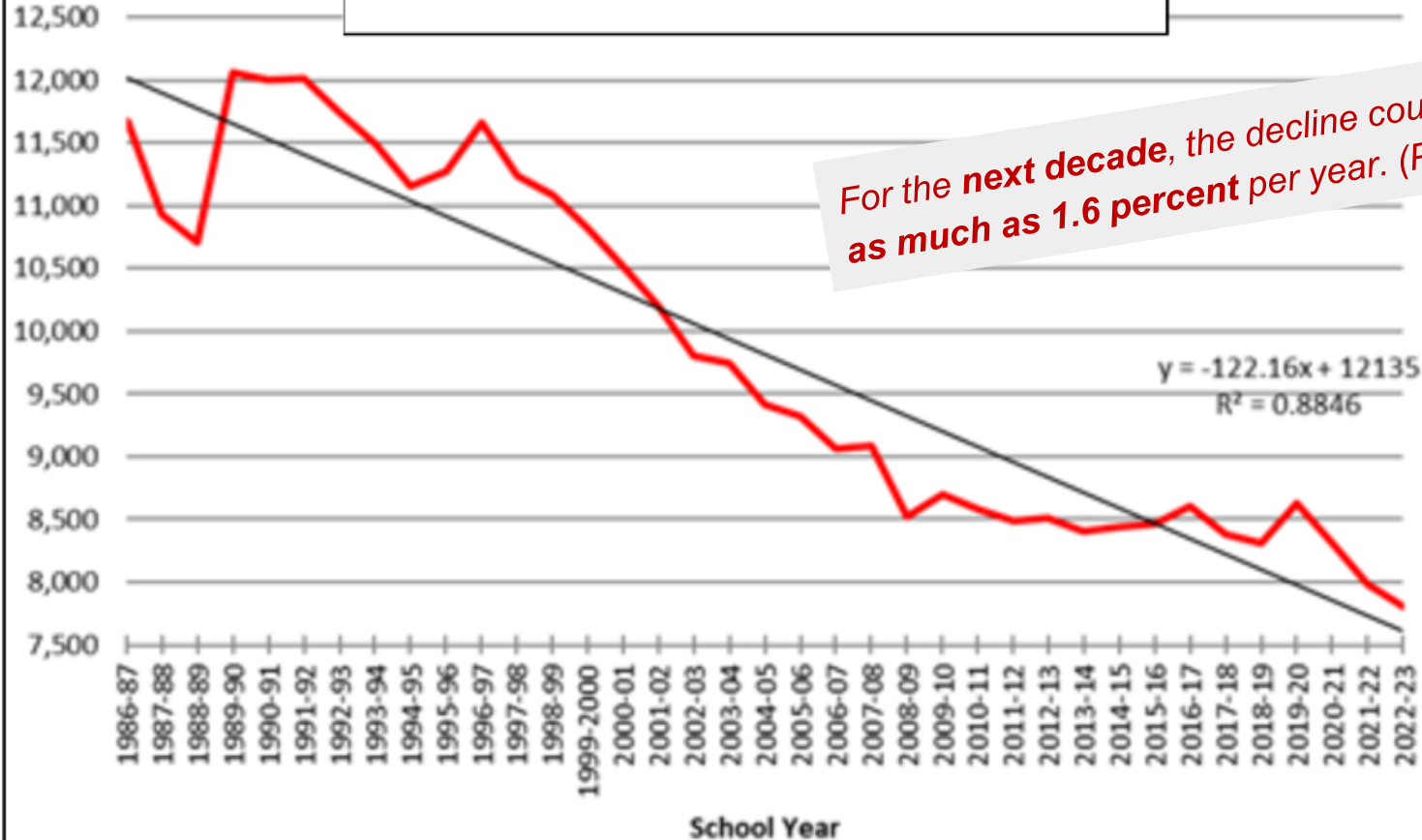
## Demographics and Enrollment Projection Study

*“This is, quite frankly, one of the **most convoluted districts** the analysts have studied. All these variations, **special schools, and differential grade distributions...**” (Page 9)*

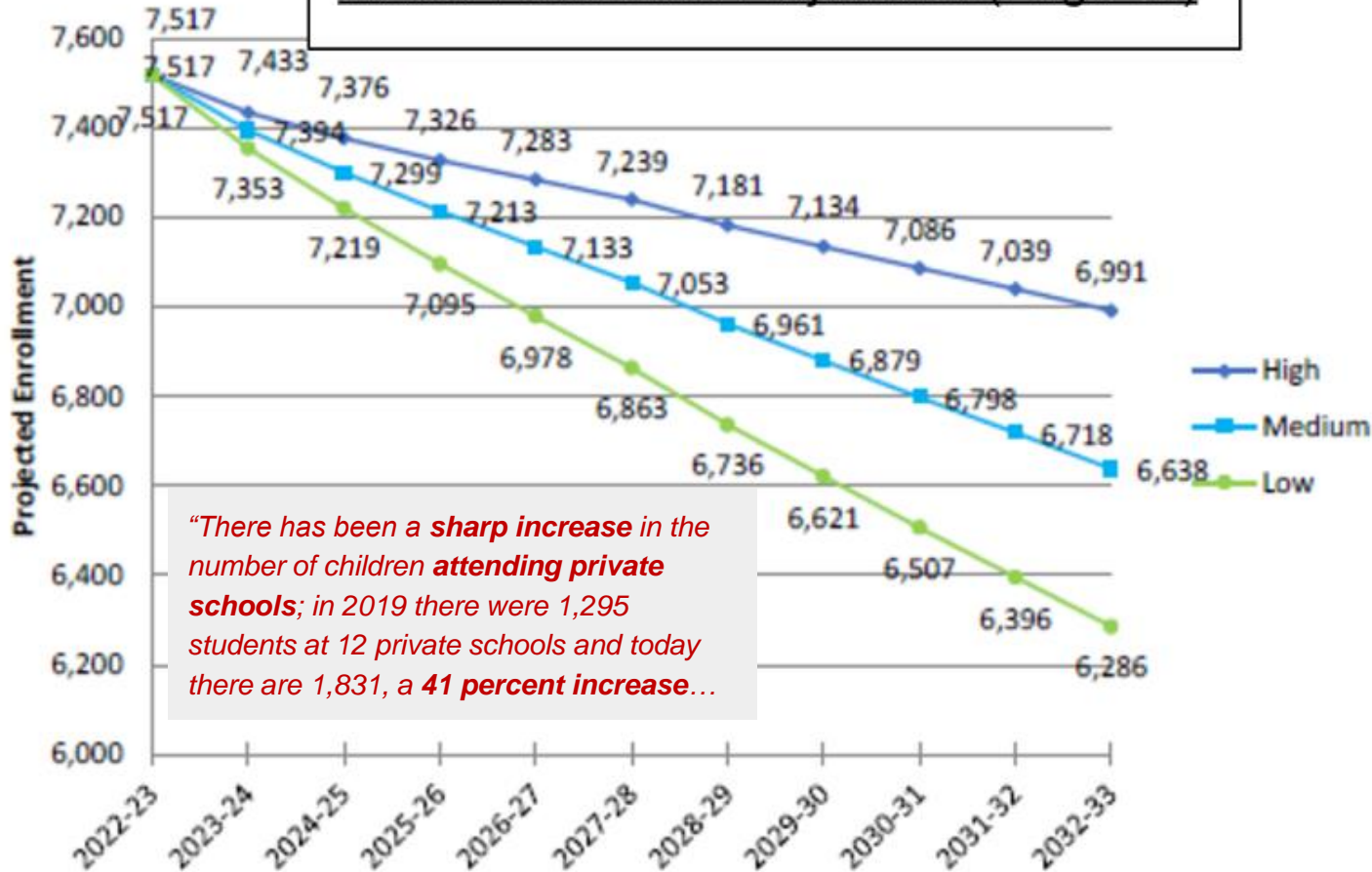
December 2022



## Historical Enrollment Data (Page 8)



## Future Enrollment Projections (Page 14)



# Facts & Assumptions

There is ample square footage to accommodate student enrollment

There are inequities in square footage per student

There is more “available” square footage at the secondary level

Demographics suggest 1.4% 1.6% (100 - 120) student decrease/year

There is limited “job embedded” professional learning for educators

# January 30, 2025 Community Forum Summary

72

Signed in to event

36%

Community Members

14%

Parents

50%

Employees/Staff





# Goals of Configuration Adjustments

- Adjust for space equalization and adequacy
- Balance square foot per student
- Improve efficiencies
- Build on strengths & opportunities
- Address weakness & threats
- Support Roadmap 2030 vision/mission
- Align to accommodate high leverage strategies

# Key Differences in Scenarios

|                          |    |                                   |
|--------------------------|----|-----------------------------------|
| Pre-K Standalone         | OR | Pre-K Integrated                  |
| Current Magnet Structure | OR | Modified or No Magnet             |
| Middle School Standalone | OR | No Middle School                  |
| Two High Schools         | OR | One High School<br>(two campuses) |

# February 20, 2025 Community Forum

- K-3
- 4-8
- Themed Magnets (Current Configuration)
  - Montessori (PK-8)
  - Arts Integration (K-8)
  - STEM (K-8)
- 1 High School - 2 Campuses
  - 9th Grade Academy
  - 10-12 Campus



Join at menti.com | use code: 7581 8899

PK-2, 3-5, 6-8 MS, No Magnets, One High School

What are your **POSITIVE** reactions about Scenario 8?

33 responses

absolutely nothing  
age appropriate  
elementary structure  
3-5  
winner  
equity  
yes  
prayer  
true middle school  
middle school  
equal  
good  
no magnets  
perfect  
best  
love it  
6-8  
works  
pre-k  
just one  
equity



142

Signed in to event

23%

Community Members

23%

Parents

55%

Employees/Staff





# Reconfigure to Effectively Implement High Leverage Strategies

- Professional Learning Communities (PLC- Job Embedded)
- Career Technical Education (CTE) Pathways
- Science, Technology Engineering, Arts, Math (STE{A}M Focus (6-12)
- Gatekeeper Grades & Strategies (MTSS, PLC, Summer Learning)
- Expansion/Improvement of Alt. Education & Personalized Learning
- Implementation of Structured Literacy for K-5

# Deliverables, Products & Timeframe

## 24-25 School Year (Products)

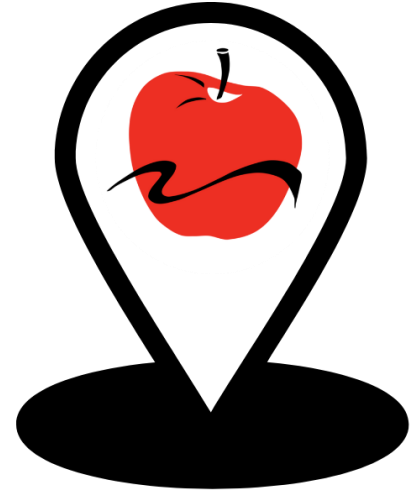
- 5 Year Strategic Plan (Vision, Mission, Values & Goals)
- Balanced Scorecard (Key Performance Indicators Aligned to Goals)
- Master Facility Plan (Use of facilities- aligned to Roadmap 2030)

## 25-26 School Year (Planning)

- Planning and Preparation for the Full Strategic Plan Roll Out (26-27)
- Comprehensive Communication Plan & Community Engagement
- Preparation of Detailed SMART Goals, Action Plans and Timelines
- Implementation of Some Immediate Improvements

## 26-27 School Year (Implementation)

- Complete and Full Implementation of Roadmap 2030
- Execute Facility Plan (Possible Reconfiguration and Boundary Changes)



*Thank you!*  
**Questions &  
Comments**



**DECATUR DISTRICT 61 BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

DATE/TIME: February 11, 2025

4:30 PM

LOCATION: Keil Administration Building  
101 W. Cerro Gordo Street  
Decatur, IL 62523

PRESENT: Bill Clevenger, President  
Alana Banks (arrived 4:36 PM)  
Al Scheider

Jason Dion, Vice President  
Mark Reynolds  
Will Wetzel

ABSENT: Dr. Kevin Collins, Superintendent Rochelle Clark

STAFF: Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning Dr. Larry Gray (Interim Superintendent), Board Secretary Melissa Bradford, Attorney Luke Feeney and others

President Clevenger called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM.

| TOPIC  | DISCUSSION   | ACTION  |
|--|--|---|
| <b>Call for Closed Executive Session</b>     | President Clevenger called the meeting to order and moved into Closed Executive Session to conduct an employee discipline hearing, discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, the purchase or lease of real property for use of the public body and collective negotiating matters between the Board and representatives of its employees, seconded by Will Wetzel.<br><br>President Clevenger called for a Roll Call Vote:<br>Aye: Reynolds, Scheider, Wetzel, Dion, Clevenger<br>Nay: None<br>Absent: Banks (arrived 4:36 PM) and Collins<br>Roll Call Vote: 5 Aye, 0 Nay, 2 Absent | Board moved to Closed Executive Session at 4:30 PM. |
| <b>Returned to Open Session</b>              | President Clevenger motioned to return to Open Session, seconded by Vice President Dion. All were in favor.  | Open Session at 6:00 PM.                            |
| <b>Open Session Continued</b>                | President Clevenger noted that the Board of Education had been in Closed Executive Session to conduct an employee discipline hearing, discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, the purchase or lease of real property for use of the public body and collective negotiating matters between the Board and representatives of its employees. <u>No action was taken during Closed Executive Session.</u>   | Information only.                                   |
| <b>Pledge of Allegiance</b>                  | President Clevenger led the Pledge of Allegiance.  |   |
| <b>Approval of Agenda, February 11, 2025</b> | Assistant Superintendent Gray recommended the Board of Education approve the February 11, 2025 Open Session Board Meeting Agenda as presented.   | Agenda was Approved as presented.                   |

| TOPIC                      | DISCUSSION   | ACTION            |
|----------------------------|--|-------------------|
|                            | Ms. Banks moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Scheider.<br>All were in favor.   |                   |
| <b>District Highlights</b> | <p>Maria Robertson, Director of Communications and Public Relations, recognized and introduced the following highlights:</p> <p>Elementary Boys Basketball Championship Team from Johns Hill Magnet School:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coach Dawson noted that the team finished with 9 wins and 1 loss. The students knew and followed the expectations from the coach and the school.</li> </ul> <p>The Martin Luther King Jr. Student Art Contest Winners, sponsored by FirstMid Bank:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Top prize for the most participation in the high school category went to Eisenhower High School; they received \$300 for their Art program.</li> <li>Top prize for the most participation in the middle school category went to Johns Hill Magnet School; they received \$300 for their Art program.</li> </ul> <p>Individual Winners from Middle School:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8<sup>th</sup> Grader Danika Green from Stephen Decatur Middle School; she received \$200 for her art work.</li> <li>1<sup>st</sup> Place 7<sup>th</sup> Grader Karleigh McClanahan; she received \$200 for her art work.</li> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> Place 7<sup>th</sup> Grader Jordan Britz; she received \$100 for her art work.</li> <li>3<sup>rd</sup> Place 7<sup>th</sup> Grader Jaycee Washington; she received \$50 for her art work.</li> </ul> <p>Individual Winners from Eisenhower High School:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1<sup>st</sup> Place Sophomore Aysha Spence; she received \$200 for her art work.</li> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> Place Senior Heaven Dewitt; she received \$100 for her art work.</li> <li>3<sup>rd</sup> Place Junior Cheyann Perry-Johnson; she received \$50 for her art work.</li> </ul> <p>The All-State Musicians began with district level ensembles in October and then, the State of IL was divided into nine regions. After District, then they attended All-State, which was held in Peoria. The band and orchestra students had to re-audition for chair placement. During the 3-day festival, students rehearsed in large ensembles among the top musicians in the state with nationally recognized conductors. The festival culminated into a performance at the Peoria Civic Center.</p> <p>The following students were All-State Musicians from Eisenhower High School:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Illinois Music Education Association All-State Band <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gabriel Gonzalez – Bass Clarinet</li> </ul> </li> <li>Illinois Music Education Association All-State Orchestra <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alondra Malaga – Violin</li> <li>Kaylee Sommer – Violin</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | Information only. |

| TOPIC                                | DISCUSSION  | ACTION            |
|--------------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| <b>District Highlights Continued</b> | Jared Lamb, Principal at Decatur Alternative Education, presented and shared information regarding their student behavior and academic achievements and the utilization of hands-on science activities (attached). They were currently at 55 students and 11 would transfer back to their home schools in March 2025. Their goal was to teach students behavior and academic strategies that would help them return to their home schools.  | Information only. |
| <b>Public Participation</b>          | <p>President Clevenger noted that during Public Participation, the Board of Education asked for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify oneself and be brief.</li> <li>• Comments should be limited to 3 minutes.</li> <li>• Any public comments submitted to the Board Secretary will be included in the record.</li> </ul> <p>For our listening audience, please note that during any Board of Education meeting and public participation, Board Members do NOT respond and/or comment to public comments; all comments are referred to administration. Furthermore, the Board refrains from referring to specific students or staff members by name, and requests that public commenters refrain from doing so as well. The request that you omit names was made to protect you from allegations of libel or slander or from violations of the Illinois School Student Records Act. It was not intended to shield an employee from criticism.</p> <p>Cathy Briggs, Teacher at MAP and a DPS parent, spoke to the Board regarding the proposed school year calendars and the half-day Wednesdays. She shared scenarios of half-day Wednesdays that she felt were issues. She asked for a survey from teachers regarding the half-day Wednesdays.</p> | Information only. |
| <b>Board Discussion</b>              | <p>Nolan Evans, Junior Board Member, spoke about the Roadmap 2030 Committee meeting. He noted that it was a messy process and a lot was being done in a short amount of time. He also shared how he felt on a comment by one of the facilitators.</p> <p>Mr. Wetzel noted that he attended the Illinois Association of School Boards webinar on Board orientations. He felt this was fully owned by the Board of Education and would like to see this happen. This would be a way to start conversations with new Board Members. It takes time to understand and learn the roles and duties of a Board Member. <b>Please note: This would not be considered an Administrative Committee not a Board Committee.</b></p> <p>Mr. Reynolds noted that it took him at least a year to understand/learn the roles and duties of a Board Member and he's still learning.</p> <p>Vice President Dion noted that a Board Member could be more effective by focusing on the duties versus learning what they were.</p>  | Information only. |

| TOPIC   | DISCUSSION  | ACTION            |
|---|---|-------------------|
| <b>Board Discussion Continued</b>   | President Clevenger asked for a report and/or more information at a future Board meeting.   | Information only. |
|   | Mr. Wetzel asked about creating a presentation for candidates who run for School Board regarding basic information about the school district. This would be possibly considered for the next Board elections in two-years.  |                   |
|   | Mr. Wetzel asked for the number of students affected by iReady, due to its recent shutdown. Assistant Superintendent Gray replied that it was a pilot for the 4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> grade students, but he did not have the exact number.   |                   |
|   | Mr. Wetzel asked about how much federal funding was tied to the District. Dr. Mike Curry, Chief Operational Officer, replied that 16% of funding comes from the federal government, however, this could be skewed due to the ESSER funds from the last four-years; it could be closer to 10% in the near future. Families that qualify under the statute for the free-reduced lunches (CEP) could possibly pay in the near future, due to the new requirements. |                   |
| <b>Reports from Admins<br/>1<sup>st</sup> Read of DPS<br/>61 Three-Year Calendars</b> | Maria Robertson, Director of Communications and Public Relations, presented the proposed three-year calendars for Decatur Public Schools (attached). She noted that the final 2024-2025 school year calendar will be recommended at a future Board meeting.   | Information only. |
|   | The Board of Education discussed the Wednesday half-days with administration.   |                   |
|   | Mr. Scheider asked for administration to survey the staff and research surrounding districts regarding half-days. He also asked for two-year calendar proposals instead of three-years, due to the upcoming change in leadership.   |                   |
|   | Mr. Wetzel noted that he received the following questions regarding the proposed calendars and was not expecting any answers at this time:  |                   |
|   | 1) What was the net benefit for our students?   |                   |
|   | 2) What alternative options were discussed before moving forward with these half days when the original decision was made?  |                   |
|   | 3) If the half days were considered, how would the District work with community organizations and working families in order to make sure they were not using their benefit time?  |                   |
|   | 4) Is the funding tied to the number of students on that specific day?  |                   |
|   | Vice President Dion asked for the approximate cost for four-days off versus eight half-days and what funding source would the District use for this payment.  |                   |
|   | Mr. Reynolds noted the following questions that he received:  |                   |
|   | 1) Could the District start teacher work-day on Monday and staff meetings on Tuesday?   |                   |

| TOPIC  | DISCUSSION   | ACTION   |
|--|--|--|
|  | <p>2) Could the first day of school for students be on Wednesday? This week would be more of an orientation so that teachers could get to know their students and work on schedules. The following Monday, instruction could begin.</p> <p>3) If staff started on Thursday and Friday, it cuts the summer short and there would be less opportunity for end of summer travel.</p> <p>Mr. Reynolds noted that this information was given under advisement only.</p> <p>Administration will bring an update (2<sup>nd</sup> read) to the Board Members regarding their requests during a future Board meeting.</p>   |  |
| <b>Consent Items</b>   | <p>Assistant Superintendent Gray recommended the Board of Education approve the Consent Items as presented, which included:</p> <p>A. Minutes: Open/Closed Meetings January 28, 2025</p> <p>B. Freedom of Information Report</p> <p>C. Bills</p> <p>D. Resolution Authorizing the Release of School Property</p> <p>Mr. Scheider moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Wetzel. Hearing no questions, President Clevenger called for a Roll Call Vote:<br/> Aye: Banks, Clevenger, Reynolds, Dion, Scheider, Wetzel<br/> Nay: None<br/> Absent: Collins<br/> Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 0 Nay, 1 Absent</p>  | <p>Motion carried. Consent Items were approved as presented.</p>   |
| <b>Consideration and Action on the Possible Suspension without Pay for a Custodian</b> | <p>Assistant Superintendent Gray recommended the Board of Education approve the Three-days Suspension without Pay for Amanda Francis, Custodial Employee, effective Wednesday, February 12, 2025, Thursday, February 13, 2025 and Friday, February 14, 2025 as presented.</p> <p>Ms. Banks moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Reynolds. Hearing no questions, President Clevenger called for a Roll Call Vote:<br/> Aye: Wetzel, Banks, Clevenger, Reynolds<br/> Nay: Dion<br/> Abstain: Scheider (He supported the reason for the suspension, and wanted to consider the statement from her supervisor. He wanted to reduce the suspension from three-days to two-days)<br/> Absent: Collins<br/> Roll Call Vote: 4 Aye, 1 Nay, 1 Abstain, 1 Absent</p> | <p>Motion carried. 3-days Suspension w/out Pay for Amanda Francis, was approved, effective 02/12-14/25 as presented.</p> |
| <b>Amended Ancillary Wages for FY25</b>  | <p>Assistant Superintendent Gray recommended the Board of Education approve the Amended Ancillary Wages for FY25 as presented.</p>   | <p>Motion carried. Amended Ancillary Wages for FY25</p>  |



| TOPIC   | DISCUSSION   | ACTION  |
|---|--|---|
|   | Mr. Reynolds moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Ms. Banks.<br>Hearing no questions, President Clevenger called for a Roll Call Vote:<br>Aye: Dion, Scheider, Banks, Reynolds, Wetzel, Clevenger<br>Nay: None<br>Absent: Collins<br>Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 0 Nay, 1 Absent  | were approved as presented.   |
| <b>Personnel Action Items</b>                             | Assistant Superintendent Gray recommended the Board of Education approve the Personnel Action Items listed in the Memo from Monica Wilks, Director of Human Resources, and the Human Resources Department as presented.<br><br>Ms. Banks moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Scheider.<br>Hearing no questions, President Clevenger called for a Roll Call Vote:<br>Aye: Reynolds, Banks, Wetzel, Clevenger, Dion, Scheider<br>Nay: None<br>Absent: Collins<br>Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 0 Nay, 1 Absent | Motion carried.<br>Personnel Action Items were approved as presented.                                   |
| <b>Employment of a Director of Student Services</b>       | Assistant Superintendent Gray recommended the Board of Education approve Dr. Danielle Lusby as the Director of Student Services as presented.<br><br>Ms. Banks moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Vice President Dion.<br>Hearing no questions, President Clevenger called for a Roll Call Vote:<br>Aye: Clevenger, Dion, Reynolds, Wetzel, Banks<br>Nay: None<br>Present: Scheider<br>Absent: Collins<br>Roll Call Vote: 5 Aye, 0 Nay, 1 Present, 1 Absent  | Motion carried.<br>Dr. Danielle Lusby was approved as the Director of Student Services as presented.    |
| <b>Skyward Software Three-Year Agreement</b>              | Assistant Superintendent Gray recommended the Board of Education approve the Skyward Software Three-Year Agreement as presented.<br><br>Ms. Banks moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Wetzel.<br>Hearing no questions, President Clevenger called for a Roll Call Vote:<br>Aye: Scheider, Banks, Reynolds, Wetzel, Clevenger, Dion<br>Nay: None<br>Absent: Collins<br>Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 0 Nay, 1 Absent  | Motion carried.<br>Skyward Software Three-Year Agreement was approved as presented.                     |
| <b>Rooftop Units for the Keil Administration Building</b> | Assistant Superintendent Gray recommended the Board of Education approve the Rooftop Units for the Keil Administration Building as presented.<br><br>Ms. Banks moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Reynolds.<br>Hearing no questions, President Clevenger called for a Roll Call Vote:<br>Aye: Scheider, Reynolds, Wetzel, Banks, Dion, Clevenger<br>Nay: None  | Motion carried.<br>Rooftop Units for the Keil Administration Building School was approved as presented. |

| TOPIC  | DISCUSSION  | ACTION  |
|--|---|---|
|  | Absent: Collins<br>Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 0 Nay, 1 Absent   |   |
| <b>Enter into Contract Negotiations with Straightup Solar for an On-Site Solar PV Power Purchase Agreement</b> | Assistant Superintendent Gray recommended the Board of Education approve for Administration to Enter into Contract Negotiations with Straightup Solar for an On-Site Solar PV Power Purchase Agreement as presented.<br>Ms. Banks moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Mr. Reynolds.<br>Hearing no questions, President Clevenger called for a Roll Call Vote:<br>Aye: Banks, Clevenger, Reynolds, Dion, Scheider, Wetzel<br>Nay: None<br>Absent: Collins<br>Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 0 Nay, 1 Absent   | Motion carried.<br>Contract Negotiations with Straightup Solar was approved as presented. |
| <b>Summer Program Scholarship Agreement FY25</b>   | Assistant Superintendent Gray recommended the Board of Education approve the Summer Program Scholarship Agreement FY25 as presented.<br>Mr. Scheider moved to approve the recommendation, seconded by Ms. Banks.<br>Maria Robertson, Director of Communication and Public Relations, will monitor this registration process for DPS students and funding. This was a one-year agreement due to the uncertainty regarding the funding source.<br>Hearing no questions, President Clevenger called for a Roll Call Vote:<br>Aye: Scheider, Banks, Reynolds, Wetzel, Clevenger, Dion<br>Nay: None<br>Absent: Collins<br>Roll Call Vote: 6 Aye, 0 Nay, 1 Absent   | Motion carried.<br>Summer Program Scholarship Agreement FY25 was approved as presented.   |
| <b>Announcements</b>   | The Board of Education and Administration sends condolences to the families of:<br><br>Jerry Weaver, who passed away Saturday, January 25, 2025. Mr. Weaver was the husband of Terry Weaver, Secretary to the Principal at Baum Elementary School.<br><br>Janet M. Koerwitz, who passed away Sunday, January 26, 2025. Mrs. Koerwitz was the mother of Chris Koerwitz, Special Education Administrator for the Macon-Piatt Special Education District.<br><br>Skip Huston, who passed away Friday, January 31, 2025. Mr. Huston was the father of Melissa Rinchiuso, Itinerant Secretary at the Keil Administration Building.<br><br>Timothy A. Wortman, who passed away Sunday, February 02, 2025. Mr. Wortman was the brother-in-law of Mary Wortman, Hearing Officer for Decatur Public Schools. | Information only.   |

\_\_\_\_TOPIC\_\_\_\_\_DISCUSSION\_\_\_\_\_ACTION\_\_\_\_\_

Scott Ray Collins, who passed away Friday, February 07, 2025. Mr. Collins was the brother of Dr. Kevin Collins, Board of Education Member for Decatur Public Schools.

**Important  
Dates**

**IMPORTANT DATES**

Information  
only.

**February** 12 District-wide Half Day of School for ALL Students  
     – **Please call your home school for details, if needed**  
 17 President's Day Holiday  
     – **NO SCHOOL and District Offices are Closed**  
 20 Decatur Public Schools Job Fair  
     – Johns Hill Magnet School, 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM  
 20 Roadmap 2030 Community Input/Engagement Session 2 of 2  
     – Johns Hill Magnet School Auditorium, 6:30 PM  
     – More information [www.dps61.org/roadmap2030](http://www.dps61.org/roadmap2030)  
 27 Community Members/Business Leaders Principal for a Day  
     – 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM in DPS 61

**NEXT MEETING**

The public portion of the next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be at 4:30 PM, Tuesday, February 25, 2025 at the Keil Administration Building.

**PLEASE NOTE:** We will begin Open Session with a Module 2 Training Session regarding School Improvement with the Board of Education and the Superintendent. We will continue in Open Session immediately following the training.

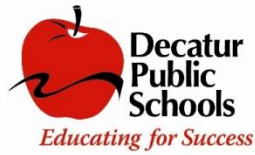
**Adjournment**

President Clevenger asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Reynolds moved, seconded by Mr. Scheider. All were in favor.

Board adjourned  
at 7:47 PM.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bill Clevenger, President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Melissa Bradford, Board Secretary



## Board of Education Decatur Public School District 61

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Date:</b> February 25, 2025                                       | <b>Subject:</b> Monthly Financial Conditions Report |
| <b>Initiated By:</b> Dr. Mike Curry, Chief Operations Officer        | <b>Attachments:</b> Financial Conditions Report     |
| <b>Reviewed By:</b> 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**

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

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

**Percent of year passed: 58%**

|    | <b>Revenues</b> | <b>Adopted<br/>Budget</b> | <b>Pre Audit<br/>Y-T-D</b> | <b>Percent<br/>Received/Used</b> |
|----|-----------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 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> |
|----|-----------|-------------------------|

**Decatur Public School District #61**  
**Report Date: January 2025**  
**Financial Condition as of January 31, 2025**

**Percent of year passed: 58%**

|    |                         |                    | <b>Pre Audit</b>   | <b>Percent</b>       | <b>PRIOR YEAR<br/>COMPARISON<br/>FY 24 Percent<br/>Received/Used<br/>As Of<br/>01/31/24</b> |
|----|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---|
|    | <b>Revenues</b>         | <b>Budget</b>      | <b>Y-T-D</b>       | <b>Received/Used</b> |   |
| 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%   |
|    | <b>Total Revenues</b>   | <b>170,354,205</b> | <b>125,137,052</b> | <b>73.46%</b>        | <b>59.51%</b>   |

|    |                         |               | <b>Pre Audit</b> | <b>Percent</b>       | <b>PRIOR YEAR<br/>COMPARISON<br/>FY 24 Percent<br/>Received/Used<br/>As Of<br/>01/31/24</b> |
|----|-------------------------|---------------|------------------|----------------------|---|
|    | <b>Expenditures</b>     | <b>Budget</b> | <b>Y-T-D</b>     | <b>Received/Used</b> |   |
| 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

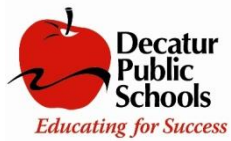
|                    |             |             |        |
|--------------------|-------------|-------------|--------|
| Total Revenues     | 170,354,205 | 125,137,052 | 73.46% |
| Total Expenditures | 180,343,995 | 99,321,808  | 55.07% |
| Net Cash           | (9,989,790) | 25,815,244  |        |

### 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

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Date:</b> February 25, 2025                                       | <b>Subject:</b> Treasurer's Report                    |
| <b>Initiated By:</b> Dr. Mike Curry, Chief Operations Officer        | <b>Attachments:</b> Treasurer's Report – January 2025 |
| <b>Reviewed By:</b> 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.

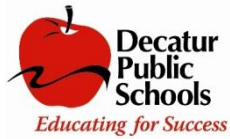
**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

- ☒ Approval
- ☐ Information
- ☐ Discussion

**BOARD ACTION:**\_\_\_\_\_

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

|                               | Cash/Investments<br>as of<br>12/31/24 | Receipts      | Disbursements | Change/Interest | Cash/Investments<br>as of<br>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

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Date:</b> February 25, 2025                                       | <b>Subject:</b> Release February Checks Early |
| <b>Initiated By:</b> Dr. Mike Curry, Chief Operations Officer        | <b>Attachments:</b> N/A                       |
| <b>Reviewed By:</b> 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 12<sup>th</sup>, 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Date:</b> February 25, 2025   | <b>Subject:</b> Personnel Action                |
| <b>Initiated By:</b> Monica L Wilks, Director of Human Resources, and the Human Resources Department | <b>Attachments:</b> 4 Pages of Personnel Action |
| <b>Reviewed By:</b> 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 |
|---------------|--------------|

- 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 |                   |         |

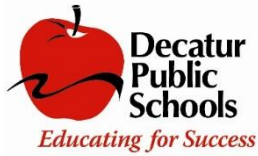
- The following staff members should be compensated **\$33.00** for participating in Leadership Meeting on February 6, 2025 at Franklin Grove:

|                 |               |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 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

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Date:</b> February 25, 2025                                       | <b>Subject:</b> Resolutions Authorizing Dismissal of Decatur Public School District 61 Employees |
| <b>Initiated By:</b> Monica L. Wilks, Director of Human Resources    | <b>Attachments:</b> Resolutions  |
| <b>Reviewed By:</b> 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