



McHenry Elementary School District 15

Annual Update

June 2011

Dear Community Members,

I am pleased to report another successful year for McHenry Elementary School District 15. As always, student learning and achievement remains our top priority. Overall, district achievement continues to improve. According to the 2009-2010 Illinois Student Achievement Test (ISAT), District 15 graduates (8th graders) scored nearly 90% proficient/advanced in combined reading and math. Although we are pleased with this accomplishment, our goal is to show continuous improvement until 100% of our students reach excellence.

Although state-funding for education continues to decrease, District 15 has continued to remain financially stable through conservative spending and belt-tightening. In addition, the district prides itself on providing a safe, nurturing environment for students to learn. On the following pages, please take a moment to see what efforts we have made in the areas of curriculum, as well as safety/efficiency, communication, and fiscal responsibility.

Sincerely,

R. Alan Hoffman
Superintendent

Financial

District 15 has earned the State of Illinois' highest rating for finances 4 years in a row.

Academics

New reading materials (K-8) and curriculum have been implemented.



Community

District 15 staff and students have raised \$74,250 for charities this year.

And the survey says:

Staff and parents are 96% satisfied with the quality of education in District 15.

Strategic Improvements

In the past five years, District 15 has made significant progress in improving the education for all of our students in accordance with our Strategic Plan. Listed below are actions that have been taken:

- ▶ New reading materials (K-8) and curriculum have been implemented
- ▶ Challenging math curriculum has been implemented at the middle school level
- ▶ Additional classroom teachers have been hired
- ▶ New elementary technology classes have been implemented
- ▶ New middle school exploratory classes have been implemented
- ▶ Extra-curricular programs have been expanded
- ▶ Additional technology staff have been hired
- ▶ Safety cameras have been installed at the middle schools
- ▶ On-line parent access to student grades and attendance has been implemented
- ▶ Energy study has been completed
- ▶ Multiple maintenance initiatives have been completed (i.e., roofs)
- ▶ Exchange Program for senior citizens has been implemented
- ▶ E-pay System has been implemented as a convenience for parents to pay fees
- ▶ Purchased more efficient student information management system
- ▶ Additional special education and bilingual teachers have been hired
- ▶ New bilingual program has been implemented
- ▶ Learning Centers (libraries) have been enhanced
- ▶ Emergency notification system has been implemented on line (NIXLE)
- ▶ School websites have been enhanced
- ▶ Bond payments have been deferred to help pay for future building additions
- ▶ Enrollment study has been completed
- ▶ Five-year financial projections have been completed



Did you know?

Due to declining state revenues, the district cut approximately \$800,000 for the 2011/12 school year.

Efficiency

E-Pay System has been implemented as a convenience for parents to pay fees.

Fiscal Responsibility

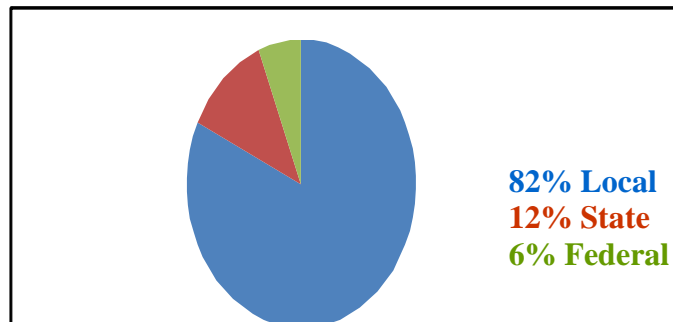
District 15 has made numerous positive decisions that have improved the quality of education for our students, while still remaining fiscally responsible to our citizens. McHenry School District 15's tax rate is in the middle range for McHenry County school districts. Financially, our school district has received the highest financial rating from the State of Illinois for the 2006-2007, 2007-2008, 2008-2009, 2009-2010, and 2010-2011 school year.

District 15 has remained fiscally conservative as it relates to employee salaries. According to the 2010 Illinois District Report Card (located on our website), salaries for administrators are \$24,603 below the state average, while teacher salaries are \$9,800 less.



Although District 15 remains financially stable, the Board of Education continues to reduce expenditures where feasible. In fact, for 2011-2012 the district has eliminated \$800,000 in personnel costs through reduction of staff as well as reorganization of contracted services.

District 15 receives revenue from three sources: local, state, and federal. The chart below illustrates the percentage of funding from each source in 2010.



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Student Achievement
According to the Illinois Student Achievement Test, D15 graduates scored nearly 90% proficient/advanced in combined reading and math.