

# *Herscher Community Unit School District No. 2*

DR. RICHARD S. DECMAN, SUPERINTENDENT  
SHELLY PARSONS, SPECIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR  
PETE FALK, CURRICULUM DIRECTOR

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

As you may know by now the impasse at the Illinois State Capital continues as legislators and the Governor have been unable to reach agreement on a budget. In the coming days you will hear a great deal of speculation pertaining to whether schools will open in the fall.

Without a state appropriation for K-12 education in Fiscal Year 2017 (begins 7/1/2016), many school districts will face dire circumstances. For Herscher CUSD #2, our state funding comprises nearly 22% of our total revenue on an annual basis. We receive approximately 73.5% of our yearly revenue from local taxes and the final 4.5% from the Federal government. The district has fund reserves that will allow the opening of school and should sustain the district for one full year without State money. Of course, this would mean that the dysfunction at the Capital has resulted in a shift of cost of education Illinois' children to local property taxpayers.

The top priority for our elected officials must be to enact a budget that includes adequate funds for public school for the upcoming school year. This will ensure that schools across the state open on time and are adequately funded for the full year.

The toxic climate at the Capital often leads one to avoid getting involved. Yet, as taxpayers and as citizens who are concerned about the health and future of our state, now is the time to be engaged.

Contact your elected officials to let them know your feelings about the current "state of our state."

Senator Toi Hutchinson (D) 40<sup>th</sup> District [www.senatorhutchinson.com](http://www.senatorhutchinson.com)

Senator Sue Rezin (R) 38<sup>th</sup> District [senatorrezin@gmail.com](mailto:senatorrezin@gmail.com)

Senator Jason Barickman (R) 53<sup>rd</sup> District [jason@jasonbarickman.org](mailto:jason@jasonbarickman.org)

Representative Kate Cloonen (D) 79<sup>th</sup> District [staterepcloonen79@att.net](mailto:staterepcloonen79@att.net)

Representative John Anthony (R) 75<sup>th</sup> District [Anthony@ilhousegop.org](mailto:Anthony@ilhousegop.org)

Representative Thomas Bennett (R) 106<sup>th</sup> District <http://ilhousegop.org/contactbennett>

Meanwhile, be assured that your Board of Education and I will continue to monitor this situation closely. We will also continue to develop contingency plans to respond to the prospect of an ongoing budget impasse into the fall. We are committed to continuing the outstanding educational services that your child deserves, and are committed to serving our school community without interruption.

Thank you for your continued support of our schools.

Dr. Richard S. Decman, Superintendent of Schools

*"Education... The Ultimate Investment."*