



McLean County

Unit District No.5

Educating each student to achieve personal excellence

To: Unit 5 Board of Education

From: Dr. Weikle

Date: January 27, 2023

Re: Budget Recommendations

Per the direction of the Unit 5 Board of Education, I have worked with district administrators to make recommended reductions for the 2023-24 school year and the 2024-25 school year. We based our recommendations from feedback gathered during community engagement last winter, as well as suggestions from board members at last week's meeting. Like the Board of Education, myself and other administrators wish that we didn't have to do this but our Education Fund revenue is not enough to cover the expenses of all the opportunities we provide to students. I will present information about these recommendations at the January 31, 2023 board meeting.

Recommendations for the 2023-24 School Year:

- Reduce administration
- Reduce budgets by 10% -unit office, building budgets, curriculum budgets, technology, extracurriculars and co-curriculars (mostly supplies, materials, and travel)
- Reduce funding for field trips
- Push band/orchestra to 6th grade
- Remove funding for Schedule B Illuminate (MTSS collaboration, screening, and progress monitoring) coaches
- Remove Schedule B at the junior high levels - 6-8 athletics, clubs, councils, etc
- Remove freshmen teams
- Limit the number of students who travel for out of town competitions
- Combine Vocational Transition Assistance Program (VTAP) job sites for students with disabilities
- Increase registration, activity, and gate fees (charge for all sporting events)
- Increase facility rental fees for community and parent groups
- Implement the National School Breakfast and Lunch programs at the high schools

Recommendations for the 2024-25 School Year:

- Reduce administration
- Close Carlock Elementary School
- Increase class ranges at every level
 - K-1 - 27 students/class
 - 2-5 - 30 students/class
 - 6-12 - 35+ students/class
- Reduce days/times of classes with limited or no mandates at the elementary level (p.e., music, art, IMC) = shortened school day
- Reduce electives in grades 6-12 (EX: art, music, technology, business, family and consumer science, AP/Dual Credit, etc)
- Reduce special education community outings
- Reduce JV teams