

## District Administration

Administration of the District, in accordance with Board Policies and State Statutes, is the responsibility of the Superintendent of Schools. The Superintendent attends all Board meetings. He may also designate various staff members to provide information at the meetings.

Sterling Schools administrators include the following individuals. Please feel free to call, write, or email them if you have any questions regarding District operations.

**Sterling Schools CUSD #5**  
410 East LeFevre Road  
Sterling, Illinois 61081  
815-626-5050

**Tad Everett, Superintendent of Schools**  
teverett@sterlingschools.org

**Jason Austin, Director of Student Services**  
jaustin@sterlingschools.org

**Jeff Hippen, Director of Technology**  
jhippen@sterlingschools.org

**Cheryl Robinson, Staff Development Coordinator**  
crobinson@sterlingschools.org

**Tim Schwingle, Assistant to the Superintendent-Finance**  
tschwingle@sterlingschools.org

## District Schools

**Sterling High School (9-12)**     **Jerry Binder, Principal**  
1608 Fourth Avenue     jbinder@sterlingschools.org  
Sterling, Illinois 61081     815-625-6800

**Challand Middle School (6-8)**     **Kathy Howard, Principal**  
1700 Sixth Avenue     khoward@sterlingschools.org  
Sterling, Illinois 61081     815-626-3300

**Franklin Elementary (K-2)**     **Suzzette Hesser, Principal**  
1510 East 25th Street     shesser@sterlingschools.org  
Sterling, Illinois 61081     815-625-5755

**Jefferson Elementary (K-2)**     **Ron Rick, Principal**  
806 East LeFevre Road     rrick@sterlingschools.org  
Sterling, Illinois 61081     815-625-6402

**Lincoln Elementary (3-5)**     **Andy Edmondson, Principal**  
1501 East Sixth Street     aedmondson@sterlingschools.org  
Sterling, Illinois 61081     815-625-1449

**Washington Elementary (3-5)**     **Patrick Fortney, Principal**  
815 West LeFevre     pfortney@sterlingschools.org  
Sterling, Illinois 61081     815-625-2372

**Wallace School (PreK)**     **Karen Klingenberg**  
506 West Fourth Street     kklingenberg@sterlingschools.org  
Sterling, Illinois 61081     815-625-3000

## Who to Contact for Information

- For something that take place in your child's school, please call your child's teacher or the school principal.
- For something that takes place at your neighborhood school, please call the school principal.
- For information on school rules, schedules, or special events, please call your child's teacher or the principal of the school.
- For information on District policies and matters of district-wide concern, please call the Superintendent of Schools or the Administrator in charge of the area of your concern.
- For information on Board of Education policies, items on an upcoming Board of Education meeting agenda, issues under consideration by the Board, or other concerns, please call or email the Superintendent or any Board member.

## To Address a Concern

- If your complaint concerns a teacher, classroom practice, school rule, or similar situation, please discuss the matter with the teacher. If the matter is not resolved or if you feel the matter is serious enough for further action, please contact the principal of the school. If still not resolved, please contact the Superintendent of Schools.

## To Give a Compliment

- If it is about something good happening in the school please call, email, or write to the teacher, principal, counselor, secretary, custodian or other involved.
- If it is about something you feel the administration has done well, please call, email, or write the individual(s) involved.
- If it involves a Board action you feel was particularly good, please call or email the Board member(s).

## To Review District Policies or School Board Meeting Agendas

- A copy of the complete set of policies and rules is available for inspection in the Superintendent of School's Office or on the District website, [www.sterlingschools.org](http://www.sterlingschools.org).
- A copy of the agenda for any forthcoming regular Board of Education meeting is available for inspection at any school, in the Superintendent's office, or on the District website.

## District Data

Area	120 square miles
Population	25,394 (2000 census)
Equalized Valuation	\$279,216,893
Education Fund Budget (Revenue)	\$26,000,000
Education Fund Budget (Expenditure)	\$26,000,000
Equalized Levy Rate	4.7694 per \$100
Outstanding Indebtedness	\$13,530,000
Certified Employees	260
Other Employees	120

## Enrollment

Elementary (PreK-2)	973
Elementary (3-5)	759
Middle School	717
High School	959
Total Enrollment	3408

## Average Class Size

Elementary (K-2)	22.0	Elementary (3-5)	26.8
Middle School (6-8)	18.7	High School (9-12)	20.0

5/19/2009

# 2008-2009 Sterling Schools Guide to the Board of Education and District Information



Sterling Schools  
Community Unit School District No. 5  
District Office  
410 East LeFevre Road  
Sterling, Illinois 61081  
Telephone: 815-626-5050

Please visit our website: [www.sterlingschools.org](http://www.sterlingschools.org)

## 2008-2009 Board of Education Goals

### Community and Public Relations Committee

- Every two weeks, Sterling Schools Administrative Staff will formally communicate with all stakeholders.
- In order to establish and maintain positive community partnerships during the 2008-09 school year, each District Office Administrator and Building Principal will serve on at least one formal community organization.
- A network will be created by June 30, 2009, to provide parents on-going resources that are intended to help their child become more successful academically, emotionally, and socially.

### Education Committee

- Articulate and begin implementation of Sterling School District's Response to Intervention Plan by completing the ISBE District RtI template in accordance with the ISBE timeline.
- Establish a systematic approach to Bilingual Education by creating standardized entrance and exit criteria and system-wide vertical alignment
- Finalize a plan by June 30, 2009, that systemically articulates the accelerated program in an effort to expose more students to accelerated curriculum.
- By the end of September, develop a comprehensive staff development plan focusing on differentiation for the 2008-2009 school year by holding monthly staff development team meetings.

### Finance, Transportation, and Facility Committee

- The District will continue to be on the state measured Financial Recognition List for the June 30, 2009 year end and not falling below the state measured Review List in the next three years.
- By June 30, 2009, we will complete a five-year facility plan with input from all stakeholders, analyzing enrollment trends and current facility conditions, while taking into account student needs.
- By the start of 2009-2010 school year, Washington Elementary School will have a geothermal system installed.

### Board of Education Members

Board members are elected by the voting public within the boundaries of Sterling Schools CUSD #5 and serve four year terms. The Board sets policies regarding students, staff, educational programs, facilities, equipment, and relations with the community. The Board also establishes the budget for the District and negotiates with employee groups and their unions.

#### **BOARD PRESIDENT**

##### **Jim Brotheridge**

Tenth year of Board service  
\* Term expires April 2013  
\* Elected President April 2005  
\*Principal Sterling Christian School \* Wife: Bonnie \* Three children: Eric, Keith, and Kelci  
\* Sterling resident 29 years \* BA-Monmouth College \* Masters-Northern Illinois University  
\* Masters in Education Administration-Western  
\* Hobbies: Barbershop Singer, Swimming \* Email [jbrotheridge@sterlingschools.org](mailto:jbrotheridge@sterlingschools.org)  
\* Telephone 815-626-1574



*Jim Brotheridge*

#### **BOARD VICE PRESIDENT**

##### **Gonzalo Steven Reyes**

Elected to Board 2001 \* Term expires April 2013 \* Facility, Transportation, and Finance Committee Chair \* Education Committee \* Rockford Public Schools Educator \* Wife: Carol  
\* Born and raised in Sterling  
\* Associate of Arts-SVCC  
\* Bachelor of Arts-Southern Illinois University \* Master of Fine Arts-University of Notre Dame \* Ed.S Candidate at NIU \* Twin Cities Educational Scholarship Board Member/Past President \* Latin American Club Member  
\* Email [greyes@sterlingschools.org](mailto:greyes@sterlingschools.org) \* Telephone 815-626-8696



*Gonzalo Steven Reyes*

#### **BOARD SECRETARY**

##### **Gail Dancey**

Elected to Board 2003 \* Term expires April 2011 \* Education Committee Chair \* Retired Sterling Schools teacher  
\* Husband: Glenn \* Son: Grant, SHS Graduate \* Sterling resident 38 years \* BA in Education-Western Illinois University, MA in Reading-Northern Illinois University \* Hobby: Bridge  
\* Email [gdancey@sterlingschools.org](mailto:gdancey@sterlingschools.org) \* Telephone 815-625-7936



*Gail Dancey*

#### **BOARD TREASURER**

##### **Jim McPherson**

Appointed to Board 2007  
\*Elected to Board 2009 \* Term expires April 2013 \* Facility, Transportation, and Finance Committee \* Edward Jones Investments \* Northern Illinois University \* Augustana College \* Sterling High School Graduate  
\* Wife: Cathy \* Children: Elise, Carrie, Maggie, and Ryan \* Email [jmcperson@sterlingschools.org](mailto:jmcperson@sterlingschools.org) \* Telephone 815-625-0198



*Jim McPherson*

#### **BOARD MEMBER**

##### **Marc Geil**

Elected to Board 2009 \* Term expires April 2013 \* Education Committee \* Policy and Community Relations Committee  
\* Wahl Clipper International Marketing Manager \* Born and Raised in Sterling  
\* BA-Marycrest International \* MBA-Regis University \* Wife: Kristie \* Children: Madeline and Paige \* YMCA Board Member \* Email [mgeil@sterlingschools.org](mailto:mgeil@sterlingschools.org)  
\* Telephone 815-622-0461



*Marc Geil*

#### **BOARD MEMBER**

##### **Bob Allen**

Elected to Board 2007 \* Term expires April 2011 \* Board Assistant Secretary \* Policy and Community Relations Committee  
\* Sterling Police Department Sergeant \* Sauk Valley Community College \* BS-Western Illinois University \* Sterling Resident 17 years \* Wife: Cheryl  
\* Children: Austin, Nathan, Chandler, Ryan, and Reid \* Hobbies: Golf, Little League Baseball Coach \* Email [ballen@sterlingschools.org](mailto:ballen@sterlingschools.org) \* Telephone 815-626-7866



*Bob Allen*

#### **BOARD MEMBER**

##### **Jay Van Horn**

Elected to Board 2007 \* Term expires April 2011 \* Facility, Transportation, and Finance Committee \* Policy and Community Relations Committee \* Retired Truck Driver \* Foster Parent \* Sterling resident 36 years \* Wife: Karen \* Children: Jim, Jason, Josh, Kristie, Karla, and Larry  
\* Hobbies: Bowling, Motorcycles \* Email [jvanhorn@sterlingschools.org](mailto:jvanhorn@sterlingschools.org) \* Telephone 815-625-3037



*Jay Van Horn*

#### **SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

##### **Tad Everett**

After working for Sterling Schools for nine years, Mr. Everett was named the Superintendent of Schools in December 2007. Previously he worked for the district in the capacity of high school assistant principal, middle school principal, and assistant superintendent.

Prior to coming to Sterling, Mr. Everett held the positions of athletic director, high school geography and history teacher, as well as middle school social studies teacher. He received his Bachelors, Masters, and Specialist degrees from Eastern Illinois University, and he is currently working on his Doctoral degree from Walden University. Mr. Everett resides in Sterling with his wife Cindy and three children, Zack, Katelyn, and Tyler. His hobbies are golf, reading, cooking, and being a die-hard St. Louis Cardinals baseball fan. Mr. Everett can be contacted via email at [teverett@sterlingschools.org](mailto:teverett@sterlingschools.org)



### Sterling Schools Mission Statement

Sterling Schools, in partnership with parents and community, will create a caring environment in which all students learn. This partnership shall empower all students to become responsible learners and decision makers as they prepare for the future.

### Board of Education Meetings

The Sterling Schools Board of Education meets regularly on the fourth Wednesday of every month. Meetings begin at 6:00 p.m. with Closed Session and Open Session begins at 7:00 p.m. Closed Sessions (which relate to such matters as personnel, negotiations, or litigation) are closed to the public in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act. Location of the meetings is in the Sterling High School Library.

All regular monthly Board of Education meetings are recorded for broadcast on Channel 11, available to local Comcast subscribers.

Advance notice of Board meetings is sent to all requesting local news media. The notice includes time, location, and topics of Board meetings. Board of Education meetings proceedings are published in the Sterling Daily Gazette and reported on over radio station, WSDR 1240AM.

### Board of Education Committees

The Board has established a subcommittee structure. These Standing Committees and their members include:

#### Education

Meets the second Tuesday of every month at 5:15 p.m. in the SHS Library Conference Room.  
Chairperson: Gail Dancey  
Board Members: Marc Geil, Gonzalo Reyes  
Director of Student Services: Jason Austin

#### Facility/Transportation/Finance

Meets the Monday before the regular monthly Board meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the SHS Library Conference Room.  
Chairperson: Gonzalo Steven Reyes  
Board Members: Jim McPherson, Jay Van Horn  
Assistant to the Superintendent: Tim Schwingle

#### Policy and Community Relations

Meets the second Thursday every other month at 6:00 p.m. in the SHS Library Conference Room.  
Chairperson: Bob Allen  
Board Members: Marc Geil, Jay Van Horn  
Superintendent of Schools: Tad Everett