

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

**Sterling Public Schools**  
410 East LeFevre Road  
Sterling, Illinois 61081  
815-626-5050

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

**Jerry Binder, Director of Human Resources**  
jbinder@sterlingschools.org

**Sara Dail, Director of Student Services**  
sdail@sterlingschools.org

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

**Cheryl Robinson, Director of Curriculum and Instruction**  
crobinson@sterlingschools.org

**Tim Schwingle, Director of Finance**  
tschwingle@sterlingschools.org

## District Schools

**Sterling High School (9-12)** **Jason Austin, Principal**  
1608 Fourth Avenue  
Sterling, Illinois 61081  
jaustin@sterlingschools.org  
815-625-6800

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

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

**Jefferson Elementary (PreK-2)** **Matt Birdsley, Principal**  
806 East LeFevre Road  
Sterling, Illinois 61081  
mbirdsley@sterlingschools.org  
815-625-6402

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

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

## 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 others 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.sterlingpublicschools.org](http://www.sterlingpublicschools.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	\$301,184,868
Education Fund Budget (Revenue)	\$29,000,000
Education Fund Budget (Expenditure)	\$29,000,000
Equalized Levy Rate	4.5965 per \$100
Outstanding Indebtedness	\$17,731,506
Certified Employees	237
Other Employees	143

## Enrollment

Elementary (K-2)	760
Elementary (3-5)	765
Middle School	794
High School	989
Total Enrollment	3308

## Average Class Size

Kindergarten	20.2	Grade 6	23.8
Grade 3	24.5	High School (9-12)	17.8

# 2011-2012 STERLING PUBLIC SCHOOLS GUIDE TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND DISTRICT INFORMATION



Sterling Public Schools  
District Office  
410 East LeFevre Road  
Sterling, Illinois 61081  
Telephone: 815-626-5050

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

2011-2012 Board of Education Goals

**Education Committee Goals**

Curriculum

Academic

- Sterling Public Schools grade/content area teams will revise curriculum maps to reflect newly adopted Common Core Standards by June 30, 2012.

Social Emotional

- Sterling Public Schools SEL teams and counselors will continue to research, develop, and implement Tiered interventions by May of 2012

Instruction

Academic

- The Director of Curriculum and Instruction, along with District School Improvement Teams, will differentiate staff development necessary for Phase 1 of the transition to the Common Core Standards of expectations for increased rigor by May of 2012.

Social Emotional

- Based on student discipline data, Sterling Public Schools SEL teams and counselors will develop instructional lessons aligned to student needs by May of 2012.
- Under the guidance of the District School Improvement Team, each school will continue to develop/improve a problem solving plan that meets the updated Illinois State Board of Education special education eligibility/entitlement guidelines by December of 2012.

Assessment

Academic

- Sterling Public Schools staff will utilize AIMSweb reading and math assessments to universally screen and progress monitor students in grades K-8 during the 2011-2012 school year.
- Utilizing screener and district norms, Sterling Public Schools K-12 grade level spans will revise and align Response to Intervention Rubrics with clearly identified assessment cut scores for student identification in each tier by May of 2012.

Social Emotional

- Sterling Public Schools counselors and teachers will pilot the AIMSweb Behavioral Screener for students in grades K-8 and make a recommendation for future use to the Education Committee by May of 2012.

**Facilities-Transportation-Finance Committee Goals**

Finance

- Maintain fiscal conservatism measured by not falling below the state's Financial Review List for the year ending June 30, 2012.
- Completion of fiscally responsible teacher and ESP contracts by June 30, 2012.
- Continue to explore alternative financial sources by June 30, 2012.

Transportation

- No goals for the year.

Facilities

- Start on Lincoln School geothermal project by May, 2012 with target completion by start of fiscal 2012-2013 school year.
- Start on first phase of Challand Middle School window project by May 2012.

**Policy and Community Relations Committee Goals**

- The Superintendent and PCR Committee will continually monitor all current Board of Education policies, making any necessary revisions or additions by May 31, 2012.
- By May 31, 2012, the Superintendent will complete a comprehensive Communication Plan for the District.
- In order to establish and maintain positive community partnerships during the 2011-2012 school year, each District Office Administrator and Building Principal will serve on at least one formal community organization.

**Board of Education Members**

Board members are elected by the voting public within the boundaries of Sterling Public Schools 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**

Thirteenth year of Board service \* Term expires April 2013 \* Elected President April 2005 Retired School Administrator \* Wife: Bonnie \* Three children: Eric, Keith, and Kelci \* Sterling resident 32 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**

**Bob Allen**

Elected to Board 2007 \* Term expires April 2013 \* Policy and Community Relations Committee Chair \* Facility, Transportation, and Finance Committee \* Sterling Police Department Sergeant \* Sauk Valley Community College \* BS-Western Illinois University \* Sterling Resident 19 years \* Wife: Cheryl \* Children: Austin, Nathan, Chandler, Ryan, and Reid \* Hobbies: Golf, Baseball Coach \* Email [ballen@sterlingschools.org](mailto:ballen@sterlingschools.org) \* Telephone 815-626-7866



*Bob Allen*

**BOARD SECRETARY**

**Gail Dancey**

Elected to Board 2003 \* Term expires April 2015 \* Education Committee Chair \* Retired Sterling Schools teacher \* Husband: Glenn \* Son: Grant \* Sterling resident 40 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 \* \* Edward Jones Investments \* Northern Illinois University \* Augustana College \* Sterling High School Graduate \* Wife: Cathy \* Children: Elise, Carrie, Maggie, Ryan \* Email [jmcperson@sterlingschools.org](mailto:jmcperson@sterlingschools.org) \* Telephone 815-625-0198



*Jim McPherson*

**BOARD ASSISTANT SECRETARY**

**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

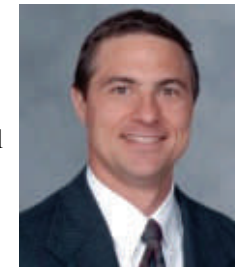


*Marc Geil*

**BOARD MEMBER**

**Terry McGuire**

Appointed to Board 2011 \* Term expires April 2013 \* Education Committee \* HALO Branded Solutions \* BA-Central College, Pella, Iowa \*Wife: Jill \* Children: Rachel and Nick \* Sterling resident 12 years \* Hobbies: Biking, Hiking, Running, Skiing \* Email [tmcguire@sterlingschools.org](mailto:tmcguire@sterlingschools.org) \* Telephone 815-626-6005



*Terry McGuire*

**BOARD MEMBER**

**Jay Van Horn**

Elected to Board 2007 \* Term expires April 2015 \* Policy and Community Relations Committee \* Facilities-Transportation-Finance Committee \* Retired Truck Driver \* Foster Parent \* Sterling resident 38 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 Public 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. Mr. Everett resides in Sterling with his wife Cindy and their 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 Public Schools Mission Statement**

Sterling Public 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 Public Schools Board of Education meets regularly on the fourth Wednesday of every month. Meetings begin at 6:00 PM with Closed Session and Open Session begins at 7:00 PM. Closed Sessions (which relate to such matters as student discipline, personnel, negotiations, or litigation) are closed to the public in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act. Location of the meetings is 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 AM1240.

**Board of Education Committees**

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

**Education**

Meets the third Tuesday of every month at 12:00 PM in the SHS Library Conference Room.  
 Chairperson: Gail Dancey  
 Board Members: Marc Geil, Terry McGuire  
 Director of Student Services: Sara Dail  
 Director of Curriculum and Instruction: Cheryl Robinson

**Facility/Transportation/Finance**

Meets the Monday before the regular monthly Board meeting at 12:00 PM in the SHS Library Conference Room.  
 Chairperson: Jim McPherson  
 Board Members: Bob Allen, Jay Van Horn  
 Director of Finance: Tim Schwingle

**Policy and Community Relations**

Meets the second Thursday every other month at 12:00 PM in the SHS Library Conference Room.  
 Chairperson: Bob Allen  
 Board Members: Marc Geil, Jay Van Horn  
 Superintendent of Schools: Tad Everett