

**Rochelle Elementary School
DISTRICT 231
444 NORTH EIGHTH STREET
ROCHELLE, ILLINOIS 61068**

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Superintendent

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February 11, 2010

Dear Parents,

The Rochelle Elementary School District has been reviewing potential budget reductions for the 2010-11 school year. At the February 9, 2010, board meeting, the board reviewed considerations for budget reductions.

The direction of the district to address budget reductions will have an impact to students and staff. However, the district is pursuing options that will have the least impact on students while trying to maintain the level of service and opportunities for students as best as possible.

Currently being considered is reducing a section at each grade level. The reduction of the grade levels in the elementary buildings will occur at the grade level at the building with the lowest enrollment. Currently this would reduce a section (for next year) of first, fourth, and fifth grades at Lincoln, a second grade section at Tilton, and third grade section at May. Since Lincoln currently has three section of third grade, this would not involve moving any Lincoln students at that grade level. Given the current enrollments, we would need to move seven current Lincoln kindergarten students, ten current Tilton first grade students, six current May second grade students, and nine current Lincoln fourth grade students to other buildings to balance out class sizes.

These reductions of sections would involve moving a total of sixteen Lincoln students, ten Tilton students, and six May students for a total of thirty-two students that will need to be transferred. The total number of students that will need to be moved to a different building is approximately thirty-two.

The district is also considering other budget reductions for the upcoming year beyond just the reductions of grade level sections.

The district will be holding informational meetings for the public that will outline the reasons behind the budget reductions and potential changes, and an overview of the impact and changes that may occur.

There will be two opportunities for the public to hear the direction of the budget reductions and potential changes. The informational meetings will be held on February 18th, and on February 24th in the Rochelle Middle School south gym. Both meetings will start at 7:00 p.m.

As we are all aware, the impact of the current economic times is affecting all areas, and school districts are no different. There will need to be some difficult decisions to balance the current financial situation with a plan for long term sustainability and to continue to provide quality educational opportunities and experiences for the students.

Sincerely,



Todd Prusator

Superintendent

Rochelle Elementary School District #231