

# STAUNTON COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 6

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*The mission of the Staunton Community Unit School District #6 is to provide a safe and superior learning environment for all students so that they may acquire the knowledge, skills, and character to be productive members of society.*

July 22, 2017

Dear Staunton CUSD #6 Families,

I'm writing you today, alongside my colleagues across the state writing their communities directly to share our support for Senate Bill 1, the evidenced based model for school funding in Illinois. Senate Bill 1 helps our district tremendously and it helps all kids across the state.

There has been a lot of information in the news recently about how our schools will be funded this year. I wanted to take the time to explain why our district has chosen to support Senate Bill 1 (SB1) as the fair model to fund our schools—despite numbers circulating suggesting there is a better way. There's not. SB1 is our bill.

I support SB1 because it brings \$353,874 new funding into our school district. SB1 does not cut funding from any school district, now or in the future. Our coalition, which includes statewide organizations like the Illinois PTA and Illinois Association of School Administrators, does not support a funding proposal that cuts funding from Illinois kids, regardless of their zip code.

SB1 does not play zip code politics. Signing SB1 would immediately give students, parents, teachers, and our community certainty that schools will open and stay open. Our Children shouldn't bear the burden of the mistakes of the past.

Why don't we support the Governor's "plan"? The governor has not released a plan—these are just numbers on a website. Those numbers can't be validated or verified. The words on the Governor's website state he will still give CPS their normal pension costs, despite the governor's claims that SB1 is a "Chicago pension bailout." But the numbers and the Governor's words state that he is ok with cutting funding from some students. We're not. Again, we cannot support this plan. We value kids and urge our politicians to do the same.

SB1 fixes our broken school funding system that is the worst in the nation. It is the right solution for our district and all districts.

Yours In Education,



Dan W. Cox  
Superintendent of Schools

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