

District Launches New School Year

It is with great anticipation and enthusiasm that the Nauvoo-Colusa School District #325 launches the 2011-2012 school year! The school district is one of the few across the nation that is meeting Adequately Yearly Progress according to the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. Our staff, parents, and school board are hard at work ensuring that our students receive the best education.

The mission of the Nauvoo-Colusa District is to empower all students to excel in a global society. The District is working on improving student academic and behavior success by continuing the Response to Intervention programs at both the elementary and junior high schools. The junior high school added a reading period for students that need extra attention to improve their reading skills.

We want to welcome two new staff members to our school community. The Board of Education is pleased to announce that Lee Ann Lambert will teach 7th and 8th grade social studies, Stephanie VanBeveren will teach Spanish and consumer family science at the junior high school, and Mary McKoon as the speech and language professional. Mrs. Lambert, Ms. VanBeveren, and Mrs. McKoon were selected as the top candidates from a highly talented and competitive applicant pool.

Mr. Ken Schuster accepted a position as social studies teacher and high school girls' basketball coach at the Pana School District in Pana, Illinois. Mrs. Karen Nichols retired as the junior high Spanish teacher and Mrs. Rosie McKoon retired as 4th grade teacher. We thank those teachers for their many years of educating students at Nauvoo-Colusa.

As with many school districts in the United States of America, the district is facing some challenging times. The state of Illinois and the Federal Government continue to reduce revenue they provide to local school districts. The governor reduced the amount of revenue the district receives in the transportation fund. With that reduction, the district must find ways to cut that minimally affects the students. A change for next year is that we will only run one extra-curriculum route from Warsaw and Hamilton High Schools. The activity bus will leave the Warsaw High School at 6:15 p.m. and Hamilton High School at 6:30 p.m. All coaches have been notified of this change.

We look forward to educating your child. Please communicate with the school district any concerns that you have about your student's education.

Dr. Kent H. Young, Superintendent