

# WILLOW SPRINGS PUBLIC SCHOOL

DISTRICT 108 • COOK COUNTY

SUPERINTENDENT • FRANK C. PATRICK  
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April 3, 2019

Dear Willow Springs School District 108 Community:


Yesterday was Election Day! What do the two YES votes on the advisory referenda issues concerning consolidation of Willow Springs School District 108 with another district mean?

1. It does not mean an immediate consolidation or closure of our school. The two questions were to initiate a study of what impact consolidation would have upon the district – not to consolidate or to close the school.
2. The questions on the ballot were advisory, not binding. The School Board may choose to approach neighboring districts to determine if there is interest in studying consolidation of our two districts. From previous discussions with our neighboring districts, this is not probable.
3. If a consolidation study was agreed to by 2 or more districts, a third party that specializes in school consolidations would be hired to conduct the study. The study is a lengthy process. Its purpose is to determine what the new consolidated school district would look like: where would the kids go to school, what salary schedule for the teachers, how would the bond debt of both districts be shared? All of these questions and many, many more would need to be answered.

After a consolidation plan is put together, it would need to be approved by both school boards, the regional superintendent (after a hearing), and the state school superintendent. If all the approvals were in place, then the actual vote to consolidate would go to all the voters of both districts. It would need to win in both districts for consolidation to occur. Even on a fast track, this would take several years of work to occur and many steps of approval including directly from the voters.

Also in yesterday's election, the voters re-elected Adriana Hawkins to the school board and elected Micki Bohac and Stephanie Patrick to the Board. Their terms begin at April board meeting. Congratulations to them!

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me.

Sincerely yours,  
  
Frank C. Patrick



WILLOW SPRINGS SCHOOL, WHERE A LOVE OF LEARNING GROWS.