DIXON PUBLIC SCHOOLS #170

"A Place to Grow"

www.dps170.org

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Dr. Melydi Huyett, Superintendent
Doug Stansford, Asst. Superintendent
Marc Campbell, Business Manager

November 19, 2026

Dear Dixon Public Schools Parents, Guardians, and Students,

We want to share an important update regarding Dixon Public Schools' membership in the Lee County Special Education Association (LCSEA). At the November 18, 2026 Board of Education meeting, the Board approved a resolution to initiate the process of withdrawing from the LCSEA cooperative and establishing a public hearing for the December 16, 2026 Board meeting.

Dixon Public Schools represents approximately 97% of the LCSEA cooperative's membership. After careful consideration and ongoing discussions about how special education services can best be organized and delivered, we believe it is in the best interest of our district to begin the process of transitioning these services under the direct operation of Dixon Public Schools.

Why are we making this change?
Our goal is to improve operational efficiency by bringing the management and oversight of special education services directly under Dixon Public Schools. We believe this will allow us to streamline operations, strengthen coordination, and better align special education programming with the needs and priorities of our students and district.

What does this mean for students and families?
Most importantly, special education services will continue, and there will be no interruption to the services students currently receive as a result of this process. Our commitment to providing high-quality special education services and supporting the individual needs of every student remains unchanged.

We recognize that a change of this nature may raise questions or concerns. This is the beginning of a process, and there is still considerable planning and work ahead. We are committed to approaching this transition thoughtfully, responsibly, and with the best interests of students and families at the forefront.

As the process moves forward, we will continue to communicate important updates and provide information to help families understand what to expect. We appreciate your trust and partnership as we work to ensure that every student continues to receive the support and services they need to be successful.

Thank you for being part of the Dixon Public Schools community.

Sincerely,

Melydi Huyett, Ed.D.

Melydi Huyett
Dixon Public Schools Superintendent

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CONCERNING PROPOSED WITHDRAWAL OF DIXON PUBLIC SCHOOLS FROM THE LEE COUNTY SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF DIXON COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #170 (Dixon Public Schools) LEE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Education of Dixon Community Unit District #170 (Dixon Public Schools), will conduct a public hearing pursuant to Section 10-22.31(j) of the Illinois School Code (105 ILCS 5/10-22.31(j)) concerning the District's intent to withdrawal from the Lee County Special Education Association Cooperative.

The public hearing will be held as follows:

DATE: December 16, 2026

TIME: 5:30 pm

LOCATION: Dixon Public Schools Central Office, 1335 Franklin Grove Road, Dixon, Illinois

The purpose of the public hearing is to provide information concerning the District's withdrawal from the Lee County Special Education Association Cooperative, including the plan of the District to provide special education programs and services to students with disabilities following withdrawal, and to afford members of the public an opportunity to provide comments concerning the proposed withdrawal.

At the public hearing, the Superintendent and Board of Education will receive public comments regarding the intent to withdrawal, including comments concerning the District's anticipated plan for providing special education programs, services, and supports following withdrawal from the Cooperative.

Members of the public, including parents and guardians of students with disabilities, District residents, employees, and other interested persons, are invited to attend and provide comments.

Information concerning the District's proposed comprehensive plan for providing special education services following withdrawal may be reviewed at the District Office during regular business hours.

This public hearing is being conducted pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/10-22.31(j)(1).

DATED this 18th day of November**, 2026**.

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF DIXON COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT #170 (DIXON PUBLIC SCHOOLS)

Melissa Gates
Secretary, Board of Education