

Dear District 204 Parents and Taxpayers,

My name is Mark Rising and I am currently running for Indian Prairie School District 204 Board of Education. I am sending you this email to tell you who I am, how I have been working and advocating for our children, and why I am running to represent you on IPSD School Board. I want to keep Indian Prairie School District as one of the top school districts in the state.

I have been married for 15 years and have lived in D204 for 13 years. I have two daughters: one in 7th grade and one in 1st grade. In addition to working full time, I volunteer for 2 civic organizations and 6 D204 parent organizations, 3 of which I am either serving on or have served on the executive committee. I have also attended 90% of D204 school board meetings since 2005 and have gained a comprehensive knowledge of IPSD goals, policies, finances, and operations. ([Mark's Flyer](#))

We are no longer growing as fast as we once were which requires us to be more innovative in our approach to address the financial problems we are now facing.

**Fast Facts:**

- By March 31st the State of Illinois will owe IPSD \$13 million.
- IPSD bond debt has risen to over \$300 million. With interest that amount is over \$482 million. This is in addition to what the state owes us.
- 12% of IPSD's budget now goes towards paying our current debt and interest...
- ...while only 7% of IPSD's budget goes towards operating our schools!

By 2013 IPSD will be facing increased debt and the potential for budget deficits. It is important that we begin working on new ways to manage our finances so we can continue to deliver the quality education we've come to expect in our district. For more information on D204 finances, please visit my website at [www.rising204.com](http://www.rising204.com) and look under "District Finances".

**Naperville Area Chamber PAC (NACPAC) Endorsement**

The first non-partisan group to endorse D204 school board candidates. In **my endorsement** they said the following. ***"Mark Rising has been engaged and studying issues since he ran (for school board) in 2009 and would hit the ground running."***

I will make it my mission to stay informed regarding educational and financial issues here at home and at the State and Federal levels. It will be my job to represent everyone in the District equally and fairly, and I will strive to listen, learn, and understand your views in order to make the best policy decisions I can make, without a rush to judgment. I bring with me 20+ years of business experience, an understanding of finances and budgets, extensive knowledge of D204, unmatched involvement in our parent organizations, and a passion and commitment towards making Indian Prairie School District the best it can be.

This is why I want to be a member of your school board and why I hope you will support me on April 5th.

Sincerely,  
Mark W. Rising  
IPSD 204 School Board Candidate  
[www.rising204.com](http://www.rising204.com)