

<http://www.MSCNews.net/news/index.cfm?nk=58331>

School Shutdown Looms Locally

(KAIR)--Planning the best they can in the face of the unexpected.

That's what Kansas school districts, including Atchison County's USD 377, are doing, as the battle of over education funding in the state rages on.

Included is the threat made by the Kansas Supreme Court that schools will be shut down as of June 30th if the Kansas Legislature does not authorize what the court deems to be adequate funding.

USD 377 Superintendent Steve Wiseman says there's simply not much that can be done at this point, except wait and see. "We're hopeful that the Legislature can come up with a solution that satisfies the courts, otherwise it could get quite interesting here in the next couple weeks," Wiseman tells MSC News. "We've never been in this position before where we've been threatened with a shutdown. There's so many unknowns we just don't know what's going to happen. We don't believe it's going to happen, but anything is possible these days."

Wiseman says the district has taken what steps they can for preparing for the worst. "We just have to go off what the experts tell us from the state department, and how they do things in the federal government when they have had to go through shutdowns before."

The possibility of the school shutdown was addressed by the USD 377 Board of Education when they met Monday.

The Kansas Legislature will focus on education funding during a special session set to start June 23rd, as ordered by Governor Sam Brownback.

Many Signals Communications