

Parks districts prepared in case of strike

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Palatine Countryside

The District 15 community has been preparing for a strike, whether one ultimately occurs or not.

Keith Williams, Palatine Park District superintendent of recreation, has spent the last week putting together a network of programs in case children aren't in school.

"We don't want to be involved in the politics of the strike," Williams said. "We're just here to provide services for the children just like we would any time they're not in school."

Williams met with representatives from the Rolling Meadows and Hoffman Estates park districts to create a joint program for any student within the district.

"It will be first-come, first-served at the locations, but if one fills up, we have other options," Williams said. "And we have other partners. We have had representatives from Palatine Township meet with us as well as the Buehler YMCA, and some local churches have indicated a willingness to help."

Williams said the process will serve the needs of the community.

"Details will be posted on the Web (at www.palatineparkdistrict.com)," he said. "But we won't start registration until 1 p.m. the day of the strike -- if there is one."