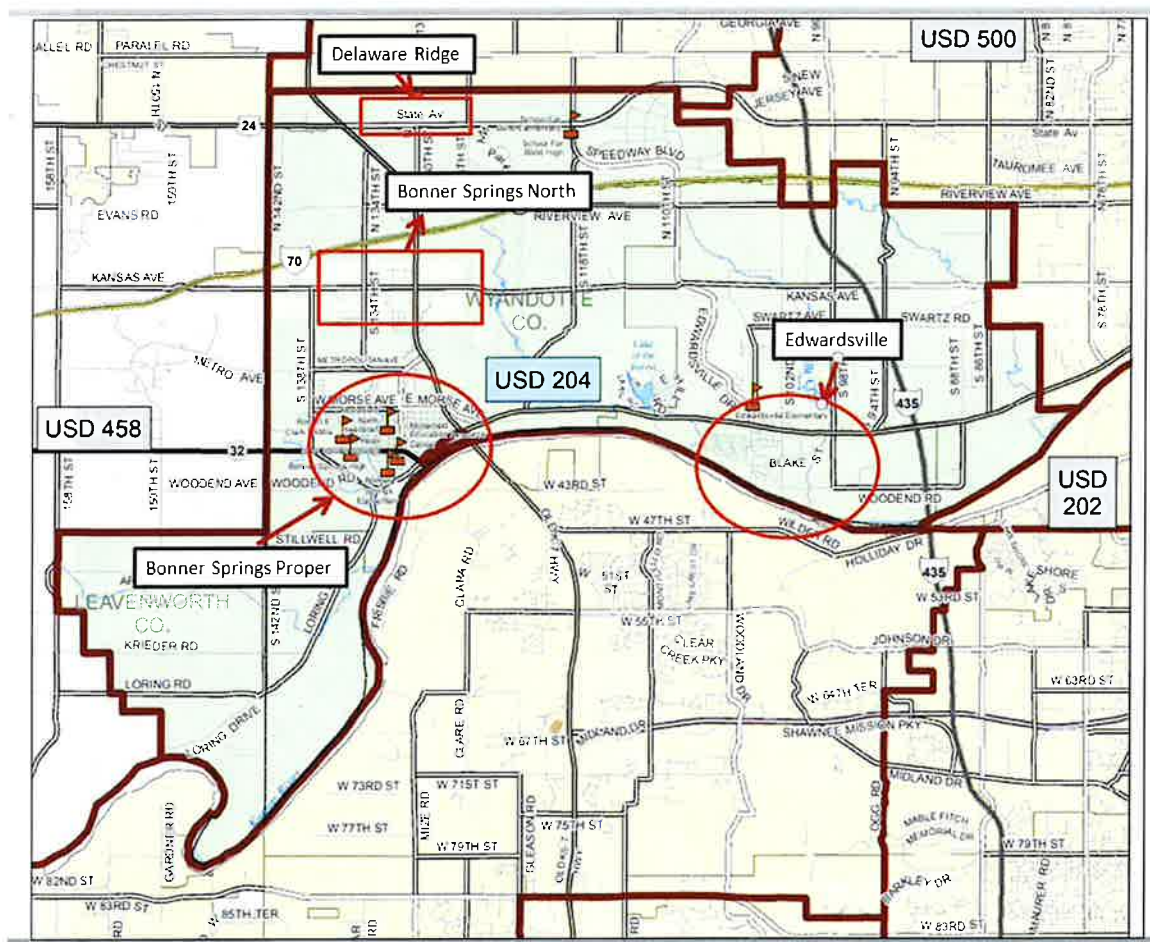


## Transportation in USD 204 Bonner Springs / Edwardsville

Unified School District #204 is a proponent for House Bill 2561. USD 204 consists of three different communities: Bonner Springs, Edwardsville and Kansas City, KS. Although the size of the district is only 38 square miles, there are currently 2,740 students enrolled in the district's schools. At present, the district is bussing 1,550 students which accounts for roughly 57% of the total student population.

Most of the students who attend school in USD 204 live in four different areas; Bonner Springs Proper, Bonner Springs North (two housing divisions and apartment buildings), Delaware Ridge (large housing division and an apartment complex) and Edwardsville.



In an effort to facilitate a cost-effective bussing schedule, the district utilizes a staggered start schedule. The district's secondary schools (Clark Middle School and Bonner Springs High School) start classes at 7:45 followed by the district's elementary schools which start their school day 45 minutes later at 8:30. This allows the district to save on the number of busses purchased, the cost of maintaining the busses and savings in employee labor costs. The district

currently runs 11 elementary routes and 12 secondary routes. The average number of riders on each elementary bus is 54 students.

At Edwardsville Elementary, the district transports 227 students who live within 2.5 miles of the school due to safety concerns. These students would have to cross a busy railroad crossing (estimated over 40 trains a day) and a major highway (K-32) if transportation was not provided by the district.





The transportation density formula is critically important to Unified School District 204 because of its uniqueness of being made up of four different sub-communities with large populations in a small area. I moved to Bonner Springs from Western Kansas where all students who lived in town were 2.5 miles or less away from the middle school and high school. The majority of students lived in the city and the number of students qualifying for transportation was only a small percentage of the total population.

In that district, state funding covered all of the transportation costs; however, it does not in USD 204. Despite the fact that USD 204 runs a very efficient and cost-effective transportation program, the district is still required to supplement district transportation costs at the average rate of \$170,000 each year.

If the transportation formula was not adjusted for the high density factor that would mean more funds would need to be transferred from the General Fund to cover transportation costs in USD 204.



USD 204  
Bonner Springs/Edwardsville

*Teaching today's learners for  
tomorrow's challenges*

<b>Transportation Statistics &amp; State Aid Formula</b>	<b>Actual FY15</b>	<b>Block FY16</b>	<b>Block FY17</b>	<b>Estimated FY18</b>
Area of School District in Square Miles	38.00	38.00	38.00	38.00
Total Number of Students Transported (KSDE Data Central)	1,456.00	1,351.00	1,550.00	1,353.00
<b>ACTUAL GENERAL TRANSPORTATION STATE AID RECEIVED</b>	<b>\$ 506,550</b>	<b>\$ 506,550</b>	<b>\$ 506,550</b>	<b>\$ 506,339</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Actual FY15</b>	<b>Actual FY16</b>	<b>Actual FY17</b>	<b>Estimated FY18</b>
Operating Funds Transportation Expenses	\$ 692,563	\$ 701,161	\$ 648,847	\$ 681,289
<b>Excess Transportation Costs</b>	<b>\$ 186,013</b>	<b>\$ 194,611</b>	<b>\$ 142,297</b>	<b>\$ 174,951</b>

