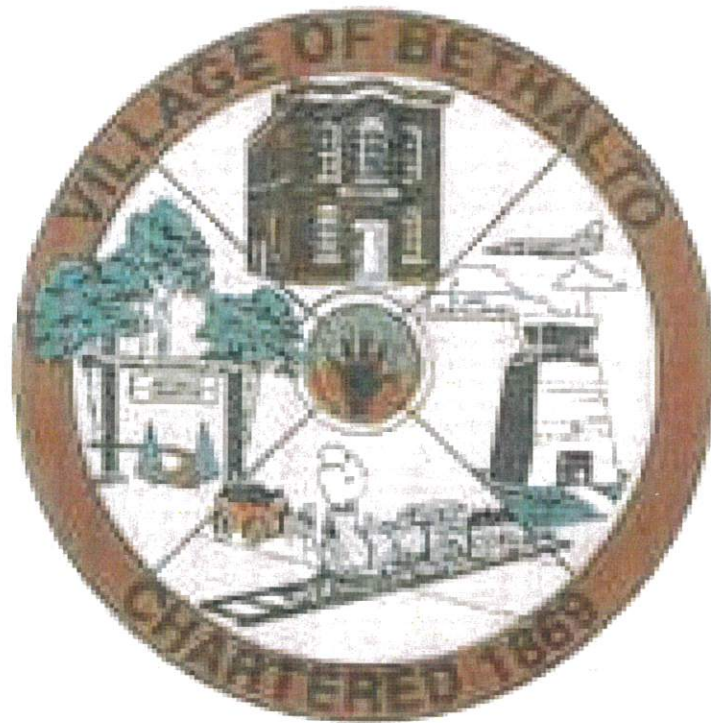


OUR TOWN IS
NOW YOUR TOWN



WELCOME HOME!

Table of Contents

Table of Contents.....	1	Committees.....	8
Welcome.....	2	Resources.....	8
History.....	3	Post Office.....	8
Village Hall.....	4	Driver's License Facility.....	8
Police Department.....	4	Hospitals.....	9
Public Works.....	5	Public Assistance.....	9
Fire Department.....	5	Utilities.....	9
Senior Citizens Center.....	5	Bethalto Community Unit #8 Schools.....	9
Bethalto Museum.....	6		
Bethalto Library.....	6		
Frequently Asked Questions.....	6		
Local Elected Officials.....	7		
Department Heads.....	7		
Appointments.....	7		

The Village logo was designed to be representative of not only historical Bethalto, but also the newer and more progressive era.

The old Village Hall was built in 1874 and is now listed on the National Historical Register as the oldest, still standing, and functional municipal building in Madison County. The building was chosen to represent the historical roots of our community. It originally housed the official offices and also served as the "jailhouse". The upstairs meeting room was home to our public library for a considerable period of time. The building currently is the location of our historical museum.



The coal truck and train represent the rich coal mining industry that dominated the early days of the village. The coal was shipped out of town on the railroad, which bisected the village running east and west. Most people know the old train track area as Plegge Boulevard, now affectionately called the "Expressway".

The arboretum was developed in 1966 (the land was part of the railroad right-of-way), and was one of few in the area. It represents the growth and

progressive nature of the community. A directory of the trees and bushes is available in the mayor's and clerk's offices. A beautiful place to stroll or power walk, its maturation only makes the experience more pleasant each time you visit.



The airport signifies growth and the ability of Bethalto to take flights and continue to soar to be the best community in which to live and work. Its small beginning, and continued steady growth, has developed it into one of the more highly recognized and economically important airports in the St. Louis metro area.

The center portion depicts the logo of our civic organization known as Bethalto Spirit. Spirit is a diverse group of citizens coming together to better the quality of life in our fine town. The trunk of the tree is a hand raised in volunteerism, the leaves represent the citizens of our village, and the jet is soaring into the sky to show progress.

Welcome...

Perched upon the edge of the rolling Illinois prairie is your new home – the Village of Bethalto. Low green hills and picturesque farms frame this attractive community of nearly 10,000 residents.

The peaceful setting and relaxed lifestyle make Bethalto an ideal place to raise a family. Yet, its close proximity to the rest of the St. Louis

metropolitan area means that your family will never exhaust the tremendous variety of cultural

opportunities and entertainment nearby.

Bethalto is home to the St. Louis Regional Airport, where an office and industrial park's expansion in the last few years has helped pour thousands of dollars into the tax base of the Village. The Village also boasts a

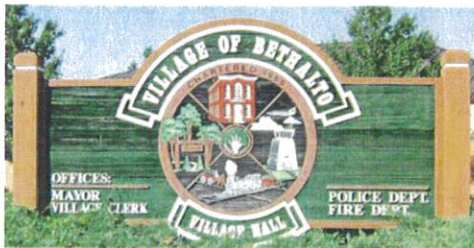


beautiful arboretum – home to trees and plants from around the world, a boon to the nature buff. The Village offers an extensive public library containing more than 30,000 volumes of

books, as well as videotapes, cassettes, magazines, and computers.

Through the week, it's common to find a variety of activities occurring at the community senior citizen's center. A van is available for transporting seniors to and from doctor's appointments, beauty shop appointments, grocery shopping, etc. Reservations can be made by calling 377-5263 a day in advance. Activities include pinochle, potlucks, and line dancing lessons offered twice a week.

Bethalto is home to several parks – the largest of which is located on Culp Lane. A three-quarter-mile walking path encircles a stocked fishing lake, children's playground and pavilion, with ample green space. Behind the Village Hall rests the Village Park where weddings take place at the gazebo, summer concerts are performed at the bandstand, the Jaycees play host to the annual Country Fair, the Rotary Club holds its annual Easter Egg Hunt, and the Bethalto Fire Department holds its annual Labor Day Homecoming.



The Village also cares a great deal about its youth. A new splash pad is now open, we have lighted tennis courts, soccer fields, a newly remodeled basketball court, pickleball courts and a number of ball diamonds. We have an active Boys & Girls Club, Rainbow Girls, 4-H clubs, and of course, Girl Scout and Boy Scout Troops.

Bethalto's Public Schools are second to none. From pre-school to a four-year comprehensive university, our region offers a multitude of educational opportunities. The local school district offers an excellent high school, middle school, and neighborhood grade schools. In addition, there are two parochial schools located within the village limits– Roman Catholic and Lutheran. Nearby is Lewis and Clark Community College, a two-year junior college, whose vocational graduates are employed throughout the area.



Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, a four-year institution offering bachelor, master and doctorate degrees in many fields, is only minutes away. Within a 15-minute drive, you can learn dentistry, become a beautician, and learn to dance or take flying lessons. The spiritual needs of our community are served by churches of varying denominations. A listing is found in this publication.

Bethalto was founded in 1854, incorporated April 19, 1869 under a special charter and again in 1873 under the State of Illinois' general law. It is governed by a Village President and six (6) trustees elected at large.

We are pleased that you have chosen to locate in Bethalto and we hope you and your family will be too. Contact information for your elected officials is listed in this publication. Don't hesitate to contact any of them if you have a problem.



HISTORY

Three words sum up the early history of Bethalto: grain, coal and trains. The first settlers in the area arrived in the early 19th century and found a land blessed with rich soil and various outcroppings of the coal.

The construction of the Alton-Terre Haute Railroad in the mid-1850s ensured Bethalto's destiny as a farming and mining center.

It was around 1809 when large numbers of settlers arrived in this area – many of them Dutch and German settlers who came to farm. Indians were also

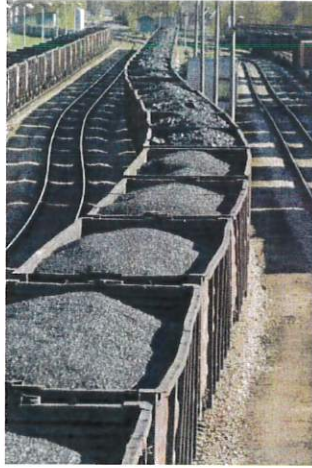
found in the area, so numerous at one time along Indian Creek that there were Kickapoo villages, and that creek became named after the Indians. Many Indian relics have been found in that vicinity. Block houses were built in case protection might be needed, but there were few problems and only one recorded massacre in 1814.

Bethalto was favored in many ways to become an early settlement. It had good soil for growing grain and all needed food. There was a good vein of coal which had outcroppings that were discovered at an early date. There was a healthy growth of timber, especially on the west, north and south sides of the site which included oak, hickory, walnut and other trees suitable for making building materials.

The roads were also better than usual in a time when trails were

the roads and ferries were the bridges. Game was plentiful, with an abundance of squirrels, rabbits, turkey, prairie hens and other game.

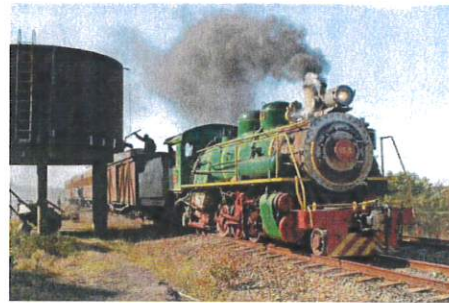
About the time that the railroad was being constructed in the 1840s and 1850s, the population had grown to the point that it was necessary to plat further development. The first plat was laid out by Joe Starkey and was recorded on June 23, 1854. This is considered to be the humble beginning for Bethalto.



At one time, a railroad track was located where Erwin Plegge Expressway is today. The railroad, the second one built in Madison County, passed through the center of town and was responsible for the growth of Bethalto. The town consisted of four blocks facing the railroad – West Main and Sherman Streets on the south and Mill and Third (now Central) to Oak Street on the north.

The railroad, built between 1854 and 1856, was extended to St. Louis and was known as the St. Louis & Terre Haute. Later, it was taken over by the Big Four and then the New York Central. Railroads were the major transportation before the days of the car. Therefore, most towns were located near a railroad.

The railroad linked Bethalto to the Mississippi River so the people could market flour and coal. The



opening of the rail line through Bethalto enabled the coal milled here to be transported to a dock on the Mississippi River near what

is now the town of Hartford. From there, coal was carried by steamboat to towns throughout the Midwest. This encouraged the development of more mines. At one time, there were at least 30 mines in or near Bethalto.

Yankee Diggins, one of the largest coal mines in the state of Illinois, was located in Bethalto. During the Civil War in 1861-1865, mine production was down. Following the Civil War, coal production rose; but by 1900, almost all the mines were gone. One by one, they closed during the first decades and the market diminished. Today, there are no coal mines operating anywhere in Madison County.

Mills also formed a very important part of Bethalto's early history. Construction of the railroad through the Village proved to be as pivotal for the milling industry as it had been for coal mining. At one time, Bethalto was one of the most important flour milling towns in the nation and was home to the largest mill in Illinois.

As the 20th century progressed, Bethalto underwent a gentle transformation. Flour milling and coal mining gave way to corn and soybean farms and industry. Transportation remained a major factor in the Village's development, however, the methods changed.

Construction began in 1946 on what was then called Walston Aviation. Now known as St. Louis Regional Airport, subsequent



expansion and addition of an office and industrial park are helping to propel Bethalto, into the future.

The railroad era ended for Bethalto in 1966. The right-of-way was offered to the Village by the New York Central Railroad Company, which last operated the line. The Village did not have the \$15,000 the rail company was asking for the 32 acres of land, so Bethalto National Bank stepped in and provided assistance for the purchase. This made possible the cross-town Expressway, a new home for the bank and a park and arboretum for the Village.

While Bethalto has moved forward, the Village has not forgotten its past. The old Village Hall, built in 1873 and enlarged in 1885, is a two-story brick Victorian/Italianate town hall. It is the oldest governmental building still in use in Madison County. Recognizing its historical significance, it was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1987 and serves as our Bethalto Museum. The city's tiny one-room jail can still be seen today. The Museum contains exhibits on Bethalto's past including the role of its citizens in World Wars I and II. Other exhibits include the founding of the town, the annual Homecoming Celebration, and a recreated classroom from the past.

In 1998, a fire at a local home revealed a perfectly protected log cabin within the structure. State historical preservationists estimate that the cabin was built in the mid-1800s. Bethalto's school children were asked by the Bethalto Rotary Club to help raise the funds needed to move and restore the cabin to its present site next to the museum. The "History Makes Cents" campaign collected more than one million pennies (\$10,000). The Bethalto Log Cabin stands as a symbol of the village's pioneer past as well as the resourcefulness of its present youth.



VILLAGE HALL

Mayor's Office **377-8051**

Clerk's Office **377-8051**

Village Hall **377-8051**

Water Office **377-8013**

Zoning Administrator **377-7697**

Website: www.bethalto.com

The village offices are located at 213 North Prairie Street. There you will find the offices of the mayor and village clerk. The police, fire and civil defense departments are also located at this address. The mayor and clerk's offices are open Monday through Friday from 9am-12pm and 1pm-4:30pm. Services include:

- Voter registration
- Notary service
- Business licenses
- Burn and garage sale permits
- Reservations of the Senior Citizens Center
- Anything we can do to help serve the residents of Bethalto

POLICE DEPARTMENT

618-377-5266 or 911 Emergencies

Bethalto is proud to have a fine full-time police department serving the community. An officer also serves as the school resource officer at our local schools. The animal control officer is also based at the police station and may be reached by dialing **377-5266**. The department provides a multitude of services including: bicycle registration, checks of residences while owners are out of town, disposal of old ammunition and firearms, and assistance with installation of car seats for children.

PUBLIC WORKS

377-8013

The Public Works Department office at Village Hall houses both the water and street department plus our Zoning Administrator's office. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM. The office closes for lunch from 12pm-1pm daily.

WATER SERVICE: Water service may be obtained in your home or business by completing an application at the public works department. You will be billed monthly for water, sewer and refuse. An after-hours drop box at the rear of the building is available for payment of your bill. In case of an after-hours EMERGENCY (after 5pm or before 8am and the entire weekend) contact the emergency number at **618-792-6274**.

SPRING AND FALL CLEANUP: Each spring and fall, the village provides a major cleanup free to its residents. At that time, on your regular weekly trash pickup day, our trash hauler will provide curbside pickup of old furniture, etc. Watch for the notices on your water bills, on Village social media pages, on our website, and on the sign board in front of village hall.

BRUSH & LEAF PICKUP: Brush & leaf pickup is done through our waste hauler, Republic Services. They may be contacted directly at **618-656-6883**. The hauler requires that the leaves be bagged in biodegradable paper bags. No plastic bags will be accepted.

SNOW REMOVAL: When two inches or more of new snow has accumulated, plowing operations will begin. When snow removal begins, all parked cars must be removed from the streets marked "snow route" until the street surface has been completely plowed.

TRASH COLLECTION: The village has a contract with Republic Services to collect trash once weekly. There is also curbside recycling pickup, on the same day as your trash pickup, every other week. Billing for trash collection appears on your water bill.
618-656-6883

FIRE DEPARTMENT

377-6421

EMERGENCY DIAL 911

The Bethalto Volunteer Fire Department is located at 213 North Prairie Street. Each member of the fire department is trained in firefighting, emergency medical care/treatment, hazardous materials and technical rescue abilities.

Members of the department train weekly to keep their skills up to date and focus on training for new technologies, first responders. They also participate in regional trainings as available. Members of the department also play a part in the Madison County Hazardous Materials Response Team and serve on many regional task forces. Due to the dedication of the fire department, the Village's insurance rating (ISO) is a 5.

The Fire Department also participates in the community; playing an important role in the Bethalto Homecoming which is held every Labor Day weekend. Members of the fire department host various fire prevention activities during Fire Prevention Month in October. Members also conduct fire safety and school inspections.

If you are interested in joining the fire department, stop by on a Monday night during trainings at the fire station or call **377-6421**.

SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTER

377-5263

Bethalto has one of the nicest senior citizen's centers in the area, and it is always in demand. It is located at 100 East Central and is available for use by our residents, and our close neighbors whose tax dollars help support the building.

Through Madison County, Fort Russell Township, Wood River Township, and the Village of Bethalto, the senior citizens have a handicapped-accessible van at their

SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTER CONT.

disposal for doctor appointments, hair appointments, trips to the grocery store, etc. To make arrangements for the van to pick you up, call **377-5263** before noon, one day prior to your appointment. The van is for use by residents ages 55 and older.

The seniors are a lively group who have lots of fun, so don't hesitate to join their organization. The group holds monthly potluck meetings on the first Monday of each month.

The Village Clerk's office maintains the calendar for rental of the senior citizens building, as well as all other public buildings. Please call Village Hall at **377-8051**, if you wish to use any public facility.

BETHALTO MUSEUM

The Bethalto Museum located at 124 West Main Street, served as the village hall until a new village hall was built. In 1987, it was placed on the National Register of Historic Places. After several years of renovation, it became Bethalto's museum. It is open by appointment by calling the Village Clerk's office at **(618) 377-8051**.

BETHALTO LIBRARY

The Bethalto Public Library is its own library district which includes Cottage Hills, Meadowbrook, Moro, Midway and other surrounding towns. It is located at 321 South Prairie Street and is open daily. Library cards are issued free to all residents in the district. Over 30,000 volumes are available,



as well as computers, an audio visual room, CD-ROM, a new popular materials section, a lower-level community room and varied children's programs throughout the year. A monthly newsletter is available by mail, by calling the library at **377-8141**. Income tax forms and use of typewriter/computer and a fax machine is also available. Visit the website at www.bethaltolibrary.org.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What are the regulations/requirements for pet owners? Is there a leash law in Bethalto?

Yes, the Village has a leash law. The owner or keeper of a dog or cat shall keep the animal under restraint or fenced at all times and shall not permit such animal to be at large. In residential zoning districts, a combination of not more than three dogs, cats, rabbits or other domestic animals may be kept as pets by the occupant(s) of a dwelling.

When do I need a building permit?

A building permit is required if you are building a new home, doing a room addition, finishing a basement, building a garage, adding a new deck or porch, adding a roof over an existing deck or patio, installing a swimming pool (in-ground or above ground) or doing an electrical upgrade. Permits are also needed for the replacement of shingles on an existing roof. Permits are not required for fences. Permits are available through our Building & Zoning Department by calling the Zoning Administrator at **377-7697**.

Do I need to acquire a permit for a yard/garage sale?

Yes. Garage and/or yard sales are permitted on single-family residential premises after receipt of a no cost permit from the Village Clerk. Such sales shall be limited to not more than twice per calendar year for a duration not exceeding two days for each occurrence. All signs displayed for such sales shall be removed within 12 hours of the close of the sale. Permits are available in the Clerk's office.

If you have any questions, please call the Clerk's office at **377-8051**. Office hours are Monday thru Friday, 9 AM to 4:30 PM.

When do I need an occupancy permit?

Every time a new occupant assumes residence in a property located in the Village, either through change of ownership or rental tenant, property owners are required to obtain an occupancy permit and an inspection of the property by village officials. Occupancy Permits are available at the Water office. If you have any questions, call the Zoning Administrator at **377-7697**.

Can I mix yard waste with my trash for weekly pick-up?

No. It is a violation of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act to mix yard waste and trash. Residents can contract with the Village's trash removal contractor for yard waste pick-up by calling **618-656-6883**.

LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS

VILLAGE PRESIDENT/MAYOR

GARY BOST
213 N. Prairie Street
Bethalto, IL 62010
gbost@bethalto.com

VILLAGE CLERK

SUE LOWRANCE
213 N. Prairie Street
Bethalto, IL 62010
slowrance@bethalto.com

VILLAGE TRUSTEES

BRADY DUGGER	bdugger@bethalto.com
MARIA PERKHISER	mperkhiser@bethalto.com
TERRI KEISTER	tkeister@bethalto.com
JEFF MULL	jmull@bethalto.com
RACHEL SONTAG	rsontag@bethalto.com
JAY WRIGHT	jwright@bethalto.com

DEPARTMENT HEADS

Rod Cheatham	Building & Zoning 213 N. Prairie Street Bethalto, IL 62010
Rod Cheatham.....	Public Works Director 213 N. Prairie Street Bethalto, IL 62010
Jason Lamb	Chief of Police 213 N. Prairie Street Bethalto, IL 62010
Jeremiah Grant	Fire Chief 213 N. Prairie Street Bethalto, IL 62010

CURRENT APPOINTMENTS

1-Year Appointments

Fire Chief.....	Jay Grant
Emer. Services & Disaster Cord.....	Jay Grant
Police Chief.....	Jason Lamb
Public Works Director.....	Rod Cheatham
Zoning & Code Enforcement.....	Marc Ressler
Building Inspector.....	Marc Ressler
Electrical Inspector.....	Tim Henson
Plumbing Inspector.....	Greg Fowler
Fire Inspector.....	Jay Grant
Village Attorney.....	Kenneth Balsters
Village Treasurer.....	Aleisha Randolph

VILLAGE COMMITTEES (*Chairman)

Liquor Commission.....	*Gary Bost Brady Dugger Terri Keister
Finance, Revenue & Ordinances.....	*Jeff Mull Brady Dugger Rachel Sontag
Street, Alleys & Sidewalks.....	*Maria Perkhiser Brady Dugger Rachel Sontag
Employee Relations.....	*Jay Wright Maria Perkhiser Jeff Mull
Utilities, Water, Sewer, Refuse.....	*Rachel Sontag Terri Keister Gary Bost
Police, Fire, Public Safety.....	*Maria Perkhiser Rachel Sontag Jay Wright
Recreation, Parks, Public Bldgs.....	*Brady Dugger Rachel Sontag Terri Keister
Equipment Inspection, Acquisition.....	Maria Perkhiser Jay Wright *Terri Keister
Residential/Commercial Bldg. Plans.....	*Brady Dugger Jeff Mull Jay Wright
Grants & Planning	*Terri Keister Rachel Sontag Jeff Mull

**Mayor is Chairman of the Liquor Committee, and is Ex-Officio Member of all Committees

RESOURCES

Village Board of Trustees' meetings are open to the public and held at 7:00 PM on the 2nd Monday of each month in the Council Room at the Village Hall. If the meeting date falls on a legal holiday, the meeting is held the next day, Tuesday.

Bethalto Townships include Wood River and Fort Russell. Prairie Street is the dividing line and residents living on the west side of Prairie Street are a part of Wood River Township; those living on the east side of Prairie Street are a part of Fort Russell Township.

Fort Russell Township Supervisor.....	377-5660
Fort Russell Township Assessor.....	377-8260
Wood River Township Supervisor.....	259-2366
Wood River Township Assessor.....	259-1532

MUNICIPAL & CIVIC MEETINGS

Municipal Government Meetings

Village Board.....	Second Monday, 7:00 PM
Plan Commission.....	Fourth Thursday, 6:00 PM
Zoning Board.....	Fourth Thursday, 6 PM
Committees.....	Fourth Monday as needed

POST OFFICE

Bethalto Post Office

115 W. Central Street – 377-8714

Hours – Monday – Friday – 8:30 AM to 5 PM

Saturday – 9 AM to 12 PM

Lobby Box open 24 hours

DRIVER'S LICENSE FACILITY

The Illinois Secretary of State's office provides driver's license examinations, vehicle titles and registrations, and license sticker renewals. You may also sign up as an organ donor. The driver's license facility is located at St. Louis Regional Airport, 20 Terminal Drive, East Alton. The telephone number is 258-0600.

HOSPITALS

Alton Memorial Hospital.....	1 Memorial Drive Alton, IL 62002 618-463-7311
OSF St. Anthony's Hospital.....	St. Anthony Way Alton, IL 62002 618-465-2571
OSF St. Clare's.....	915 East Fifth Street Alton, IL 62002 618-463-5151
Anderson Hospital Express Care.....	159 E. MacArthur Dr. Bethalto, IL 62010 618-258-7504
Alton Memorial Convenient Care	163 E. Bethalto Dr. 618-433-6645

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

Ft. Russell Township.....	1150 E. Liberty Prairie Edwardsville, IL 62010 618-377-8260
Wood River Township.....	49 South Ninth Street East Alton, IL 62024 618-259-2366
Bethalto Ministerial Alliance.....	618-377-6472

UTILITIES

Gas & Electric.....	Ameren 800-755-5000
Electric.....	Southwestern Electric Cooperative Small portion of southeastern Bethalto 800-637-8667
Telephone Service.....	AT&T 800-244-4444
Cable Television.....	Charter Communications 888-438-2427

BETHALTO COMMUNITY UNIT #8 SCHOOLS

BOARD OF EDUCATION

A seven-member Board of Education elected by the voters in the District meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 6:30 PM at the Dr. Sandra J. Wilson Administrative Services Center. Regular meetings are open to the public. The Board welcomes citizen attendance at these meetings and time is set aside on the agenda for citizen participation.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Jill Griffin, Superintendent
101 School St. Bethalto, IL 62010
(618) 377-7200
Website: www.bethalto.org

School Information

Civic Memorial High School (Grades 9-12)

200 School Street, Bethalto IL 62010
(618) 377-7230
Website: <http://civicmemorial.bethalto.org/>

Wilbur Trimpe Middle School (Grades 6-8)

910 Second Street, Bethalto, IL 62010
377-7240
Website: <http://trimpe.bethalto.org>

Meadowbrook Intermediate (Grades 4-5)

111 West Roosevelt Street, Moro, IL 62067
(618) 377-7270
Website: <http://meadowbrook.bethalto.org>

Parkside Primary (Grades 2-3)

600 East Central, Bethalto, IL 62010
(618) 377-4100
Website: <http://parkside.bethalto.org>

Bethalto East Primary (Grades Pre-K-1)

309 Albers Place, Bethalto, IL 62010
(618) 377-7250
Website: <http://bethaltoeast.bethalto.org>