

Here's how it might be accomplished

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The UIS study recommends that voters from the Girard and Carlinville districts approve a merger by a simple majority in each district.

But several steps would be required first, says Girard School Superintendent Marlene Brady.

Writing on the Girard schools' Web site, Brady says the first step would be that either the boards of education from each district or at least 50 registered voters from each file a petition with the regional superintendent of education, who would gather information and conduct a public hearing on the matter.

"Should the regional superintendent approve the petition and the reorganization plan," Brady writes, "the petition moves to the State Superintendent of Schools for approval. With the state superintendent's approval, the reorganization referendum would be held at the next regularly scheduled election."

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