



Dr. Charles J. Pearson, Superintendent of Schools • 3855 Lucas & Hunt Rd. • St. Louis, MO 63121 • [www.normandyssc.org](http://www.normandyssc.org)

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Normandy Families and Community -

As we enter the second week of the next school year, I am excited about what's to come. For the first week, I spent my mornings in schools throughout the district. I was delighted to experience the following:

Teachers teaching routines and PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Systems) norms to students throughout the week (in hallways, to the playground...)

- Creative ways of introducing students to course content, for example:
- An introductory art lesson where the teacher cued the math, science, and art involved.
- An anchor chart that identified key information that students shared in writing combined with an embedded math problem so the teacher could do a pre-assessment of the students' understanding of math operations.
- Activating prior knowledge through practicing adding 3-digit numbers.
- Anchor chart with the problem solving steps listed.
- I had lunch with children in three schools and observed the environments being created by staff to make these spaces welcoming to all students. (I now know that I can get both juice and milk when I eat!) I also know that this social time is a great opportunity for children to learn social skills.
- I saw a principal wheeling a cart of gift bags to Transition (former Transfer) Students who returned to us this year.
- Principals walking alongside administrator to identify what actions needed to occur with the facilities to ensure that children could learn in great settings.
- New safety resource officer (SRO) settling in and interacting with children and adults alike.
- Hallways that had a great shine on them even though construction was still going on last week.
- Our own fleet of buses serving our students.
- Steel going up at one site and contemporary brick walls going up at another.
- Warm voices on the phone with parents assisting them with a variety of school matters.
- Energized, exuberant children of all ages.

And so much more...

Thank you to our parents, teachers, and staff for your commitment to making our first week of school good for students. As more students arrive, please remember that setting the right tone in the schools is critical. Stay focused! Maintain your "I can do this!" MINDSET!

Sincerely,

Dr. Charles J. Pearson

Superintendent of Schools