



Dr. Charles J. Pearson, Superintendent of Schools • 3855 Lucas & Hunt Rd. • St. Louis, MO 63121 • www.normandysc.org

November 7, 2016

Normandy Families, Staff and Community –

We are pleased to report that students in the Normandy Schools Collaborative have earned 76.5 of a possible 140 points on the state Annual Performance Report (APR) which is equivalent to a “Provisionally Accredited” level. This is a significant accomplishment – the result of the diligence and focus of our staff, families and most importantly – our students.

So what does this mean? To put it in perspective, in 2014, the Collaborative earned 10 points out of the 140 available. Last year we made strides in the right direction, earning 42.5 points available. The 76.5 points we earned for 2016 is in the range to receive provisional accreditation from the state. These points were earned based on student performance on the most recent Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) tests, as well as other criteria such as attendance and graduation rates, and career and college readiness. (APR details are available online, www.dese.mo.gov).

Like other school districts in our area working to gain accreditation, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) wants districts to sustain these levels of performance consistently before granting accreditation. So, while our scores are significantly improved, they must remain above the Provisionally Accredited level for the foreseeable future before we are granted that status. We are working with DESE to determine the timeline and criteria to regain accreditation.

We want to recognize our teachers and staff for their tireless efforts to ensure students are learning and engaged. We thank them for their dedication, expertise and commitment to our students and the Collaborative under conditions that present challenges, some unique to Normandy. We know we ask a lot of you, and you delivered.

We would also like to thank the community and the partners who have come alongside us to do this work. It has been challenging yet rewarding, and we are grateful for the resources they provide to help us in our mission to serve the whole child and our families.

The critical and most important partners in our effort are our parents. They are often in the background, dropping off students for school, athletic practices, and band rehearsals early in the morning or picking up students late in the evenings. Parents and caregivers are our volunteers – in the classrooms, on field trips, at games, and concerts. Our parents and families lay the foundation at home and reinforce what we teach and share during the day. We thank them for being great parents and role models and trusting us to care for their children.

This is a great day for the Normandy Schools Collaborative and our community! We are proud of the accomplishments made so far. But we are keenly aware of the promise we made as a Collaborative almost three years ago – not just accreditation but to become a great district again. Our community and – most importantly – our children deserve the best. So our staff will continue to dig deeper, continuing to push

ourselves harder to bring out the best in each other. We will continue to research, explore and collaborate internally and externally to find ways to bring out the best in our students. They deserve no less.

We have made significant strides, but the journey is not complete. We acknowledge this milestone, but the work continues.

We thank you for your support, and will continue the work toward accreditation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "RICHARD RYFFEL".

Richard Ryffel
JEGB President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "CHARLES J. PEARSON".

Dr. Charles J. Pearson
Superintendent of Schools