

Dear Minford Parents,

We've had a great start to the 2009-2010 school year. Many great things are happening in the buildings. Please take time to visit and stay connected to us and your child's educational experience.

I want to take a few moments of your time as you read this to share with you some District highlights that are always good talking points with neighbors and friends. The first bit of news is the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) Report Card rating. The following are the building distinctions:

Minford Elementary – Rated Excellent
Minford Middle School – Rated Effective
Minford High School – Rated Excellent

These distinctions are reason to celebrate. We are very proud of your child's test scores and the teachers' ability to teach. If you have time, take a minute to review our success and know that we will continue to strive and provide the very best educational options for your child, our student. The ODE report cards will be available in the buildings this week.

We have been working on the exterior grounds to improve the overall appearance. Tommy Rase and volunteers painted doors and the arch at the stadium, our custodians mulched trees and flower beds.

At the rear of the Elementary building, work continues on the Pre-School playground. One thing you will notice is limited access behind the building. We enlarged the playground and are in the process of installing fencing for better **child safety**. Being aware of the foot traffic in the evenings, an access open gate will be installed for our physically fit minded community members. Please note **no public vehicle access** will be allowed **behind the Elementary**.

During the summer we installed SMART board technology in some classrooms. If your son/daughter has a teacher using this technology stop in and observe, I think you will be amazed. We hope to install them in every room. Mrs. Turner, High School Math Teacher, will be piloting an e-book application for her Calculus class. The text book as we know it is becoming obsolete!

Technology and communication play an important role in all our lives so one of our goals is an improved District web page with current information. We are in the process of re-building the site. We hope to have functionality in the next few weeks. I will post bi-weekly information and community challenges, stay connected and make our site your homepage.

From the Desk of Superintendent – Mark Wilcheck