

Superintendent's Message March 4th, 2009

In October, we announced the introduction of Benchmark Assessments to the Moreland curriculum. Benchmark assessments were initiated in order to provide teachers and staff with immediate and accurate feedback about your child's educational progress. These assessments have proven to be highly successful in allowing teachers to immediately evaluate how instruction is serving the needs of the children.

On January 23rd, 2009, elementary teachers gathered for a District Professional Development Day to work with other teachers in their same grade level. The purpose of the day was to allow teachers to compare notes on their students' academic performance, and identify areas where there may be a need for stronger instructional focus. The day was filled with moments of celebration as teachers identified areas where their students excelled. Additionally, teachers uncovered areas for improvement in which students did not perform as anticipated. It was a great day of collaboration. The Moreland School District is fortunate to have a staff filled with motivated individuals who consistently demonstrate their dedication to providing the best possible education for their students.

We are both pleased and encouraged by the positive collaborations we have seen as staff have worked in grade level teams to implement the Benchmark Assessments. I thank our staff and our community for supporting the district in this endeavor, and look forward to seeing our students continue to grow in their knowledge and capabilities.

Sincerely,

Glen Ishiwata, Superintendent