

This summer teachers, principals, and central office staff have been participating in professional development, planning instructional programs and refining school rules and procedures to help the year run smoothly and provide quality educational experiences for all of our students.

The opportunity exists for every single student in the Dorchester County Public Schools to receive an excellent education which will prepare them for a successful future. It will be my aim to see that we provide not only rigorous curricula in safe and orderly schools, but equally important, that we provide an environment that is interesting, engaging and fun for our students.

I am particularly excited about the opening of our new North Dorchester Middle School this year and the start of construction on the new Dorchester Career and Technology Center. These two facilities will be showplaces with up-to-date technology and classroom equipment as well as cost-saving geothermal technology for the heating-cooling systems. There will be no finer school buildings in the country the day our students move in.

All of our schools got off to an amazingly smooth start this fall. Wherever I go, I see students engaged in meaningful, challenging class work and teachers who are well-planned and committed to providing quality instruction. In the high schools, students and teachers are adapting nicely to the transition to a 7-period day while teachers in the elementary schools are learning how to implement a new mathematics program.

I have every reason to believe that the 2009-2010 school year will be one of many successes for our students and staff.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frederic R. Hildenbrand". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'F' and 'H'.

Frederic R. Hildenbrand
Superintendent of Schools