

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Although educational futurists across the country have gained much notoriety by painting bleak pictures of contemporary American youths increasingly hampered by poverty, broken homes, language barriers and emotional and physical handicaps, the Portland School District has positioned itself to deal with those societal issues in effective and creative ways

Foresighted efforts of Portland School Board members, students, parents, teachers, administrators, other school district employees and community volunteers have helped bring that about through various means, not the least of which was approval of Portland Public Schools' newest tax base in 1982. Having adequate funding allows a school district to address the community's expectations and attend to its responsibilities for students.

The Portland Board of Education, through careful planning and specific goals and objectives, provides the framework for dramatic accomplishments in student achievement, management, community support and fiscal stability. That process has reaffirmed Portland's educational system as one of the finest urban school districts in the nation.

Portland Public Schools not only provides for excellence on behalf of students traditionally equipped for success in school and society, but it also deals head-on with the much more difficult challenges of dropouts, basic-skills deficiencies, teenage pregnancy, truancy, child abuse, youth gangs, youth unemployment and student discipline.

All members of Portland's school family deserve congratulations. Future generations of Portlanders will be indebted to the support of today's taxpayers for the quality of community they are helping create with their commitment to public education.

We are enthusiastic. We are positive. Things are going very well and we are working hard not only to maintain, but to improve. Thank you for your commitment and support.

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Matthew Prophet, Superintendent

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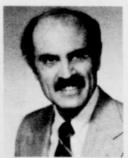
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