Welcome Back

As I enter the fourth year as your superintendent, I believe we will have our most successful year yet. The district is continuously improving as we strive to provide the best experience and opportunities for our students and employees.

New to the district this year are heating and cooling systems in Hawthorne and Brookside. We have completed year one of a three-year project to upgrade our six oldest buildings. The climate control provided by these systems will significantly improve the learning environment for our staff and students.

The district continues to invest in technology, as we solidify our network for future growth. This summer we completed a virtualization project that significantly reduced the number of servers needed throughout the district. Our buildings are now all connected through fiber optic cable, and as a result our Internet speeds should increase by a magnitude of 10X. We also have purchased approximately 60 more iPads for secondary students (bringing the district total to over 400) and 240 iPod Touch’s for K-1 students.

Academically, we have expanded our Gifted and Talented program to the middle school level, and we are exploring different ways to meet the needs of all of our high school students. We have increased our early childhood programming significantly, offering a site based program at Halverson Elementary. Throughout the district, teachers are focused on determining essential outcomes for our students, and collaboratively developing common assessments to ensure success.

2012-13 will be a great school year. I encourage members of the public to come out and see the exceptional things happening with our students in school, in the performance arts, and on our athletic fields.

Dr. Michael Funk
Superintendent
Albert Lea School District 241

The 2011-12 Albert Lea Area Schools Annual Report on Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Achievement is published on line at www2.albertlea.k12.mn.us and copies are available at the District Office, Brookside Education Center, 211 W. Richway Drive
During this past 2011-2012 school year, Albert Lea Schools worked very hard to have a good working and learning environment in all its schools. A baseline study will be completed on most of our heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems in the district. From this study we will be prioritizing projects to continually improve the indoor air quality in our schools.

If you have questions concerning indoor air quality in any building please contact me at 507-378-4808.

AHERA Annual Asbestos Notifications

During the past school year and continuing into the 2012-2013 school year the asbestos management plan activities have been or are currently being completed. The American Lung Association in the Environment and National Environmental Agency 40 CFR Part 763 “Asbestos Containing Materials in Schools: Final Rule and Notice”

-Semi-Annual Periodic Surveillance Inspection

-Notification of Asbestos Locations for Short-Term Workers ( Plumbers, Electricians, etc.)

-Training of District Personnel

During this past 2011-2012 school year, Albert Lea area Schools had the following asbestos related activities in the district:

-Floor tile and ceiling tile abatement at Havelorn
- Floor tile abatement and pipe insulation abatement at Brookside

For the 2012-2013 school year, Albert Lea Area Schools will have the following asbestos response actions planned:

- Floor tile and pipe insulation abatement at Southwood and Sibley

Albert Lea Area Schools has contracted with the Institute for Environmental Assessment to provide environmental consulting services.

The complete updated Asbestos management Plan for Albert Lea Area Schools can be obtained from the OSP or in the administrative office at each of the school facilities. The Management Plan can be reviewed, without cost or restriction, during normal working hours. Copies can be obtained for a fee of $.25 per page.

Any questions concerning this notice or explanation of our Asbestos management Plan can be directed to the Assistant Principal, Albert Lea Area Schools or to Commissioner Steve Zerr, Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry, 2326 12th Ave. S. Minneapolis, MN 55403-2899.