



Video Transcription

Commissioner of Education Chris Nicastro

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Hi, I'm Chris Nicastro, Commissioner of Education for the State of Missouri. Thanks for watching this month's Top 10 by 20 Update.

Summer is a great time to relax. But it is also a time when students can suffer a loss of learning. That is why we are excited that Missouri is partnering with MetaMetrics for a special reading program. "Read More, Missouri!" is a new statewide summer reading challenge aimed at preventing a loss of learning that students may experience while they are out of school. We encourage all parents and teachers to spread the word and get our kids to spend time this summer enjoying a good book. Please visit our website for more details.

Registration continues for the School Administrators Conference which will take place July 27-29 in Columbia. This year's theme is "Feedback That Matters." Speakers include educator and author Dr. Mike Schmoker, as well as Dr. Brian McNulty, a well known educator in leadership development. You can register for the conference by visiting our website and clicking on the rotating button at the top of the page. Please don't miss out on this exciting opportunity.

At its June meeting, the state Board of Education approved the transition of the Normandy School District to governance under a new appointed board effective July 1. A fresh start allows the new Normandy Schools Collaborative to break the cycle of persistent low achievement by making deep and fundamental changes to school operations.

Our goal with the Normandy Schools Collaborative is to provide every child in the district with a high-quality education in their community. It won't happen overnight, but working together with many community partners and state support, we can and will make significant improvements in Normandy schools. Our children deserve our best efforts.

The Department wants to ensure that everyone has the most up-to-date information regarding the Normandy Schools Collaborative. Please visit dese.mo.gov/Normandy, or call 1-855-879-3025 with questions.

I would like to congratulate more than 300 Missouri schools who were honored for successfully adopting and implementing Schoolwide Positive Behavior Support. Schoolwide Positive Behavior Support is a comprehensive approach to improving student behavior and academic performance. These schools are making a positive difference for all children. The program began in 1999 and has more than

600 schools in 176 districts actively participating. For a list of schools honored, please visit the website listed on the screen.

I hope you are all enjoying your summer and some much needed time off before you prepare for another school year. Thanks for everything you do to help Missouri's kids reach the Top 10 by 20.