

June 17, 2014

Dear Normandy Parent/Guardian:

I am writing to let you know of changes that are taking place with your child's school and the resources that are available. As you may know, over recent years the Normandy School District has struggled to meet state standards. As a result, the district was classified as unaccredited effective January 1, 2013. Under Missouri law, the State Board of Education may select from a number of intervention options to help best meet the needs of students who reside in unaccredited districts.

The State Board of Education and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education are making every effort to keep schools open in the Normandy community, and the only feasible way to do that is to lapse the district due to poor academic performance. A fresh start allows the district to break the cycle of low achievement by making deep and fundamental changes to school operations.

The State Board and the Department heard many requests from Normandy parents, students, teachers and community members for high-quality local schools. Therefore, the State Board has appointed a new Joint Executive Governing Board that will operate schools in the same boundary of the current Normandy school district effective July 1, 2014.

The district lapse will affect student transfers to other districts:

- If your child is not currently a transfer student, he/she will not be eligible for transfer. The Department is committed to working with the Joint Executive Governing Board and the district to provide your children with high-quality education in their own community.
- If your child is currently transferring to another district, the Department will make every effort to allow that transfer to continue. Pending the receiving district's acceptance of a newly established tuition rate, your child may continue to attend class in the receiving district he/she attended last year.
- **Only students who transferred in 2013-14 and who were enrolled in classes in the Normandy district for at least one semester in 2012-13 remain eligible to continue to transfer.** If you live within the Normandy district but your child has not been previously enrolled in classes in Normandy, he/she will not be eligible for transfer in 2014-15.

The Department has the following resources and contact points currently available:

- Visit the Department's website at www.dese.mo.gov/Normandy for information. (Please check this website periodically for updates.)
- Call our toll free number for general information or questions about the transition: 1-855-879-3025.
- Or you may e-mail your questions to: Normandy@dese.mo.gov.

We recognize this action creates uncertainty for you. We will work quickly to ensure a smooth transition.

Sincerely,



Chris L. Nicastro
Commissioner of Education