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Superintendent of Schools

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Chief School Business Official

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LANSING SCHOOL DISTRICT 158



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"Putting the Children First with a Commitment to Continuous Improvement"

August 15, 2019

2019-2020 WELCOME LETTER

Dear Lansing School District 158 Partners in Education,

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year! In less than a week, students will return to our classrooms and embark on a new and exciting journey of learning. This past year was a very successful one for Lansing School District 158. We opened the newly renovated and expanded Coolidge Elementary School, welcomed two new Board of Education members, adopted a new 2019-2024 Long-Range Strategic Plan, implemented Hall Pass at all of our facilities, received recognition from the South Cook Intermediate Service Center for a Perfect Facility Inspection, and received a \$1.8 Million Property Tax Relief Grant from the State of Illinois. Furthermore, we graduated 30 National Junior Honor Society members, 43 eighth graders passed the Spanish Proficiency Exam to receive high school credit, and a record 130 senior citizens attended Memorial Junior High School's 7th Annual Senior Brunch. It was also my honor to recognize six retirees, five Staff Members of the Year, and our district's first individual State Athletic Champion in Track & Field!

As you can see, we are **#158Strong** and I look forward to another successful year in 2019-2020. Our Board of Education recently adopted a new vision statement – *"Putting the Children First with a Commitment to Continuous Improvement"* – and we will continue to find new and innovative ways to cultivate the unique potential of every child. The fully completed Coolidge will open this fall and discussion has started on renovating and expanding Lester Crawl Primary Center. As I begin my second year as your Superintendent of Schools, I will continue to champion a "students first" mentality and prioritize challenging, supportive, and inclusive learning experiences across all of our programs. Last year's Strategic Plan Survey revealed that **87%** of our stakeholders feel that District 158's schools successfully meet the needs of the community. Thank you to all the wonderful community members, business owners, first responders, and local officials who make Lansing a great place to be! The support District 158 enjoys for the collective education of our children is second-to-none and we will continue to reach new heights through your partnerships.

To borrow a few words from motivational speaker, author, and artist Sam Glenn, we give our kids the world and wings to fly. Together, we will write another successful chapter towards the very bright future of our school district. I wish you the best with the remainder of summer vacation. See you on August 20!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Nathan S. Schilling'.

Dr. Nathan S. Schilling, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Lansing School District 158