

Greetings from Mrs. Richey, Principal

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Albert Cassens Elementary School! I am honored to be the principal in our newly formed learning community. Over the past year, our students, staff, family, and community members have worked closely together to form a very positive and productive environment for our children. We hope you will join us in support of the many initiatives and activities that make our school an exciting and vibrant place in which to learn.

I have had many wonderful teaching and learning experiences during my tenure as an educator in District 7. I taught at the intermediate level for eighteen years in 3rd, 4th and 6th grade classrooms. I then served as the Assistant Principal of Lincoln Middle School for five years. I received my Master's degree in Elementary Education at SIUE, with an emphasis on the teaching of reading. I then continued my education by completing certification for Educational Administration. I am now entering year two as principal of this wonderful school!

Before we move forward in our second year as a new school, I would like to reflect back on the legacy of our school's namesake, Mr. Albert Cassens. Mr. Cassens' relationship with the school district spanned more than 60 years. His accomplishments as president of the school board contributed to the betterment of the education of all District 7 students. His philosophy of stewardship – one that promotes giving from within the community – set a standard that many community members strive to achieve today. District 7 named the school in honor of Mr. Cassens' lifetime achievements and contributions to the Edwardsville School District.

It is now our collective responsibility to continue the stewardship of excellence in education for our students. I would like to encourage all families to be a part of our vision for Albert Cassens Elementary School:

Our Vision for Albert Cassens Elementary School

Albert Cassens Elementary School will provide an active and interactive school community where all members: students, staff, parents, and community, work together to create an exciting, nurturing learning environment for the exceptional achievement of all students.

Mission

1. To provide a safe, healthy and positive learning environment.
2. To empower our children to become responsible, inquisitive and successful learners.
3. To promote high levels of family and community involvement, working to improve students' academic and social growth.
4. To celebrate the diversity of all students and to foster their creativity.
5. To be environmental caretakers and productive citizens of our community.

The staff and I pledge to work hard for your children and to ensure that every child has an opportunity to succeed academically and socially in a safe and inspiring environment. My door is always open, and I look forward to working with each student, and each and every parent in continuing the success and excellence that you expect from the Edwardsville School District.

Respectfully,

Martha Richey