

From: Superintendent
Sent: Wednesday, September 04, 2013 6:48 AM
To: EPS.MailList
Subject: Thank you for the spirit of this year
Importance: High

Dear Colleague,

Have you visited visualthesaurus.com – a website that instantly maps synonyms and antonyms?

If you have a fondness for words, you might find yourself, as I do, exploring the cyber trails [visualthesaurus](http://visualthesaurus.com) blazes to experience the subtle shades of meaning of an endless array of words.

Thinking about this “welcome to the school year” message, I typed the word “new” into [visualthesaurus](http://visualthesaurus.com). Up popped a word web with some interesting connections. Disappointingly, however, those connections fall shy of what I feel so deeply about each “new” school year.

As sophisticated as that online tool is, it misses the magic the words “new school year” have for students. It misses the purposeful, intensive preparation staff make to ensure each “new” year is full of learning magic for each student.

Quite simply, a new school year is one of those things “you have to be there” to understand – no electronic or print thesaurus can capture that much spirit and energy.

It is wonderful to “be here” today to feel and see your spirit. Thank you for being here and for helping shepherd students through trails of discovery and meaning as they learn and grow in our schools this year ... and beyond.

Warmly,

Gary