

# ASK A PRINCIPAL



We asked our members to tell us about the best day they've ever had as a principal or assistant principal.

Here are some of the great responses we received:

“ The best day of being a principal is when I get to make positive phone calls home to families!”

**Kelli DeMonte**

*Principal, Jefferson Lincoln Elementary,  
Centralia SD*



“ The best day I have ever had as a principal occurred when, unbeknownst to me, a 30+ year veteran kindergarten teacher called a child up during an assembly with a piece of poster board to say thanks for being the best principal she's ever had the pleasure of serving students with!”

**Thomas Jay**

*Superintendent/Principal, Skykomish SD*

“ A teacher told me that her husband noticed she was now coming home with a smile this year. She told him that she has a principal that is super understanding and supportive, who visits every classroom every day.”

**Kathleen Delpino**

*Principal, Lydia Hawk Elementary, North Thurston PS*



“ My best day ever as a principal came after my worst day ever as a principal. One of our students was killed in the Cascade Mall shooting last year. That was the worst day ever as a principal. On Monday when I returned to school, I watched with pride as our students led the process of healing as a school community. I am lucky to work with amazing students, families, and staff at Mount Vernon High School. #WeAreMV”

**Rod Merrell**

*Principal, Mount Vernon High, Mount Vernon SD*

“ This is a great job — but the best day(s) are the ones when we let our hair down for a minute and have some fun.”  
(Video at [youtube.com/watch?v=dXmqWRHxEpc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dXmqWRHxEpc))

**Matt Kesler**

*Chief Umtuch Middle, Battle Ground PS*

“ When I returned to a previous district and saw an eighth-grade student. He said to me, in front of all his friends, that I was the best principal he had ever had and thanked me for all the help I had given him while he was struggling in elementary school. Made my career!”

**Jeff Cravy**

*South Whidbey Elementary, South Whidbey SD*

“ I honestly could never choose one day, but here’s a fun one! I see students and families all the time in stores and in the community. I usually get hugs, waves, or the look of shock that I’m not at school. Well this weekend I saw two kids from my school at Safeway. I snuck up on them and tapped them on the back and said ‘hi’ quickly. They both looked shocked that I was at the store. As I was heading towards the other end of the store, one of them yelled out loudly and from across the store, ‘Mrs. Hollinger, you’re famous!’ Everyone looked up. I gave a bow and then headed off to grab my items. Moments like this are the best with kids! Love my job.”

**Stephanie Hollinger**

*Principal, Evergreen Forest Elementary, North Thurston PS*

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