

Nominee: **Larry Snelling**  
School: Fall River Joint Union HSD

Nominators: **Michelle Dennis** and **Sarah Clark**  
Section: Administrator

Please accept our nomination of Principal Larry Snelling for the C.D.S. Portrait of Success award.

Larry Snelling is the Alternative Education Administrator for our small school district. He is in charge of six alternative schools, Independent Study, Indian Education, and Workability. In this capacity, he travels up to 27 miles between sites each day. Not quite Superman, but “super” in so many ways, Larry is the Portrait of Success to the teachers in the Fall River J.U.S.D. Community Day schools.

Teachers need, and are very lucky to get, the support of good administrators. C.D.S. teachers in our district are more than lucky. We are blessed to have a principal who cares so deeply about our success that he would come to school ½ hour early every morning of last year to meet with a teacher who was new to the program; who meets twice a month with the C.D.S. teachers at both end of our district for open discussions; who is a vital part of our discipline procedures; who finds the funds to send us all to this conference and to any training that might be beneficial to our program.

Larry is always supportive of our students and treats them with respect, even when discipline is necessary. As well as counseling students with immediate behavior problems, Larry stops by the classrooms often just to say “Hi!”, tell a little joke, appreciate the student’s work, and encourage them to succeed. He is a firm and loving “father” to our children. In our student’s own words, he helps “students and parents get through hard times,” has “gone beyond his principal duties,” “has become a father figure, a friend, an older brother,” “is very understanding,” “is my favorite principal,” “brings a laugh or two,” . . . and “has fooled us with his mongoose.” (You had to be there.)

In addition to supporting his staff and students, Larry represents C.D.S. to the larger community through his work with the school board and the administrative cabinet. He runs interference on the “those kids” attitude everywhere he encounters it.

Larry laughs with us, cries with us, and is ferociously protective of us – “us” being the teachers and students of C.D.S. He has been making a difference in the lives of our students for seven years and will, we hope, continue to do so for some time.

Michelle Dennis and Sarah Clark