Welcome to Clifford Smart Middle School - Video Transcript

[Voiceover/David Tucker, Principal]: Well it you know it's a really old school, it's been here a long time. I think it was built in the late 50s and it's just it's been here a long time and I constantly meet people who've gone to Smart Middle School wherever I go, it's a big school and I meet people even older than myself we've gone here which seems sort of incredible and it's been in the community a long time. It's a real, it's a foundation in this community people really knowing it.

Despite the fact that it's such a big school it has a real family feel. It's filled with great kids they come great homes great families so it's a really, really safe place and I think that's it's awesome.

When visitors come to our school they're always impressed by how courteous our students are, how well-behaved they are. It's a really it's a really safe, caring environment.

I think the other things that people know about Smart or should know about Smart is we have an amazing Performing Arts Department. We have a huge band, a huge orchestra, choir we put on amazing shows every year so the Performing Arts Department here is really something else. Kids love it, a huge percentage of our students are involved. I'd be remiss not to mention athletics; a lot of our students are part of the athletics department. The school performs very well academically our students are real bright they learn a lot while they're here they go on great, really good things of the high schools.

It's interesting because they don't show up and say I remember learning this thing or I remember learning that thing, sometimes I remember a specific event but most often what they talk about is how the teachers here made them feel. Our teachers constantly have students getting a hold of them students that are in college or even post-graduation and then saying I remember in class when you made me feel good about what I was doing or he made me feel empowered to move forward or like I was really good at something so it's always almost always about how our teachers made them feel when they were here.

What I want them to achieve is future success. I want them to come to middle school and leave here believing in themselves, believing in their ability to build a great future for themselves, know that they can be successful that that effort and attitude really matter and we've helped lay the groundwork for that so they can build a successful life for themselves.

You know I think that if you're looking for a place for your child you know you probably want a place where they feel at home where they can meet great kids, fit in with a good peer group, have an opportunity lots of positive things, and that sets them up for success for the future so that they can go to Northern which is great high school.

We want people to know that when students come to Smart it's for more than just it is for academic learning but it's also that they have a home, that they have a place that supports their family values and that they have a place where they can grow as a whole person you know artistically, athletically, academically.