## CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT AT PIERCE

By Becky Martin Quality Facilitator

"Wow, what a great way to start!" wrote a Pierce staff member in an evaluation of the August 15th and 16th Continuous Improvement seminar conducted by Jay Marino, CRCSD Associate Superintendent of Organizational Effectiveness and Accountability. Teachers continued their study on September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 19th. The Pierce staff is learning to use Quality Process and Tools that focus on gathering data, analyzing its meaning, and making meaningful changes toward continuous improvement of systems. The Plan-Do-Study-Act cycle includes seven key steps: define the system, assess the current situation, analyze causes, try out an improvement theory, study the results, standardize the improvement, and plan continuous improvement. "I'm excited about using the data folder with students in the classroom," commented one staff member. Another teacher summarized, "I liked making the connection from achievement to behavior because behavior and classroom management influence achievement." Throughout the school year the staff will use early dismissals to meet with Mr. Marino and study quality process and tools.



