

articulated classroom goals and mission statements aligned with school and District goals and classrooms arranged in a manner that supports team building. Through this approach, students set goals, develop a plan to accomplish their goals and collect data to gauge their own improvement efforts. In RISD, students truly are "Koalaty Kids".

RISD quality initiatives have been validated in several ways over the past few years. Under the leadership of Dr. David Markward, Superintendent of RISD, the District was awarded the 2001 Lincoln Business Foundation Commitment To Excellence Award. In 2001, RISD was the only school district in the State of Illinois to receive this prestigious award. The District was validated once again this year when the American Society for Quality asked seven RISD teachers and the Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and School Improvement Jay Marino, to write and edit a book intended to teach teachers how to use quality tools with students. The book titled *The Quality Classroom; PDSA Lesson Plans for the K-5 Teacher* will be published by Quality Press and will be available in September 2003.

Excellence Every Day is not accomplished overnight or by one person. In RISD, all stakeholders including parents, students, community members, school board members, teachers, support staff and administrators are working collaboratively to provide the very best educational experience possible. Continuous improvement is our goal today, tomorrow and in the future. It's all about being better tomorrow than we are today...

Visit our website to learn more about our quality initiatives at <http://curriculum.risd41.org>

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