

## RANDY DOERKSEN

“You never quite know the moment in a child’s life when you’ll make a difference for a lifetime” forms the foundation of Randy Doerksen’s philosophy of education and leadership. A Kansas native, he serves as principal of Prosperity Elementary School and district assessment coordinator in the Buhler Unified School District in south-central Kansas.

In 2008, Doerksen helped introduce CHARACTER COUNTS! to the Buhler School District and currently co-chairs the district’s Character Education Strategic Planning Team, which is working to extend CC! throughout Reno County by partnering with community organizations.

Doerksen has helped enhance CC!’s visibility across the state by co-authoring the state’s proclamation for CHARACTER COUNTS! Week, signed by governors Kathleen Sebelius in 2008 and Mark Parkinson in 2009.

Prior to moving to Buhler, Doerksen served as principal in the De Soto Unified School District in Kansas City. In 2002, he was a member of the team that implemented CHARACTER COUNTS! in the De Soto School District. He was also part of an area-wide leadership team that created the Western Shawnee Leadership Forum that brought local leaders together to discuss how to develop character throughout the community.

The Autism Society of Johnson County has honored Doerksen for his leadership as an Advocate for All Children. In 2004, the Council for Exceptional Children of Northeast Kansas named him the Outstanding Administrator. And in 2007, the Kansas Parent Teacher Association designated him the KS Educator of the Year.

Doerksen holds a master’s degree in Administration from the University of Kansas and a degree in Music Education from Kansas State University.

Service to the community is an important part of his leadership as well. Currently he serves as choir director at Northminster Presbyterian Church in Hutchinson and serves on the board of directors of Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Reno County. He and wife Pam are the parents of Kyle, a student in the Buhler School District.