

# EXCEL

Bloomington Public Schools • Fall 2011

Published for residents and neighbors of District 87



*Stevenson's gym received updated finishes this summer!*

## 2011 Hall of Fame Inductees

### **BHS Inductees**

We are proud to present these Bloomington High School alums who were recently inducted into the BHS Hall of Fame for their personal and professional achievements beyond high school.

**Meg Watson Boehne** graduated in 1977 and has over 30 years in the Consumer Packaged Goods Industry. Meg is known for her outstanding communication skills, ability to build highly effective work teams, and passion for operational excellence. Upon her return from a mission trip to Uganda, she was selected to co-lead General Mills' "Join My Village" which works to fight poverty and empower women and girls in Malawi and was awarded the Champions Award for her leadership in this campaign. "As a widow with two young children, my

healing process started when I made the decision to help others."

**Mike Manahan** graduated in 1960 and taught Physical Education and coached wrestling. Accomplishments include Illinois Wrestling Coaches and Officials Association President, IESA and IHSA State Wrestling Tournament Director, and promoter of wrestling programs across the State of Illinois. Mike is a member of the National High School Athletic Coaches Association, Illinois and National Wrestling Halls of Fame, Olympia High School Hall of Fame, Wrestling Man of the Year, recipient of the IWCOA lifetime Service Award, Grand Marshall for IESA and IHSA Individual Tournaments, National High School Athletic Coaches Association's Coach of the Year, and Illinois Wrestling Coaches and Officials Association Coach of the Year.

**Bill Marquardt** graduated from BHS in 1961 and taught Industrial Tech (home building) and coached wrestling at several schools. Bill also taught classes in wrestling officiating and officiated for 36 years. Bill was given the honor of being selected as an official for the Illinois High School Association's state tournament for 15 years. In retirement, Bill continued to help with the IHSA's state wrestling tournament and served on many wrestling committees. Bill's accomplishments include Referee of the Year, Wrestling Official of the Year, member of Illinois and National Wrestling Halls of Fame, and recipient of the Illinois Wrestling Hall of Fame's Lifetime Achievement Award.

**John Penn** graduated from BHS in 1966 and served in the U.S. Air Force in Vietnam and Korea. John served as the business manager for Laborers Local 362, business manager for the North Central Illinois Laborers District

*Continued inside...*

## **Representative Brady Secures Capital Money For Local School Districts**

Bloomington-Normal school districts in Representative Dan Brady's (R-Bloomington) 88th Legislative District will receive a total of \$1 million to help pay for school improvements. The money is part of the State's capital bill program Illinois Jobs Now!

"At a time when the State has had to cut education funding by nearly 2.5%, these capital funds are critical for local school districts," said Rep. Brady. "The money will go towards projects that affect the students' quality of life."

District 87 will use its anticipated \$300,000 to help pay for the replacement of the roof at Washington Elementary School.

## **Our Mission**

*The educational mission of Bloomington Public Schools is to assist, challenge, and enable each student to develop into a productive and constructive citizen in a global society. The individual student is the emphasis of the educational program.*



[www.district87.org](http://www.district87.org)

# Superintendent's Message



**Dr. Barry M. Reilly**

*Greetings Community Members,*

*The 2011-12 school year is well underway at Bloomington District 87 Schools. This school year continues our focus in the areas of student achievement, school safety, fiscal responsibility, hiring the very best, and providing high quality facilities for our students, staff, parents and members of our community.*

## **Student Achievement**

*Great things are occurring each and every day across the district in regards to student achievement. Bloomington High School recognized 101 juniors and seniors for academic success to kick off homecoming week on September 19th. All of the schools in District 87 helped to contribute to this success. As such, recognized students were able to honor someone who has been significant in their lives. Many teachers at the elementary, junior high and high school levels were selected by students*

***"Student safety has always been a top priority for the district."***

*for this honor. This truly demonstrates that this academic achievement earned by each student is a reflection of the work by students, parents and teachers over the entire student's career.*

*Principals, teachers and other staff, under the leadership of our Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum &*

*Instruction Mrs. Cindy Helmers, are working to align our curriculum to the new Common Core Standards. The Common Core Standards cover the areas of English Language Arts and Math and are in place to provide clear consistent framework to prepare our children for college and the workforce. District 87 has been a leader in the standards based movement. More information regarding the Common Core Standards can be found online at [www.corestandards.org](http://www.corestandards.org).*

## **Student Safety**

*Student safety has always been a top priority for the district. Our students and staff continue to move forward with Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS) to improve the social culture and behavioral climate of classrooms across the district. Effective classroom management and preventive school discipline are essential for supporting teaching and learning. Through our PBIS efforts, we have reduced bullying and other negative behaviors. Our emphasis is on positive and preventative strategies for all students to address problem behaviors.*

## **High Quality Staff**

*This year, the District welcomed 110 new staff members including 36 new teachers. Each individual went through a rigorous interview and selection process as we look for the very best talent in all positions.*

## **Excellent Facilities**

*District 87 has maintained excellent facilities for student learning. Over the last decade, we have been able to air condition all buildings, upgrade and remodel many classrooms, add green space and landscaping to all schools, and provide technology infrastructure with great attention to future use. We look to continue these upgrades to provide the very best environments for our students and teachers to promote learning. The District 87 School Board has provided excellent leadership in this area as they continue to be good stewards for the taxpayers in the community by maintaining one of the lowest tax rates in the area while strategically upgrading our facilities. Our custodial & maintenance staff, under the supervision of Dr. Colin Manahan, is to be commended for their efforts over the years in helping to make our facilities second to none.*

## **Outstanding Support**

*On behalf of the Bloomington District 87 Board of Education, thank you for your continued outstanding support of our schools. District 87 would like to thank parent volunteer Laureen Phipps for helping to create the new look and format of Excel.*

## **NAACP & 100 Black Men Summer Scholarships**

The NAACP and The 100 Black Men of Central Illinois provided 60 summer school scholarships. Academic achievement is not possible without the contributions of confident learners, supportive families, highly qualified and dedicated educators and a community that values and supports education. These organizations are committed to filling the achievement gap.

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*Excel* is published periodically to inform Bloomington residents about programs, achievements, and educational opportunities available to District 87 students.

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## Inductees continued from page 1

Council, Laborers International Union Vice-President, and Regional Manager for the Midwest Region. Under John's leadership, Local 362 helped lead donated efforts for Poetry Place, the Normal Theater, Baby Fold, Korea-Vietnam Monument, World War II Monument and the Bloomington Center for the Performing Arts. "Leading by example" is the best way to describe John's style as he empowered the union membership to become aware, educated and involved.

**Patsy Whitecotton** graduated in 1961 and, after careers in modeling and as a flight attendant, she began her career as an actress. Patsy is a former Miss Illinois and has appeared in many magazines, commercials, stages, theaters, and television, including a recurring role on General Hospital for several years. Patsy has owned several businesses and has performed charity work for many organizations. Patsy's hobbies include entomology, genealogy, gemology, organic gardening, history, gourmet cooking, animal rescue, quilting, and collecting classic cars. Patsy is a member of the Screen Actors Guild, AFTRA and SAG Core.

## District 87 Inductees

We are proud to recognize these individuals who were recently inducted into the District 87 Hall of Fame for their contributions to the District as a whole.

**Connie Mueller** served as Director of Food Service from 1994-2010. Connie's belief that basic nutrition is essential to learning led her to create innovative programs for students; accordingly, she was selected by the American Dietetic Association to receive the Award for Excellence in Management and Practice and was also recognized as a Leader in Innovation by Nation's Restaurant News. Connie is past president of the Illinois School Nutrition Association, media spokesperson for the School Nutrition Association, member of the Illinois Dietetics Association's Illinois School Wellness Policy Task Force and served



*Left to right: Connie Mueller, Meg Watson Boehne, John Penn, Patsy Whitecotton, Sally Tucker, Bill Marquardt, Dr. George Stimeling, Mike Manahan*

a three-year term on the National Advisory Council of the National Food Service Management Institute.

**John Stableton** was born in 1858, the son of a Civil War veteran. John was Superintendent from 1901-1920 and initiated the first "manual arts" program and added high school courses including domestic arts, typewriting, art and design, bookkeeping, commercial law, physical education and shorthand. Under his leadership, District 87 was one of the first districts to establish kindergarten. Mr. Stableton oversaw significant growth in District 87 as he advocated for better attendance for students in an era of child labor and student truancy. Mr. Stableton led the district in obtaining the needed funding for replacement school buildings as well as a major addition to Washington School.

**Dr. George Stimeling** was Superintendent from 1970-1986. Among Dr. Stimeling's accomplishments were constructing the first all-weather track on Carlton Field, implementing the outdoor education program at BJHS, starting the BHS Booster Club, establishing Raymond School for the Developmentally Disabled and securing \$1.3 million for the Area Vocational Center. Dr. Stimeling was chosen as a

member of the Educational League of Illinois and then served as its President. Since retiring in 1986, Dr. Stimeling has served as interim superintendent for other school districts and chaired several North Central Studies. Dr. Stimeling always had a real passion for education and all those who shared his vision.

**Sally Tucker** began her employment with District 87 in 1982 and served as an Elementary Resource Teacher Reading/Math, Elementary Math Consultant, 3rd grade teacher, Director of Curriculum, and Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction before retiring in 2006. The "Math their Way" approach, Problem Solving instruction, and effective new approaches to learning basic mathematics facts through strategies for teaching and learning were implemented under her leadership. Sally co-authored and revised mathematics textbooks for elementary students. Sally is a much requested presenter in school districts and at state and national conventions and is a member of the Bettendorf Iowa High School Hall of Honor.

# Our Schools

Visit us on the web for school hours and more school information! [www.district87.org](http://www.district87.org)

## SARAH E. RAYMOND SCHOOL OF EARLY EDUCATION

1402 W. Olive St. • 309-827-0308  
Danel Behrends-Harr, Principal

## BENT SCHOOL (K-5)

904 N. Roosevelt Ave. • 309-828-4315  
Jeff Geringer, Principal

## IRVING SCHOOL (K-5)

602 W. Jackson • 309-827-8091  
Christina Brock-Lammers, Principal

## OAKLAND SCHOOL (K-5)

1605 E. Oakland Ave. • 309-662-4302  
Dr. Mary Kay Scharf, Principal

## SHERIDAN SCHOOL (K-5)

1403 W. Walnut St. • 309-828-2359  
Jim Cooper, Principal

## STEVENSON SCHOOL (K-5)

2106 Arrowhead Dr. • 309-663-2351  
Tina Fogal, Principal

## WASHINGTON SCHOOL (K-5)

1201 E. Washington St. • 309-829-7034  
Jeff Lockenvitz, Principal

## BLOOMINGTON JR. HIGH SCHOOL (6-8)

901 N. Colton Ave. • 309-827-0086  
Dr. Susan Silvey, Principal

## BLOOMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL (9-12)

1202 E. Locust St. • 309-828-5201  
Tim Moore, Principal



*Three biology classrooms and three chemistry classrooms at Bloomington High School were renovated this summer as part of our facilities improvement process.*



## Board of Education

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# 2011-12 Important Dates

Mark  
Your  
Calendar!

### November 2011

**24-25:** Thanksgiving Vacation; No School

### December 2011

**21:** End of 2nd grading period  
**22-31:** Winter Break; No School

### January 2012

**1-4:** Winter Break; No School  
**5:** School Resumes  
**16:** Dr. Martin Luther King's Birthday; No School  
**17:** School Improvement Day; No School for students

### February 2012

**10:** Parent/Teacher Conference Day; No School for students  
**20:** President's Day; No School

### March 2012

**5-16:** ISAT Testing  
**16:** End of 3rd grading period (full attendance day)  
**23:** 1/2 day In Service; early dismissal; No afternoon school for students  
**26-30:** Spring Break; No School

### April 2012

**2:** School Resumes  
**6:** Non-Attendance Day  
**24-25:** Prairie State Achievement Exam (PSAE) (11th Graders)  
**30:** School Improvement Day; No School for students

### May 2012

**23:** End of 4th grading period; Last day of school is no emergency days are used; early dismissal  
**27:** BHS Graduation (tentative)  
**28:** Memorial Day; No School