



The Aegis



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Bloomington High School

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Mrs. Mulcahy says good-bye to BHS

JOHN LAWRENCE
Student Life Editor

A familiar face around the halls of Bloomington High School, Mrs. Barbara Mulcahy is planning to retire at the end of the school year.

Mrs. Mulcahy has been teaching for 34 years, 32 of which have been within the district. She started her teaching career in high school when her National Honors Society had a program that allowed honors students to teach other classes for a day.

"I became interested my junior year of high school," said Mrs. Mulcahy. "I remember that I really really enjoyed it and that's when I picked high school."

After finishing college, Mrs. Mulcahy eventually started teaching at Bloomington Junior High School. After spending one year at the junior high, Mrs. Mulcahy moved to the high school where she has been ever since.

While she has enjoyed her time here, Mrs. Mulcahy said she plans on retiring so she can receive an early retirement assentive. It is a retirement plan where she can receive a portion of her annual salary without working. While excited for her retirement, she said she will also miss a lot about BHS.

"I'm going to miss the students and the colleges that I have really good friendships with," said Mulcahy. "I love BHS and I think it's a great school. It gets a lot of bad press but I believe students can get a good education if they try."

After her retirement, Mulcahy plans on staying active.

"I'm going to look into volunteering," said Mulcahy. "I plan to do a lot of golfing. I think I'll be able to find something [to do]."

After her 34 years of teaching, Mrs. Mulcahy feels she has done well in her career choice.

"I truly had the vocation to teach," said Mulcahy. "I feel it was a very rewarding career that I was able to do and I was fortunate to be able to do this for so many years. I have gained a fulfillment you can't gain in any other professions."



Mrs. Barbara Mulcahy teaches her first hour class, Honors Algebra II/Trig.
Francesca Pelusi

French classes connect with France on a new level

MERIDETH HAGERTY
General Assignment Writer

In the midst of classes full of textbook readings, and countless worksheets, Mrs. Anne Besler's French II, IV and AP French V classes are trying a new method of learning; writing letters to students their age at a school in France.

"A friend of mine has a daughter who visited France and stayed with a French teacher there," said Mrs. Besler. "We began emailing each other and we came up with the idea to have our students start writing to each other."

Each student in Mrs. Besler's classes have students between the ages of 14 and 17 that they are communicating with. The French students attend the College le Moliere in Lessarts de Roi, France. The students have sent each other Christmas and New Years' letters and have explained how each others school and classes work through letters, videos, scrapbooks, and power points.

The French pen pal project has been started so that the students

can get a better understanding of the culture and language that they are learning about. It is also intended to be a more relatable way of learning about the language because they are being taught things from people who are just like them.

"Having pen pals has made class more interesting this year. It lets us explore the cultures of another country in a different way," said freshman Wesley Humphrey. "For example, to show them what it was like to go to our school we got to make a video about the different areas of our school, and then we sent it over to them. So it has become a more innovative hands on way of learning."

With the success of writing to French students in her classes this year, Mrs. Besler plans to continue the French pen pal program into next year. Some students have even become friends with their pen pals and communicate with each other outside of class.

"The students seem to really enjoy having the pen pals to help them learn more about French language," said Mrs. Besler.