Staff Recognition Dinner

TRAIL

HIGH

ADDISON

DUPAGE HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 88

SCHOOL



May 5, 2023

Medinah Shriners 550 Shriners Drive Addison, IL 60101

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PROGRAM

Welcome

Donna Craft Cain, District 88 Board of Education President

Dinner

Service Recognition Awards

> Outstanding Achievement Awards

Presentation of Retirees

Closing Remarks

Dr. Jean Barbanente, District 88 Superintendent

DISTRICT 88 BOARD OF EDUCATION

Donna Craft Cain Dan Olson Amy Finnegan Gail Galivan Christine Poirier Diana Stout Jean Taylor

DINNER COMMITTEE

Michael Bolden Dani (Danielle) Brink **Iennifer Burns** Denise Cochran Santa DeAngelo Ben DeFilippis Neenah Federick Jamie Gourley Shelley Kanara Maryellen Marisie Veronica Novola Daniel Olson Chris Poirier Jean Taylor Darryl Thompson Mike Warren

COVER DESIGNED BY

Addison Trail senior Eva De La Rosa



Service Recognition Awards

ADDISON TRAIL

Jessica Clark Erin Groth Robert Harvey Michael Jones Vanessa Rocha

DISTRICT OFFICE

10 years
Ed Hoster
Millie Martinez
Janelle McHugh

WILLOWBROOK

Jan Bobek Cristian Iliescu Anthony Pennella David Petrowski Carrie Skala James Smith

Laura Calo
Laura Garcia
Mark Garlitz
Timothy Homan
Lija Marzec
Sabrina Miller
Jessica Murphy
Daniel Styler

15 years Lori LaBarbera Mark Manhart

Earl Buckley Robert Daly Benjamin DeFilippis Tiffany Linwood Brett Maguire Victor Noyola Maria Oplawski Bradley Schmit Colleen Smith Gary Walker

Gjergj Dhamo Tina Gatses Aileen Sullivan Hannah Sutton – *20 years –* Ann Eakley Neenah Federick

Robert Bachner Erik Engel Sara Phillips Lourdes Pina Charles Sheridan Katherine Strand-Carroll Alma Villegas Travis Wolff

25 years

Amy Ferraro Rita Heneghan

Vicki Jaloszynski-Ream

Linda Radtke Regina Wathier Karyn Wolcott

- *30 years –* Thomas Manka

Michael Sullivan

Outstanding Achievement Awards



ADDISON TRAIL Caryn Scimeca



WILLOWBROOK Rachel Karos

2022-23 Retirees

ADDISON TRAIL

DISTRICT OFFICE

Ed Hoster

Patricia Hochheimer

Coleen Brechin

Stephen Holland

Kathleen McColaugh

Caryn Scimeca

WILLOWBROOK

Terry Harrell

Kathi Smith

Guangming "Kenny" Yang

Coleen Brechin, Addison Trail

Coleen started at Willowbrook High School in the English and Social Studies departments, in which she served from December 1996 to June 1997. She then transferred to Addison Trail after receiving a phone call from friend Sheri D'Ambrose saying she needed to "come home" as secretary for the Physical Education, Driver Education and Health Department. In addition, Coleen wanted to work at the school her children would attend. During the course of her career, Coleen also supported the Reading, Art, World Language and Literacy departments.

Coleen supported the sponsors of Student Council for many years and was later added on as a sponsor. Coleen could always be seen at events at Addison Trail such as Homecoming assemblies, Mr. AT, dances or a countless number of sporting events. Coleen is an integral part of the culture at Addison Trail. She also "unofficially" supported the Baseball Team as the unsung statistician during the Coach Parpet years.

She will always remember the people she has worked with during her 26 years at Addison Trail. The great people she would see and work with made it fun to come to work every day. She also will miss the students and her interactions with them, whether through Student Council, Driver Education or Mr. AT.

All three of Coleen's children attended



Addison Trail. Her daughter is a teacher at Stone Elementary School in Addison, and one of her sons also is a teacher and coaches track. Her other son is a football coach at Miami University in Ohio.

Coleen's husband retired two years ago, and they are looking forward to seeing their grandkids play soccer and visit family at a moment's notice. They also look forward to doing some road trips to follow the Miami University in Ohio football program.

Patricia Hochheimer, Addison Trail

Before arriving at Addison Trail, Patti was a teacher aide at Indian Trail for three years in the special education department. She found her true home when she became part of the Addison Trail Family in 2008. Her transition from one school to another was smooth, as she was working with students she knew from Indian Trail. Her work with the special education staff will be what she misses the most.

Patti also reflects on her 15 years of incredible memories with the club she helped sponsor, Best Buddies. The fun she and the students had at the variety of events and experiences Best Buddies provided is another memory she will have forever. As a community member, Patti loves to speak with students after they have graduated at school events or in the community. She enjoys the excitement they show and knowing she has had an impact on their life. She also has fond memories working in the school her three kids attended and even working close with daughter Melissa, who was President of Best Buddies while Patti was one of the sponsors.



Working together with her daughter is a memory she will keep forever.

Future plans are to travel and possibly move out of Illinois in the next year. Two of her children are in Kansas City, and one is in Boston, so seeing where they land will help her decide where her next home will be. One dream Patti has is to go to Thailand or Africa to see elephants, as she has loved them her whole life.

Stephen Holland, *Addison Trail*

Steve started with District 88 during the 2016-17 school year as Director of Deans. Steve started his career in education as a physical education teacher at Wheaton North, where he also was a coach with the boys wrestling program. He later moved on to Hinsdale South, where he also was a coach and Dean of Students. The opportunity presented itself for Steve to take on a larger leadership role as Director of Deans, and he transitioned to Addison Trail. Steve knew of the great reputation District 88 has in the county and felt he would love to be part of the team and also continue his coaching career in the Addison Trail Wrestling program.

Steve has spent his career connecting with young adults and has been an incredible

influence on all of the students he has worked with in District 88 and the other schools where he has worked. While Steve plans to retire from teaching and being a Dean,



he looks to stay connected with students by coaching in some capacity at an area high school. Beyond coaching, Steve plans to travel and enjoy the open road on his Harley-Davidson. There is no doubt that no matter where the open road takes him, Steve will always be looking for the next opportunity to have a positive impact on students.

Kathleen McColaugh, Addison Trail

Kathleen started her career at Addison Trail in 1990, after student teaching at Willowbrook High School the semester before. After a request for her résumé and an interview from Don Layne, her career as a Spanish teacher at Addison Trail began. It was impossible to know at that time the incredible impact Kathleen would have on thousands of students during the course of her career.

While her impact in the classroom has been significant, she also carried her talents into other parts of the Addison Trail culture. Kathleen was Head Coach of the Boys Track Team and coached Blazettes during her career, along with being a class sponsor for several years. Planning numerous proms was always a big task, but also one of the most rewarding activities she has been a part of during her career. In retirement, Kathleen plans to start enjoying it immediately with a visit to Costa Rica this summer with her entire family. This



will be their first venture as a family out of the country. She also plans to possibly work for a year, as her husband plans to retire soon. She is most looking forward to not being scheduled to the minute of each and every day. Upon her and her husband's retirement, they plan to travel and spend extended time in Europe.

Caryn Scimeca, Addison Trail

Before coming to Addison Trail, Caryn had a background in publishing and was a freelance reporter for press publications. She came to the Addison Trail community in 2002 as a teacher aide in the library under Elaine Buch, who Caryn said was an incredible mentor. Caryn then transitioned to department secretary for the library, CTE and business in 2017. Soon after, Caryn took on the position of administrative assistant to an Assistant Principal.

Caryn's three children attended Addison Trail, and two of them were students while she worked at the school. It was a true gift to work where her kids attended. Her son was not so excited about it at first, but eventually warmed up to it and was by her desk daily.

Caryn describes her time at Addison Trail as an amazing journey, with incredible supervisors such as Elaine Buch, Rose Janusz, Juliann Boudouris and Iridia Nevarez. "The staff is amazing, and I feel we have the best teachers in DuPage," Caryn said. "My kids got an incredible education, and I will always remember and be thankful for the staff." Caryn also remembers the incredible Author



in the House events that Elaine started. It was a great program for students and staff and will be one of her favorite memories.

In retirement, Caryn plans to travel and go back to writing. Her first project is to research some of the cases her father was on as a detective with the Chicago Police Department in the youth division. Her goal is to be published.

Ed Hoster, District Office

Ed started his career in 1989 in District 230 as Assistant to the Comptroller. He was fresh out of college after graduating from ISU (Go, Redbirds!) and knew very little about education or how schools operated. He discovered he loved working in this environment and, after two years, made his way to Glenbard District 87 as Coordinator of Business. He earned his master's degree from Northern Illinois University as a CSBO and then moved on to Hinsdale District 86, where he spent 13 years as Chief Financial Officer. Ed had one more stop in his career at Argo Community High School before finding his home at District 88 and spending his final 10 years with us.

Reflecting on his career, and specifically the past 10 years at District 88, Ed said "They are the best years of my career. The passionate educators here are focused on the kids; it is incredible to work around. This passion should not be taken for granted. The Board of Education also has always been about the kids. It is unlike any other experience I have had."

In retirement, Ed plans to do more traveling and find a new balance. He plans to work on his mental and physical health. He also expects to get back into



cycling, as he has always had a passion for that activity. Ed doesn't have anything too heavy planned to start retirement, but he does have his bucket list. He wants to start having more experiences such as seeing a launch at Cape Canaveral, go out west and spend time in places he hasn't had the pleasure to visit and work with DuPage Habitat for Humanity. He summed up his retirement pretty well ... "less spreadsheets and more outdoors."

Terry Harrell, Willowbrook

Terry started in 2005-2006 after student teaching the previous semester. He started as a library assistant before moving into the Social Studies Department. Teaching was a career change for Terry. He was a 42-year-old "new teacher" when he started at Willowbrook. Terry's first career was as a pharmaceutical and surgical sales representative. Terry decided he needed a career that allowed him to be home with his kids. Terry always wanted to teach and coach, so he followed his dream and became a teacher.

His favorite memories from his time teaching at Willowbrook include his love of teaching sociology and getting young people to get to know one another. Terry is passionate about everyone taking time to get to know one another and feels everything – from the teams he has coached, to his classrooms, to the school and community – would all benefit from spending some time to get to know one another.

Coaching basketball has always been his love, even though he played college football

at Northwestern University. His goal coming in as Head Coach of the Girls Basketball Team was to beat Proviso East, do it in three years and win Conference. The fact that his plan was achieved is one of



his great memories. The work with the players and parents will be something he always remembers.

In retirement, Terry plans not to do much of anything during the first year. He enjoys working with student teachers and would like to supervise student teachers in his retirement. He plans to visit his two daughters in Nashville and New Orleans. He also plans to stay in the area until his wife finishes working, and then they will figure out where to go for the next chapter in their life.

Kathi Smith, Willowbrook

Kathi was ready to return to work as her children were getting older and wanted to work in a school. She started as an aide and thought about gaining her teaching credentials, but instead applied for the bookstore and started as the bookstore manager in 2013. She has been there ever since.

The memories she will walk away with from Willowbrook High School are the friendships. She has made some lifelong friends while working at the Brook. The other memories Kathi takes with her are the students. She has had some wonderful interactions with the student body and has had the pleasure to work closely with pupils in the bookstore as student worker or summer worker. It has been great for Kathi to work with students at a different level and see them grow through the years. Willowbrook has always been a secure place for her. It was a constant in her life that she looked forward to each and every day. There is so much "work" she wants to do. She now feels "free" to do those things that are impulsive. Kathi plans to visit her twin sister and to do some traveling



together. Spending time with her two grandchildren and helping her daughter also is how Kathi plans to spend some of her time in retirement.

Finally, reading is a love and a joy for Kathi, and she is excited about having the time to read. All of the books she bought during the years now have a chance to be read. She also plans to continue to have great friendships with people from Willowbrook by staying connected.

Guangming "Kenny" Yang, Willowbrook

Kenny started in November 2001 as a temporary custodian for about half a year. He then took a full-time position at Addison Trail in April 2002. After several years of being a Blazer, Kenny moved to a position at Willowbrook in 2009.

Kenny came to America in August 2001. Prior to his journey to America, his wife and daughter had already made the move to America. While in China, Kenny and his wife were teachers. Kenny taught history and politics, and his wife taught English. Kenny also spent some time in the import and export business before he traveled to this area to reunite with his wife and daughter.

His fondest memories are all the events at the school. He compares it to his experience working in a school in the Sichuan province of China, where there were about 1,000 students. He said all the activities and events District 88 offers are wonderful. District 88 has been Kenny's first and last job in America, and he is proud to have been part of the district. During

retirement,



Kenny plans to stay at home and travel with his wife. They are avid travelers and have already seen much of the world, and they plan to continue their traveling ways. They have a trip planned to Iceland this August. Kenny's most recent trip was to Portugal and Spain, and he also has traveled to Brazil and Argentina.

Kenny also plans to spend more time with his daughter, Ming Gie, who works in actuarial science for an insurance company.

DISTRICT 88

Building Futures ADDISON TRAIL WILLOWBROOK

Congratulations to the 2022-23 retirees!

Thank you for your years of service, and best of luck in your future endeavors!

DUPAGE HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 88

Building Futures ADDISON TRAIL WILLOWBROOK





District 88 Mission: To work for the continuous improvement of student achievement

District 88 Vision:

To prepare students to be college, career and culturally ready