

Aberdeen School District to Honor 19 Retiring Employees

Local News

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ABERDEEN, Wash. - A reception honoring a principal, 10 teachers and eight members of the support staff who are retiring from the Aberdeen School District is set for 3:30 to 5 p.m. on Thursday, June 14, in the Commons at Aberdeen High School.

Community members, family, friends and students, both past and present, are invited to stop by as the district thanks the retirees for their years of service to our community.

The reception is co-hosted by the Aberdeen School District and the Aberdeen Education Association.

"I have been honored these past two years to work with the fine staff members who are retiring this year in the Aberdeen School District," Superintendent Thomas Opstad said.

"They have given much to our schools and the community, and we wish them the very best in their retirement."

"I look at this list and we have a huge hole to fill," Joan Lesman, president of the Aberdeen Education Association, said. "There are hundreds of years of experience here. We might be able to fill their positions, but we are not going to be able to replace them."

The high schools, in particular, are saying good-bye to a wealth of institutional knowledge, Mrs.

Lesman observed. "But again, when I look at the whole list — all of these people have given so much," she said. "Our community is so much better for having them.

They've dedicated their lives to making Aberdeen a better place and I am so grateful."

The retirees are listed below. Aberdeen High School: Anne Bennett, English; William "Doc" Carter, English; Patricia King, special education; Greg Pier, history; Pat Wilhelms, choral music, and June Moore, Counseling Center secretary.

Harbor High School: Elizabeth Wheeler, special education teacher, and Alice Whittaker, career and technical education teacher.

A.J. West Elementary School: Bill O'Donnell, principal; Bonnie Bouch, office coordinator; Ruth Braack, cook, and Shari Maki, para-educator.

McDermoth Elementary School: Sue Ann Durney, Title I teacher; Kay O'Donnell, kindergarten teacher, and Sharilyn Everitt, para-educator.

Robert Gray Elementary School: Terry McGiveron, cook, who retired earlier in the school year.

Stevens Elementary School: Mary LaForest, first-grade teacher.

Hopkins Building: Barbra Chenault, family service worker.

Maintenance Department: Pete Wintrip, who retired earlier in the school year.