

Celebration of Retirees

June 11, 2020



Public Schools

Peg Curtis

23 Years Middle School Science

Grade Level Team Leader

Curriculum Team Leader - Science

**NGSS Working Group (LARS) Member
at the Connecticut State Department
of Education**

TEAM Mentor





**Mrs. Curtis is a
bright light in all
of our lives.**

*I never liked Science, because
of you, now Science is one of
my favorite classes. I can't
imagine science class without
you.*

Makena Hendricks

*I always appreciated all your
words of encouragement and
how you helped me get
through my tough days.*

Miranda Rodriguez

Sherry Andrews

30 Years Middle School Education

**Member of China Teacher Delegation
Program 2008**

**German Exchange Program Leader for 11
years**

China Student Exchange Program 2011

TEAM mentor

**Lifelong Learner - Perfecting the Craft of
Reading & Writing Workshop**





World Traveler
International change maker and friend
Strong paddler up the stream of life.
-Doug Perkins



Without Mrs. Andrews I wouldn't be where I am today. She helped me become a strong writer and always had an impact on me as a writer. I will always remember Mrs. Andrews as the greatest and most lovable teacher I have ever had. - Zackary Guo

She never let us walk on our learning, she kept us running- Remy Chaurette

Sylvia Griffin

Paraeducator for 25 years

Dedicated to assisting teachers & students on grade level teams

Demonstrated compassion, care and kindness towards everyone she worked with

Supporter of student programming: Van driver, chaperone to Nature's Classroom & Country Fiddle Hike New Hampshire

Member of the New York Latvian Concert Choir

Proud Grandparent



Wendy Vachon

Support Services Administrative Assistant for 5 ½ years

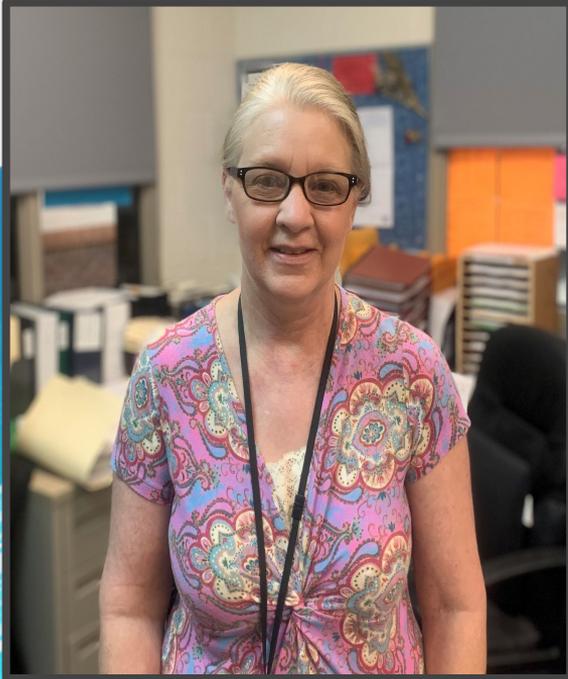
Dedicated to assisting the support services team across district

Passionate about her job

Showed compassion & care for the families that she worked with

Extremely proficient in use of the Frontline Software & was known as the “go to” person when questions came up

Most importantly loving grandmother





Dorothy C. Goc
Elementary Scho
A Whale of a School

Celebrating Goodwin Retirements

"It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge." –Albert Einstein

Sally Clark



Steve Dean



Mary Lee Geary



Janet Pagoni



Deb Lubbert



Betty Mohan





Sally Clark

Sally began her career teaching in a migratory program for 8 years. She then brought her talents to Mansfield, beginning in 1988. Sally has taught for 43 years.



Sally has also spent many years advocating for fellow teachers by representing Goodwin on the MEA Executive Board.



During her tenure in Mansfield, Sally honed her craft teaching Kindergarten and grade 1. She has molded an infinite number of children, and greater still, every staff member lucky enough to work with her.



Sally Clark



Sincere
Advocate
Loving
Leader
Young at Heart



Having grown up in Maine, Sally feels connected when further north!

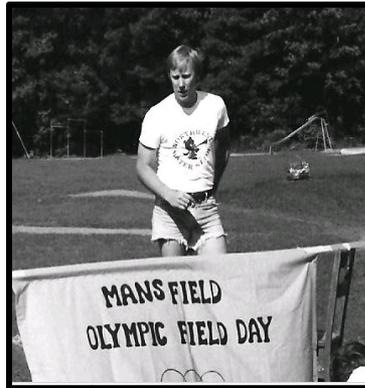


Dedicated mother, sister,
grandmother, and friend.





Steve Dean



Steve Dean started his career in Mansfield on January 30, 1977 and has taught for nearly 44 years. He created our exemplary Physical Education Program, including activities such as Trestle Tree, Ropes Courses, skiing, hiking, bowling, field day, water slide day, and so much more! He was awarded Mansfield's Teacher of the Year. Steve is highly respected and has worked hard to ensure that ALL students are successful in PE. He has taught and supported pre-service PE teachers for years who have become successful teachers throughout the state.



Steve Dean

Steve instills a lifelong love of fitness in all of his students and makes learning fun.



Steve is a proud father and grandfather and enjoys vacations on the Cape.



Mary Lee Geary

Mary Lee was awarded Mansfield's Teacher of the Year in 2010.



Mary Lee started working in Mansfield in September 1989. She has been in Mansfield for 31 years and in education for 38 years!



Mary Lee has taught preschool at Discovery Depot, but spent most of her career teaching kindergarten and third grade at Goodwin Elementary School.





Mary Lee Geary

Mary Lee is an Outdoorswoman and avid runner



She is a dedicated Mother and Grandmother



Mary Lee has presented multiple times at NCTE



Janet Pagoni



For many years, Janet has graciously organized and led our Sunshine team that has celebrated, honored, and supported our staff members.



Janet Pagoni has had an amazing 34+ year teaching career in Mansfield where she has been honored as a Teacher of the Year.

Janet received her teaching degree in New Mexico. Throughout her career she taught both first and second grades. After obtaining an additional degree in history and considering a career in high school she found her true calling in the elementary classroom.





Janet Pagoni

Among Janet's many accomplishments over the years, she has worked closely with the UCONN NEAG program to mentor aspiring teachers.



Janet has also spent many years advocating for fellow teachers by representing Goodwin on the MEA executive board.



Janet spends free time traveling around the world and visiting with her family.





Deb Luberto



Deb created the Award Program for “First Class to Return Books” to encourage children to turn in all books at the end of the school year.

Deb Luberto came to Goodwin in the Fall of 2016 as the para-educator in the library. Deb loved our Goodwin students loved to work with them in the library and classrooms. She supported many programs and volunteered to help out in various rooms throughout the school.



Mrs. Luberto gifted Goodwin with our own book drop!



Betty Mohan



Betty Mohan has worked in School Food Service programs for over 40 years. For 20 years she was the Cook Manager in Coventry. She started at E.O. Smith in 2007 and transferred to Goodwin in 2015

Betty likes to garden, make big family dinners, and listen to Irish music.



Betty has been recognized from the American School Food Service Association with the following awards:

- 1985 Northeast Regional Award
- 1989 Northeast Regional Award
- 1997 National Louise Sublette Award of Excellence

Carol Phelps

31 years Vinton Elementary Teacher

Gardener

An irrepressible giggle and loves to chat!

**Individualizes for each and every student.
Builds on their strengths. The entire class
works as a team.**

**Takes the time to teach her kids life
lessons. Stops daily for teachable
moments.**





Passionate about teaching
Heart of gold
Encourages others
Lifelong learner
Professional always
Speaks her mind

Carol's garden has been a labor of love for her and everyone has enjoyed the peaceful scenery for many years!

I love how Mrs. Phelps makes us laugh while teaching. Gilad Stein

Mrs. Phelps, whenever I needed you, you were very supportive and very helpful. Jon Akberzai

I am going to miss you but you were the best fourth grade teacher in the galaxy. From your best friend, Isabel. Isabel Dancosse

Lisa Eaton

25 Years Vinton Nurse

Interactive skits with children about health and wellness topics during our Celebrate Vinton Assemblies. Lover of props and wacky costumes along with toting a wagon.

Established connections with students during lunch bunches.

Always a smile and a kind word!

Took great care of our children for a quarter century!



Irene Dionne

20 years as a paraeducator in Mansfield

9 years as a paraeducator at Vinton Elementary School

Not only had smiles for the students but always kept the staff laughing

Self Help Skills Instructor

Outdoor Adventurer (except in deep snow)

Instructional Goddess for read-alouds, math, centers and so much more!

Fluent in French and proud of her Canadian connection. Merci beaucoup, Irene!

Had a powerful hurricane named after her in 2011!

Irene is a superhero and a great friend



Join the Celebrations

Please continue this celebration by sending messages, memories, and/or pictures to our retiring staff members. Consider our invitation to leave a video message for the teachers who are retiring using the link below.

The Flipgrid link will allow you to share a brief video message that will be shared with each teacher in the following weeks.

<https://flipgrid.com/zugarazo5874>

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2020 RETIREES FROM THE MANSFIELD EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Each retiree has chosen a charity to which \$75 has been donated in their honor.

Sherry Andrews	Covenant Soup Kitchen, Willimantic
Sally Clark	Feeding America
Peg Curtis	Covenant Soup Kitchen, Willimantic
Steve Dean	Covenant Soup Kitchen, Willimantic
Mary Lee Geary	Joyce Hyde Fund, North Stonington
Janet Pagoni	Covenant to Care for Children, Hartford
Carol Phelps	Covenant Soup Kitchen, Willimantic

Thank you for your many years of service to our students, our schools and the community.
We wish you *all* the best in this next chapter in your life.