

Warren “Chip” Johnson retires

Warren “Chip” Johnson has dedicated the last forty-one years of his life to Darien School District 61. Mr. Johnson has worn many hats during his tenure in Darien from classroom teacher, assistant principal, principal, assistant superintendent, and finally, as superintendent of schools.

During Mr. Johnson’s tenure he has received many accolades for his accomplishments. He made changes to the infrastructure of the district by selling Marion Hills School (twice) to the Park District and finally to the current owners, Kingswood Academy. Fairview School was recently sold to the Darien Park District and renovated into a community recreation center.

Other infrastructure changes include

additions to Eisenhower Junior High School, Lace Elementary School, and Mark DeLay School. Mr. Johnson also coordinated grant efforts for the installation of a green roof at Lace Elementary School. It is the first of its kind in DuPage County.

Mr. Johnson coordinated the expansion of the English Language Learner (ELL) and Special Education programs. The district has expanded the technological possibilities for teachers and students with a grant to purchase interactive SMART boards, document cameras, and projectors for classrooms in all three school buildings.

He has always been an advocate of the fine arts and District 61 has consistently offered quality music and art programs. The bands and chorus



have received numerous accolades in competitions throughout the United States and Canada. The Eisenhower Junior High School band is known as the most traveled Junior High School band in the United States. These achievements are a direct result of Mr. Johnson’s support.

Mr. Johnson has been an active member of the Illinois Association of School Administrators, Southeast DuPage Elementary Superintendent Association, DuPage Division of the IASA, Superintendents’ Roundtable of Northern Illinois, and a Darien Lions Club member since 1972.

Best wishes on your retirement!



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