



Aurora Public Schools

Congratulations 2012 APS Retirees!

Aurora Public Schools would like to thank our 2012 retirees for their dedicated service. These amazing staff members have contributed nearly 2,700 total years of service to our students. Here are some highlights from this year's retirees:

Nilda Lewis

Student Coordinator, Fulton Elementary - 18 years

"When I volunteered to deliver food and clothing (collected by the Outreach Committee of the church I attended) to Crawford Elementary in 1994, it never entered my mind that 18 years later I would be retiring from Aurora Public Schools. As a student coordinator at Paris, Vaughn and Fulton, my focus was meeting the affective needs of students



and focusing on supporting their positive behavior by staff and parents, which I believe will ultimately lead our students to become productive members of our society. Throughout my entire tenure with APS, I have met many staff members, parents and students who have left definite footprints on my heart, but it will be the ongoing daily interaction with students that I will miss most as I embark on this new stage of life. It has been an exhilarating ride and I am grateful."

Mark Rodie

Principal, Jewell Elementary - 32 years

"My career as an elementary teacher and administrator with the Aurora Public Schools over the past 32 years has given me the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of children. I will take with me many wonderful memories and experiences that I will never forget. Most of all, I will miss the daily contact with children and hearing them say, 'Hi Mr. Rodie!' with big smiles



and waves. I look forward to my retirement, which I hope will include some leisure time, fishing trips, biking and camping. I am grateful for the time in APS and look forward to a new chapter in my life."

Annell Weissenbuehler

Teacher, Hinkley High - 25 years

"In my 25 years at Hinkley High School as the theatre instructor, I have had the privilege of opening students' hearts and minds to the power of theatre study. I have shared life with them as they found their voice, told their stories and discovered the beauty of great literature. Together we have experienced the joy of using our imaginations in creative and self-expressive ways."



Earnese Shabazz

Cafeteria Manager, Peoria Elementary - 15 years

"APS has been a very, very wonderful place to work. What I like most about it are the kids. I like doing my



job, but the kids are my heart and soul... and the people. I like working with the staff here. I really am going to miss it because I love what I do... and food is one of my hobbies. I like food and I like to cook. And I like cooking for the kids. I keep asking myself, 'Do I want to do this?,' 'Am I sure?' But, I think it's best that I go and try other things. I'm just going to relax and do nothing for a while."

*Thanks to all of our
APS retirees!*

