

Dr. Gary Reynolds, Superintendent
Scottsbluff Public Schools
2601 Broadway
Scottsbluff, NE 69361

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BY:

Dear Dr. Reynolds:

This letter is a notification of my retirement from the Scottsbluff Public Schools effective at the closing of the 2008-2009 school year. It marks the 18th year of my employment as a middle school teacher at BMS - ending a 34 year career of teaching in five states, seven districts, nine school buildings, and thirteen subject programs - including:

- elementary music,
- elementary art,
- 6th grade self-contained,
- 4th grade classroom,
- middle school: 6th - 7th grade regular, accelerated, and remedial reading/language arts,
- middle school 7th grade social studies,
- correctional math & English for 12 - 21 yr. olds,
- 1st - 7th grade developmental reading,
- elementary Chapter I: reading and math,
- middle school Chapter I: reading and math,
- 7th grade team regular, advanced, and remedial language arts,
- 7th grade team regular, advanced, and remedial reading,
- 8th grade team regular/advanced language arts and remedial reading.

I have "maxed-out" on the district's pay scale both in years and credits - with a MA+ 52. Besides "beaming" at the successful academic, athletic and musical accomplishments of my students both in and out of the classroom, I have served on and chaired numerous committees, sponsored clubs and extra-curricular activities, volunteered at athletic and musical events, and given up planning time, evenings, weekends and summers - too numerous to count - for "the cause".

While teaching in the Scottsbluff School District, I have balanced a marriage - currently of 38 years - with the help of my loving husband. We also have raised 3 children to be productive, independent, responsible and educated adults. I have kept many strong friendships and networked professionals in my career and travels. For many years, I have helped to promote music in both this community and the state as a tenor and bass trombonist in the "WNCC Winds" and "Fire in the Pan Swingers" - Jazz Ensemble. And, interestingly enough, during my employment in Scottsbluff, our family has lived in 2 different states - resided in 4 different towns - while having remodeled and lived in 7 different houses.

As, I am writing this, my husband is overseeing the building of our retirement home in Boquete, Panama. I hope to join him at the end of May. And, may I never forget - very importantly - my life has been enriched and blessed to have known you - one and all! Thank you.

Sincerely,



Sylvia M. Nightengale, Professional Educator
Cc Mike Mason, BMS Principal