

**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY
RECOGNITION**

HCPS EDUCATOR HALL OF FAME

**GLORIA J. LIEDLICH
ALLYN SMITH WATSON
JOSEPH J. HUGHES**

September 22, 2014

Background Information:

The Harford County Public Schools Educator Hall of Fame program, in partnership with the Harford County Retired School Personnel Association (HCRSPA), recognizes educators who have provided at least 20 years of extraordinary service to students and staff in the school system. Two Board of Education recognition ceremonies are scheduled per school year – one in the fall and one in the summer – where a class of up to three nominees are presented with plaques, Board certificates and proclamations from county and state government officials, and are officially inducted into the Hall of Fame. The inductees also are featured on the Harford County Public Schools website, www.hcps.org.

Discussion:

Fall 2014 Hall of Fame Inductees:

Gloria J. Liedlich

Gloria J. Liedlich began her career with Harford County Public Schools at Bel Air High School in 1971 after being recruited from her college. Ms. Liedlich taught mathematics at Bel Air High for eight years before transferring to C. Milton Wright High School in 1979 when the school opened.

Throughout her career, Ms. Liedlich participated in many countywide curriculum committees, like Gifted and Talented and Mathematics Ad Hoc Committee; chaired various math conferences and competitions, such as Math Day, Trig Stars and the Mathematics Conference for Students; and was involved in the HCPS task force for writing objectives and a multitude of in-service training for teachers. She spearheaded several programs at C. Milton Wright, like the after school tutoring program, SAT Prep, and Computer Math. Ms. Liedlich was also a member of several educational organizations including the Parent Teacher Student Organization, HCEA, NCTM, HCRSPA. In addition, she was a women's basketball and lacrosse coach throughout many of her teaching years.

She was the recipient of several special honors throughout her career, including the 1987 nomination for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science and Mathematics Teaching. In addition, she received recognition as Harford County Coach of the Year for basketball by the Aegis and the Baltimore Sun. In 2012, she was inducted into the C. Milton Wright High School Athletic Hall of Fame.

After 34 years of dedicated service to the students of Harford County, Ms. Liedlich retired in 2005. She has since returned to HCPS to work part time in the Office of Accountability.

Allyn Smith Watson

Allyn Smith Watson began her career in education as a fifth grade teacher at Youth's Benefit Elementary School where she taught for three years before teaching eight years in other counties. She returned to Youth's Benefit Elementary as a first grade teacher for five years before being named teaching assistant principal at North Bend Elementary School. She became a full time assistant principal at North Bend in 1993 and held a similar position at Youth's Benefit Elementary for one year before being named principal of Edgewood Elementary School, where she served from 1997 to 2003.

During her years at Edgewood Elementary, the school underwent a total modernization. Collaborating with school leaders, parents and teachers became an integral part of the school's success. Improved student achievement on Maryland state tests removed Edgewood Elementary from the Title I Federal School Choice List. Implementing a variety of research-based instructional strategies, enlisting support through partnerships with local businesses and establishing close working relationships with parents, Ms. Watson and her staff created a community of learners.

Ms. Watson continued her vision of school communities in her position as the supervisor of Compensatory Education (Title I) in 2003, a position she held until she retired in 2011. Monitoring instructional programs through federal funding that supported student learning were ongoing. Creative use of Title I funds allowed for a partnership with Harford Community College for Title I parents to earn their GED, an annual Title I Parent Conference, a summer school program for at-risk students and professional development for teachers.

In 2002, Ms. Watson received the Excellence in Minority Achievement Award presented by the Maryland State Department of Education. In 2003, Ms. Watson represented Maryland as the National Distinguished Principal of the Year.

Joseph J. Hughes

Mr. Joseph J. Hughes' service to Harford County Public Schools includes Joppatowne High School counselor from 1972 to 1992 and pupil personnel worker from 1992 to 2002.

During his career he served on numerous committees, including the Reform Initiative Committee for Guidance Steering, the Special Education Transition of Harford County, Pupil Services Advisory, Family Life and Human Development, Long Range Planning Task Force for Special Education, County Crisis Intervention Team, Planning Committee for the Study of Educational Delivery Services offered to Secondary Age Handicapped Youth, and Long Range Planning Committee for Special Education. In addition, he was very active in the community and served on the St. Margaret Parish Council, the Board of Directors for Harford County Habitat for Humanity and was commissioner and coach of baseball and soccer for Harford County Parks and Recreation.

Mr. Hughes was the recipient of many awards and honors, including the first to receive the Harford County Home Teacher's Humanitarian Award. He was also nominated twice for the Harford County Most Beautiful Person Award.

Superintendent's Recommendation:

The Superintendent recommends the Board of Education of Harford County induct Gloria J. Liedlich, Allyn Smith Watson and Joseph J. Hughes into the HCPS Educator Hall of Fame as its 182nd, 183rd and 184th members, respectively, in recognition of their years of extraordinary service to the students, staff and community of the Harford County Public Schools.