

Retirements

Their last year

By: Carly Mandel

Making their last year memorable, **Mr. Tom Graler, Mr. Paul Chiappone, Mrs. Carol Ihlendorf, Mr. Jim Osborne, Ms. Chris Rudolf, and Mr. Pat Ballinger,** took everyday one step at a time.

"While I am looking forward to a new and productive life after Sycamore, painting, raising alpacas, judging at dog shows, and doing volunteer work at schools, I will miss all the good and talented people.

"Mr. Osborne and I had a great relationship, I always enjoyed having him come in and speak. Words cannot describe how much he will be missed. I only hope that he comes back for visits from time to time,"

> **Ms. Ila Bedenkop.**

I do plan on coming back to visit from time to time. One thing I will not miss is the alarm clock going off at 4 a.m." said Rudolf.

Serving Sycamore for 26 years Ballinger said "If I wasn't a teacher I always wanted to be a pro football coach or a sportscaster. My passion other than teaching is sports."

Ranging from 26 years to 36 years, their time here was appreciated and they retire having earned respect.

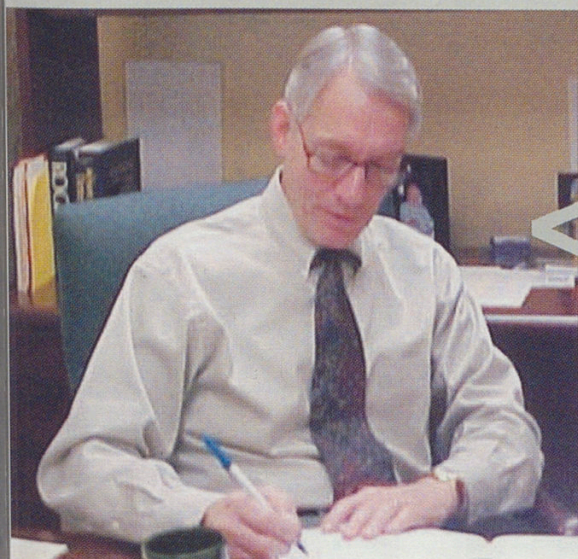
Mrs. Carol Ihlendorf 30 years Teaching



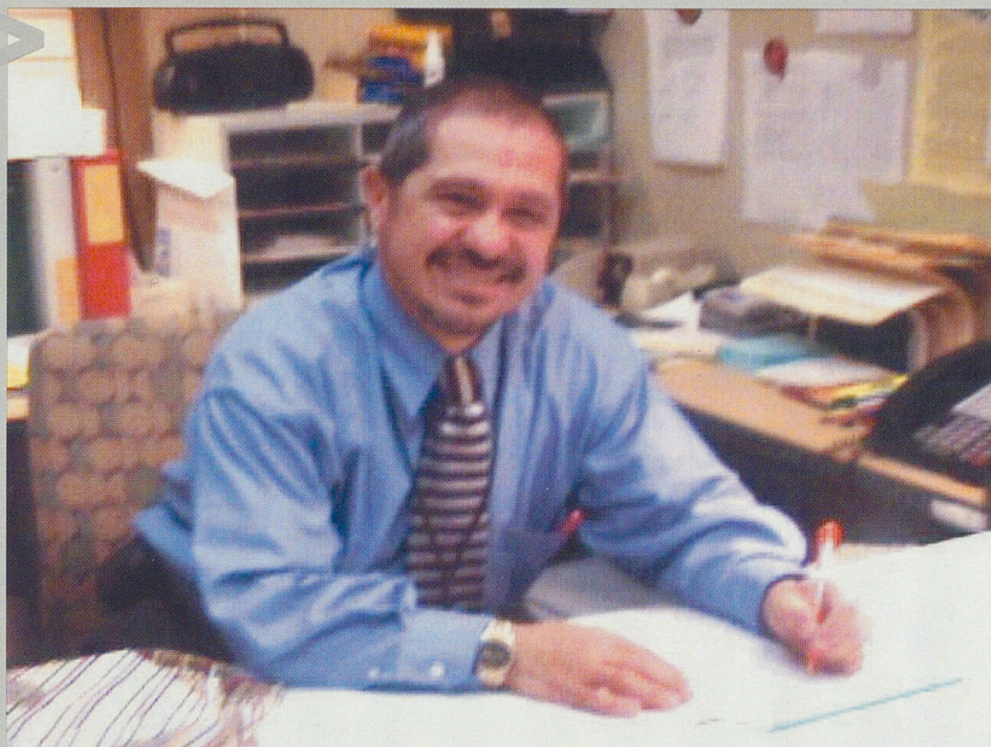
Q: What was your favorite year to teach?

A: Every year has been special in its own way.

There are always surprises, successes - and failures, and of course, special students and teachers.



Mr. Paul Chiappone 32 years Teaching/ Administrating



Q: What are you going to do now?

A: When I retire, I'm going to continue to play piano professionally in greater Cincinnati. That was my major at CCM. I need to get back to my real passion- music.

Mr. Tom Graler teaching 36 years

Q: Where all have you taught?

A: This is my 36th year. 26 at Sycamore, 9 at Maderia, and 1 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Mr. Jim Osborne Custodial Services 30 years

Osborne also spoke to classes about life as a Native American. His speeches were inspiring and informational. Students always looked forward to them.