



# North Shore Schools

*Discovering Your Dreams*

## Bob Williams Retiring from North Shore Schools after 20 years in the District

*"The best thing about history is the enthusiasm that it raises in us" - Goethe*

Bob Williams is retiring this year from North Shore Schools where he is finishing his 45<sup>th</sup> year of teaching and administrative work. Mr. Williams was hired by Superintendent Mike McGill 20 years ago as the Curriculum Associate in Social Studies. His initial charge was to take the social studies department and integrate it with the arts and English



curriculums which successfully resulted in the Interdisciplinary Humanities Program. But, he didn't stop there. Mr. Williams helped create a uniform social studies curriculum for third through fifth grades at the elementary schools, the Sixth Grade Humanities Program at the middle school, and the prestigious Senior Programs and Advanced Placement History Program at the high school. Early in his tenure, North Shore Schools was recognized as an "All American School" with special recognition for its history and arts program. "Initially, I fell in love with teaching and I wanted to share my love of history and all of its elements

including the arts, music, poetry and literature," said Mr. Williams. He added, "In history, one thing is always connected to another. If my students can understand the connections, then they will not only learn history and find it meaningful but may come to love it as much as I do."

Mr. Williams acknowledged that his students have helped shape his teaching methods, academic programs and the curriculum. One of the things his students have communicated about his classes is that they enjoy his *passion for sharing history*. Mr. Williams praised them for helping to make him a better teacher and explained that his basic attitude toward history is best stated by Goethe, the 19<sup>th</sup> Century Romantic Author/Poet (see quote above.)

For the past two years, he has been the Director of Student and Cultural Affairs at North Shore Middle School. He said, "The growth that children experience from 11 to 14 years of age is profound. If you want to have a genuine impact in helping to shape a child's life, there are few better ways than working in a middle school." Mr. Williams concluded, "It is a privilege to close my teaching career at this level and to work with such an extraordinary group of teachers and administrators, who help to shape students lives intellectually, socially, emotionally, morally, and physically every day."

Recently, Mr. Williams was honored by being inducted into the newly created Faculty Hall of fame at Lawrence Woodmere Academy, where he was a teacher and administrator for nine years before coming to the North Shore School District. He will enjoy his retirement with his wife Brana, two sons and a daughter plus three grandchildren. Congratulations to Bob Williams on his successful career. Everyone at the North Shore School District wishes you only the best in the future.