

*Working together
to support education*



June 2008

Teacher Feature

1. Your full name

•Linda Marie Burnett

2. What do you teach and where?

•Fourth grade at Yake Elementary School in Woodhaven.

3. How long have you been at that school?

•Since 1988.

4. Where did you grow up and where were you educated?

•I grew up in Southgate and attended Southgate schools. I attended Eastern Michigan University.

5. Main reasons you decided to become a teacher.

•I had wonderful teachers who inspired me and taught me the importance of education. I wanted to continue that tradition.

6. Who was your greatest inspiration when you were a child and why?

•My parents, because their instilled strong Christian values in their children..

7. Best thing about your job?

•Being greet each morning by an eager-to-learn group of smiling fourth graders.

8. Worst thing about your job?

•(See my answer for No. 10.)

9. Best recent development in education?

•Recognition that not all students are college-bound; that schools need to offer skills and vocational programs to train students for needed occupations in our society.



LINDA BURNETT

10. Worst recent development in education?

•The move away from mastery learning to an emphasis on high-stakes tests that ignore individual learning differences and are often developmentally inappropriate.

11. If you had a magic wand, what would you provide for your students?

•The desire and motivation to be lifelong learners.

12. Finish this statement: Kids today need to _____.

•...read more and play outside; get away from the TV and video games.

13. If you had to choose another profession, what would it be and why?

•If I had to choose another profession, I would like to be a writer or famous country singer.

14. What are your hobbies and interests outside of school?

•Scrapbooking, reading, Red Wing hockey, my dogs, travel, my children's sports.

15. Best advice to pass along to beginning teachers?

•Teaching is a wonderful profession. Give it your all, but find a balance between family and school.

16. Best advice to pass along to parents of kids in school?

•Stay involved with your children's education; know everyone they associate with and enjoy every minute of their youth.

17. Look into your crystal ball and tell us what you see in the future for American education.

•My hope is that there will soon be a renewed respect for the teaching profession and public education. Government needs to work collaboratively with local districts to provide equitable resources and funding for our students.

BRANCH OFFICE

20401 Gibraltar Road • Brownstown, MI 48183

SCHOOL-BASED BRANCH OFFICES

Carlson High School • Huron High School • Airport High School • Grosse Ile High School • Woodhaven High School