

Local Schools



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Congratulations Dexter Retiring Teachers

MAY 01ST 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

Congratulations Dexter Retiring Teachers

Dexter, Missouri - The annual CTA Retirement Tea was held on Thursday, April 28th with seven teachers retiring from Dexter Public Schools. In all, these seven teachers will end their teaching career with 193 years of service.

Teachers honored were Sherry Chance, June Lawrence, Ramona Lemons, Shannon Putnam, John Stephens, Shari Stickles, and Debra Thrower. (Each teacher will have their own article and a description of their years of service in education).

Each teacher received cards and gifts and even flowers to celebrate this auspicious occasion. School Board President Rick Williams presented the honors along with Superintendent Mitch Wood. Each retiree received a Board Resolution in honor of their service.

Shown in the photo are seated from left to right: Debra Thrower, Shannon Putnam, and Ramona Lemons. Standing from left to right are Sherry Chance, John Stephens, Shari Stickles, and June Lawrence.

Congratulation to all of the teachers! Our students are blessed to have had you as a teacher!

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Debra Thrower to Retire from Southwest Elementary

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Mrs. Debra Thrower began her 31 years of teaching Rapid City, South Dakota, at the Ellsworth Air Force Base teaching 4th grade. She then moved to Mississippi and Arkansas to teach.

In 1993 she landed back in southeast Missouri as an extended day Kindergarten teacher for the Dexter Public Schools. Mrs. Thrower spent 12 of those years in the Kindergarten wing of Southwest Elementary and the last 8 years teaching Title 1 Kindergarten students.

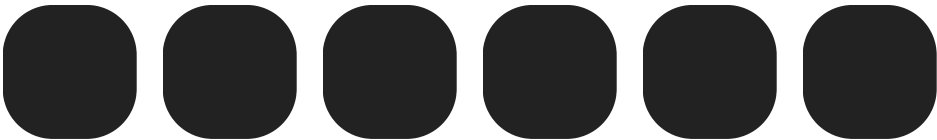
She retires with 23 years of dedicated service to the Dexter Public Schools.

"The Dexter Public Schools commend them for their dedication and service to educating all the students they have come in contact with over the many years," commented Rick Williams, Dexter School Board President. "We appreciate their service."

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Shari Stickles Retires From T.S. Hill Middle School

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of their years of service in education).

In the fall of 1978, Mrs. Shari Stickles began her 25 year teaching career at Marquand-Zion School District. She taught Jr. High and High School Home Economics. Shari was hired in 1980 by the Richland School District to teach 4th and 5th grade remedial Math and after one year at Richland she had the opportunity to babysit and be a stay-at-home mom with her daughter.

Beginning in 1983 she spent 10 years as a substitute teacher for the Dexter Public School. IN March of 1992, she was hired to complete the school year as the Middle School Key Skills teacher, which became her full-time position for the next three years.

Shari received her Master's Degree in Education and began teaching Family and Consumer Science (FACS) at T.S. Hill Middle school where she will conclude her teaching experience.

"The Dexter Public Schools commend them for their dedication and service to educating all the students they have come in contact with over the many years," commented Rick Williams, Dexter School Board President. "We appreciate their service."

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John Stephens Retires From Dexter

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John Stephens began his teaching career in 1986 at Caruthersville, Missouri teaching 8th Grade English and coaching football and track. After teaching in Caruthersville for 12 years, Mr. Stephens received the opportunity to move to his hometown of Dexter and teach the overflow English classes of 6th, 7th, and 8th grades.

During his tenure at Dexter, he taught High School English, a dramatic reading/literature class, coached Middle School football and track, then settled into 8th grade English.

Other than teaching and coaching Mr. Stephens is known for being the author of over 17 Madrigal Scripts that were written specifically for performances at madrigal dinners by the Dexter High School and Middle School choirs.

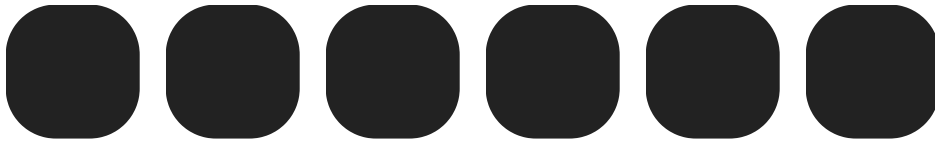
He retires with 30 career years of teaching experience.

"The Dexter Public Schools commend them for their dedication and service to educating all the students they have come in contact with over the many years," commented Rick Williams, Dexter School Board President. "We appreciate their service."

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Shannon Putnam Honored at Annual Retirement Tea

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Shannon Putnam began her career in August of 1986 where she began her work with the Dexter Public Schools as a Title 1 Remedial Reading Teacher's Aide and worked with migrant families. In 1988, she and her husband moved to Italy where he was stationed in the military.

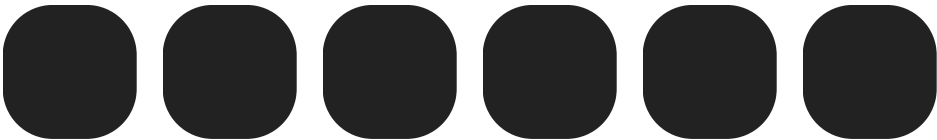
Mrs. Putnam returned to Dexter in 1989, where she worked with Extended Day Kindergarten. The following year she was hired as a First Grade Teacher at Southwest Elementary. She will retire with 28 years teaching in the Dexter Public School District.

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